

# the Rucker Family Society

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 6

Number 2

June 1995

*Reuben Rucker*

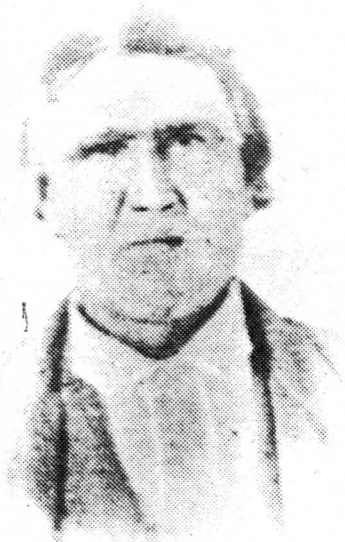
FOUNDER OF RUCKERVILLE, KENTUCKY  
by Bettie J. Tuttle, Lexington, KY

Reuben<sup>5</sup> Rucker (Moses<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), my great-great-great-grandfather, was born in Amherst County, Virginia, on 8 August 1805, son of Moses Rucker and Elizabeth Thurmond, widow of John Parks Jr.

Reuben grew up in Amherst County and learned the trade of farming from his father. He received rudiments of an education typical of middle class families of that time.

Shortly after his mother's death in 1820, Reuben and five of his nine siblings went to Kentucky. Reuben settled in Clark County, near Winchester, in an area he would name Ruckerville.

Reuben married Margaret ("Peggy") Hardin. Their marriage bond was taken out on 27 June 1823 in Clark Co., KY. Peggy was born circa 1802, dau. of Charles and Millie Hardin.



Reuben Rucker



Margaret Hardin Rucker

Reuben and Peggy had seven children: Mildred, William D., Eliza Jane (my ancestor), Mary Ann ("Polly"), Isaac, Talitha, and Sally Ann, all of whom reached adulthood. One son, Isaac Rucker, was killed serving as a Confederate soldier in the War Between the States. The other son, William D. Rucker, a physician, also served, for over a year, with the Union Army!

Peggy and Reuben were devoted parents, even assuming responsibility for their deceased son Isaac's daughter, Mary Margaret Rucker. Isaac's widow died a few months after he did, in 1865, so Peggy, who had become a widow that same year, raised Mary Margaret until her marriage in 1874 to Hugh B. Todd.

In 1826 Reuben Rucker purchased his first land in Clark County, KY, 12 acres from Alexander Pitcher. He later acquired other parcels of land in the same area. Reuben became a successful land and slave owner, and active member of the church and community. The 1860 Clark County Slave Schedule said Reuben had 18 slaves.

According to the land division at Peggy's death in 1883, their home was located on the south side of Dry Fork Creek at Ruckerville, about 6 and 1/2 miles northeast of Winchester, between Route 89 and the Old Ruckerville Road. The house is visible from both roads.

I believe Peggy and Reuben were members of the Christian Church because it was the closest church, their daughter Eliza Jane was an active member of the Christian church, and a daughter and two of their granddaughters married Christian ministers.

Reuben was an educated and highly respected member of the community, following in family tradition. He owned books and two writing desks. He witnessed wills, signed bonds, lent money and owned and maintained land which enhanced the community.

Reuben died 13 January 1865, Peggy on 20 March 1883. His is the earliest grave in the Rucker-Adams-Todd Cemetery on the corner of the White-Conkwright Road and Route 89 at Ruck-

erville. As part of Clark County's 200th birthday celebration in 1992, I had their stones cleaned up and set in concrete.

These photos of Reuben, his wife, and son, were handed down by the granddaughter of Reuben, Isaac's only child and daughter. I feel certain they are copies of larger portraits, originally owned by Mary Margaret and passed down to her descendants. Her great-granddaughter, Gladys Todd Witt, gave them to Kathryn Owen, well known Clark County author and historian. I am very proud of them and wonder if Reuben resembled his ancestors. Does anyone out there have any earlier pictures of Ruckers?



Isaac Rucker

References:

Kathryn Owen, "Who's Who in Clark Co., KY," (see Rucker Ruckus, Vol 1, Is 3, p.26)  
 Sudie Rucker Wood, The Rucker Family Genealogy  
 Alice Allen, Rucker Heritage  
 Edythe Whitley, History of the Rucker family  
 Clark Co., KY, court records and newspapers  
 Pharis Hill Christian Church records  
 Cemetery Records

**RUCKER/ADAMS/TODD GRAVEYARD, CLARK CO., KY**

Reubin Rucker/ born Aug. 8, 1805/ died Jan. 13, 1865  
 Margaret Rucker/ died Mar. 20, 1883, in her 82nd year  
 Milly Rucker/ b. May 22, 1838, d. Aug. 18, 1865/ wife of Isaac Rucker  
 John G. Adams/ b. Sept. 4, 1827/ d. June 18, 1891/ married June 1849/  
 Joined the Christian Church in 1862/ a minister of the Gospel 28 years  
 Millie Adams/ born Aug. 25, 1827/ died Oct. 25, 1896  
 Reuben Baker/ b. Mar. 20, 1865/ d. Dec. 2, 1866/ son of J. H. & S. Baker  
 M. Todd/ born Aug. 9 1827/ died Aug. 17, 1900  
 Eliza J. Todd/ born Sept. 7, 1834/ d. Jan. 2, 1911/ wife of M. Todd

**CEMETERY RECORDS OF MADISON CO., KY - Lot #66--Rucker**

W. D. Rucker [son of Reuben]/ May 2, 1839/ Jul 4, 1900  
 Nannie Belle/ wife of W. D. Rucker/ Sept. 8, 1849/ Apr. 23, 1939



photo  
 taken  
 by Jean  
 B. Rob-  
 inson  
 on her  
 trip to  
 Rucker-  
 ville,  
 KY, in  
 1993

\*\*\*\*\*

**IN MEMORIAM**

**MARGARET LEE RUCKER THORNTON** died December 30, 1994, in Marietta, GA. She was born October 5, 1910, in Crabapple, GA, the daughter of Joel<sup>6</sup> Jackson Rucker (John<sup>5</sup>, Simeon<sup>4</sup> B., George<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Nora Rusk. She graduated from Georgia State College for Women and became a teacher in Fayetteville, GA, in 1932. She taught in the Atlanta City school system and the Fulton County school system. She was a longtime leader at the College Park First Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Charles Brannon Thornton; a sister, Julia Rucker Crisler, of Crabapple; two daughters, Lisa Tappy of Charlotte, NC, and Suzanne Coker, of Atlanta; and three grandsons. Mrs. Thornton was buried at Friendship Methodist Church Cemetery, Fayette Co., GA. (From the Atlanta Journal, Jan. 1, 1995, sub. by Lisa Tappy.)



