

THE COWARD FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Trudy Adams
2121 Darlington Street
Birmingham, AL 35226

JULY, 1987

Please send
address changes

NINETY-SXITH COWARD FAMILY REUNION

The 96th COWARD FAMILY REUNION was held at "The Old House" in the Norton Community near Cashiers, NC, on June 21, 1987. It was a marvelous day -- good weather, good companionship, good food, good magic show! A very enjoyable time was had by all who attended. Our hosts for the occasion were Elda Coward, Jule Coward, Dale and Bobbie Coward.

Elda Coward said this was the first time ever in the history of the Coward Family Reunion that the rhododendron and mountain laurel were blooming at the same time.

The oldest attendee was Elda Coward, age 83, and the youngest was Joseph Poma, age 15 months. The person who traveled the farthest to attend was Donna Norton of Sacramento, California. The person who traveled the shortest distance as Jule Coward, who lives in "The Old House."

Attendance by families was as follows:

<u>Nathan Coward Family</u>		<u>Other Coward Families</u>	
Clara Smith	4	Benjamin Coward	6
Taulvin Coward	5	Jonathan Coward, Jr.	4
Dave Coward	26	James Coward, Jr.	2
Mary Zachary	2	Fielding Coward	2
Oscar Coward	7		
Sallie Norton	15		
Bob Coward	9		

Eighty-three (83) registered at the reunion, as listed below.

Bob, Trudy, & Casey Adams, 2121 Darlington St., Birmingham, AL 35226
Charlie & Debbie Adams 2215-E Sumpter Dr., Birmingham, AL 35226
Jerry, Sharon, Clay, & J. R. Adams, 3129 Sunny Meadows Lane, Birmingham, AL 35243
Leonard & Miriam Allen, Box 773, Boiling Springs, NC 28017
Dorothy Davis Bell, P.O. Box 406, Buckhead, GA 30625
Maev, Jason, & Jessica Brackin, 2210 Bid-a-wee Dr., Huntsville, AL 35801
Amy Clifford, 1216 Edwards Lake Rd., Birmingham, AL 35215
Ben Coward, Route 5, Belton SC 29627
Bill Coward, 3603 Derbyshire, Greensboro, NC 27410
Dale, Bobbie, & Holly Coward, Route 2, Box 222, Cashiers, NC 28717
Dan, Sybil, Terry, & Nathan Coward, 239 Lawrence Rd., Clemson, SC 29631
Elda Coward, Norton Route, Cashiers, NC
J. K. Coward, Jr., Renee, Natalie, & Rebecca, Sylva, NC
J. T. & Ruth Coward, Greenville, TN 37743
Joe & Donia Coward, Route 5, Belton, SC 29627
Jule Coward - lives at "The Old House"
Kent & Betty R. Coward, Sylva, NC
Ray Coward, 476 E. Main St., Sylva, NC
Ruth Coward, Greenville, TN 37743
Warren H. & Anna Deyermond, Cullowhee, NC 28723
Conrad K. Frady, P.O. Box 633, Cullowhee, NC 28723
Charles & Margaret Gray, 121 Sunrise Dr., Knoxville, TN 37919
Tammy & Amanda Harrold, 125 N. Creekdale Dr., Norman, OK 73072
Conrad & Anne Hooper, 2505 Stafford Ave., Raleigh, NC 27607
Elizabeth Coward Hutton, 409 Lindsay St., Carrboro, NC 27510
Jake & Samantha Hyatt, Box 493, Cherokee, NC 28719
Oberia Wild Hyatt, 563 Patterson, Bryson City, NC 28713
Judith Law & Carolyn Coward-Law, 3212 Sharer Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32312
W. S. (Bill) & Lois Cowart Kemper, 10601 S.W. 83rd Ave., Miami, FL 33156
Josephine Hyde King, 1201 Nashville Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660
Bill & Hazel Lewis, Rt. 3, Box 242A, Sylva, NC
Herbert & Evelyn Moore, Route 5, Box 123, Belton, SC 29627
John & Mary Elaine Bird Nichols, 521 Rosebriar, Greensboro, NC 27407
Donna Norton & son, Joe, Sacramento, CA
Jack & Kathleen Norton, Falls Church, VA 22042
Rita Roberts, 611 Temple Terrace, Lakeland, FL 33801
Mitchell Rohde, 2400 12th St., N.W., Winter Haven, FL
Paul & Hazel Rohde, 365 Ave. G, S.E., Winter Haven, FL
Nell Wild Sillmon, 4534 Pleasant Garden Rd., Greensboro, NC
Jo Ann Smith, P.O. Box 30093, Raleigh, NC
Lewis J. Smith, Box 751, Clarkesville, GA
M. Leland Smith, Box 751, Clarkesville, GA
David S. Stillwell, Cullowhee, NC 28723
Ed & Barbara Bell Tyson, 1200 Oconee Rd., Buckhead, GA, 30625
Clara McGuire Wendt, 165 Springsmoor Dr., Raleigh, NC
E. M. & Rachel Coward Wilson, 2121 Fernwood, Nashville, TN 37216
Lucile Woodard, 930 Elm Rd., Bryson City, NC 28713
Sylvia Harrell Woolard, 1208 Marion Ave., Tallahassee, FL 32303

