

# the Rucker Family Society

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. 33, No. 3, December 2022

### Table of Contents

Ruckers and Enslaved  
"Fortification Men" . . . . .  
..... p. 21-23

Sabrina Rucker, CEO and  
co-founder of *StoryForge*  
..... p.1, 23-24

Rucker Family Society  
Reunion, Monterey,  
California, 2022 . . p.24-27

Rucker Family Society  
Board Meeting Minutes . .  
..... p.27-28

In Memoriam . . . . . p.28  
Judith Marie *Guenther* Clay

Winfred<sup>7</sup> Leeper Rucker  
and Lemuel<sup>7</sup> Mitchell Clay  
..... p.29

Photo . . . . . p.30



Fred Rucker and Lemuel Clay

### Ruckers and Enslaved "Fortification Men"

By  
Christopher D. Rucker, MD

Records at the National Archives and at subscription services such as Ancestry.com shed light on how enslaved labor was employed by the Confederate Army in the Civil War. Genealogy on Black families is difficult since enslaved Blacks were not enumerated by name in censuses prior to 1870. "US, Confederate Army Payrolls for Enslaved Labor, 1840-1883" is a searchable database which can be accessed at Ancestry. It provides the first names of enslaved people rented out to the Confederacy for labor on military defenses, and the names of their slave owners. This record group may answer the occasional question I get from African American genealogists seeking the connection between their ancestors and the descendants of Peter Rucker.

Continued on p.22

### Sabrina Rucker Wins Award



Sabrina Rucker

### Sabrina Rucker, age 22 CEO and co-founder of *StoryForge*

Sabrina Rucker started her company, *StoryForge*, during the summer of 2021. *StoryForge* is an app connecting underrepresented authors with support, editing and help with growth so that they can get published. She pitched the app earlier this year to the University of Minnesota's BizPitch competition, winning the Social Impact Award.

Continued on p.23.

*The Rucker Family Society  
Newsletter*

Copyright –All Rights Reserved

President

Christopher “Chris” Rucker  
christopherrucker@msm.com

Vice President

Derek Rucker  
derek.p.rucker@gmail.com

Secretary

Anne Denton  
arld@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Alice Rucker  
alicerucker@gmail.com

Registrar

Annual Membership \$15 - send  
dues to  
Nell Cordick  
6624 McCambell Cluster  
Centreville, VA 20120  
RuckerFamilySociety@gmail.com  
[New Email Address]

Editor

Jean “Jeannie” Brydon  
1500 Westbrook Court #3111  
Richmond, VA 23227  
804-200-1344  
Rucker10@comcast.net

Reporter:

Michael “Mike” Rucker  
mikruc@aol.com

Members at Large

Carol Gavette --  
2022 Reunion Chair  
Phyllis Rucker  
Price Wood

Continued from page 21

## Enslaved Men

The following data was obtained by searching the database for “Rucker” in Virginia counties.

In Amherst County, Daniel H. Rucker received \$20 for the labor of “Nelson.” Valentine H. Rucker received \$20 for the labor of “William Button.” William Rucker rented out “Armistead” for \$20 and “Daniel” for \$41, who worked for seventy-eight days at sixteen dollars a month building artillery fortifications. Nathan D. Rucker received \$41 for the labor of “Wyatt” on the Richmond Defenses. Ambrose C. Rucker received \$25.33 for the work of “Sam” in Richmond. Addison C. Rucker provided the laborer “Gustavus” for sixty-five days of work in Richmond, receiving \$43.33.

In Bedford County, “Jack” was rented by Moses P. Rucker to work on the Chaffin Bluff Brooke Defenses in Richmond, for sixty days and \$32. James M. Rucker received \$32 dollars for the sixty days of work done by “Henry” and \$41.60 for that of “Stephen,” who was twice rented out for labor. Bernard Rucker provided “Fuller” to

work on the Lynchburg fortifications.