## In Memoriam, continued

**MARGARET RUCKER FADELEY**, died April 16, 1995, Arlington, VA. She was born March 17, 1911 at "Ridgeville," Fauquier Co., VA, the daughter of Bayard<sup>7</sup> Ambrose Rucker (William<sup>6</sup> A. William<sup>5</sup> B., George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Minnie Varner. Margaret is survived by her children, Elizabeth ("Betty") V. Fadeley of Arlington, VA, and Kenneth A. Fadeley of Ortonville, MI; her grandchild Elizabeth M. Fadeley; her sister Lelia Rucker Summerfelt, of Arlington, VA; and her brother John W. Rucker of Upperville, VA. She was buried at Ivy Hill Cemetery, Upperville, VA. (The Washington Post, 18 April 1995, p.C-4, submitted by Marjorie Rucker, Upperville.)

#####

**MARION DOUGLASS ("DOUG") CUNNINGHAM JR.**, b. June 9, 1918, Buena Vista, VA, d. April 14, 1995, Horseheads, NY. He was married, first, June 24, 1944, to Dorothy Salley, of Corning, NY; and second, Nov. 18, 1955, to Alma Maxine Ray. He has two daughters, Carol Ann Cunningham, b. Dec. 16, 1945 and Fleda Aline Cunningham, b. 9 Apr 1957. (Information from his niece, MaryEllen Cunningham, Elkins, WV.)

Doug, son of Marion D. Cunningham and Fleda V. Rucker, has four lines of Rucker descent (Wood, p.60, p.130, p.415):

1. Fleda<sup>7</sup> Virginia Rucker, John<sup>6</sup> Cephas Rucker, Jr., Dr. John<sup>5</sup> Cephas Rucker, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>
2. Fleda<sup>8</sup> Virginia Rucker, Marinda<sup>7</sup> Rucker, James<sup>6</sup> M., Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>
3. Fleda<sup>8</sup> Virginia Rucker, John<sup>7</sup> Cephas Rucker, Jr., Lucy<sup>6</sup> Rucker, Bernard<sup>5</sup>, William<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>
4. Marion<sup>7</sup> Douglass Cunningham, Mary<sup>6</sup> Francis Davis, Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> McDaniel, Margaret<sup>4</sup> Rucker, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>

**ELSIE LEAMONS RUCKER**, age 77, died Thursday, May 25, 1995, at Little Rock, AR. Mrs. Rucker is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Pat Ross of Springfield, AR; Lynne Dycus of Gainesboro, TN; and Becky Bowling of Little Rock. Also a brother, Wayne Leamons of Dalark, AR; a sister Helen St. John of Dalark; eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. She was a homemaker, seamstress and an active member of Home Demonstration Club and the Little Rock Garden Club. Elsie was a member of St. Paul's Community Church. Burial was at Roselawn Cemetery, Little Rock. (From the Little Rock newspaper, sub. by Terri Austin McCullough, Endora, AR.)

#####

**JOHN PHELPS RUCKER**, age 82, of Bowling Green, VA, died Friday, March 24, 1995. He is survived by his wife, Georgie Shelton Rucker; a sister, Elizabeth Rucker Williams, of Boone NC; a brother, Dr. Dick Rucker of Bedford; and three nieces and seven nephews. He was a retired metallurgist at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Dahlgren, VA. Burial was at Weal Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Pittsylvania Co., VA. (Richmond, VA, Times Dispatch, March 26, 1995, p. B-2.)

**MARY KATHLEEN RUCKER**, age 84, died Saturday, June 4, 1994, in a Bedford nursing home. She was born October 10, 1910, in Moneta, Bedford Co., VA. She graduated from Farmville State Teachers College (now Longwood). Buried at Bethlehem United Methodist Church Cemetery. (Bedford Bulletin, June 8, 1994, from Ruth McBride, Amherst Co., VA.)

John and Mary were two of the 13 children of Dr. Samuel<sup>8</sup> ("Dr. Sam") L. Rucker (Lewis<sup>7</sup> W., Tinsley<sup>6</sup> S., Thomas<sup>5</sup> C., Ambrose<sup>4</sup> Jr., Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>, Wood, p.98-99) and Elizabeth M. Phelps.



## In Memoriam, continued

**LAURIE RUCKER WHEELER**, age 95, died March 13, 1995, Lynchburg, VA. She was the wife of the late Jesse Leonard Wheeler. She was born November 3, 1899, in Campbell Co., VA, daughter of the late Milton Metaux Rucker and Kate Flagg (Wood, p.147). She graduated from E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg and received her teaching certificate from Farmville Normal School, now Longwood College. She is survived by a son Col. Jesse L. Wheeler Jr. and his wife Margaret T., of Springfield, VA; a granddaughter, Beverly G. Wheeler of Cincinnati, OH; a grandson, Courtney B. Wheeler and his wife, Margaret R., and their two children, Bryan and Kathleen Wheeler of Burke, VA. She was a member of Bethany United Methodist Church. Burial was at Fort Hill Memorial Park. (From News and Advance, Lynchburg, VA, March 15, 1995, p. A-6, submitted by Ruth McBride, Amherst Co., VA.)

#####

The following Obituaries from The News and Advance, Lynchburg, VA, were submitted by Laurie Sutherland Giudice, Forest, VA. If anyone knows the lineage of these people, please notify the Editor.