CLARA COWARD SMITH FAMILY NEWS

NANNIE SMITH MCGUIRE FAMILY

Clara McGuire Wendt has moved from Commerce, GA, to Raleigh, NC, but has her doubts about staying and has not yet moved her furniture.

DAVE COWARD FAMILY NEWS

ANNIE COWARD HAMPTON FAMILY

Trudy Hampton Adams Family

Casey Adams has returned to his home in Alabama, AL, from San Antonio, TX, and has a business with his brother, Jerry.

DAVIE COWARD SUTTON FAMILY

Sue Sutton Vail Family

David Vail has finished his service in the army and has returned home to Jefferson, NC, where he is currently employed in a store.

Joanne Sutton Graves Family

Whit and Joanne Graves have retired and sold their home in Lancaster, SC, and moved to a new home near Galax, VA.

EDNA COWARD BIRD FAMILY

Mary Elaine Bird Nichols Family

John & Judy Tayloe and son, Nathan, spent their vacation in London, England. Son Lee stayed with his paternal grand-mother.

Mary Nichols has been employed by Piedmont Airlines and has moved to Charlotte, NC.

SALLY COWARD NORTON FAMILY NEWS

MINNIE NORTON WILD FAMILY

Oberia Wild Hyatt Family

Samantha Hyatt, daughter of Jake, scored in the 99th percentile on the California Achievement Test. The Coward family is very proud of you!

Samantha has also attended basketball camp and gymnastics camp this summer.

ROBERT COWARD FAMILY NEWS

ROGERS COWARD FAMILY

"Man of the Year"

Jule Coward won "Man of the Year" award in 1986 for volunteer work in the community. Jule is President of the Jackson County Council for Community Development Work. Congratulations, Jule!

He is employed in quality control work at Cashiers Structural Foam (makers of plastic). He also has been one of our hosts at the Coward Family Reunion for several years.

NATHAN COWARD FAMILY

Joe Coward Family

Ben Coward, son of Joe & Donia, was recently promoted to sergeant on the Police Force of Belton, SC. Ben says he's the only "coward" on the force.

NEW BOOK

The Berry-Mehr Family was compiled by Helene Mehr Fohner and published this past year. This book is about Ephraim Moore BERRY who changed his name to Edward Berry MEHR, and it is a fascinating story. This man was the son of William Coffee BERRY and Leticia WOODY, and he was the nephew of Mary (Polly) BERRY ROGERS, who was the mother of our Jane Rogers COWARD. The book also contains a good bit of information about our BERRY ancestors.

Only 50 copies were printed, but a 2nd printing will be made if enough requests are received. Contact Mrs. John U. Fohner. Sr., 5557 Golf Ponte Drive, Sarasota.

.. AND MRS. ALLEN NOTE
50TH ANNIVERSARY



Mr., Mrs. Allen

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Allen were honored Sunday on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception, held at Boiling Springs Baptist Church, was given by Mr. and Mrs. Gene Byers of Blacksburg, S.C., and their son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Rhonda Byers, and Beverly Greene of Shelby and her children, Miriam and Jonathan Greene.

Assisting with serving were Mr. and Mrs. J.O. Terrell, Dorothy Edwards, Lucille Kelly, Mrs. Troy Bridges, Esther Bridges, Marion Hamrick, Mary Hewitt, Blanche Hamrick, Mrs. James Padgett and Rosina Hamrick, all of Boiling Springs.

