

# the Rucker Family Society

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 7

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### ROLAND AND JOYCE PITTMAN SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY PERSONIFIED by Michael P. Rucker

It was a crisp, brilliant early December day in Ruckersville, Virginia. I stood in the cozy living room of Roland and Joyce Pittman enchanted by a breathtaking vista. Through the wide picture window of their brick hillside home we observed the pristine, first snow of winter covering the panoramic landscape. The Blue Ridge Mountains formed the dramatic backdrop as they stretched as far as the eye could see from south to north.

"I never thought those Rucker gatherings would catch on as they have," observed Joyce. She was reminiscing about the first national Rucker reunion in Ruckersville in October 1988. Anna Watson (RFSN, Vol. 1, No. 3, p.1-4) had always wanted to have a "National Rucker Reunion" in Ruckersville and with the help of Joyce and Roland her dream was fulfilled. Invitations were sent to cousins. This was only possible with the mailing lists of Ruckers obtained from Mary Rucker Snyder, Doris W. Edwards, Frances and Beth Evans and Jean B. Robinson.

Roland and Joyce were justifiably proud of its success -- and more than pleased with the turnout at the three that followed. They speculated on the turnout anticipated for the next such gathering October 5 and 6,

1996, at Crabapple, Georgia, just north of Atlanta.

Roland is the current Rucker Family Society president, although he insists that he shares the office equally with Joyce. And why not? They are both Rucker cousins. Joyce reports, "We had no idea we had common Rucker ancestors when we married in 1984. We both had an interest in genealogy, so imagine our surprise when we learned we were distant cousins. Our common ancestor is Blyfield Rucker (1787-1833)."



Roland and Joyce Pittman at the 1992 Reunion

Arthur<sup>10</sup> "Roland" Pittman is a tenth generation descendent of Peter Rucker: Arthur<sup>9</sup> Harrison ("Pitt") Pittman, Charles<sup>8</sup> Robert Pittman, Robert<sup>7</sup> Calvin Pittman, John W. Pittman (m. Virginia<sup>6</sup> Jane Rucker), Blyfield<sup>5</sup> Rucker, Joel<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>. He was born in nearby Charlottesville. His father, Arthur, married Helen Bailes. Roland, their only son, has three younger sisters: Kathryn ("Kay") Tomlin, Jacqueline ("Jackie") Pittman, and Frances ("Frankie") Pittman. Roland married Shirley Rice and they have three daughters: Deborah P. Delponti, Lisa P. Nuckols, and Donna P. Entezam, and six grandchildren.

Joyce<sup>11</sup> Cordelia Deane was born in Greene Co., VA, and is eleventh in line of descent from Peter Rucker: Raymond<sup>10</sup> Clark Deane, Willie<sup>9</sup> Fleta Durrer, Sam<sup>8</sup> J. Durrer, Jr., Samuel Joseph Durrer, (m. Mary<sup>7</sup> Ann Rucker), Allen<sup>6</sup> Rucker, Blyfield<sup>5</sup>, Joel<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>. Joyce is the daughter of Raymond Clark Deane and Pearl Elizabeth White. She has one sister and brother, Elaine Gayle Deane and Raymond Clark Deane Jr.

Joyce grew up in Blackstone, Virginia, and returned with her family to Greene County in 1952. She married C. Louin Collier and they have two children: Michael R. Collier, and Carol Ann Collier Demme, and two grandchildren.

Roland and Joyce's lineage was printed in Rucker Ruckus, Vol. 7, Issue 4, p.282. See also insert included in Vol. 9,

Roland worked for a major oil company for 18 years until 1988. He was regional sales manager for the southeastern division. He found the travel burdensome and

decided to return to his hometown. Now he holds down two demanding jobs which keep him constantly on the go: selling and managing real estate and raising beef cattle. He has 15 head of hereford/angus mix cattle at their home near Ruckersville and nearly 100 more on leased property closer in to Charlottesville.

