

SPRING EDITION

# the RUCKER FAMILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 28, NO. 1, JUNE 2017

## RUCKER REUNION 2017 COLUMBUS, GA



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## Rucker Family Society 2017 National Reunion October 12 to October 15 Columbus, Georgia

Though October 12 seems a long way away, it is certainly not too early to plan to attend the Rucker Family Society's 2017 reunion in Columbus, GA. Bill and Susan Rucker are the local hosts and have put together a rich set of experiences for all Ruckers and their families.

Among the events will be readings from the works of Sidney Lanier (local poet, musician and author) by Mike Rucker, Alice Rucker will update members on the Rucker DNA Project, Mike will also discuss the family connections to nearby Fort Rucker, a local historian will provide a history of Columbus as will local artist a current art exhibit. Jeanie Rucker will make a presentation about the Rucker Quilt and Mike will discuss two local Ruckers professional baseball

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## In Memoriam



Rucker Family Society Board Member **Frank Ellis Bazler**, age 87, passed away in Troy, Ohio on May 12, 2017.

Born on January 17, 1930 in Columbus, Ohio to Frank H. and Minnie Rucker Bazler. Frank is survived by his wife of 62 years, Virginia "Ginni" Hutchison Bazler and many other loved relatives.

Frank graduated from Columbus North High School in 1947. Following graduation from The Ohio State University and the College of Law in 1953, Frank

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**Editor:**

**Jean "Jeannie" W. Brydon**  
1500 Westbrook Court #3111  
Richmond, VA 23227  
1-804-358-3185  
rucker10@comcast.net  
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**Assistant Editor:**

**Bill Smith**  
wsmith0128@ca.rr.com

**Reporter: Mike Rucker**

mikruc@aol.com

**President:**

**Christopher Rucker**  
christopherrucker@msn.com

Annual Membership

\$15.00 individual

Please send dues to

**Alice Rucker**

**Treasurer**

13331 Gridley Street  
Sylmar, CA 91342-4529

alice.rucker@gmail.com

*Please notify Nell Cordick about a  
change of address at*

*6624 McCambell Cluster,  
Centreville, VA 20120*

*Nell's email is lecnrc@aol.com*

**RFS Board Members**

Jeannie Brydon—Editor

Nell Cordick—Registrar

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served as an Air Force JAG officer for two years before moving to Troy, Ohio where Frank was a partner in the law firm of Miller, Bazler, McAdow and Schlemmer. In 1971, he joined Hobart Corporation's legal department, spending more than 23 years there, rising to corporate attorney and assistant secretary. Frank's feelings and passion for Ohio State University was only surpassed by his love and devotion to Ginni. Frank received several important awards from OSU and from OSU's Moritz's College of Law.

Being a strong believer in the advancement of the legal profession, Frank served as president of the Ohio Bar Association, the Miami County Bar Association, the Ohio Municipal Attorneys Association, Moritz Law Alumni Society, and the Moritz Henry Folsom Page Society. He served on the American Bar Association's House of Delegates for 16 years. Frank also served on numerous community organizations.

Services were held on May 16 at the First Presbyterian Church in Troy, Ohio. Burial followed in Riverside Cemetery, Troy with full military honors.

Mike Rucker wrote a mini-profile on Frank and Ginni in Vol. 17 No. 3 & 4, December 2006 of the RFS Newsletter.

Frank's Rucker lineages are: Frank<sup>8</sup> E. Bazler, Minnie<sup>7</sup> Mabrum Rucker, James<sup>6</sup> Madison, Nathaniel<sup>5</sup> Wingfield, Isaac<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup> and James<sup>6</sup> M.'s wife, Jane<sup>7</sup> Ellis Duff, Martha<sup>6</sup> A. Rucker, Willis A.<sup>5</sup>, John<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

*Obituaries continued on page 5*

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Rucker Family Society Reunion

*Continued from page 1*

Players, Nap Rucker and Johnny Rucker, and a Concert on the Street in Uptown Columbus. There will be time and many places to visit on Saturday, including transportation to the National Infantry Museum and the Port Columbus National Civil War Naval Museum. Hosts Bill and Susan Rucker are providing dinner Saturday, followed by the famous Auction of all things Rucker.