Out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Bridges, Jane Wilkins and Mrs. Ralph Bettis of Blacksburg, S.C., Carolyn Harwood, Broadus Hocutt and Adam Hocutt of Charlotte, Mr.

and Mrs. Taylor Oakes of Roanoke Rapids, Mr. and Mrs. John Nichols of Greensboro, Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Allen of High Point, Mr. and Mrs. James Blackwelder and Jodie Blackwelder of Wingate, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ginn, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Greene and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith of Sylva, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ginn of Raleigh, Phil Ginn of Boone, Frances Brown of Asheville, Mrs. Turner Bell and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tyson of Buckhead, Ga., Mr. and Mrs. Charles Foster of Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Lucky of Augusta, Ga., and Mr. and Mrs. Rollins Justice of Elizabethton, Tenn.

Approximately 250 guests called between 2 and 4 p.m.

Miriam Stillwell Allen's parents were Edgar & Ger-tie Coward Stillwell and her grandparents were Dave and

John & Marilene Nichols
521 Rosebriar Ct.
Greensboro NC 27403

IN MEMORIAM

Helen B. Panzetta, daughter of Ben Frank Buchanan and granddaughter of Fannie Coward Buchanan, died since the last newsletter. She lived in Nutley, NJ. (Dave Coward Family)

BIRTHDAYS

Ellen Higdon Smith will celebrate her 87th birthday July 15. We wish you many more happy birthdays. Ellen is the widow of Nathan Smith, son of Clara Coward Smith.

WEDDING BELLS

Robert T. (Bob) & Dottie Hughes were married 8 Apr 1987. They are living in Norcross, GA, near Atlanta. Bob is the son of Thomas T. & Nell Smith Hughes & the grandson of Ellen Higdon Smith & the great-grandson of Clara Coward Smith.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE FAMILY

Ashley Michelle Lewis, born 5 Jun 1987, is the daughter of Morris & Elizabeth Lewis and granddaughter of Bill & Hazel Lewis. Great-grandmother was Sallie Coward Norton.

Jessica Summer Coward was born 29 Mar 1987 at the Anderson Hospital in Anderson city & county, SC. She is the daughter of Ben & Teresa Coward, granddaughter of Joe & Donia Coward. Great-grandfather was Nathan Coward & gg-grandfather Robert Coward.

Mary Griffin Eddings, has a new son, Michael, born 16 Nov 1986. Big brother Phillip was born 16 April 1982. This is Clara McGuire Wendt's family.

FROM CHARLOTTE McDONALD

University of Alabama Alumni News, May, 1927
"Deaths"

The death of Virgil Lee COWARD occurred at Detroit, Mich., in April 1927. Mr. COWARD was born in Towns County, Ga., March 26, 1866, and was the son of Thomas J. COWARD, formerly of Spartanburg, S. C., and Lydia CHASTAIN. When he attended the University he was living in Winston County and received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1886. He practiced law and served as county solicitor at Thomasville 1887-1890; was examiner of accounts with the Department of Justice 1893-1895; assistant district attorney for North Alabama, 1895-1898; presidential elector from the 9th District, 1908; private secretary to Governor Emmet O'NEAL from January 16, 1911, until February 3 of the same year when he was appointed commissioner of immigration. He was prominent in the democratic party, was a delegate to the state convention from 1886 to 1894, member of the Jefferson democratic executive committee in 1900 and 1910. He has been a resident of Detroit for several years.

He was past chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias, past sachem of Red Men, and a member of the Methodist church.

He married Emile SPAIN of Spruce Pine, February 14, 1891, who survives him with three sons and a daughter.

[ADDENDUM: Virgil COWARD was the grandson of Jonathan COWARD, Jr., and Sarah (Sallie) BARNES.]

THANK YOU

Thanks for all the contributions received at the reunion and also by mail. They are much appreciated and will be a great help in publishing the newsletter.

Muddy

SUGGESTION FOR REUNION SITE

It has been suggested by Anna Deyermond that the site for the Coward Family Reunion be changed to make it more convenient for the older members of the family who would like to attend but do not feel up to the long drive to "The Old House."

The picnic area at Western Carolina University would be a place easy to get to. It is right on Cullowhee Creek where the Cowards & Nortons lived. It has a covered pavilion and restrooms close by. With the new Catamount Inn, a modern and comfortable facility now available, it would be easier for the older members of the family to come.

