

COWARD FAMILY NEWSLETTER

P. O. BOX 30093, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27622

21 JUNE 1984



"On the 12th day of June, 1892, we met at our Father's House to celebrate his seventy-fourth birthday anniversary." - Clara Coward Smith wrote on June 12, 1898. (This "Big Birthday Party" was the first Coward Reunion.)

On the 17th day of June, 1984 - Father's Day - we met at "The Old House" in the Norton Community, Jackson County, North Carolina, and had the 93rd Coward Reunion. - Jo Ann Smith, June 19, 1984.

The Coward Reunion - having met continually from 1892 through 1984 - has become quite a tradition, hasn't it?

There were those of us who were concerned that interest in the Reunion might decline now that Jane Coward - the last of the Nathan Coward children - had left our midst. However, this past Sunday there were between 115-120 persons who attended the 1984 reunion. The weather was perfect, and it was a happy occasion. Aunt Jane would have been quite pleased with the day if she could have been there with us.

Dale Coward extended a welcome. Glenn Coward, as an invocation, sang "Bless This House". Glenn's wife Gertrude looked just wonderful, having recovered from her stroke.

This was the first time in several years that Emma Holeman and her family had been to the Reunion. During the past year Emma has been hospitalized a couple of times. She looked great at the Reunion. We send good wishes to her for better health. With a new great-granddaughter who arrived last July, there are 27 direct descendants of Nathan Coward in her family alone. In a letter written last year, she said, "I wonder just how many (descendants) there are altogether?"

The oldest ones attending the Reunion this year were Elda Coward, 80 and Oberia Wild Hyatt, 79. The youngest ones were Jessica Lee Harwick, born 29 March 1984, and Noah Buice, born 24 Feb. 1984. People came from Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Nicholas and Amy Engler came the farthest. They are from California. Amy is the daughter of Lena Coward Jackson.

Dan Coward was the "master of ceremonies". He had his magic show for the children. Dan is quite good at this. He has a very entertaining act. He did tricks with medal rings. He tore up paper and made it into a hat. He had some interesting card tricks and rope tricks. I liked the dragon (draggin') rope. June 23 is a big day for Dan this year....more about that later.

Trudy Adams asked if anyone knows who is the father of Martha Hudson, wife of Jonathan Coward. Trudy is doing a very fine job compiling the family history. Kent Coward is also.

THIS IS A LIST OF THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE COWARD FAMILY REUNION ON 17 JUNE 1984, IN THE NORTON COMMUNITY (NEAR GLENNVILLE AND CASHIERS), JACKSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. THE FOLLOWING SIGNED THE REGISTER:

NATHAN COWARD DESCENDANTS

OSCAR	Jule Coward, Route 2, Cashiers, NC 28717 ("The Old House", Norton)
OSCAR	Dale Coward, Route 2, Cashiers, NC 28717 (Norton Community)
OSCAR	Bobbie Coward - same
OSCAR	Holly Coward - same
OSCAR	Elda Coward, Route 2, Cashiers, NC 28717
OSCAR	Emma Holeman, Marissa, Illinois
OSCAR	Tom Brown, Sparta, Illinois
OSCAR	Betty Laumbatters, Marissa, Illinois
OSCAR	Fred Laumbatters, Marissa, Illinois
MARY	Lucille and Mont Stephens, Rt. 67, Box 108, Cullowhee, NC 28723
MARY	Ray Hooper, 121 S. Rice Street, Brevard, NC 28712
MARY	Ruby Hooper - same
MARY	Conrad Hooper, Raleigh, NC
MARY	Anne Hooper - same
DAVE	Dorothy D. Bell, Box 18, Buckhead, GA 30625
DAVE	Barbara Bell Tyson, 1200 Oconee Road, Buckhead, GA 30625
DAVE	David Stillwell, Cullowhee, NC
DAVE	Martha Lou Stillwell, Cullowhee, NC
DAVE	Robert Wilson, Route 1, Box 83A, Columbiana, AL 35051
DAVE	Betsey Wilson - same
DAVE	Bryan Wilson - same
DAVE	Avery Wilson - same
DAVE	Conrad Frady, Cullowhee, NC
DAVE	Glen Buchanan, Cullowhee, NC
DAVE	Jimmy Buchanan, Cullowhee, NC
DAVE	Geneva Buchanan, Cullowhee, NC