All in all, a rich set of experiences for all RFS members, family and friends.

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**Who was A. J. Rucker of  
McMinn Co., Tennessee?**

**by Jeannie Brydon**

Who was A. J. Rucker of McMinn Co., TN? If it hadn't been for the following record, no one would ever have known he existed. He is not on Ancestry.com.

I came across the following in my files and had no more information. *Wills & Estate Settlements of McMinn Co., TN, 1820-1870* (Wills, Vol. E-R, 1850-1862, Will Book E, p.57, 12 Sep 1849:); A. J. RUCKER. CR5, p.479, 2 Oct 1848 (submitted by Joan A. McNair, Newport Beach, CA, 2001): James E. Rucker approved administrator. Inventory and Settlement by Administrator \$28.80 money due from U. S. for services as a soldier in the Mexican War.

The only clues, I had to go on, were he lived in McMinn Co., TN, he died by 1849 in the Mexican War and James E. Rucker was the administrator of his estate of \$28.80 due from the United States Army. I didn't even know his full name.

Being from McMinn Co., TN, I knew he had to be a descendant of Mordecai Rucker, son of William, grandson of Peter. William moved his family to Amelia Co., VA and Mordecai later moved to McMinn Co., TN. So I looked at my records and could find nothing about him. Was James E. Rucker, by chance, James Ervin Rucker, son of James, brother of Mordecai?

I started searching on Ancestry.com and found the following. *U. S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914: Descriptive and Historical Register of Enlisted Soldiers of the Army for dur-*

*ing the War with Mexico*, under the Acts approved January 12<sup>th</sup> and February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1847, p.219.

**Andrew J. Rucker**, age 21 (b. 1826), Black Eyes, Black hair, Dark Complexion, 5 feet, 7½ inches, Tennessee, McMinn County, Farmer, enlisted April 17<sup>th</sup> [1847], Athens [TN], Company B of the 14th Regiment, died 24 Jul 1847 at Puebla, Mexico, a Private.

**James C. Rucker**, age 18 (b. 1829), Black Eyes, Black Hair, Dark Complexion, 5 feet, 5 inches, Tennessee, McMinn County, Farmer, Enlisted April 3<sup>rd</sup> [1847], Athens [TN], Company B of the 14th Regiment, 26 July 1848 expiration of service, New Orleans, a Private.

**Nathaniel Rucker**, age 20 (b. 1827), Blue Eyes, Dark hair, Dark Completion, 5 feet, 11 inches, Tennessee, McMinn County, Farmer, enlisted April 12<sup>th</sup> [1847], Athens [TN], Company B of the 14th Regiment, died 21 Jul 1847, at Puebla, Mexico, a Private.

What a fabulous find! Now, I knew his name: Andrew J. Rucker. Were the others James Cromwell Rucker and Nathaniel, sons of Mordecai<sup>5</sup> Rucker (James<sup>4</sup>, Mordecai<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Miriam Witt? Was Andrew another brother? Were Andrew, James and Nathaniel three brothers who enlisted in the Mexican War together – with only one

coming home?

I checked all the grandchildren of James<sup>4</sup>, especially the children of Mordecai<sup>5</sup>, who died in 1855. Eleven children were mentioned in his estate records (Will Book CC, p. 274, filed 8 Jul 1857, McMinn Co., TN). On *Ancestry.com* under Mordecai, almost everyone had son Nathaniel, but not one person had Andrew J.

Census records showed nine children in 1840 and four more in 1850 totaling thirteen. Eleven are mentioned in Mordecai's estate as two had died (Andrew and Nathaniel).