In times past the reunion site has moved around, and it might be feasible to try this site at WCU and see how it goes.

The environment at "The Old House" is just great, and it is a lovely place to go, but it would be better if more of our older family members could be with us.

It is necessary, however, to make advance reservations for the pavilion. PLEASE WRITE AND LET US KNOW YOUR DESIRE ON TRYING THIS LOCATION.

A form is enclosed; please complete it and mail it TODAY.

GOOFS!

Living Children of Nathan COWARD

In the May, 1987 Newsletter, it was stated Dixie COWARD ENGLISH was the only living grandchild of Nathan COWARD. That is WRONG!

There are 3 living children of Robert COWARD -- Glenn COWARD, Bland COWARD, Ollie COWARD.

If you know of others, please write & let me know.

In the May, 1987, Newsletter, under "Nathan Smith Family," Nell SMITH's last name is HUGHES (Mrs. Thomas T.). There 3 or 4 "Nells," and I wasn't sure which one was Nell SMITH.

In Dorothy Louise COWARD'S "Query" the wives of William Samuel COWARD were reversed, Sarah DOWDA being wife #1, and Alma Rosalee _____ JONES being wife #2. See "Queries" in this issue for corrected version.

In my note to Dorothy after her query, Isham COWARD and his son, Samuel, were in PIERCE CO., GA, not in Pickens Co., as printed.

DOUBLE KIN

Linden Coward, in his book on Nathan Coward-Jane Rogers Family, on page 26 writes about the COWARD-SMITH-ALLEN relationship.

Most of you are aware that Dave COWARD and Sallie COWARD married a sister and brother, Lou and Will NORTON, making these two groups doubly kin. What you might not know, is that Lou and Will's mother was Susan ZACHARY. Susan's nephew, "Kit" ZACHARY, married Mary COWARD, making the COWARD-NORTONS doubly related to Mary COWARD-ZACHARY'S descendants. Eleanora ZACHARY married Oscar B. COWARD, as his 2nd wife, so her children are also doubly related to Dave's and Sallie's descendants. Eleanora's mother was also a ROGERS. Is that the same ROGERS family as ours?

Lou NORTON COWARD and Will NORTON'S brother, James Edward, married a niece of Jane ROGERS, which makes most of the family related to his descendants.

There are also a lot of HOOPERS -- Emma Norton HOOPER and Woodie ZACHARY HOOPER. Are these HOOPERS of the same family?

Are there other double relations we don't know about? Maybe we should call ourselves the "Crazy Cousins?"

FROM CHARLOTTE MCDONALD

From Alabama State Archives, "Biographical Memoranda," probably COWART Surname File. Information was given by B. J. COWART Nov. 9, 1930.

"Biography of Bartow Johnson COWART"

Bartow Johnson COWART of Haleyville, AL, was born May 13, 1872, near Double Springs, Winston Co., AL. His father was Thomas Jefferson COWART, b. 1833, Towns Co., GA; and his mother was Lydia CHASTAIN COWART; and they lived in Georgia until 1865, when they moved to Winston Co., AL, where they lived for the remainder of their lives. Thomas J. COWART served 4 years in the Confederate Army. He was Superintendent of Education in Winston County for two terms.

Bart COWART was educated in the public schools of Winston Co., graduating from Godfrey High School, which was located at Motes, under the principalship of Prof. Allen M. WELLS. He had no college education, but he studied vocal music in various normal schools taught by Prof. Stephen J. Oelin, secured a diploma, and taught vocal music in schools from 1890 until 1900.

Bart COWART entered the newspaper field in 1900 as publisher and owner of "New Era" at Double Springs, AL. He engaged in the mercantile business at Double Springs in 1903 and remained there until 1910. He then moved to Nauvoo, Walker Co., AL, and re-entered the mercantile business there until 1920, at which time he moved to Haleyville, AL, and secured the Ford Agency for Winston County and continued same until 1929. He was also Vice President, Traders and Farmers Bank, at Haleyville, and a member of the Board of Directors, First National Bank, Jasper, AL.

Bart COWART was born a Democrat -- always a Democrat. He served as a member of the Democratic Executive Committee of Winston Co., AL, for several terms, and he was a member of the Board of Registration of Winston County from 1900-1904 and 1908.