**THOMAS HUGHIE RUCKER JR.**, age 83, died Friday, October 7, 1994, in Rustburg, VA, in the home of Mrs. Mary Williamson, a special care giver. He was predeceased in death by his wife, Jessie Baldwin Rucker. Born in Lynchburg, VA, January 31, 1911, he was the son of Thomas H. Rucker and Annie Monohan. He was an Army veteran of World War II and served in Normandy, France. Thomas was a retired Virginia State employee and a member of Fairview United Methodist Church. He is survived by one son, Cecil Ray Rucker of Lynchburg. Burial was at Fort Hill Memorial Park with military honors by American Legion Post 16. (N & A, October 9, 1994)

**MARY RUCKER DOWNS**, age 88, of Mt. Jackson, VA, died Tuesday, December 13, 1994, at her home. She was the widow of Joseph H. Downs. Born in Lynchburg, she was a daughter of Isaac Reynolds Rucker and Teresa Lawless. She is survived by four sons, Joseph M. Downs, of Dover, DE; James E. Downs, of Mt. Jackson; William R. Downs of Beckley, WV; and John F. Downs of Mt. Jackson; one brother, James Rucker of Silver Springs, MD, 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She was buried at Mt. Jackson Cemetery. (N & A, December 14, 1994)

-----

**CLIFTON RUCKER (TIPPY) WHITE**, age 73, died Thursday, January 26, 1995, Lynchburg, VA. He is survived by his wife, Mabel Fryberger White. Clifton was born in Lynchburg, the son of Edgar Hildery White and Bessie Roach. He retired from teaching at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg. He served in World War II. He was preceded in death by two brothers Hildery P. White and James A. White. He is survived by two step-sons, one brother, Lawrence F. White of Lynchburg; two sisters, Mrs. Uhl C. (Evelyn) Plemens of Glendale, AZ; and Mrs. Robert L. (Eleanor) Ballowe, of Lynchburg, VA. He was buried at Fort Hill Memorial Park in Lynchburg. (N & A, January 28, 1995)

-----

**MRS. CARRIE RUCKER BROOKS**, age 97, of Glen Burnie, MD, died Monday Jan. 2, 1995. She was buried at Gretna Burial Park, Gretna, VA. (N & A, January 3, 1995)

#####

**PETER<sup>1</sup> RUCKER, IMMIGRANT**  
by Jean B. Robinson

Peter<sup>1</sup> Rucker, Immigrant to America, circa 1700<sub>1</sub>, settled in Essex Co., VA. He married shortly thereafter and began the Rucker dynasty.

b. ca 1675, in Europe<sub>2</sub>

d. ca 1744, Orange Co., VA<sub>3</sub>

m. ca 1700, to Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ (maiden name unknown)<sub>4</sub>

birth date and place unknown

d. ca 1752, Culpeper Co., VA, possibly when Peter Rucker's estate was divided (D. B. 1, p.400, 21 Feb 1752, Culpeper).

The Ruckers lived in Essex County, later moving to Spotsylvania Co., where John Rucker purchased land for them<sub>5</sub>. In 1734 Spotsylvania Co. became Orange, in 1748 it became Culpeper, and in 1793, Madison.

Issue (probably born in Essex Co., VA, birth dates are estimated)<sub>6</sub>:

1. John<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1701; m. Susannah \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Peter<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1703, probably died young<sub>7</sub>.
3. Thomas<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1705; m. Elizabeth Reynolds.
4. Elizabeth<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1708; m. James Pierce.
5. Margaret<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1710; m. Isaac Tinsley.
6. William<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1715; m. Honar \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Mary<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1720; m. William Offill.
8. James<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1723; m. Margaret \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Ephraim<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1725; m. Margaret Vawter.
10. Ann<sup>2</sup> Rucker, b. ca 1727; m. Shem Cook.

**Footnotes:**

1. It was previously thought that Peter arrived in 1690, but that was taking into consideration that immigrants had to be in the country fourteen years to be naturalized. However, the law now believed applicable in the early 1700s required only a four-year residency, and the fourteen-year residency requirement for aliens was a late 1700s law. Final approval of Peter's petition for naturalization was granted on 8 May 1704, leading us to believe he arrived in the year 1700.

2. No evidence has been found as to Peter Rucker's origin. His name is Germanic, yet he was naturalized with several French refugees, leading historians to believe he came from Alsace-Lorraine, an area that was part French, part German. In 1700, 700 French Huguenots arrived in VA, on five ships (R. A. Brock's Huguenot Emigration to Virginia, 1886).

3. Peter Rucker's Will was dated 18 Jan 1742/1743, and proved 23 Feb 1743/1744 (Will Book 1, p.299, Orange Co., VA).

4. The surname Fielding came from Whitley's book and she has since admitted she was mistaken and that Fielding was not Elizabeth's maiden name. There is no evidence of a Fielding living near the Ruckers in Essex Co. The family Coghill has been researched and no evidence exists of a female named Elizabeth Coghill. Frederick Coghill's wife's maiden name was Goss, but we can find no Elizabeth Goss.

5. Deed Book B, p.493, 5 Feb 1733/34, Spotsylvania Co., VA, 420 acres was deeded to Peter and Elizabeth Rucker from son, John Rucker.

6. Names of children are from Will of Peter Rucker, except for sons John, who predeceased his father by one year, and Peter (see#7).

7. The only record of son, Peter Rucker, was in the Frederick Coghill deed, dated 28 Jan 1707/8 (Deed Book 13, p. 91, Essex Co., VA):  
". . . for the kind love and affection I owe unto John, Peter, and Thomas Rucker, sons of said Peter Rucker . . ."

## CIVIL WAR VETERAN

John<sup>7</sup> Elzy ("J. E." or "Jack") Rucker (Joseph<sup>6</sup>, Elzy<sup>5</sup>, Joel<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), b. @1842, d. 19 Nov 1901, age 59; m. 8 Dec 1869, in Cannon Co., TN, to Alice Medora McLin, of Dyer Co., TN, b. @1847, d. 1934, age 87.

J. E. volunteered for the Confederate Infantry in Jul 1861, at 19 years of age. After three months with Company B, 24th Infantry, he was released and joined the Tennessee Calvary where he served in Forrest's Command, until he was paroled in May 1865, at Gainsville, AL. His unit was in most of the fighting in middle TN: battles of Murfreesboro, Stones River, Franklin, and Nashville. This area was home to his and a good many Rucker families. John E. came home with dysentery and never fully recovered. J. E. received a medal for his Confederate service.

From W. Glenn Rucker, Temple, Texas.