Therefore, I conclude that Andrew J. Rucker was a son of Mordecai<sup>5</sup> Rucker (James<sup>4</sup>, Mordecai<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), and was also the nephew of James<sup>5</sup> Ervin Rucker (James<sup>4</sup>, Mordecai<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>).

There is still one more unanswered question. Were Andrew J. and Nathaniel Rucker buried in the Mexico City National Cemetery created in 1851 for Americans who died in the Mexican War?

\* \* \* \*

**Susan Rucker**

**by Jeannie Brydon**

George<sup>6</sup> de Lafayette Rucker was the son of Joshua<sup>5</sup> Rucker (John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), and on page 18 of Studie Rucker Wood's 1932 *The Rucker Family Gene-*



alogy, Joshua<sup>5</sup>, the son of James<sup>4</sup> Rucker, was listed as deceased with no further information. Shirley Sue Rucker Batts of Pleasureville, KY sent me some information on this George<sup>6</sup> D. Rucker, but it took me many hours to discover that he was married twice and with his two wives had had eleven children.

I searched each of those eleven children and noticed Susan Rucker, living at home in the 1880 census, age 30, and listed as a widow. Why did she have her maiden name if she was a widow?

I found a marriage record (KY County Marriages, 1783-1865) for a Susan Rucker and Elisha Rucker, 6 Dec 1866, Henry Co., KY. Was this the "right" Susan and who was Elisha? Then the record said, "To be married at G. D. Rucker's." The answer was clear, yes, this *was* Susan's father, and her married name was Rucker as well as he married name.

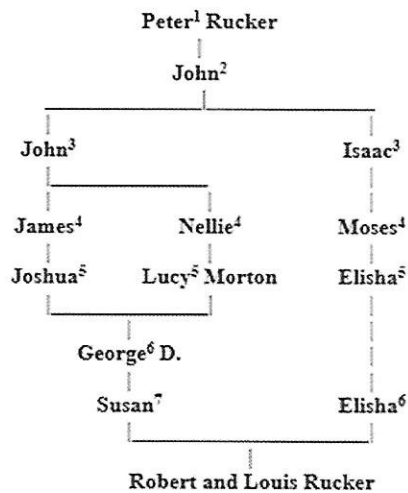
Would *Ancestry.com* lead me to Elisha's lineage? Again the answer was, yes. In the 1860 census, age 13, Elisha was living with his parents, Elisha and Mary Rucker. *Ancestry* said Elisha, Sr. was the son of Moses Rucker. Moses' name was listed on page 140 of Wood's book as Moses Hawkins Rucker, but there is no evidence that Moses Rucker had a middle name.

Page 141 showed Elisha with no children. The 1860 Shelby Co., KY, showed Elisha Sr. with six children including Elisha, Jr. My records showed that Elisha Rucker, Jr. married a Susan Rucker, but I had no idea who she was at the time. I thought I had been looking at first cousins, but now discovered Elisha and Susan turned out to be third cousins once removed. Distantly related, they lived in adjoining counties in Kentucky, Shelby and Henry, and the families probably knew each other.

Susan had two children by her first husband Elisha Rucker: Robert, age 2 and Louis [sic], age 1 as listed in the 1870 Shelby Co., KY census. They were living adjacent to Mary J. Rucker [likely Elisha's widowed mother], age 50.

With this new information, I now had the lineage of Elisha:

**Elisha<sup>6</sup> Rucker, Jr.** (Elisha<sup>5</sup>, Moses<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>).



Shared ancestry of Susan Rucker and Elisha Rucker

And Susan's Rucker lineages are: **Susan<sup>7</sup> Rucker** (George<sup>6</sup> D., Joshua<sup>5</sup>, James<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup> and Joshua's wife, Lucy<sup>5</sup> Morton, Nellie<sup>4</sup> Rucker, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>)

Susan was married a second time and had a daughter, Emma, as shown in the 1910 and 1920 census. This second marriage of Susan A. Rucker (b. 1846) to William C. Johnson (b. ca 1838) took place 23 Mar 1882, in Shelby Co., KY at the home of Geo. D. Rucker, of Henry Co., KY (KY Marriage Records).