In Campbell County, November 1863, John Rucker and son rented out “Reuben,” “Barnes” and “Fleming” for twelve days work in Lynchburg. George M. Rucker provided “Sandy.” These named slaves were again rented in December for twenty-six days. In January 1864 these Ruckers received no pay for the work of the four, because Barnes ran away on 24 December and the other three on Christmas Day.

In Greene County, William and Willis Rucker received pay for two months of labor performed by “Andrew.”

Since freed slaves may have taken the same surname as their previous owners, a search of postwar censuses can identify a man who was rented out by a Rucker during the Civil War. For example Gustavus Rucker is in the Amherst County VA census of 1880, born about 1844, married to Josephine with five children in the household. This is likely the same “Gustavus” rented out by Addison C. Rucker in Amherst County during the Civil War. Nelson Rucker is in the 1870 Amherst census, born about 1835, married to

Paulina, with five presumed children. This is probably the man whose slave labor in the Civil War accrued to Daniel H. Rucker. I suspect that my direct ancestor, William Ambrose Rucker, provided "Armistead" as a so-called "fortification man" and that Armistead is in the 1880 census of Bedford County, married to Susan with four presumed children at home. Wyatt Rucker, who was enslaved by Nathan D. Rucker, is probably the man in the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Lynchburg, working with his children in a tobacco factory.

\* \* \* \* \*

Continued from p.21

### **Sabrina Rucker**

Rucker previously started another business called Winter-Whittler, where she sold basswood carvings of penguins. She secured second place for the carving business in the Minnesota chapter of the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards in 2021.

Questions to Sabrina:  
Why do you do what you do?  
I think the best way to improve the world is by lifting others up. For me, that means creating a business to

systematic address inequality in publishing.

What is your biggest accomplishment?  
Running a marathon. At the start of 2021, I had crippling anemia, It was so hard to breathe that I was missing events and tests - I even lost a job opportunity. At the end of 2021, after nine months of iron supplements and conditioning, I ran my first marathon. When I think about where I started, and how hard I worked for it, that remains my proudest accomplishment.

What excites you about the future?  
I get excited thinking about all the things I've never tried. Each new experience ends up leading me to paths I never expected. The trick is being open to the unpredictability that's entrepreneurship.

What's the last book you read?  
"This Poison Heart," by Kalynn Byron

Fast facts:  
Education: After high school, I studied cybersecurity in Scotland and Maryland before settling at the University of Minnesota. I'll graduate this winter with a

bachelor's in history and a minor in product design.

Hobbies: Marathon runner, harpist, lockpicker, blacksmith, sword fighter, and language learner.

Sabrina has seven lines of descent from Peter Rucker:  
1. Sabrina<sup>11</sup> Rucker, Derek<sup>10</sup> Peck Rucker, Michael<sup>9</sup> Price Rucker, Henry<sup>8</sup> Cowles Rucker, Jr., Dr. Henry<sup>7</sup> Cowles Rucker, Benjamin<sup>6</sup> Lindsey, Benjamin<sup>5</sup> J., Isaac<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>; and Dr. Henry<sup>7</sup> C. Rucker's wife,  
2. Lillian<sup>7</sup> Eliza Rucker, William<sup>6</sup> Ambrose, William<sup>5</sup> B., George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>; and Wm.<sup>7</sup> B. Rucker's wife,  
3. Mary<sup>6</sup> A. D. Rucker, Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>; and Benjamin<sup>6</sup> L. Rucker's wife,  
4. Sallie<sup>7</sup> Parks, Pauline<sup>6</sup> Davis, Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> McDaniel, Lucy<sup>4</sup> Rucker, Benjamin<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>; and Michael P. Rucker's wife,  
5. Harriet<sup>10</sup> Rucker, John<sup>9</sup> Rucker Jones, Margaret<sup>8</sup> Virginia Rucker, Marianne<sup>7</sup> Rucker, James<sup>6</sup> Monroe Rucker, Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>; and Marianne<sup>7</sup> Rucker's husband,  
6. Daniel<sup>6</sup> R. Rucker, William<sup>5</sup> B., George<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>; and Wm.<sup>7</sup> B. Rucker's wife,