The cattle had proved particularly obstreperous on the day of my visit. Roland told me "The snow caused them to be unusually frisky. When I brought them a roll bale of hay with the tractor, they all decided to attack it and rip it apart before I could get it into place. Then, they all romped out the gate, which was still open, and began attacking all the bales I have in storage. They were leaping and skidding about in the snow. It was awful trying to get them all back into their pasture."

Despite romping with the cattle, Roland had managed to get to his real estate office by 7:00 A.M. to prepare letters to delinquent real estate tenants. "He's always on the go," Joyce reports.

Somehow, Roland finds time to be involved in the Young Men's Business Club, Ducks Unlimited, the National Wild Turkey Club and the Red Lands Club of Charlottesville, which dates its membership back to Thomas Jefferson and others of that generation.

Both deer and wild turkey visit their farm. "The turkey population has quadrupled within the past several years," Roland reports with pride, "But, we have just too many deer. They are becoming a real nuisance"

Roland enjoys his annual deer hunting. He is an outdoors man. When I asked if he has someone else dress his deer kills, he responded, "Heck no. I'm too particular to let someone else do it. I have my own way of cutting up the meat. I want to make cer-

tain it's done right." This is typical of his drive to see each job done thoroughly and correctly.

His bow hunting almost ended in tragedy in 1981. While hunting he stumbled on some old barbed wire in the brush and fell forward onto the arrow that was in the bow. The arrow went into the right side of his head just behind the right eye. He was alone and had to get back to his vehicle to go home. Fortunately the arrow "missed his optic nerve by only a few millimeters."

Joyce is as tireless a worker as Roland. She has been employed by the Department of the Army for the past eighteen years. Joyce is also the secretary of the Ruckersville Baptist Church. She is proud that "this is the church organized by our Rucker ancestors many years ago, and numerous Rucker descendants still belong there. This is the third building [and second location] to house the church over the years."

Joyce also has her share of chores to handle around the farm and household. They love to travel, although they report it is difficult to find the time with all their activities. Over recent years they have visited a number of European countries, the Caribbean and Hawaii.

Both Joyce and Roland put in a significant amount of time keeping up with the duties of Rucker Family Society president. They take particular pride in the Ruckersville Historical Marker (see RFSN, Vol. 1, No. 3, p.4). The Pittmans led a coalition consisting of themselves, Mrs. Anna Watson, the Greene County Historical Society, the county highway department, and others to obtain and place the sign. They thank each of you who contributed to the cause.

The five offspring of Roland and Joyce have provided them a wealth of grandchildren; seven,

thus far. According to Joyce, "Every month there is a birthday party or event of some sort. It is such fun being a grandparent. They are trying to keep us young or maybe 'young at heart.'"

A visit with Joyce and Roland will quickly convince you that they truly are "young at heart." If you happen to pass through Ruckersville, They invite you to drop by. I can attest that you will be met by the world's friendliest dachshunds, Koko and Brandy, who will advise Roland and Joyce of your arrival. You will depart with a feeling of contentment that can be produced only by Southern hospitality as practiced by convivial experts such as our cousins Roland and Joyce.

In parting, Roland and Joyce admonished me to blank out the dates of the next Rucker Family Society Reunion, October 5 and 6, 1996, and urge that each of you do the same. [End]

\* \* \* \* \*

Michael P. Rucker, author the above article, was the subject of the family profile in RFSN, Vol. 2, No. 1, p.1.

If you have a suggestion for a family profile article, write to Mike at 1003 W, Centennial Drive, Peoria, IL 61614.

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**11TH ANNUAL JAMES RIVER BATTEAU FESTIVAL**, June 15-22, 1996. Batteaux are launched from Lynchburg, VA, Sat. June 15, and arrive at Maiden's landing, near Richmond on the 22nd.

Come out and be a part of the festivities and greet your Rucker cousins who man the Amherst Co. batteau, "The Anthony Rucker."

For additional information on the Batteau Festival, search the Internet Home Page:  
<http://www.inmind.com/batteau>



## THE RUCKER MANSION, LYNCHBURG, VA

Lewis M. ("Jack") White, Vienna, VA, sent an article from Lynchburg, A History in Architecture, by S. Allen Chambers Jr., page 211, describing a fabulous Lynchburg mansion. When most people were barely eking out an existence after the Civil War, Ambrose B. Rucker, listed in the 1860 census as a merchant, with \$28,000 in real estate, was building his dream home.