*Find A Grave* gave me Susan Rucker Johnson's dates. She was born 4 Feb 1847 and died 2 Apr 1899. Her obituary appeared in the *Shelby County News*. She was buried at Christiansburg Cemetery, Shelby Co., Kentucky.

\* \* \* \*

## Agnes Rucker

by Jeannie Brydon

On page 157 of *Sudie Rucker Wood's The Rucker Family Genealogy* published in 1932, she lists the children of Abner<sup>4</sup> Rucker (Anthony<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>) and Nancy Morton, his wife, as mentioned in the 1823 will of Jeremiah Morton to his daughter Nancy and her husband Abner Rucker, and their children Betsy, *Agatha* [sic], Anthony, Jeremiah, Jefferson, Julius, Jonathan M. Rucker.

Wood lists those children as mentioned above except she writes Jonathan and Morton as two separate people when they should be one.

The daughter Agatha is actually Agnes. In the original will of her father, her name is written Agnefs (using the old style “long s”) and misread as Agatha.

Issue of Abner Rucker and Nancy Morton:

1. Betsy<sup>5</sup> Rucker
2. Agnes<sup>5</sup> Rucker
3. Anthony<sup>5</sup> Rucker
4. Jeremiah<sup>5</sup> Rucker
5. Jefferson<sup>5</sup> Rucker
6. Julius<sup>5</sup> Rucker
7. Jonathan<sup>5</sup> Morton Rucker

Anthony Rucker (Anthony<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), the father of Abner, mentions these children in his will, dated 20 April 1820, recorded 17 Feb 1821 (W. B. 6, p.210-214, Amherst Co., VA):

*. . . My son **Abner Rucker**, my son **Armistead Rucker**, my son **Absalom Rucker**, my daughter **Agnes Ogdon** [sic], to the children of my deceased daughter **Ann Eads** [sic], and the children of my deceased daughter **Amelia Richeson** . . .*

Issue of Anthony<sup>3</sup> Rucker:

1. Abner<sup>4</sup> Rucker
2. Ann<sup>4</sup> Rucker
3. Armistead<sup>4</sup> Rucker
4. Agnes<sup>4</sup> Rucker
5. Absalom<sup>4</sup> Rucker

## 6. Amelia<sup>4</sup> Rucker

I love this – all children’s names begin with an “A.”

\* \* \* \*

## In Memoriam

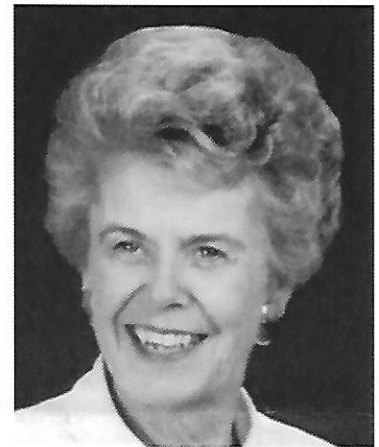
**Daniel Loren Rucker** died February 3, 2017 in Irving, Texas. He was the son of Loren and Alice Rucker, longtime Rucker Family Society members. Dan was born January 24, 1972 in San Fernando, CA. He attended schools in the San Fernando Valley. After graduation in 1990, he attended and graduated from West Point Military Academy. After graduation from West Point he served as a lieutenant for three and a half years, notably in Kuwait during Desert Storm where he wrote and the U.S. and Kuwaiti governments adopted his procedure manual for the Bradley-stinger missile weapons system. After working in private industry, Dan completed his master’s degree in 2006 from Southern Methodist University. It was in Texas that he met and married Jennifer Wiley. They later divorced.

He is survived by his father and step-mother, Loren and Alice Rucker; his mother Margaret Ann Johnstone; siblings Martti Mallinen, and Liisa Duncan and husband Matthew and their children Tait, Jagger, and Ella. His memorial service was held at Northridge United Methodist

Church on March 18, 2017.