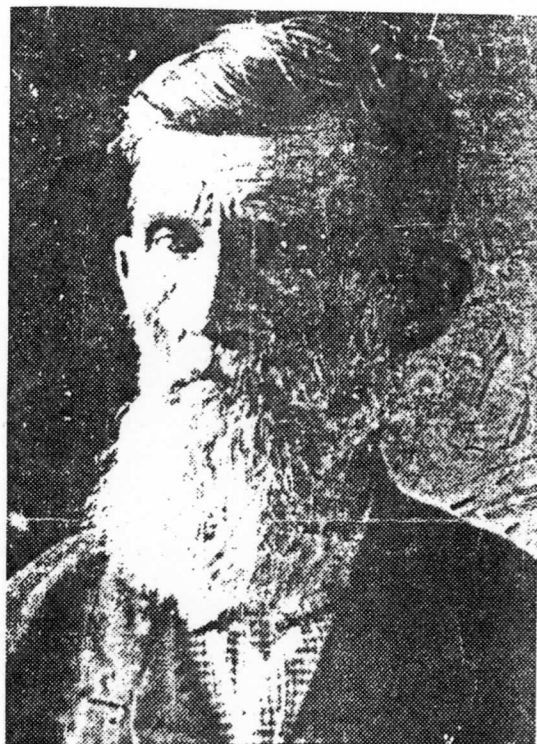
\*\*\*\*\*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Requesting information on my family--from the 1880 census:  
JOHN RUCKER, age 41, born IN, parents born in Virginia  
MARTHA RUCKER, age 36, born IL  
GEORGE E. RUCKER, age 16, born IL (my great-grandfather)  
LUCY RUCKER, age 14, born IL  
FRED L. RUCKER, age 5, born IL

My father was Dr. Ellwyn E. Rucker  
My grandfather was Eugene Clyde Rucker  
My great-grandfather was George E. Rucker, b. ca. 1864  
My great-great-grandfather was John Rucker, b. ca. 1839  
Do any of your readers have information on this family?

Write Jackie Rucker Kachel, 8843 Walker Road, Niwot, CO 80503.



*John E. Rucker in his later years (circa 1890's)*

\*\*\*\*\*

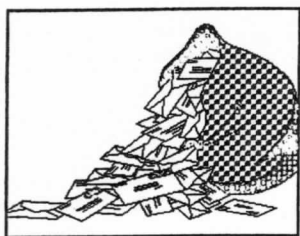
## LETTER FROM SIDNEY O. DEWBERRY:

"The response to the Ambrose Rucker Article has been overwhelming. Relatives and friends that I have heard from have greatly enjoyed reading 'The Life and Times of Ambrose Rucker.' [RFSN, Vol 6, No. 1]

"It is interesting to note that the Dewberry family came over from England about the same time the Ruckers did. There is a theory in my family that Aaron Jackson Dewberry met Molly Rucker through a George Rucker that was in his same company -- Company A, 14th Georgia.

"You and the Board of Directors are doing an outstanding job of pulling the family together and making it possible for Rucker descendants to realize what a rich heritage they have -- a heritage that goes deep into the beginnings of America."





**GEORGE GLASSCOCK RUCKER.** The ancestry of Martha Rucker Saegert, dau. of Henry Franklin Rucker, granddau. of George Glasscock Rucker from Vol. 6, No. 1, pg. 7, March 1995 issue of the RFSN has been confirmed by George E. Rucker, Arlington, TX:

"I attended the 1990 Rucker Reunion in Lynchburg, VA. While there, I had many avenues of interest in my family ancestry opened to me. When I read the March [1995] Rucker Newsletter, especially the part about Sid Dewberry, it re-sparked my interest. His lineage and mine cross paths through several possibilities: (1) Peter, (2) John, (3) Ambrose, (4) Reuben, (5) Ambrose, and (6) Reuben Dawson.

"One of Reuben Dawson's boys was George Glasscock Rucker."

George<sup>7</sup> Glasscock Rucker (Reuben<sup>6</sup> Dawson, Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), b. 7 Feb 1822, Pittsylvania Co., VA, d. 29 May 1914, TX; m. 1st Annie Elizabeth \_\_\_\_; m. 2nd Mary Pope in NC (no children); m. 3rd 3 Oct 1869, Nancy M. Hall, in Travis Co., TX. George moved to Texas in 1852. George was buried at Trickum, Coleman Co., TX, alongside his dau. Martha. He was an itinerate Baptist preacher and farmer. His name is on a bronze plaque on the door of the Baptist Church at Dripping Springs, TX, west of Austin, TX. During his third marriage to Nancy Hall, while he was living on Granite Mountain Ranch in Burnet County, TX, granite from that mountain was donated to build the State Capitol Building at Austin, Texas." In addition to the places mentioned below, other descendants lived in Wichita KS, Amarillo TX, and Albuquerque, NM.

Issue by 1st wife:

1. Martha<sup>8</sup> W. Rucker, b. 7 Sep 1855, d. 6 Jan 1916; m. \_\_\_\_ McCormack.
2. J. C.<sup>8</sup> Rucker, b. 19 Jan 1861, moved to Oregon when he was about 28 years old.
3. James<sup>8</sup> Allen Rucker, b. 25 Jan 1864; m. Mary Alice VanCleave.
4. George<sup>8</sup> Richard Rucker, b. 11 Jun 1866, d. 3 Dec 1967 (?).

Issue by 3rd wife:

5. Cora<sup>8</sup> Lee Rucker, twin, b. 9 Aug 1870 (stillborn).
6. Nora<sup>8</sup> Judson Rucker, twin, b. 9 Aug 1870, d. Aug 1908.
7. Benjamin<sup>8</sup> McClendon Rucker, b. 7 Nov 1872, d. 13 Jul 1920; m. Fannie Louise Lentz.
8. Lucy<sup>8</sup> Dale Rucker, b. 25 Dec 1874, d. 12 Dec 1891.
9. Carrie<sup>8</sup> West Rucker, b. Apr 1879, d. 14 Dec 1962.
10. Henry<sup>8</sup> Franklin Rucker, b. 6 Oct 1879, d. 4 Dec 1962.
  1. Martha<sup>9</sup> Rucker, b. 7 Feb 1925, d. 3 Feb 1995; m. Joe Saegert.