"[The] mansion [was] erected in 1867 by Ambrose B. Rucker on the west corner of Seventh and Clay Streets. Rucker was one of the city's most public-minded men. He was a member of the first board of Stewards of Court Street Methodist Church, first treasurer of the Spring Hill Cemetery Association, first president of the Lynchburg Mercantile Association, first president of the Lynchburg Orphan Asylum, and a member of the Board of Education."

Unfortunately, no illustration of his house, which was demolished ca. 1890 for the new St. Paul's Episcopal Church, exists. However, a complete verbal description given by the editor of the Lynchburg Virginian indicates that it was quite elaborate. Having accepted an invitation to visit the nearly completed building on Tuesday, April 2, 1867, the editor found it one of the finest, most elegantly furnished and conveniently arranged residences in Lynchburg. He described it as an ornament to the city.

"The Style is Ionic, and the material brick, covered with the Grecian Mastic Stuccoing, which gives a beautiful style and finish to the exterior. The color is a dark green, in imitation of Nova Scotia green stone, and the surface smooth and firm as marble. The heavy hanging cornice and the forty windows, set in ornamental iron frames, give a very showy

aspect to the structure. This will be greatly added to by the porches, which have not yet been erected, and are to be of Ionic style, in keeping with the architecture of the building.

"The editor also found the interior to be in good taste, with an eye to convenience and comfort as well as ornament. On the first, or basement floor are the kitchen, dining rooms, store room, servants' room, wash room and a spare chamber. These are fitted up with all the modern improvements which experience has taught to be desirable. The dining rooms, which are separated by folding doors and can be thrown into one, are spacious and capable of entertaining a very large company. On the second floor are the parlors (double), the library, chamber, bath room etc. The parlors are beautiful rooms, as is the library. The third floor is reached by a broad flight of stairs, and here are four fine and airy chambers, a bath room and linen room."

Like the John William Murrell house, the Rucker mansion combined beauty with the latest mechanical contrivances. "On top of the house is a reservoir from which water is conveyed to every room in the house. There are arrangements for supplying each room in the house with hot water also. The system of speaking tubes and bell wires through the house is perfect and works admirably . . . There are in all twenty-one rooms in the building, thirteen of which have fireplaces."

Ambrose<sup>6</sup> Barnes Rucker (Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) was born 11 Nov 1813, Amherst Co., VA, and died 22 Mar 1872, Lynchburg, VA. He was married 13 Mar 1851, to Sarah Benagh. See Sudie Rucker Wood's Rucker Family Genealogy, p.89.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Letter from  
Lurana Ryan  
Truesdell,  
Somers, NY:  
"My Grandmother  
was very proud  
of her Rucker  
background and  
told us about

Peter Rucker. She said that anyone who had not heard of Peter Rucker was no relative of ours. My curiosity about the connection overcame me after I was grown, and so the genealogy bug bit me and you know the rest of the story."

Lurana and her niece, Dorothy Hendrix Waldman, have just joined the RFS. They descend from **SUSANNAH<sup>5</sup> RUCKER** (Elliott<sup>4</sup>, Mordecai<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Jacob Byler (Wood, p.248, Whitley, p.159). Elliott Rucker and wife Stacy Wheeler's 14 children are listed in Whitley's book. Lurana said the information was from "an old family Bible found in Missouri and an old letter written from Tennessee to a relative telling of the recent marriages in the family."

Query: Lurana Ryan Truesdell, 376D Heritage Hills, Somers, NY 10589, is requesting information on Stacy Wheeler, wife of Elliott<sup>4</sup> Rucker, and her family.

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Does anyone have the names (and any other information) of the parents of **MARY YOUNG -- SECOND WIFE OF JOHN<sup>5</sup> RUCKER** (James<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>, Wood, p.18). She was born 17 Jun 1787 in Virginia, died 9 Dec 1858 Caldwell Co., KY, and had 12 children.

Please write -- Mrs. Julia Waedemon, 4315 36th Street, Port Arthur, TX 77642.