Dan’s Rucker lineage is: Daniel<sup>10</sup> L. Rucker, Loren<sup>9</sup> D., Harold<sup>8</sup>, T. Loren<sup>7</sup>, 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>.

**Sudie Mann Wilson**, 90, passed away May 26, 2017 at Westminster Health and Rehab Care. She was the widow of



Thomas Eugene Wilson, who passed away in July 2012.

Sudie was born on September 15, 1926 in Richmond, VA and was the daughter of the late Sudie Wood Mann and Roger LaFayette Mann, and granddaughter of Sudie Rucker Wood. She graduated from St. Catherine School in Richmond, VA. Sudie was a member of the Episcopal Church of our Savior for 63 years, serving as the president of the Woman of the Church 4 times.

Always described as a true southern lady by those who knew her, Sudie founded and directed the Junior Assembly of

Rock Hill that taught and practiced social etiquette and ballroom dancing. She warmly welcomed families to the Rock Hill community through her work with the Welcome Wagon of Rock Hill. Studie was passionate about her faith, friendships, and most of all, her family.

Sudie Wilson is survived by her two daughters, Studie "Sue" Wilson Moore of Greenwood, SC and Beverly Wilson Sumner and husband Bobby, of Gastonia, NC; her brother William Mann of Alexandria, VA; her grandchildren, Studie and Chris Clem of Greenwood, SC, John Moore of Myrtle Beach, SC, Thomas and Christy Moore of Greenwood, SC, Robert and Kristen Sumner of Charleston, SC, Grayson and Andy LeVeen of Charlotte, NC, Price and Ryan Sigal of Charleston, SC, Kinnison and Sara Sumner of Charleston, SC; and her 13 great-grandchildren.

Sudie Wilson wrote an article in Vol. 11 No. 4, December 2000 of the RFS Newsletter about "Five Generations of Studies."

Sudie Mann Wilson's Rucker lineage is: Studie<sup>9</sup> Mann, Studie<sup>8</sup> Wood, Studie<sup>7</sup> S. 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 Mary<sup>6</sup> Ann Dawson Rucker [wife of William<sup>5</sup> B. Rucker], Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

**George Edward "Ted" Allen**

**III** died at home on Wednesday, March 29, 2017, after a courageous battle with mitochondrial disease. Ted was born in Richmond, Virginia on January 14, 1949, the son of George E. Allen Jr. and Elizabeth Willis Stone. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Anne Cary Hall Allen; his mother; three children, Cary Allen and Pierce Whiteside, William George Allen and his wife Lauralee, and David Hall Allen; three grandchildren, Clyde Allen Whiteside, Margaret Grace Allen and Rebecca Noelle Allen; his sisters, Elizabeth Allen Cuthbert and husband Charles, and Mere-



dith Allen and Mark Ronquest; his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Susan and Russell Harper; and his nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father, George E. Allen Jr.; his sister, Dr. Margaret Allen Aiesi; and his wife's parents, Jesse Bernard Hall and Susan Bowman Peters Hall.

Ted graduated from the Collegiate School, the University of Virginia and the University of Virginia School of Law. He

practiced law for 42 years with Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen, the firm founded by his grandfather, George E. Allen Sr. He served as president of the law firm, president of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association and president of the John Marshall Inn of Court. He was also a member of the Board of Governors of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and the Boyd-Graves Conference. He also served on the Board of Associates of The University of Richmond. Ted was a longtime member of the Board of Deacons of First Baptist Church, where he also served as Trustee. Above all else, Ted treasured his family.

"Ted" Allen III's Rucker lineages are: George<sup>10</sup> Edward Allen III, Elizabeth<sup>9</sup> Wyllys Stone, Claudia<sup>8</sup> White Rucker, George<sup>7</sup> Hilton, Daniel<sup>6</sup>, William<sup>5</sup> Ballenger, George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup> and Wm. B.'s wife Mary<sup>6</sup> Anne Dawson Rucker, Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup> and Daniel's wife, Mariamna<sup>7</sup> Rucker, James<sup>6</sup> Monroe, Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

**William Kirkpatrick Vance Rucker**, 88, of Greensboro, NC died February 18, 2017. A joint memorial service for both Vance and his wife Betty (see below for Betty's obituary) was held at Guilford Park Presbyterian Church on February 23, 2017.