(Jean B. Robinson--Source: Wood, p.81; Letter from George E. Rucker, Arlington, TX, April 21, 1995 -- gives list of children and dates.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**ROBERT LLOYD/LOYD:** My relationship to the Rucker family is from Thomas<sup>3</sup> Rucker Jr. (Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) whose daughter Tabitha Rucker, b. 28 Dec 1766; m. 17 Mar 1794, Madison Co., VA, to Robert Lloyd, d. 18 Oct 1844, Champaign, OH. Tabitha appears to have been a few years older than her husband according to the census. I am in need of clues to his parentage. They are found in Sudie Rucker Wood's book, p.204. Can you HELP? Mrs. Ted Hartung Sr., 3102 So. 148th St., Seattle, WA 98168.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS, continued

**WILLIAM CLOYED RUCKER**, son of Robert Fielden Rucker and Mary Blanche Hartfield, was born 24 Feb 1884, Green Co., KY. At the age of 19, Cloyed and his uncle Alex went to Hamilton Co., Texas. Cloyed married Eunice Ruth Redden of Shive, on 9 Dec 1914. Their two children were Lena Merle Rucker and Eunice Blanche Rucker.

Cloyed ran a steam-powered thresher during the summer and grubbed during the winter. He also ran the boiler for the cotton gin at Schoolerville and at Shive. He and his family lived three miles east of Shive, on the old Redden home place.

Alex was a farmer in Hamilton Co., TX, on the Cowhouse Creek near Schoolerville. He raised a large family.

(From Hamilton Co., TX, History, submitted by Alice Rucker, Sylmar, CA.)

If you can identity these Ruckers, please notify the Editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

Regarding **CORNEILLE MCCARN RUCKER** in the March 1995, newsletter: Corneille was the wife of Dr. Anthony<sup>8</sup> Warren Rucker (Orlando<sup>7</sup> C., Ambrose<sup>6</sup> C., Anthony<sup>5</sup>, Ambrose<sup>4</sup> Jr., Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) of Stanardsville, near Ruckersville, Greene Co., VA. He studied at V.P.I. in Blacksburg, VA, and Vanderbilt U. in Nashville. It was there that Rucker met and married Corneille McCarn. Dr. Rucker was an obstetrician for 16 years in Henry Co., VA, a pediatrician for 16 years in Columbia, TN, and finally a family physician in Greene Co., VA. After he died

in 1979, Corneille began to write poetry. She lived for extended periods near her McCarn relatives in Franklin, TN. It was there she was honored at a book signing party at the age of 91. The photo of Corneille's book signing party and information was sent by her nephew, Warren Rucker, of Ruckersville, VA. Warren attended the book signing and is in the background of the picture.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRESLEY RUCKER:** Seeking kinship documentation for Presley Rucker, born 1810, in MS, married Temperance Carpenter (b. 1814 in GA) in Copiah County, MS, on 23 March 1832. In 1854 Presley and two other Rucker families (Calvin & William) moved to the Carroll-Attala, MS, area and produced numerous children some of whom were Confederate Veterans. Who were Presley Rucker's parents? Was Presley a grandson of William<sup>3</sup> Rucker (William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), b. 28 Sep 1744, d. 2 Nov 1834, Elbert Co., GA? Terri Austin McCullough, Rt. 1, Box 112 H, Eudora, AR 71640-9713.



Corneille McCarn Rucker

THE RUCKER FAMILY SOCIETY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

April 1, 1995

The Board of Directors of the Rucker Family Society met at the Residence Inn by Marriott, Richmond, Virginia, on April 1, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. Roland Pittman, President, presided.

All Directors were present except Doris Edwards. Also present were Rod Mason, ex-officio, Sim Crisler and Julia Crisler.

The Secretary summarized the minutes of the previous meeting on June 10, 1994, and they were approved.

The Treasurer submitted a current financial report, which was reviewed and approved.

The Board discussed reprinting the Wood book again, and after consideration of paid orders received, the Society's financial condition, and that a supplement was not near completion, approved an additional reprinting of 200 copies, with Rod Mason using the same printer as before. He would attempt to reuse the artwork from the last reprinting, and if not possible, use his best judgement in securing a substitute.

Jean Robinson stated that a new project was needed, and asked for consideration of cemetery restoration or historical markers. After discussion, The Board felt that cemeteries should be the primary responsibility of the immediate family, aided by nominal contributions from the Society when in order. Charles Robinson agreed to research requirements for placing state markers in Georgia, Kentucky and Washington, and it was suggested that the owners of the Rucker home in Everett, Washington be contacted regarding the Society placing a plaque on the premises.

James Rucker agreed to collect data on all Rucker family cemeteries.

The Board then considered a site for the 1996 reunion. Sim Crisler described in detail the Rucker reunion held annually in Crabapple, Georgia, near Atlanta, the first Sunday in October. It was a covered dish affair with attendance of 50-100 people.

Alice Allen, who had visited Fort Rucker, Alabama, en route to the meeting, indicated personnel there knew nothing about the Fort's namesake. Several other possible sites were mentioned.

After discussion, the Board approved holding the Society's 1996 reunion in Atlanta, Georgia, around the first Sunday in October, jointly with the existing Rucker reunion. Charles Robinson agreed to be contact person with Sim Crisler.



It was then suggested and approved that a summary of Board minutes and financial reports be printed in the newsletter.

The meeting recessed for lunch and a tour of Tuckahoe Plantation.

The meeting reconvened on April 2, 1995. James Rucker was absent.

Charles and Jean Robinson agreed, on their upcoming trip to Atlanta, to seek possible reunion hotel sites. It was thought that another Board meeting would not be necessary to plan the reunion. Jack White agreed he could handle deposits, and the help of members close to Atlanta would be sought.

Roland Pittman suggested the Society seek to identify contact parties for various Rucker groups throughout the country for travelers visiting the area. Several Directors agreed to do this in their area. It was concluded this needed to be proposed in the newsletter.

It was suggested and approved that a separate letter should be mailed out in the near future to members who have not paid their 1994 dues. The letter should announce the 1996 reunion in Atlanta and remind them to renew their membership.

The meeting then adjourned.