7. Mary<sup>6</sup> A. D. Rucker, Ambrose<sup>5</sup>, Reuben<sup>4</sup>, Ambrose<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

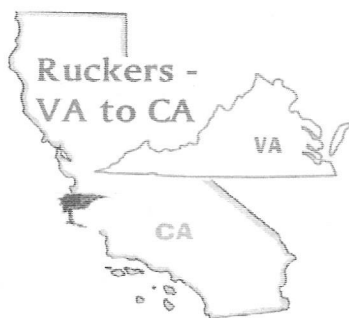
Sabrina describes the award: "The Minne Inno Under 25 Award showcases 10 innovators aged 25 and younger who have already distinguished themselves in Minnesota. The selections range from young venture capitalists to founders, CEOs and small-business owners.

"Those on the list were chosen based on nominations received from the community and Minne Inno's editorial selection process. Their emailed responses to our questions were edited for length, clarity and grammar."

\* \* \* \* \*

**Rucker Family Society  
Reunion  
Monterey, California  
October 13-16, 2022**

By Carol Rucker Gavette



What a magnificent place to have a Rucker Reunion; the beautiful coast of Central California. About 65 Ruckers, including family and friends, met in Monterey from October 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to share family fun, meet new relatives and enjoy the beauty of this part of our country.

Those who arrived on Thursday had the opportunity to spend some time (shopping and dining) in the picturesque village of Carmel by the Sea, a charming little town with a "gently" sloping main street that takes you to a beach on the Pacific Ocean. Carmel has a lovely shopping district with many boutiques and interesting shops and the local homes are picturesque cottages (that do not have numbered addresses, but house names!) There was also a small street market that morning with some local fruit and vegetables as well as local vendors selling handcrafted items.

About 2 PM we boarded the small bus with our tour guide, Cindy, and took a short tour of the town of Monterey before traveling the magnificent road beside the Monterey Bay to the famous 17 Mile Drive. Winding along the coast (now of the Pacific Ocean), we enjoyed the sea crashing against the rocky coastline. At Bird Rock we watched the sea lions, seals, sea birds and even



View of Monterey Bay

a colony of sea otters. Passing magnificent homes, the Del Monte forest of Monterey Cypress trees and golf courses, we stopped for a visit to the "Lone Pine," one of the most famous trees in California, which is perched on a high rock that extends out into the ocean. Our final stop was at the Pebble Beach Visitor Center and Lodge.

Thursday was capped off with a fun taco bar followed by S'mores on the patio. By the way, we understand that this was Chris Rucker's (RFS President) very first S'more!



Eating S'mores on the Patio

After breakfast on Friday morning, we were delighted by a presentation on the "Californios" the original

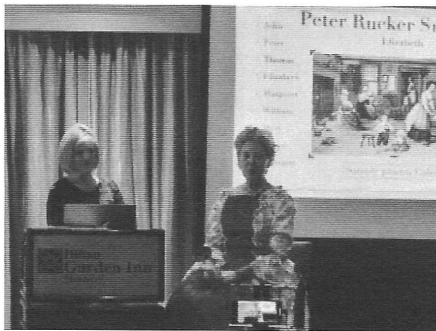
Spanish settlers in Alta California (aka California) by locals Patty and Charlie Keiffer. Their enthusiasm and knowledge of the customs and traditions of these settlers of the original Spanish Land Grants was extensive and interesting.



Patty and Charlie Keiffer

While some members chose to spend the day walking along the bay or visiting Fisherman's Wharf, many of us headed down to Cannery Row in Monterey for a visit to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. As with many local aquariums, this one is dedicated to the fish and marine wildlife that make the Monterey Bay their home. Of course, one of the highlights is watching the fish being fed and especially watching the frolicking sea otters.