Born and raised in Bristol TN/VA ("twin cities"), Vance served in the U.S. Army 1946-1948. He married Betty in 1948 and graduated cum laude from Washington & Lee University in 1951. He was also a graduate of The Executive Program of the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Business. He worked for Burlington Industries for 22 years, serving as the Director of Purchasing. Vance then became Vice President and General Manager of Krupp International-TMD. After that, he became President of Scragg North America, a subsidiary of Stone-Platt Industries of London, England. His career took him many places worldwide. Vance was a member of Guilford Park Presbyterian Church for many decades.

In addition to his parents, Vance was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Elizabeth Marion Snelling Rucker, who died December 25, 2016; brother, Richard C. Rucker; and daughter-in-law, Margaret F. Rucker. He is survived by his sons, W. Kirk Rucker, III and his wife Patricia, John S. Rucker and his close friend Laura Schuster; grandchildren: Lia Rucker, Jenifer Poteat and husband David, Jonathan Rucker and his wife Amy; great-grandchildren: Sarah Rucker, Samantha, Jordan and Bailey Poteat, and Summer and Holden Rucker.

Vance's Rucker lineage is: W. K. Vance<sup>8</sup> Rucker, William<sup>7</sup> Vance, Allen<sup>6</sup> Tweedy, Isaac<sup>5</sup> Martin, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

**Elizabeth Marion Snelling Rucker**, 87, died, December 25, 2016. Betty, wife of Vance Rucker, subject of the previous obituary, was born on August 20, 1929, in Atlanta, GA. And yes, it is true, as the oldest sister, she would drive a scooter with sidecar attached down Peachtree St to school with all three of her sisters in tow. She attended the University of Georgia before her marriage to Vance Rucker in 1948. Outnumbered by the male family members, she spent many years camping, boating and water skiing with her "three" boys. Later, minus the camping, she did the same with her grandchildren. In addition to being a homemaker, Betty was a member of Guilford Park Church for 58 years, where she sang in the choir and was a co-leader of Vacation Bible School. In addition to her parents, Betty was preceded in death by sisters Florence Houk and Lucy Jones.

**Anne Randolph (Rucker) Glover Loyd** of Lynchburg and Waynesboro, VA passed away on February 18, 2017, after a long struggle with rheumatoid arthritis. Anne was born in Lynchburg on September 28, 1926, to John Addison Rucker

and Wahnnette Forbes Rucker, and she was the granddaughter of William Harris Rucker and Catherine Bernice Meriwether Rucker. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, William Henry Deisel Glover, of Lima, Ohio, and a sister, Jean Rucker Williams of Florida. She is survived by husband, Samuel Aston Loyd, Jr. of Waynesboro; a son, John Rucker Hall; a daughter, Catherine Meriwether Hall Petit, both of Westminster, CA.; and a niece, Susan Kent Miller and husband Frank of Orange City, FL. She is also survived by a stepson, George Glover and his wife Mona of Cincinnati, OH; a step-daughter, Lucy Glover Moore and husband Temple of Chatham, VA; and three step-grandchildren, Mark Glover, Meredith Glover, and Megan Moore. Anne graduated from Boonsboro High School and attended Richmond Professional Institute. She worked as a banker and stock broker. She was a serious genealogist and did extensive research on her Davies, Meriwether and Rucker ancestors and self-published a volume of her genealogical work. Anne was a member of the Meriwether Society, DAR Blue Ridge Chapter, UDC, Davies family, and Clan Douglas Society.