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**GOLDSON RUCKER** (GA), family legend said he went to Virginia when he was young. He does not appear in any Virginia census records.

If anyone has any information on Goldson, please write Linda M. Dean, 2675 Rosebud Road, Grayson, GA 30221, or call (404) 963-8856.

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**CORRECTION TO VOL. 7, NO. 1, P.8:** Marsha Richins of Columbia, MO, pointed out that the Jonathan M. Rucker who married Mary Ann D\_\_\_\_\_ (1850 Caldwell Co., KY, census), was the son of James<sup>5</sup> Rucker (James<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) who married Mildred<sup>5</sup> Rucker (John<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>). There is no evidence of a marriage of the son of Abner Rucker and Nancy Morton, who was also named Jonathan M. Rucker. Wood, p.157, said he died in 1832, making him about 25 years old.

**THE SPIRITS AT WORK:** The day after I wrote the above notice from Marsha Richins, I received a letter from Herman and Dorothy Rucker of Brentwood, TN. Herman descends from Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Asbury Rucker (John<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) whose 1st wife was Malinda<sup>5</sup> Rucker (William<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>). Benj. by his 2nd wife had a dau. Martha<sup>6</sup> Elizabeth Rucker, b. 9 May 1838; who married Jonathan M. Rucker of KY (Wood, p.36). It suddenly connected -- this was the 2nd marriage of Jonathan M. Rucker listed above (Wood, p.27). Williamson Co., TN, marriage bonds give their marriage date as 11 Dec 1856.

Jonathan appears in the 1850 Caldwell Co., KY, census with wife Mary Ann D. (married within the year). In the 1860 census he is listed with wife Betty (age 21) and dau. Mary Ann, age 9. Whitley, p.25, said he died 15 Dec 1858, but census records show he was living in 1860.

**CORRECTIONS IN VOL. 7, NO. 1,**  
p. 6 (from Doris Edwards, Grand Rapids, MI): Jeanette Pittman's address is Rt. 3, Box 353 (not 753), Jasper, TX 75951. Please write Jeanette if you have any information about the White family. Her great-great-great grandparents were Catherine Digges Herndon and Eppy White.

**Page 7:** The death of Althea Poston Hamm wife of Morris Hamm was reported in the last newsletter. Their name was mistakenly written as Ham.

Please let the Editor know of any past or future mistakes.

**NOTES FROM DORIS EDWARDS:**  
Could William Bowling White (father of Tinsley Rucker White and grandfather of Cora (White) Harris be a brother of David White who married Catherine<sup>6</sup> Rucker (Joseph<sup>5</sup>, John<sup>4</sup>, Cornelius<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)? David S. White, b. 1817, GA, was the son of Shelton White and Mildred Clark. William Bowling White was b. 13 Dec 1811 (family Bible).

"In another book by Cora (White) Harris, p.3, My Book and Heart, she wrote, 'My father, on the other hand, never referred to his ancestors.' That is unusual, isn't it? Tinsley's mother was Mildred Rucker (John<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)."

There were three descendants of Thomas<sup>2</sup> Rucker that intermarried with the White family. If anyone is working on the White family, please contact the Editor.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FAMILY GROUP SHEETS (FGS):**  
Have you sent in your line of descent from Peter<sup>1</sup> Rucker and FGS on each family? Doris Edwards and Jean B. Robinson are collecting all Rucker descendants. Even if you can't trace back to Peter<sup>1</sup> Rucker, we are still interested in collecting your family data.

Doris Edwards is placing FGS at the Virginia Historical Society for future generations to find their ancestors and cousins.

Jeannie Robinson is collecting data for a future update of Sudie Rucker Wood's Rucker Family Genealogy.

One benefit of collecting data is putting many families in touch with each other. The Editor has been contacted by many beginning genealogists who are trying to find out more about their Rucker ancestors. It very rewarding to both of us when data can be sent to them about their lineage.