Our evening presentations began with opening remarks from our President, Christopher Rucker, followed by a clever and engaging "Interview" with our Great+ Grandmother,



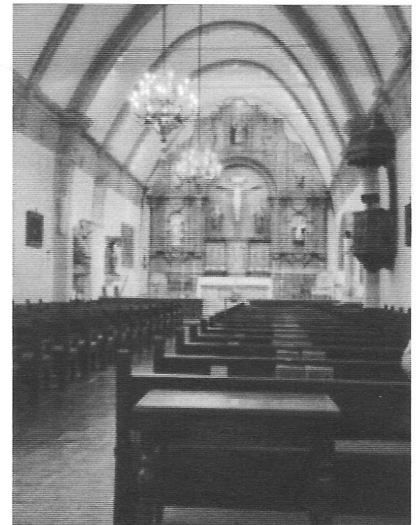
Karen Rucker van der Werf and Shirley Rucker Klein as Elizabeth Rucker

Elizabeth Rucker, the wife of Peter Rucker! Our lovely "Grandmother" arrived in a beautiful pink gown that was typical of the early 1700's and was interviewed by Karen Rucker van der Werf. We were all enchanted with the insights into the life of our ancestors in early Virginia and the details of our family. "Grandmother" gave us an amazing glimpse into our family history; she was delightful, charming and amusing, just like we would expect her to be. I believe that most of us would have loved for her to speak with us all evening; but we are Ruckers, and it was time for dinner! (By the way, this excellent and engaging presentation was written and acted by sisters, Shirley Rucker Klein from Provo, UT and Karen van der Werf of Pine, AZ.) Well done, ladies!.

Following dinner, the Y-DNA project's presentation "Once

Upon a Time" began with Alice Rucker's introduction of Paul Mize. Very interesting findings here - there will be more about his presentation in a subsequent article in the Newsletter.

Saturday morning began with another wonderful breakfast after which we went to "San Carlos Borroméo de Carmelo" aka the Carmel Mission Basilica. Our delightful guide spoke to us about the choice of this location for Fr. Junipero Serra to build the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the Alta California Missions in 1771 (there were 21 Missions in total) and the relationship with the local



peoples.

Carmel Mission Basilica

We toured the museum, which has one of the most extensive collections of mission-period artifacts in California. Alice Rucker even sang one of the chants that

was in a very large service



Rucker Group at the Basilica

music book in the museum – the singers used to all share the same book! We toured the Basilica (Church) and a second tour guide joined us to talk about the architecture, history and significance of this mission. St. Junipero Serra is buried in the Mission Basilica.

Then, we were on our way to the National Steinbeck Center and Museum in Salinas, about 20 miles away through the beautiful Salinas farmland. The Steinbeck Center, a literary museum, dedicated to the works and life of John Steinbeck, the “author of the common man.” We enjoyed the immersive, interactive museum complete with clips from many of the films that have been made from his books. The museum graciously invited us to have our box lunch in the lobby and on their patio.

After a full day of activities we returned to the hotel for another evening of entertainment.

Laughing through several rounds of “Rucker” Bingo (did Roger Settlemire really win all four rounds?), we then enjoyed dinner followed by a presentation by Christopher T. Rucker about the first of our Rucker relatives to migrate to California.

We discovered that William Campbell and his son Benjamin (the founder of the town of Campbell, CA near San Jose) traveled via wagon train with the ill-fated Donner party. [They tried a new route and were delayed by a multitude of mishaps. They spent the winter of 1846–1847 snowbound in the Sierra Nevada mountain range.]

Fortunately, under the leadership of William Campbell, a group decided not to take the fateful “shortcut” and made it safely to Mission San Jose in the Santa Clara Valley without the tragedy that befell

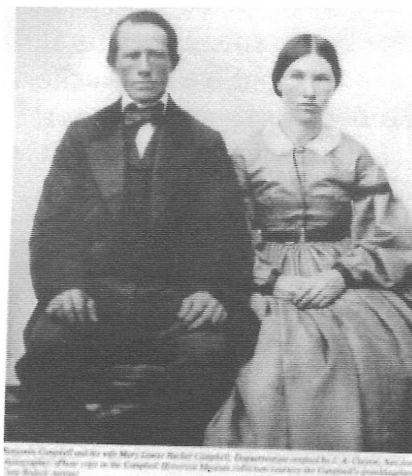


Photo of Benjamin Campbell  
And Mary Louise Rucker

the Donner Party. Finding California to be a place to make a home and a fortune, William’s son, Benjamin Campbell returned to Missouri to marry his sweetheart, Mary Louise Rucker and they returned to settle in the Santa Clara Valley of California joined by many of her Rucker family members.