Bart COWART was one of three editors and compilers of "Sunlight Praise," a gospel song book, containing 128 pages, published by Eureka Publishing Company.

On February 19, 1891, Bart COWART married Mary Elizabeth HILTON, at her home near Double Springs, AL. Her father was George Washington HILTON, and her mother was Gemina Catharine HILTON.

Mary Elizabeth and Bart COWART had 5 children: (1) Barnett Coleman COWART, wife Louise. (2) Nellie Belle COWART, who married Fletcher W. CORBIN. (3) Cora Mae COWART, who married Hiram J. HYDE. (4) Lacy COWART who never married. (5) Oliver Underwood COWART, who also never married. All lived at Haleyville, AL, except Cora Mae & Hiram HYDE, who lived at Nauvoo, AL.

[ADDENDUM: Bart COWART died at Haleyville, AL, 5 Jul 1954 and was buried on 7 July 1954 at Fairview Cemetery near Double Springs, Winston CO, AL. He was a grandson of Jonathan COWART, Jr., and Sarah (Sallie) BARNES. Mary Elizabeth HILTON COWART died 18 May 1963 at Haleyville and was buried 20 May 1963 at Fairview Cemetery.]

Trudy Adams
2121 Darlington Street
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QUERIES

Ethel BEYER, 681 W. 19th Av, Eugene, OR 97402

Still searching for the name of COWART who m. Susan Priscilla DANIELS around 1850. In the Miller County Liberal (local newspaper of Colquitt, GA) is the death notice of his daughter, Sarah, sister of my grandfather, Needham, & his brother, Samuel (called Lawson). It gives their parents as the late MATTIE COWART (was Mattie a nickname?) and Priscilla DANIELS COWART ELLIS. Mattie d. 1858/9, & Priscilla m. Edward ELLIS by 1860.

Charlotte MCDONALD, POB 129, Suwannee, FL 32692, needs the parents of her Stephen COWART, b. 1785, who was in Monroe Co, AL 1830 census, with 1 M 15-20, 4 M 10-15 and 4 females, 1 5-10, 1 10-15, 1 15-20, & 1 40-50. Stephen was m. ca. 1809 to Margaret ?POUNCEY (or ?WOODS), b. 1787 GA. Their children were: Nathan, b. 1810 GA; Young Louis, b. 1813 GA; John W., b. 3 Jan 1817 AL; George Jefferson, b. 1819 AL; Greene P., b. 1809-1819 by censuses GA; James Alexander, b. 1826 AL; Stephen B., b. 14 Feb 1822 or 1828; and Mastin W. (Matt), b. 1833 AL.

Dorothy Louise COWART, 434 Gallaher View Rd, Cedar Springs Apts., #44, needs parents of William Samuel COWART (Will, W.S.), b. 2/1877 ?GA, d. 7 May 1940. He m. 1 Jan 1900, Cherokee Co., GA, 1) Sarah (Sallie) DOWDA & on 9/1918 in Floyd Co., GA, m. 2) Alma Rosalee _____ Jones. William Samuel COWART'S father had 10 children; those known are Earl (by 1st wife), William Samuel, Jess (lived in VA), Jonah (Jonas), and Lucy m. McGRAW (lived in Rome, Ga, at one time).

Sue (Wilma S.) MILLS, 4009 Woodlawn Pike, Knoxville, TN 37920, needs parents of James L.W. ROGERS, b. 1837 TN, m. Elizabeth _____, b. 1838 TN. All children b. Anderson Co., TN: Olive A. 1861, Joseph M. 1865, David C. 1867, Sara C. 1869, Sintha E. (Emily) 1870, Betsy 1873.

MALCOLM HUDSON, 21 Dec 1912 - 17 Mar 1987, was a founder & the first Genealogy Director of Hudson Family Association (South). The following poem was printed on his personal name-card:

"TO MY COUSINS:

How does one greet a million cousins?
Hello? Buenas dias? Como sa va? or Howdy?
Maybe "How" would suit at times.....?

But I won't be greeting a million.....
not all at the same time, to be sure.

So, I'll just say: "Tell me how you got here."
Then, I can tell you if you are a half-second
cousin twice removed, maybe...or something else.

After that, when we meet, I'll just say:
"Hi, cuz. I'm really glad we met!"
And I hope you will feel the same way.