Send your lineage and family groups sheets to:

Doris W. Edwards  
2017 43rd SE U-2  
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

and  
Jean B. Robinson  
304 Charmian Road  
Richmond, VA 23226

**COMPUTER DISC** - Do you have your genealogy on computer disc? If you are using PAF (the program of the Church of Latter Day Saints), please send a copy of your disc to:

Ruth McBride  
9104 Timberlake Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24502

Ruth has collected quite a few families and is integrating them together.

We will be discussing more about this at the reunion.

**FAMILY CEMETERIES** - Please send information about Rucker family cemeteries to:

James M. Rucker  
Rt. 1, Box 56-B  
Gladys, VA 24554.

Jim would like to have the name of the graveyard, its location and listings of people burial there.

**ON LINE?** If you would like to have your E-Mail address printed in a future issue, please send it to the Editor.

## IN MEMORIAM - Col. JAMES ("JIMMIE") STITT CORBITT

Col. JAMES ("JIMMIE") STITT CORBITT born July 2, 1908, died July 30, 1995, in Martin, TN. He earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the Univ. of Tenn. (UT) at Knoxville in 1931 and taught at UT Junior College at Martin for two years. He recently was named a founding member of the university's Academy of Engineering, an organization created to honor the most outstanding former students of the UT Martin School of Engineering Technology. As an engineer he worked with the TN State Highway Dept. and the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads. During 1930 he worked at Wilson Dam in Alabama with the Corps of Engineers.

He worked with the Tennessee State Forestry Service for two years then joined the Soil Conservation Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture where he worked from 1935 until 1962.

Col. Corbitt served in the military joining the ROTC while in college. He entered the National Guard in 1929 and rose through the ranks to colonel and retired in 1962. During WWII he served with the 30th Infantry (Old Hickory) Division with ski troops at Camp Hale, CO, then with the 77th Infantry Div. in the Southwest Pacific in the Philippines and north Japan during occupation. After the war, he organized the first National Guard tactical unit in Tennessee.

Corbitt's community service included the West Tenn. Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, the Board of Governors of the UT Alumni Assoc. and vice Pres. of the general Alumni Assoc. He served with the UT Martin Dev. Council and the UT Martin Alumni Council. He was a member of his-

torical societies in TN, KY, NC, and IN and several patriotic societies. His membership in the Society of the Cincinnati was through Angus Rucker. Jimmie was a member of Rotary International and was honored for 48 years perfect attendance of the Martin Rotary Club.

Before he died, he donated his historical papers and photographs to the Paul Meek Library. Look for them in the Alliene and Jimmie Corbitt Special Collections Area.

Jimmie was born in Plant, TN, son of the late Rena McCrary and Pleasant<sup>9</sup> Stribling Corbitt (Allen<sup>8</sup> T., Pleasant<sup>7</sup>, Sarah<sup>6</sup> Vawter, Jesse<sup>5</sup>, David<sup>4</sup>, Mary<sup>3</sup> Offill, Mary<sup>2</sup> Rucker, Peter<sup>1</sup>).

His wife of almost 60 years, Alliene Elizabeth Jenkins, died 9 Mar 1993. He is survived by one son Jim Corbitt of New Johnsonville; one dau. Betty Ann Callis of Martin; one brother P. S. Corbitt of New Johnsonville; and one sister Juanita Crockett of New Johnsonville. Also five grand-children, Laura Webb, Stan Callis and Jennifer Corbitt, all of Nashville, Chuck Callis of Jackson and Jay Corbitt of New Johnsonville; and three great grandchildren, Meredith Callis and Blake Callis of Jackson, and Logan Callis of Nashville.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, in Martin, TN.

Jimmie attended the first national Rucker Reunion in Ruckersville, VA, 1988.

(Martin, TN, County Press, submitted by son and dau.-in-law, Jim and Paula Corbitt, New Johnsonville, TN, via Doris Edwards.)



## IN MEMORIAM, con't

**MARK STEPHEN RUCKER**, born May 4, 1957, Hollywood, CA, died October 4, 1995, Bakersfield, CA. He was the son of Harold<sup>8</sup> Robert Rucker (Thomas<sup>7</sup> L., Richard<sup>6</sup> M., Julius<sup>5</sup>, Abner<sup>4</sup>, Anthony<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Kathryn "Lorraine" McCaskill. He was married to Carol Ann Williams (later div.), and had one child, Jason Andrew Harold Rucker. Burial was at Alhalla Cemetery, North Hollywood. (Submitted by his sister-in-law, Alice J. Rucker, of Sylmar, CA.)