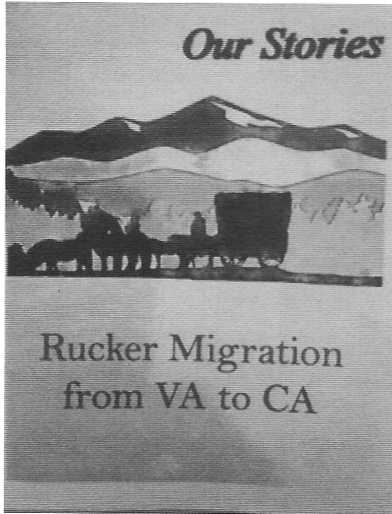
It’s interesting to also note that Loren Rucker’s great-grandfather’s sister, Sara Rucker, married Bill Imus who was reportedly one of the Scouts on the Donner Party – it’s a good thing he made it through that dreadful winter in the Sierra Nevada Mountains!

As with every Reunion, we followed this presentation with a very lively Rucker Auction run by Mike Rucker! Lots of laughs and lots of bidding resulted in quite a fun and profitable evening.

Throughout the Reunion (from Thursday morning until Sunday afternoon) there was a Rucker History Room, filled with books, pictures of Rucker family members and Rucker sites, two quilts made by Verona Flint’s Rucker great-great-grandmother in the mid-1800’s before the Civil War, newspaper articles, scrapbooks and memorabilia from different Rucker families in California. Since this was also a gathering place for attendees, many of us

enjoyed all of the history offered here.

As a special tribute to our Rucker families that migrated



to California, 20 of our members wrote stories about their own family's migration to Virginia. We compiled these stories into a booklet to share with everyone who attended the Reunion.

Rucker booklet presented to members at the reunion

All in all, the 2022 RFS Reunion was great fun in a beautiful place. We enjoyed hearing so many positive comments about the time we spent together and the places we visited. Getting to see family members that we know and making new friends among our relatives is priceless. Thank you to everyone who came, who enjoyed and shared stories and time together; you made this an exciting and rewarding time together! Now we are all

looking forward to the next reunion – Fredericksburg, VA maybe?

Submitted by Carol Rucker Gavette and 2022 Reunion Committee Members: Alice Rucker, Verona Flint, Gary Rucker, Bob Rucker, Christopher T. Rucker, Bill Smith, Bob Gavette.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Rucker Family Society Board Meeting Minutes**

By Alice Rucker,  
Acting Secretary

October 13, 2022, 10:00 a.m.  
Hilton Hotel, Monterey, CA

Present: Chris Rucker, President, Alice Rucker, Treasurer, Mike Rucker, Reporter, and Carol Gavette, 2022 Reunion Chairperson. David D. Munden, RFS member visited.

Absent: Jeannie Brydon, Vice President, Anne Denton, Secretary, Nell Cordick, Registrar, Derek Rucker, Member at Large

The minutes for the last meeting, June 6, 2019, at Sweet Briar College, Amherst, VA were read and with no additions or corrections noted were approved.

Treasurer's report: Balances of accounts through August 31,

2022 were presented and compared with balances of last meeting, March 2019. Speeding up communication between registrar and treasurer was mentioned. Balances and activity of the Y-DNA General Fund at Family Tree DNA were presented. Because our Ruckers are of Celtic Y-DNA it was suggested to change our newsletter header to something more appropriate than current Germanic.

Old Business "Publication of Jeannie Brydon's updated *Rucker Family Genealogy* book: RFS assistance with editing/publication costs." After discussions, it was decided Chris Rucker would meet with Jeannie Brydon to get an update about this process.