*Charles D. Robinson*  
Secretary



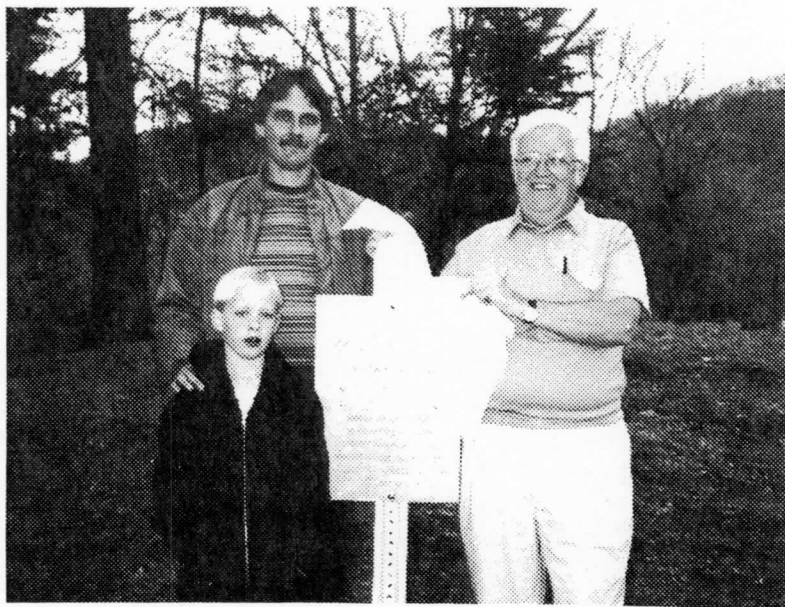
Rucker board members  
and spouses

### COLBY RUCKER MARKER GRAINGER CO., TN

On Saturday, April 15, 1995, a cold and cloudy day, the dedication of the Colby Rucker marker took place in the John Rucker Cemetery, at Thorn Hill, Grainger Co., TN. It is not known where Colby Rucker was buried and the family agreed the marker should be placed in Rucker cemetery.

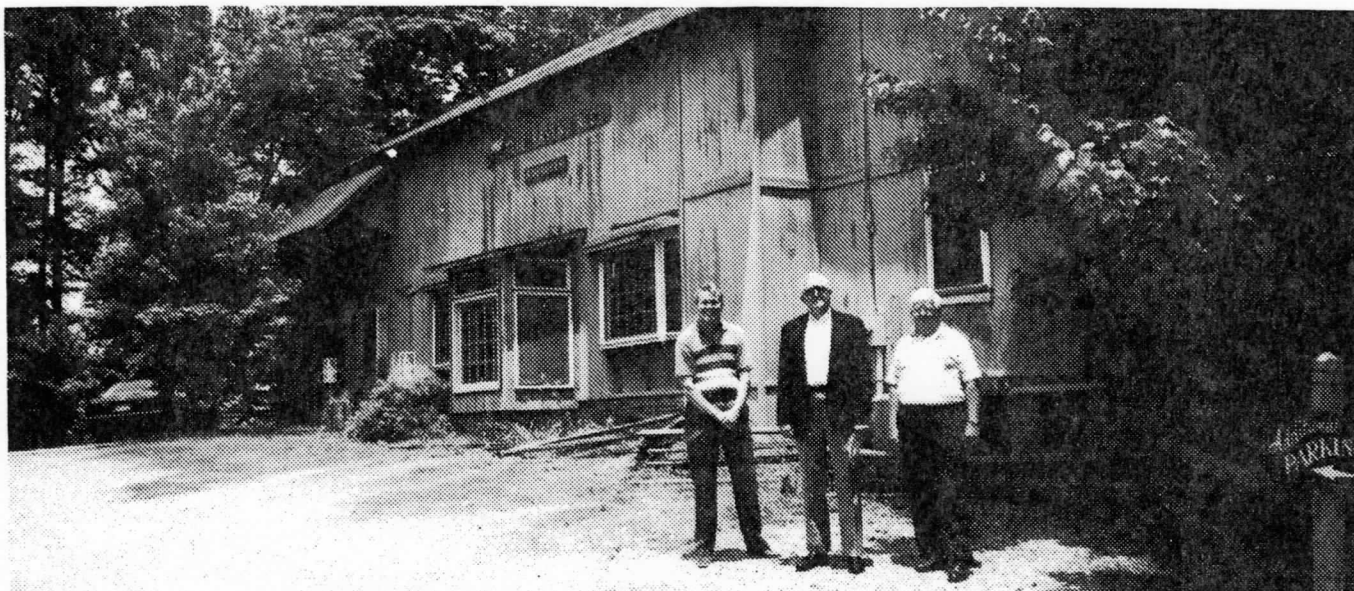
Many local Ruckers attended as well as a few who came great distances. Many did not know each other. Colby Rucker had eight children, two of whom were male, John and William. One descendant of John and one descendant of William attended and were introduced to each other. Even though it was a chilly day, with background of crowing roosters and mooing cows, the friendship of the crowd was heart warming.

The marker was commissioned by Ronald F. Payne and dedicated by him. Ron wrote a booklet on his ancestor Colby Rucker for the occasion. We are sending it to you with this newsletter. The photos below are Ron Payne, his son and grandson; the group; and Chuck and Jeannie Robinson.



The "spirits of our ancestors" were at work that weekend. On our return trip to Richmond, my husband, Chuck, and I stopped at Trader's Village Craft Mall in Kingsport, TN. There among three buildings full of shops, I spied some long sought-after chair cushions. The cushions were made by Jo Ann Shockley, the wife of a Colby Rucker descendant!



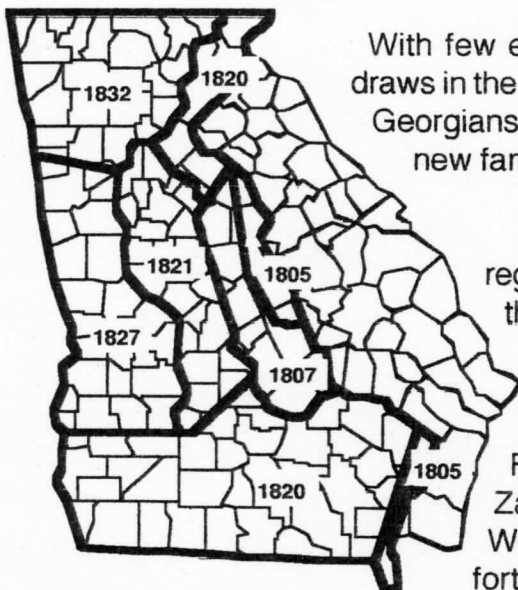


Sim Crisler, Chuck Robinson, and Ron Payne, reunion committee, in front of the former Rucker cotton gin, now an antique shop, in Crabapple, GA

### GEORGIA LAND LOTTERIES

by Ronald F. Payne

In 1805, 1807, 1820, 1821, 1827, twice in 1832, and 1833, the state of Georgia gave away former Indian lands by means of state lotteries. Individuals and families of orphans registered for draws (chances) in their county of residence. Winning draws were made by state officials until all the lots were given away. The land given away in these lotteries is indicated here as an overlay on a current state map.