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**HARRY KIRK WHITE** died December 4, 1995, at Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY. He was born July 10, 1935, in Louisville, and married Carol Jean McGinnis. They had two daughters, Lauren and Erin. He is buried at Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville.

Harry was the son of David Kirk White and Ocia<sup>8</sup> Lee Payne (Chesley<sup>7</sup>, William<sup>6</sup>, Nancy<sup>5</sup> Rucker, Colby<sup>4</sup>, Peter<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>).

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The following two obituaries from the News and Advance, Lynchburg, VA, were submitted by Laurie Giudice, Bedford Co., VA:

**CLARENCE RUCKER CHEEK**, age 94, of Route 4, Maple Shade Farm, Bedford, died Sunday, December 10, 1995, in Woodlawn Nursing Home. He was born February 1, 1901, Bedford Co., VA, son of John Elisha Cheek and Annie Robertson. He is survived by his wife, Hettie Sims; two daughters, Regina C. Gross and Mildred C. Adkins; four sons, John Henry Cheek, Lyle C. Cheek, Cicero (C.T.) Cheek, and Bobby R. Cheek; nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Buried in VA Memorial Park, Forest, VA.

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**QUENTIN BERNARD CLINE**, age 73, of 202 Honeydew Circle, Lake Norman Troutman, NC, died on Friday, Nov. 24, 1995, at his home. He was born October 7, 1922, in Scarboro, WV, son of **ELMER RUCKER CLINE** and Beatrice Clare Murdock and was raised in Lynchburg, VA. He was married to Catherine George. He is survived by one son, Quentin Bernard ("Barney") Cline Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. Christy C. Smith, Mrs. Peggy C. Davis and Mrs. Gale C. Campbell; seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

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**MARGARET LUCILLE WOODROOF DAVIS** died July 15, 1994, at Charlottesville, VA. She was born Oct. 26, 1894 at her family home, Pedlar Farm, near Pleasant View, VA. Her parents were Ambrose<sup>6</sup> Pleasants Woodroof and Emily Bright Brockenbrough. Her grandparents were Alfred<sup>7</sup> McDaniel Woodroof and Margaret Navarre Pleasants of Amherst Co., VA. Alfred is found on p.89 of Wood's book. Alfred's parents were both Rucker descendants: Margaret<sup>6</sup> McDaniel Rucker (Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Pitt<sup>6</sup> Woodroof (Judith<sup>5</sup> McDaniel, Margaret<sup>4</sup> Rucker, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>, Wood, p.414-415).

Margaret married Samuel Emmett Davis of Amherst County, Nov. 26, 1916. He died April 5, 1953. They had six children, five of whom survived. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

Her grandson, the Rev. Dr. William Ambrose Davis Jr. conducted her funeral services. She was buried at Spring Hill Cemetery, Lynchburg, VA.

Obituary from The News & Daily Advance, Lynchburg, VA, July 17, 1994, submitted by her daughter Mary Margaret Shelton of North Garden, VA.



## JEANNIE - ALOGY RUCKERS OF GEORGIA

Researching in the NSDAR Library in Washington D.C.: My genealogy group (GRIVA) in Richmond took a bus load of research-hungry genealogists to Washington for the day. I found many interesting things, but mainly I found a new Georgia Rucker family and tentatively traced them back to Peter<sup>1</sup> Rucker! The Stewarts and Allied Families, contained a family that descended from John T. Rucker of Pike Co., GA. Pike Co. is below Atlanta, nowhere close to the Ruckers of Elbert Co. and Crabapple. Was he related to Peter the immigrant?