DAVE Margaret Gray, 121 Sunrise Drive, Knoxville, TN 37901
 DAVE Charles Gray - same
 DAVE Rachel Wilson, 2121 Fernwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37216
 DAVE Ernest Wilson - same
 DAVE Trudy Adams, 2121 Derlington Street, Birmingham, AL
 DAVE Bob Adams - same
 DAVE Martha Meyers, 1618 Shurtleff Court, Alton, IL 62002
 DAVE Miriam Stillwell Allen, Boiling Springs, NC 28017
 DAVE Leonard Allen - same
 DAVE Carolyn Harwood, Charlotte, NC
 DAVE Richard Harwood, 3901 Eastshire Court, Matthews, NC 28105
 DAVE Kathy Harwood - same
 DAVE Lisa Harwood - same
 DAVE Lauren Harwood - same
 CLARA Fred Wendt, Route 1, Box 259, Commerce, GA 30529
 CLARA Judie Wendt - same
 CLARA Melissa Wendt - same
 CLARA Frank Wendt - same
 CLARA Jo Ann Smith, Box 30093, Raleigh, NC 27622
 CLARA H. A. "Jack" Smith, Box 30093, Raleigh NC 27622
 CLARA Clara Wendt, Rt. 1, Wendtwood, Commerce, GA 30529
 CLARA Lewis J. Smith, Box 751, Clarkeville, GA 30523
 CLARA Mary Lee Smith - same
 CLARA Florence McGuire Thompson, Box 655, Hayesville, NC
 CLARA Jarrett (Bud) Thompson - same
 CLARA Jordan Smith, Macon, GA
 GUEST Randall Middleton, Cullowhee, NC
 TOLVIN Talvin Coward, Rt. 5, Box 224-E, Greenville, Tenn. 37743
 TOLVIN Ruth Coward - same
 TOLVIN Robin Roberts, Lakeland, Florida
 GUEST Trina Pauley, Lakeland, Florida
 SALLIE Nell Wild Sillmon, Greensboro, NC
 SALLIE Oberia Hyatt, Bryson City, NC
 SALLIE Jake Hyatt, Cherokee, NC
 SALLIE Samantha Hyatt, Cherokee, NC
 SALLIE Dick Wittekind, Box 271, Tuckasegee, NC
 SALLIE Linda Wittekind - same
 SALLIE Chris Wittekind - same
 SALLIE Kevin Wittekind - same
 SALLIE Eddie Lamb, Cullowhee, NC
 SALLIE Karen Lamb - same
 SALLIE Jimmy Lamb - same
 SALLIE Lorraine Norton, Cullowhee, NC
 SALLIE Roy Norton, Cullowhee, NC
 SALLIE Lucile Long Woodard, 930 Ela Road, Bryson City, NC 28713
 SALLIE Sarah Sue Norton Duke, 3 Rogers Rd., Cullowhee, NC 28723
 SALLIE Michael (Mike) Duke - same
 SALLIE Jack Norton, Falls Church, VA.
 SALLIE Kathleen Norton - same
 SALLIE Anna Norton Deyermond, LaPlata, Maryland
 SALLIE Warren Deyermond - same
 SALLIE Ronnie Norton, Route 1, Box 110, Penrose, NC 28766
 (son of Dennis Norton)
 SALLIE Bob Deyermond, 3854 Kelly Green Place, Waldorf, MD. 20601
 SALLIE Julia Deyermond, - same
 SALLIE Deanna Deyermond Hancock, Bel Alton, Newtown, LaPlata, MD 20646
 SALLIE Theresa Lynn Hancock
 SALLIE Juanita Levi, 700 Biltmore Ave., Apt. 90, Asheville, NC 28803
 SALLIE Rebecca Ivester, 17 Eastridge Ct., Fairview, NC 28730
 (dau. of Norma Levi Lathan)
 ROBERT Glenn Coward, Belton, SC
 ROBERT Gertrude Coward, Belton, SC
 ROBERT Jane Stephens, Walhalla, SC
 ROBERT Susan Conley, Walhalla, SC
 ROBERT Cindy Stephens Owens, Easley, SC
 ROBERT Steve Owens - same
 ROBERT B. J. Owens - same
 ROBERT Alex Owens - same
 ROBERT Angela Glyn (Angie) Stephens, Greenville, SC (Walhalla, SC)
 ROBERT Dan Coward - SC
 ROBERT Terry Coward, Dove Circle #23, Clemson, SC 29631
 ROBERT Nathan Coward, 524 Forest Lane, Belton, SC 29627
 ROBERT Amy Engler - California (dau. of Lena Coward Jackson)
 ROBERT Nicholas Engler - Calif.
 ROBERT Joe Coward, Belton, SC
 ROBERT Dona Coward - same
 ROBERT Benny Coward, 110 Hampton Avenue, Honey Path, SC 29654
 ROBERT Teresa Hall Coward - same
 ROBERT Evelyn Coward Moore, Belton, SC and family