Anne's Rucker lineage is: Anne<sup>9</sup> R. Rucker, John<sup>8</sup> A., William<sup>7</sup>

H., Joshua<sup>6</sup> T., Joshua<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

**James Frederick Sutherland**, M.D., of Dublin, Ohio died November 20, 2016. He was born July 16, 1927 in Martins Ferry, Ohio, a son of Anna Frances Obrist Sutherland and Frederick Pelham Sutherland, M.D. He graduated from Linsly Military Institute, Washington and Jefferson College, and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Dr. Sutherland served in the United States Navy Reserve during World War II and Korea, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In 1951 he married Diana Louise Westlake. He completed a residency and a surgical residency, and was in general practice with his father in Martins Ferry from 1958-1979, then relocated to Baudette, MN and continued general practice until 1997 when he retired and moved to Green Valley, AZ. He is preceded in death by his parents, his older brother William, and his wife of 51 years Diana. Surviving are his daughters Laurie S. Giudice and husband Martin of Forest, VA, Judith S. Hundley and husband Paul of Dublin, OH, and Eve S. Curtis of Anaheim, CA; seven grandchildren Marina N. Curtis, Diana L. Curtis, James L. D'Amico, Stephen J. D'Amico, John D. Giudice, James M. Giudice and his wife Lisa, Angela G. Graham and husband Travis;

and great-grandchild Sophia A. A. Maulbeck; sister-in-law Judith Westlake McLaughlin.

Dr. Sutherland's Rucker lineage is: James<sup>9</sup> F. Sutherland, Frederick<sup>8</sup> P., Anna<sup>7</sup> Mary Rucker, Moses<sup>6</sup> P., Anthony<sup>5</sup>, Ambrose<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

**Meredith Robinson Rucker** of Dublin, OH died at Kobacker House on April 4, 2017, at age 72. She was born on June 13, 1944, in Patterson, NJ to the late Walton and Kathryn Robinson. Meredith was educated at the Gill School and Bucknell University. Her soaring soprano voice was a true gift and she shared it with many in school church. Meredith is survived by a brother, Rodney; husband, John T. Rucker III; children, John Rucker and his wife Cindy, Kathryn and husband Chris Rich, and Meredith and husband Ed Spitzmiller, as well as ten grandchildren. The family lived in Lynchburg for eleven years and considered it the family home. Meredith was a member of the Blue Ridge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. A memorial service was held April 8, 2017 at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Dublin.

Meredith Robison Rucker's husband's Rucker lineage is: John<sup>9</sup> Tinsley Rucker III, John<sup>8</sup> T., Jr., John<sup>7</sup> T., Sr., Joshua<sup>6</sup> T., Joshua<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

Note: Meredith and her husband John have a son John<sup>10</sup> Tinsley Rucker IV, who has a son John<sup>11</sup> Tinsley Rucker V. The obituary of Meredith's father-in-law's, John T. Rucker, Jr., appeared in Vol. 26, No. 1 of the *Rucker Family Society Newsletter*.

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### **Ambrose Clark Rucker Corrections to Wood**

**by Jeannie Brydon**

On page 83 of *The Rucker Family Genealogy* by, published in 1932, Sudie Rucker Wood writes that Ambrose Clark Rucker (Edwin<sup>6</sup> S., Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>), was married three times: first to Emily J. Clark, second to Miss Acree, and third to Sally Mason. The only marriage record that I can find on *Ancestry.com* for Ambrose C. Rucker is with Sally Mason.

Emily J. Clark is actually his mother (that is how he got the middle name Clark). His first wife was actually to Kate Clark, his aunt and sister of Emily, his mother. Father and son married sisters.

Ann L. Denton, who is currently a RFS board member, has the family Bible of Ambrose C. Rucker's son, Charles Hylton Rucker. This Bible lists three wives names: first **Philadelphia Catharine "Kate" Clark**, second **Rosalie/Rosa Lee Acree**,



and third Sally Mason.