#### New Business

1. It was reported Jeannie Brydon wishes to step down from her position as Vice President stating it was too much to do that, and editor. It was discussed to have Derek Rucker possibly take that position and would be someone who could assist with bringing the RFS more up to date with technology and social media.

2. Discussion of the 2024 reunion in Fredericksburg, VA was the preferred site when the board was polled with options. No host has stepped forward. One will be sought out.

3. Discussion of the annual cost of the website and photo site was presented by Chris Rucker who has been paying for those all these years. It was motioned and seconded for the RFS to begin bearing those costs. All agreed. Chris will work with Alice about rerouting the payment system to the RFS.

4. Discussion of revamping our web site and other social media venues. Some think that will attract new or younger members.

5. Term limits for the reunion chairperson were reviewed and restated that the former chairperson will remain on until the next reunion in order to be of assistance to the next chairperson who will also be on the board.

6. It was discussed and decided that the current reunion chairperson would always leave a book of notes for the next chairperson.

7. Loren Rucker's passing and Bill Smith being asked to step down as Assistant Editor was discussed. Alice motioned and it was seconded to nominate Phyllis Rucker of Washington State to fill Loren's at-large position. Phyllis' vitae and potential value to the board/RFS was presented. All present were in substantial accordance with this. Motion passed/

voted/approved. Other nominations for another at-large position were left open.

8. Chris Rucker's Agenda contained this statement: "There is no requirement that elections be held at the Board meeting, ... Rather than holding elections at the Board Meeting, I propose that we have a discussion on our options for a slate of officers for the future. A vote can easily be taken online which would allow those members not in attendance to participate, and give time to newly elected Board members to consider their votes for future leadership positions. ..."

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
e/AJR  
Alice Rucker, substitute for  
Anne Denton

Note: at the final meeting of the attendees, Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that Derek Rucker would be the new Vice President, and Price Wood would become a new member-at-large.

\* \* \* \* \*

## In Memoriam

### Harriet Weatherly Berry Jewell

Harriet Weatherly *Berry* Jewell of Lebanon, Tennessee, died July 15, 2022. She was the daughter of Charles Vernon Berry (1921-2006) and Earline Carothers Berry. Harriet was married and divorced and had no children.

She had five lines of Rucker descent:

Harriet<sup>10</sup> Weatherly Berry,  
1<sup>st</sup> Charles<sup>9</sup> Vernon Berry,  
Effie<sup>8</sup> B. Rucker, John<sup>7</sup>  
Fletcher Rucker, John<sup>6</sup>  
William Fletcher Rucker,  
Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Asbury Rucker,  
John<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>;  
and John<sup>7</sup> Fletcher Rucker's  
wife, 1<sup>st</sup> cousin,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lennie<sup>7</sup> Florence Rucker,  
Jonathan<sup>6</sup> Morton Rucker,  
James<sup>5</sup> Jr., James<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>,  
John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>,  
and Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Asbury  
Rucker's wife, 1<sup>st</sup> cousin,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Malinda<sup>5</sup> Rucker,  
William<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>;  
and Jonathan<sup>6</sup> Morton  
Rucker's wife, 1<sup>st</sup> cousin,  
4<sup>th</sup> Martha<sup>6</sup> E. Rucker,  
Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Asbury, John<sup>4</sup>,  
John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>;  
and James<sup>5</sup> Rucker, Jr.'s wife,  
1<sup>st</sup> cousin,  
5<sup>th</sup> Mildred<sup>5</sup> Rucker. John<sup>4</sup>,  
John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.



## Winfred<sup>7</sup> Leeper Rucker and Lemuel<sup>7</sup> Mitchell Clay

By Christopher D. Rucker, MD

On page 30, see the photo of two uniformed Spanish-American War soldiers, sent by Nina Cole of Grand Island, Nebraska, daughter of Lemuel Mitchell Clay. The inscription says: "(Dad) Lemuel Clay (right) cousin Fred Rucker? 1898 Phillipi Island."

A little sleuthing provides the story of these first cousins.