BENJAMIN COWARD DESCENDANTS (attended Reunion)

Kent Coward, 43 West Main Street, Sylva, NC
 Betty Coward - same
 Roger Dillard - Sylva, NC
 Mary Jane Dillard - same
 Hazel Rohde, Winter Haven, Florida
 Paul Rohde, Winter Haven, Florida
 Jennifer Rohde, Winter Haven, FL
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IN MEMORIAM

LUNA ETHEL CAREY, born 29 March 1901 - died July 1983. She lived in Seattle, Washington. Her parents were Aaron Hooper/Mary Jane Zachary, and her grandparents were Kit Zachary/Mary Coward. She was the sister of Lucille Stephens, Ray Hooper, Warren Hooper, and Lyle Kit Hooper. An older sister Inez died 24 Feb. 1983.

THELMA PHILLIPS FORESTER, born 4 July 1919 - died 31 Jan. 1984 of cancer. She was the daughter of John Phillips/Bertie Smith and granddaughter of Lewis J. Smith/Clara Coward. She lived in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She is survived by her husband James F. Forester, three daughters Dixie Saeger, Gayle Keith, and Joy Laport, and one sister Blanche Painter of RFD Sylva, NC.

Fred Carroll, husband of Mildred Buchanan Carroll, died in January 1984 in Murphy, NC. Mildred is the granddaughter of Fannie Coward Buchanan.

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 In July of 1983 I had a nice letter from Warren W. Hooper, 828 Fairfield Ave., Westminster, MD 21157. He said "I retain many fond memories of going to the family reunions each year as a child with my mother. I regret to say that I have not attended one in the past 45 years. However, I am looking forward to attending in the next year or so -- especially since I'll be free to do so, upon retirement." I saw Warren's sister Lucille and his brother Ray, but did not see Warren at this reunion. Let's hope he can make the one next year.
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NEW BABIES IN THE FAMILY