I looked in my computer file of Ruckers who went to Georgia, of which there were quite a few:

A. TAVNER<sup>4</sup> AND BARDEN<sup>4</sup> RUCKER (William<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

B. GEORGE<sup>3</sup> RUCKER (Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

C. JOHN<sup>4</sup>, JAMES<sup>4</sup>, WILLIS<sup>4</sup>, AND BURTON<sup>4</sup> RUCKER (John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

D. JOHN<sup>4</sup> AND JOSEPH<sup>4</sup> RUCKER (Cornelius<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

E. ?<sup>3</sup> RUCKER (Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>, Wood, p.193)

In checking the 1830 Georgia census records, I found John T., Master [sic], Richard S., and Ordain [sic] S. living in the area of Pike Co. On p.211 of Wood's book is found Arden and Richard, children of Fielding<sup>5</sup> (John<sup>4</sup>, Cornelius<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>). Their grandparents, John<sup>4</sup> Rucker and Betsy Tinsley (dau. of John Tinsley), had 12 children. One was Joseph Rucker who founded the town of Ruckersville, GA. Another was John, about whom nothing had been written in Wood's book. Was John T. Rucker of Pike Co., GA, the son of John<sup>4</sup> and grandson and namesake of John Tinsley?

Consider the following:

JOHN<sup>5</sup> T. [TINSLEY?] RUCKER (John<sup>4</sup>, Cornelius<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), b. @1794, GA; m. Mary Hines, b. 1800, dau. of John Hines and Mason Potter. In 1828, John was a local preacher in the Methodist church, Barnesville, GA. He was listed in the 1870 Pike Co., GA, census with son Maston.

1. Maston<sup>6</sup> H. Rucker, b. @1817, GA; m. 24 Dec 1844, Pike Co., GA, Martha Chambers, b. 1824, GA.
2. Francis<sup>6</sup> Marion Rucker, b. @1820, d. 1856-1860, GA; m. 11 Dec 1839, Pike Co., GA, Harriet Culpepper.
3. Leonidas<sup>6</sup> H. Rucker, b. @1844, GA.

(Source: The Stewarts and Allied Families, by James Douglas Stewart Jr., p.154.)

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PRESLEY RUCKER -- In the last newsletter I reported that Presley was the brother of Willis (Wood, p.194). In the early records of Wilkes Co., GA, I found evidence that Presley was a school teacher. He married 26 May 1813, Wilkes Co., GA (p.618) ELIZABETH YOUNG. Presley 1st began appearing in court records in 1783 (age 18-21), which means he was about 50 years old at his marriage. Many school teachers never married, so was this, possibly, a first marriage?

Lastly, I found evidence of his death: 2 May 1814, Presley Rucker, dec'd, Elizabeth Rucker appointed admx. (Minutes of Inferior Court 1811, 1817, in Early Records of GA, Vol. 1, Wilkes Co., GA, 1932, by Grace G. Davidson, p.186, DAR Library.)

Next step: Search the records for the Young family.

PRESSLY [SIC] RUCKER, age 14, died May 1850, DeKalb Co., GA. (From the 1850 Georgia Mortality Schedule, Wood, p.194, son of Fielding<sup>5</sup>.)

**MEMBERSHIP**

Dues are \$7.00 annually and include the quarterly newsletter and notice of biennial reunions. Currently we have over 400 active members.

Reprint of Sudie Rucker Wood's Rucker Family Genealogy, is available for @20.00 from the treasurer.

Check should be made out to The Rucker Society and mailed to:

Mr. Lewis M. ("Jack") White, Treasurer  
Rucker Family Society  
9751 Firth Court  
Vienna, VA 22181

Suggestions and Newsletter articles should be sent to Jean B. Robinson, newsletter editor, address below.

Volunteers are needed to serve as board members and to help with the newsletter. Please contact the Editor if you can help.

Family Profile - Roland and Joyce Pittman, p.11-13

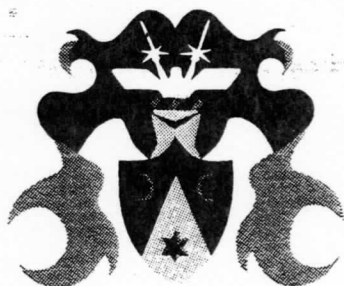
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**RUCKER REUNION REGISTRATION ENCLOSED**



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