With few exceptions, only citizens of Georgia could qualify for draws in the land lotteries. However, in many instances, the winning Georgians sold their lots to land speculators who, in turn, sold it to new families who were moving into Georgia from out of state.

The 1805 lottery is the only one for which all the registered participants' names have been preserved. Only the winners in the other lotteries have been published. In that first lottery from which the counties of Baldwin, Wayne, and Wilkinson were formed, eight Ruckers registered for the draw: George and George, Jr., of Franklin County; John, Joseph, Osmond, Willis, and Zachariah, of Elbert County; and Nancy, a widow, from Wilkes County. Of those, only Joseph and Nancy were fortunate drawers. The locations of the lots won are not provided in the published data; the records of the Surveyor General's office must be researched to obtain this information.

Rucker family members were among the winning drawers in each of the subsequent lotteries, except for the one held in 1833. In the absence of federal census data for the state prior to 1820, these records can be invaluable as a source of information to family researchers.

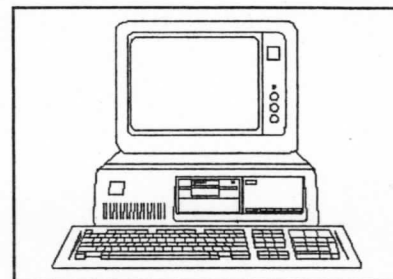


# RUCKER LAND LOTTERY WINNERS IN GEORGIA

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>		<u>LOTTERY</u>	<u>LOCATION OF LAND WON</u>		
	County	Militia District		Lot No.	Distr. Sect.	County
Agnes Rucker ( Wid)	Jasper	293rd	1821	227	8	Henry
Armon Rucker ( Orps)	Elbert	P. Christian	1820	13	5	Irwin
Barden Rucker, Soldier	Elbert	B. Higginbotham	1820	102	3	Appling
Barden Rucker	Elbert	B. Higginbotham	1820	61	18	Early
Barden Rucker	Elbert	Horton's	1827	237	3 3	Troup
Catharine Rucker (wid)	Franklin	J. Miller's	1820	78	11	Habersham
Eliz. Rucker ( Wid.)	Upson	555	1832 G	145	17 3	Cass
Fielding Rucker	Jasper	Cartlett	1820	73	14	Early
Fieling Rucker	Wilkes	Chunn's	1827	38	2 2	Muscogee
George Rucker	Franklin	J. Miller's	1820	276	10	Irwin
Gideon P. Rucker	Wilkes	166	1832 G	282	13 1	Lumpkin
Gideon P. Rucker	Wilkes	166	1832 G	526	4 1	Lumpkin
Henry F. Rucker	Pike	Wilson's	1832 G	951	4 1	Lumpkin
James Rucker	Elbert	Dooley's	1820	59	1	Walton
Jane Rucker (widow)	Elbert	Hillyer's	1807	92	9	Baldwin
John Rucker	Elbert	Rucker's	1820	295	10	Early
John Rucker	Elbert	Rucker's	1820	91	2	Irwin
John T. Rucker	Jasper	Shropshier's	1827	184	9 3	Troup
Joseph Rucker	Elbert	Seith's	1820	509	6	Appling
Joseph Rucker	Elbert		1805			
Joseph Rucker	Jasper	Kennedy	1820	353	21	Early
Joseph Rucker, Or.	Elbert	Thomason's	1832 C	218	4 4	Floyd
Lemuel Rucker	Elbert	Thomason's	1832 G	336	18 2	Cobb
Lemuel Rucker	Elbert	Dooley's	1821	111	12	Dooly
Mastin Rucker	Jasper	Kennedy	1820	407	21	Early
Mildred Rucker ( Orph.)	Elbert	Thomason's	1832 G	643	19 2	Cobb
Milly Rucker, Widow	Elbert	Alston's	1827	109	16 2	Muscogee
Nancy Rucker (widow)	Wilkes		1805			
Richard B. Rucker	Talbot	Durham's	1832 G	515	3 2	Cherokee
Richard B. Rucker	Talbot	Durham's	1832 C	73	7 17	Union
Simeon B. Rucker	Franklin	J. Miller's	1820	16	3	Early
Tavener Rucker	Franklin	Walter's	1827	178	4 2	Muscogee
William Rucker, Jr.	Elbert	Dooly's	1821	215	10	Dooly
William Rucker, R. S.	Elbert	Carpenter's	1827	201	6 1	Lee
William Rucker, Sr.	Elbert	Stower's	1832 G	653	2 2	Cherokee
Willis Rucker	Elbert	Oliver's	1820	399	27	Early
Willis Rucker	Lincoln	Jones'	1821	240	11	Dooly
Willis Rucker	Wilkes	Josey's	1821	256	3	Monroe
Wm. Rucker, R. S.	Elbert	Carpenter's	1827	223	13 1	Lee
Wm. Rucker, Sr.	Elbert	Dooley's	1820	73	5	Gwinnett
Wyley Rucker	Franklin	Cox's	246	21	2 2	Cherokee
Zachariah Rucker	Elbert	Alston's	1827	141	26 1	Lee
Zachariah Rucker	Elbert	Alston's	1827	201	12 1	Lee
Zachariah Rucker	Elbert	Alston's	1827	53	3 1	Lee

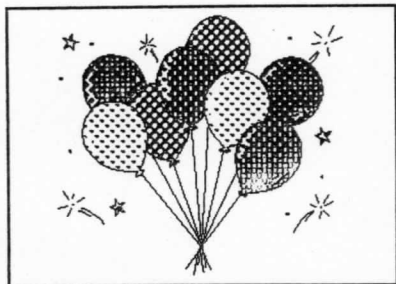
## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NEXT RUCKER REUNION:** Will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, October 5 and 6, 1996. Plans are to stay at a lovely Holiday Inn, at Roswell, a few miles south of Crabapple, home of Simeon<sup>4</sup> Bluford Rucker (George<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>). We will have a Saturday morning meeting and luncheon banquet at the Holiday Inn. There will be an afternoon session for persons interested in learning more about the Rucker family, the PAF computer program, genealogy, and for chit-chatting with other cousins and new found friends. Others are free to shop, sightsee, explore, nap, or visit the antique shops in Crabapple. On Sunday we will gather in Crabapple where the local Ruckers will host a lovely lunch. Mark your calendars now and plan to come to Atlanta in 1996.