CHILD	DATE OF BIRTH	PARENTS	GRANDPARENTS
Amanda Hope Harrold	12 Oct. 1983	Joseph & Tammy Harrold Loring AFB, Maine	Dale & Bobbie Coward Cashiers, NC
Kevin Wittekind	10 Apr. 1979	Dick & Linda Wittekind Tuckasegee, NC	Roy & Lorraine Norton Cullowhee, NC
Theresa Lynn Hancock	1 June 1982	Steve & Diana Hancock La Plata, MD	Warren & Anna Norton Deyersmond
Lisa Harwood	7 Aug. 1979	Richard & Kathy Harwood Matthews, NC	Carolyn Harwood Charlotte, NC
Lauren Harwood	27 Mar. 1982	Richard & Kathy Harwood Matthews, NC	Carolyn Harwood Charlotte, NC
Sarah Ellen Smith	14 Oct. 1982	Douglas & Betty Smith Raleigh, NC	Jack & Jo Ann Smith Raleigh, NC
Patrick Anderson Smith	4 Nov. 1983	Douglas & Betty Smith Raleigh, NC	Jack & Jo Ann Smith Raleigh, NC
Samuel Troy Robinson	5 Nov. 1983	Jim & Nancy Robinson Winston-Salem, N	Jack & Jo Ann Smith Raleigh, NC
Cassie Redding Griffin	21 May 1984	M/M F. S. Griffin III Florence, AL	Floyd & Polly Griffin Florence, AL
Noah Buice	24 Feb. 1984	Carl & Cynthia Buice Macon, GA	Charles & Margaret Gray Knoxville, TN
Jessica Lee Harwick	29 Mar. 1984	Richard & Sandra Hardwick Fairfax, VA	James & Louise Hooper McLean, VA

NEW LOCATIONS

Davie Sutton has moved to West Jefferson, NC, with her daughter/son-in-law, Dorothy Sue and Duncan Vail. (We would appreciate having the new address.) Davie Sutton will have her 90th birthday on 10 August 1984. EVERYONE in the COWARD FAMILY WISHES COUSIN DAVIE A SPECIAL DAY! MAY IT BE VERY HAPPY AND VERY ENJOYABLE!

Gary Norton has moved to Langley AFB, Hampton, Va. (When Jack Norton gets his new address, we are counting on him to share it with the kin.)

NEW MARRIAGES

7 August 1983 - Robert H. Spooone of Knoxville, Tennessee, md. Lyling Wong.
 13 August 1983 - Benny Coward married Teresa Hall. He is on the Belton, SC. police force.
 1 October 1983- John Jenkins, son of the late Wiley & Helen Jenkins, married Patty Royal of Arkansas.
 23 June 1984 - - Dan Coward, we are awaiting word about this date.

OTHER FAMILY NEWS

Lewis Painter of Sanford, Florida, had gall bladder surgery. Florence Thompson of Hayesville, NC had gall bladder surgery, but she is doing very well. She was at the reunion this year.

CHASTAIN CONNECTIONS

As you probably know, a couple of the early Cowards married Chastains. Last October I heard The Landmark Quartet sing, and they were very good. Their leader is Billy Wayne Chastain, Hillcrest Drive, McCaysville, GA 30555, and he looked like a Coward to me. It would be great if we could get Billy and his quartet to come to the reunion sometime.

COWARD PHOTOS

Every year I see cameras snapping pictures at the Reunions. I've been keeping a Coward Reunion scrapbook for years myself, and I love my pictures. I have some slides which I made in 1964. I was wondering if others have made slides. Sometime it would be very nice to be able to show these slides at a reunion, don't you think? I have a screen and a projector which holds about 20-30 slides at a time. Dale, is there a meeting house at Norton close by "The Old House" by any chance? Would this interfere with the reunion or add to its enjoyment? If anyone has any ideas about this, please communicate with Dale about this.

How much trouble is it to make slides from snapshots? Can it be done? Does anyone know? Do you need to use the negatives or the photos to make the slides? I've made photos from slides, but never slides from photos so I'm unfamiliar with the process. I'm sure we have some camera buffs in the family who would know the answer.

If we can't accomplish this any time soon, maybe we can do something special for the 100th Reunion. We ought to have a "think tank" considering ideas for this, perhaps one representative from each of the Nathan Coward families (Clara, Tolvin, Dave, Oscar, Mary, Sallie, Bob, etc.), plus a representative of Benjamin, etc. Conrad Hooper would be a good one to organize this.