Lemuel Mitchell<sup>7</sup> Clay's Rucker line is: Mary<sup>6</sup> Elizabeth Rucker [m. William H. Clay], Lemuel<sup>5</sup> S., Ambrose<sup>4</sup>, Lemuel<sup>3</sup>, James<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>. He was born 6 December 1872 and is first enumerated in the 1880 census of MO, Harrison Co., Dallas, E.D. 298, #73, a son of William H. and Mary E. His father, William H., was a Union veteran of the Civil War and served in Company K, 5<sup>th</sup> W. VA Infantry. Lemuel married first Rose Elizabeth Simpson, second Margaret Jane Dolen and is in: the 1895 census of Kansas, Butler Co., Towanda; the 1900 census of NE, Custer Co., Ansley, E.D. 58, #43; the 1920 census of NE, Sheridan Co., Antioch, E.D. 230, #203; the 1930 census of CO, Morgan Co., Precinct 16, E.D. 20, #63; and the 1940 census of NE, Custer, Ansley, 21-3, #97.

Lemuel's WWI draft card describes him as stout, 5'11" tall with blue eyes and brown hair. He died 5 July 1942 and his family received a Veterans Administration headstone for his grave, as did his father. Both are buried in the Ansley Cemetery in Custer County, Nebraska.

Winfred<sup>7</sup> Leeper Rucker's line is: William<sup>6</sup> Leeper Rucker, Lemuel<sup>5</sup> S., Ambrose<sup>4</sup>, Lemuel<sup>3</sup>, James<sup>2</sup>, Peter<sup>1</sup>.

Winfred was born in May of 1876 and is first enumerated in the 1880 census of MO, Harrison Co., Dallas, E.D. 298, family #156, a son of William L. and Martha F. His father, William L., was a Civil War Union veteran, a hospital steward in Co. C of the same regiment as William H. Clay. Winfred married Elsie Day and is in: the 1895 Kansas state census, Jackson Co., Whiting, #8; the 1900 census of MO, Daviess Co., Union, E.D. 62, #418; the 1910 census of MO, Grundy Co., Trenton Ward 2, E.D. 59, #53; the 1920 census of KS, Morris Co., Council Grove, E.D. 89, #18; and the 1930 census of CA, Los Angeles, E.D. 109, #421. He died 19 Sept. 1934 and is buried in the Los Angeles National Cemetery with a headstone from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Private Lemuel M. Clay and Corporal Winfred L. Rucker were in Company M of the 1<sup>st</sup>

Nebraska Infantry. Clay was a wagoner, enlisted 27 April 1898, and discharged 23 August 1899. He applied for a military invalid pension 18 April 1921. His cousin Winfred enlisted the same day and was discharged 12 December 1898, probably for illness, since he quickly applied for an invalid pension 6 March 1899.

Winfred again served from 15 August 1917 to 21 Jan. 1919 as a captain in the US Army Quartermaster Corps.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Nebraska Infantry was part of the Philippine Expeditionary Force sent to fight against the Spanish. It arrived in the Philippines 17 July 1898 and fought in the 13 August attack on Manila, the same day the armistice was signed. The Treaty of Paris ended the war on 10 December, and Rucker was discharged two days later. Clay continued fighting against the Filipinos in the Philippine-American War. His unit was in many engagements and arrived back in the U.S. 29 July to be mustered out in August.

The photo shows the men with outdated Indian War-era "trapdoor" Springfield rifles, often issued to state regiments in place of the modern Krag-Jorgensen rifles issued to regular Army regiments. There are no clues in the photo to its location, but it was likely made stateside during training camp.



The photo of two uniformed Spanish-American War soldiers was sent by Nina Cole of Grand Island, Nebraska, daughter of Lemuel Mitchell Clay. The inscription says: “(Dad) Lemuel Clay (right) cousin Fred Rucker? 1898 Phillipi Island.”

627  
 Dr. Christopher D. Rucker  
 329 Farm Lake Road  
 Bollina Springs, SC 29316 6403  
 2022



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Jean W. Brydon  
 1500 Westbrook Ct. #3111  
 Richmond, VA 23227

First Class Mail