**PAF GENEALOGY PROGRAM:** Gerald Rucker has suggested that we all use the Mormon PAF genealogy program. He has reviewed several programs and found this one to be superior. The PAF program is IBM compatible and costs \$35.00. The Rucker Family Society would like to compile all data on disks for future reference. In Atlanta, we are planning a genealogy session where we could exchange information via computer. If you have your material on this program and would like to share with Rucker family members, please send your disk to Mrs. Ruth McBride, 9104 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502.

**UPDATE: ROSEDOWN PLANTATION AND GARDENS,** in St. Francisville, LA, is now a Bed & Breakfast Inn. It is one of the nation's five most important historic gardens and Louisiana's most distinguished museum house. It was built in 1835 by Daniel Turnbull and his wife, Martha Hilliard Barrow. Daniel was the son of John Turnbull and Catherine<sup>4</sup> Rucker (Peter<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>). So if you are in the area, be sure and visit this beautiful plantation home. Write or call Rosedown B & B, 12501 Highway 10, St. Francisville, LA, (504) 635-3332.



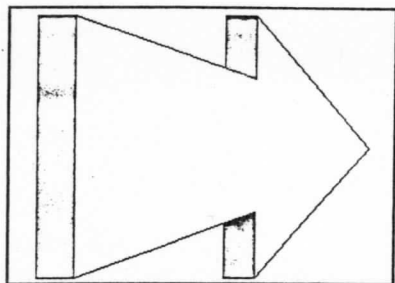
**GOFF/GOUGH FAMILY ASSOCIATION** is planning their first-ever Goff/ Gough Gathering. It will be held August 10-12, 1995, Lexington, KY. Reservations must be made by July 26th. \$45.00 includes Friday night Prime Rib Dinner and Saturday afternoon picnic and Barbecue. Send check to G/GFA and mail to Ruby Neal Gawf Clark, Treasurer, P. O. Box 878, Clinton, AR 72031-0878; (501) 745-2604). Rooms reservations are being held at Hampton Inn I-75, 1 (800) 426-7866. For information,

write or call John A. Duncan, President, 785 Lansdowne Circle, Lexington, KY 40502; (606) 278-2221.

Membership in The Goff/Gough Association includes a very nice quarterly newsletter chock-full of information about the Goff families.

\*\*\*\*\*

No material in this newsletter may be reprinted without express written permission of the Editor.



**REPRINT OF SUDIE RUCKER WOOD'S RUCKER FAMILY GENEALOGY:** Wood's book has been reprinted. If you have ordered a copy it should be delivered by now. If you haven't ordered and want one, please order now. Cost is \$20.00 which includes postage and handling. We have ordered enough extra copies that the demand should be met for the next few years. Please send checks, made payable to THE RUCKER SOCIETY, to Lewis M. ("Jack") White, 9751 Firth Court, Vienna, VA 22181.

**MEMBERSHIP NOTES:** \$7.00 membership fee includes four quarterly newsletters. If you join during the year, back copies of the newsletter will be forwarded to you. If you join after October, membership will be credited for the following year and you will not get back copies for that year. If you want to join for both years, please send \$14.00.

For membership, please make your \$7.00 check out to THE RUCKER SOCIETY and mail to: Mr. Lewis M. White, Treasurer (address above).

Back copies of the newsletter are available for \$2.00 each and are available from May 1990 when we had our first issue. Order them from the Editor, Jean B. Robinson, 304 Charmian Road, Richmond, VA, 23226 (804) 358-3185.

Our goal is to keep members informed of family information, and of biennial reunions. We also want to help members learn of their Rucker ancestry and to correct misinformation published in early books. The newsletter includes a family profile, obituaries, 50th wedding anniversaries, queries, and any news of interest to the family.

You might want to consider doing an article about your ancestor for the newsletter. Civil War ancestors are especially requested.

Please submit items and photos for inclusion to the Editor. Submissions may be edited and published as space and time permit.

Note: when writing to either the Treasurer or Editor, please include your membership number (the second number on your label, the first number is the year through which you are paid). Write clearly, print or type messages as sometimes handwriting is hard to decipher.

This mailing will not be sent to people who have not renewed for 1995. A letter will be mailed to those folks reminding them that it is time to renew.

**RUCKER PROJECTS:** We are researching future projects for the society to undertake. If you have any suggestions please contact the Editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

**RUCKER CEMETERIES:** James ("Jim") M. Rucker, Rt. 1, Box 56-B, Gladys, VA 24554, is collecting data on any and all Rucker Cemeteries. If you know of one, please fill in the form enclosed in this newsletter with the information requested. Many times former locations of family homesites can be determined from cemetery records. This will be a benefit for future generations, especially if you know of graveyards that have no markers.

While you are searching for the resting places of your ancestors, please clean up and repair any damages to the stones. If there is no stone to your ancestor, think about placing one to their memory. If the person served in one of our great wars, the military will place a marker.



# RUCKER CEMETERY RECORDS

Name of Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_ Founded \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's name and address \_\_\_\_\_

Location - Roads \_\_\_\_\_

Which side of road \_\_\_\_\_

Is the cemetery found in a yard, field, pasture, woods, church yard? \_\_\_\_\_

Condition: excellent, over grown, or back to nature \_\_\_\_\_

Caretaker's name and address \_\_\_\_\_

Possible number of graves: marked \_\_\_\_\_ unmarked \_\_\_\_\_ total \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please record inscriptions on back or a separate sheet of paper.

Would you be willing to head a committee to clean up this cemetery

yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ I can suggest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (name & address)

Please send this form with a list of tombstones inscriptions to:

James M. Rucker

Rt. 1, Box 56-B

Gladys, VA 24554