Let's see, 1984 was the 93rd Reunion, so I guess the 100th would be 1991, wouldn't it? Just seven years away... It is hard for me to believe that this is 1984, and this year is half over. As fast as time gets by, the 100th Reunion will be here before we know it.

BOOKS

Howard R. Symond, Jr., Rt. 1, Box 139-B-1, Eufaula, AL 36027 published 'NEATH WESTERN SOD.* Price: \$7.50. Several people asked if he has done a second book on Jackson Co. NC cemetery records. I haven't heard. Does anyone know?

Alice McGuire Hamilton's BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN MEMORIES,* a true story at the turn of the century about people in Jackson County. Very interesting. Price: \$4.50, plus \$1 for postage/handling. (NC residents: 4% sales tax.) Available from BSU-Books, Box 25354, Raleigh, NC 27611.

BY CHANCE OR BY PLAN, Western Carolina University: Its Beginning, by Jo Ann Smith, was published October 1982. Order from BSU-Books, Box 25354, Raleigh, NC 27611. Price: \$5.95, plus \$1 for postage/handling. (NC residents: 4% sales tax.)

TRACING YOUR ROOTS,* published by Consumer Guide, Bell Publishing Co., 1977. Library of Congress Number 77-92416. If you cannot find it in a bookstore or in your hometown library, you may order a copy from BSU-Books, Box 25354 Raleigh, NC 27611. Price: \$7.95, plus \$1 for postage/handling. (NC residents: 4% sales tax.)

* I mention all of the above because they have been helpful to me in doing research on family history, and I thought you might find them useful also if you like to work on family history. If you get into family history, I would like to suggest that you use "family group sheets" to put your information on, at first; then you will be able to see what you know and what you do not know. Then you can build from that. These sheets can be kept in a notebook. When I first began, I didn't have these. In looking back, I wish I had started out that way.

If you do get into family history, I'll tell you right now, it will be fun. There is so much to learn. Everyone who has lived has left some "footprints in the sands of time". Deeds, wills, birth records, marriage records, death records, old court minutes, etc. all build their own story. Dates are very important. If you put events in order by dates, the history of a family tells its own story.



You found
who on your
family tree?



JUNE 25, 1984

DAVE COWARD/LOU NORTON FAMILY

For the past several years, on the Saturday evening before the Coward Reunion, descendants of Dave Coward/Lou Norton have been having a get together at the Jarrett House, Dillsboro, NC. I believe Trudy Adams told me that this is the place where Uncle Dave and Aunt Lou spent their wedding night. (Trudy correct me if I'm wrong, please. As I said before, I can't always trust my memory.)

The Dave Coward/Lou Norton family is one of the larger branches of the Nathan Coward family, and this annual dinner which they have is a special tribute to Uncle Dave and Aunt Lou. A NICE EVENT!

LEWIS J. SMITH/CLARA COWARD FAMILY

In 1979 descendants of Lewis J. Smith/Clara Coward had a dinner meeting at the Court House Hill Inn in Sylva on the Saturday evening before the Coward Reunion. While we were delighted to have an opportunity for fun and fellowship, we decided that we would form an association to promote history and education, and we named the association the Lewis J. Smith Association. (Membership in this association is not limited to the descendants of Lewis J. Smith/Clara Coward line. Anyone interested can take part.)

One item of business which we discussed was the giving of proper recognition to the founders of the school which is today Western Carolina University. As you know, several members of the Coward family were involved in the founding of this school. Unfortunately, the present administration at WCU has chosen to do little to honor them.

During a conversation which I had with Chancellor "Cotton" Robinson, he told me that he thought the Founders Auditorium in the Administration Building was sufficient recognition. However, he must believe that he has done more than the founders because he had no objection to having the Administration Building named for himself. While I am sure Robinson is deserving of some credit for those things which he has done for WCU, I think only time will tell just how deserving he is of this particular recognition. There have been many presidents and there will be many chancellors, all of whom will do certain worthwhile things for the school -- if they do what they are paid to do by the taxpayers of the State of North Carolina. In no way do I wish to take away from these able persons any credit for the work they have done, and I will be the first to say proper tribute should be paid to each for having done a good job.