One important addition: Ambrose and Kate had a son, Edwin Samuel Rucker who married Kate's niece (who was therefore also Ambrose's first cousin), Lillie Sue Clark. Ed is not listed in Wood's book, as his mother died young and he was raised by his great-uncle, Howard Clark at Hampden, Prince Edward Co., VA. Ambrose C. Rucker left his estate to his wife Sally and her five children as listed on page 83 of Wood.

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### Newsletter Correction

The photo on page 27, Vol. 27, No. 3 of the Rucker Hotel has the incorrect Rucker lineage for William Franklin Rucker. This correction comes from Darrell Rucker in an email from April 2017 to Jeannie Brydon: *WF Rucker is my second great uncle. His father Elliot or Ellet is not the son of Elliott<sup>4</sup> (Mordecai<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>). My unknown third great-grandfather is probably a brother of Elliott<sup>4</sup> Rucker. The hotel photo is from Heritage of the Hills: a Delaware County History, by Rose Stauber and Joanne Fix, published by Stauber Books in ca. 2000.*

The correct lineage should read - William Franklin Rucker (Elliot, unknown).

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## Columbus Rucker

### A Slave from Mississippi

by Jeannie Brydon

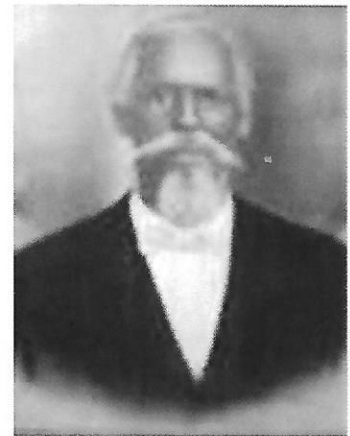
From Corey Campbell - the following is family legend:

Henry Tate Rucker raped his cousin's slave Betsy Charlotte. The result was the birth of Columbus Rucker, born 1837 (1900 census lists birth date as Mar 1838). Later Columbus was sold to his father, Henry Tate and was separated from his older brother (Reason Rucker, son of Betsy and Josh). Betsy Charlotte was married to another slave by the name of Josh who was the driver, ordained Methodist clergy and/or overseer on the plantation by then known as Rucker's Hurricane Plantation located in Cannersburg, MS (10 miles east of Natchez).

After the Civil War, Josh Rucker Sr. moved his entire family from the Rucker Plantation in Natchez to Fayette, MS, where he purchased and farmed land.

Columbus Rucker left the Rucker plantation in Tippah Co. MS and moved to Holly Springs, MS, where he purchased land and farmed. Columbus was married to four wives (three at the same time and in the same house). It is said that he fathered forty-five children.

Note from Jeannie: Slaves were not allowed to marry and many children were sired by their mas-



Columbus Rucker (ca 1837-1910)

ters. They were not listed in census records until 1870 after they were freed.

Lizzie McKinnon was the daughter of Columbus Rucker and Alice Porter, being one of the 45 children of Columbus from what she was told. Lizzie was Corey Campbell's great-great-grandmother.

Lineage of Columbus<sup>6</sup> Rucker: Henry<sup>5</sup> Tate, James<sup>4</sup>, Benjamin<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

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### From the Registrar

Nell Cordick, RFS Registrar would like to remind all members that it's time to renew your membership, so please send your \$15.00 annual dues to her address - 6624 McCambell Cluster, Centreville, VA 20120. Your address label will tell you the year through which your dues are paid. Also, it's very important to let her know of any change of address.

### Ruckers at Amherst County's First Batteau Day Celebration

The Rucker Family Society was well represented at the dedication of Riveredge Park in Lynchburg, VA. Mike Rucker worked tirelessly to have informative signs placed in the park explaining the significance of the batteau/batteaux to the local economy and its inventors, Benjamin and Anthony Rucker. The dapper gentleman at the far right is none other than Thomas Jefferson, who stopped by to help celebrate.



The RUCKER family SOCIETY



Rucker

First Class Mail

Jeannie Brydon  
304 Charmian Rd  
Richmond, VA 23226-1705

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

