

T H E C O W A R D F A M I L Y N E W S L E T T E R

June 1974

Hi Kinfolks:

It's reunion time again! If you have not already marked your calendar, please do so now. The COWARD REUNION will be held Sunday, June 16, 1974, at Jane and Dot's cabin at Norton, the same place we met last year. Jane says - "Come early and stay late!"

Have you all seen HISTORIC WEBSTER, a newsletter of the Webster Historical Society, Inc. To date there have been three issues. The first issue which came out in February, 1974, had an interesting map of Webster around 1900 which would be interesting to all descendants of Nathan Coward. You may wish to join the Webster Historical Society. Dues are \$5 per year. The address is Drawer W, Webster, NC 28788.

In the April 25, 1974 Sylva Herald, Mrs. W. B. Harrill, who writes the Cullowhee News wrote this tribute to Aunt Gertrude Smith:

"It was Ricky Wilen who on Monday found Mrs. Gertrude Smith, his grandmother, in her bed in her last earthly sleep and notified each of her children, his sister and Mrs. Smith's brothers and sisters of her death. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Smith of Clarksville, Ga., were the first to arrive.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Smith of Hendersonville met the piedmont flight from Washington, D. C., due in Asheville around 9 p. m. and brought his sister, Rebecca Nan, Monday night.

Mrs. Smith was a quiet person with strong convictions who never seemed to get excited or frustrated. One neighbor said, 'Calm and realistic' and 'you never left her house empty handed - a glass of jelly, a fourth or a half of cake, a painting, a flower.'

She was generous, thoughtful and kind. 'What she has done for this family, only we know.' She was a gifted person. Her media were painting, growing flowers, knitting, crocheting and - - most surely a homemaker. Her house was rarely empty. Her grandchildren and their families, her sons and their families - - her brothers - - were constant visitors."

We will all miss Aunt Gertrude.

Congratulations to Jeff Hughes, son of Tommy and Nell S. Hughes, upon his graduation from Winter Haven (Florida) High School on June 7, 1974.

When in Washington, D. C. in May, my husband and I had lunch and a nice visit with Rebecca Smith in Vienna, Virginia. Rebecca teaches in the Fairfax, Virginia school system. While in D. C., I called Helen Phillips Jenkins (Mrs. D. Wiley) who lives in Lanham, Maryland.

Last Sunday, June 1, we went to see my husband's 96-year old grandmother who is in a Gastonia hospital. When we stopped for lunch in Charlotte, I tried to call Minnie Norton Wilde at the Methodist Home, but I missed her. She had gone out with her daughter Nell Sillman.

Come to the reunion and visit with your kin! I look forward to seeing each and every one of you!

Your Kin,



Jo Ann Smith