

# THE COWARD FAMILY NEWSLETTER

1223 Wake Forest Road  
Raleigh, NC 27604  
May 28, 1980

Dear Kinfolks,

It is REUNION time once again! Mark June 15 on your calendar and be making your plans to come to the COWARD FAMILY RENUION, at the Old House at Norton, Jane Coward says. She wants everyone to come this year.

Jane has not been well for the past six months, she said, when I talked with her by phone today, but she hopes to be feeling a lot better by the 15th. Jule Coward will be getting things ready, along with Dale and Bobbie Coward, and Elda Coward. They will all be helping Jane with preparations. This is quite an occasion, and please be sure to be there this year. Let's make it the largest "Crowd of Cowards" we have ever had. Look for the signs along the way for directions to the "Old House."

Please make yourself a "name tag" to wear. When so many of the cousins get together, this helps to jog our memories. And be sure to sign the "guest book" which is usually on the table as you go in the "Old House". PLEASE BE SURE TO PUT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE. This is the way we know who attended and also it updates our mailing list. I cannot remind you enough about this, because every year someone forgets to sign the book. Also someone has moved in the past year, and when we write the next time, the letter comes back. Remember, we need NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE. Thanks!

(Reminder: Bring a sweater, just in case it is cool. We always have a nice breeze.)

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The Clara Coward Smith branch of the family plans to get together for dinner on Saturday evening, June 14, 1980, at the Jarrett House in Dillsboro. The plans are to get together at 5:00 p.m. to visit and to eat at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be \$6.50 each. Anyone planning to come should let Bob Hooper, (Box 36, Cullowhee, NC 28723) know in order that he may tell the Jarrett House how many to expect. Bob's phone number is 704-293-5650. Or contact Blanche Painter, 704-586-6337. Her address: Route 3, Box 454, Sylva, NC 28779. Those who wish to spend the night at the Jarrett House in Dillsboro should contact the Jarrett House direct. A Single room is \$15, a double room is \$18.....very reasonable, don't you think?

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On July 22, 1979 (almost a year ago), Emma N. Hooper wrote: "I really enjoy the newsletters you get out and I thank you for the good job you are doing. I especially like the one with our ancestors and grandpa's picture. He sure had a lot of mouths to feed. I want to report part of my family that didn't sign the register (at the 1979 reunion). My daughter Ruth and her husband Dr. Jack Fuson and 2 children, Dawn and Brock, were there from 1109 Snowden Rd., Knoxville, Tenn. 37912, and Bill and Hazel Lewis came for a little while after 12. They went to church first. Their address is 242A, Route 3, Sylva, NC 28779. We all came to our house early after dinner for Ruth's crowd came without coats to keep them warm, and they were freezing. It was warm here. I did enjoy what time we got to stay."

Cousin Emma always writes such nice letters and keeps us informed, which we greatly appreciate

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Joe A. Cowart, Jr., 829 Indian River Dr., Cocoa, Fla. 32922, who researches the Coward/Cowart family tree, writes:

"I write to tell you I have discovered what is obviously an oldest son for 2. James Coward Sr. He is 2.1 Benjamin Coward, born about 1774, who died in Rutherford Co., NC in March 1850. Apparently he and 2.6 Stephen lived in the Polk Co. area of (old) Rutherford Co., NC. 2.1. Benjamin may not have been earlier recognized because he may have had no male children. Apparently he was married to Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_, b. South Carolina ca. 1787 and had daughters:

2.11 Milly	b. Rutherford Co. 1810
2.12 Sarah	b. " " 1815
2.13 Pachel	b. " " 1820
2.14 Winney	b. " " 1822
2.15 Melzer ★	b. " " 1825 ☆(male or female?)
2.16 Elizabeth	b. " " 1830

"There was a James B. Coward (b. Rutherford Co. 1824) and a Martin Coward (b. Rutherford Co. 1831-2) who were either sons of 2.1 Benjamin Coward or 2.6 Stephen Coward. Although they were not listed as sons of 2.6 Stephen, I had assumed they were but now I suppose they may have been sons of 2.1 Benjamin. Do you know somehow we could contact this "lost" set of your Coward family and perhaps get some of them interested in your family reunion and genealogy? Certainly there are descendants who still live in that area."

Joe A. Cowart, Jr. has done a great deal of work on the Coward/Cowart family, tracing all male lines. He has prepared a booklet in which a number of you are listed. If your surname is Coward or if your maiden name was Coward you may be listed. He has an interesting numbering system, which makes the generations easy to follow.

*Jo Ann Smith*