Because of the lack of recognition given to the founders up to this time, I was prompted to write BY CHANCE OR BY PLAN, Western Carolina University: Its Beginning, which was published in October 1982. Now at least there is a written account of the struggle to found a school in the late 1880's, and it was a struggle, a real struggle.

In time, perhaps other recognition can be given to these founders.

LEWIS J. SMITH ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Lewis J. Smith Association has held an annual meeting every year since 1979. First, we had a dinner meeting. However, in 1983 we changed our format. We had a luncheon meeting, a tour, and a picnic supper. This was so successful that in 1984 we made a full day of it, beginning with a morning tour and ending with a picnic supper.

On our 1983 tour, we visited the site of the Lewis J. Smith/Clara Coward homeplace in Cullowhee, then went to the East LaPort Masonic Lodge, to the East LaPort Methodist Church cemetery, and then to the site where once an old flour mill was operated by Lewis J. Smith, Clark Allen, and Dave Coward. (See Linden Coward's book, page 17.)

Note: (1) Clark Allen was Lewis J. Smith's brother-in-law. Clark Allen's wife was Nannie L. Smith, sister of Lewis J. Smith. Lena Allen, dau. of Clark Allen/Nannie L. Smith, married Robert Rogers Coward, son of Nathan Coward/Jane Rogers. (2) Dave Coward was Lewis J. Smith's brother-in-law also. Clara Coward, wife of Lewis J. Smith, was a sister to Dave Coward.

The Lewis J. Smith Association, Inc. held its 1984 meeting at Lake Junaluska Assembly because Lewis Smith (the first) had settled on Richland Creek, and the Assembly is located on lands which formerly belonged to him. We toured the area, visiting Rogers Cove, Jonathan Creek, Richland Creek at the point it enters Lake Junaluska and also the site behind the dam where it flows under the bridge. We also visited a site where Lewis Smith (the first) - or his son John Lewis Smith - lived. (I need to clarify this point.)

At Rogers Cove we visited the home of Robert Rogers, who was kin to Jane Rogers, wife of Nathan Coward. The Robert Rogers home has been occupied by six generations of his family. The present owner, Mrs. Guy Fulbright, was kind enough to permit us to enter the house, which has been restored and modernized. We saw the fields where lived the Indians who stole turkeys from the Robert Rogers family.

Note: Linden Coward's book, page 13, said that David Rogers who married Polly Berry was the son of Hugh Rogers/Nancy Thornton. Hugh Rogers/Nancy Thornton did have a son named David Rogers, but it was not the David Rogers who married Polly Berry. David Rogers who married Polly Berry was the BROTHER (not the SON) of Hugh Rogers who married Nancy Thornton. This is very involved but I will try to explain it, based on the research I have done. (The Rogers line is more complicated to research than the Smith line.)

ROBERT ROGERS married FRANCES RUSSELL.

son HUGH ROGERS md. Nancy Thornton
They had a son ROBERT ROGERS
whose home the Lewis J. Smith
Association, Inc, visited,
which is now owned by Mrs.
Guy Fulbright. This home
is located in Rogers Cove
near Lake Junaluska.

son DAVID ROGERS md. Mary (Polly) Berry
They had a daughter named Jane Rogers *
who married Nathan Coward and had ten
children: Minerva Emline, Clara Almira,
Tolvin Berry, Jonathan David, Martha
Samantha, Mary Alice, Oscar Boman,
John Hamilton, Sallie Jane, and
Robert Rogers Coward.

Hugh and Nancy were married in
1781. They had several children
including a son David.

The David, above, was born in 1780.

*Other children are listed on page 13
of Linden Coward's book.

It took me a while to get these two David Rogers straightened out, but after I was given proof beyond a reasonable doubt, I was able to accept that I was not a direct descendant of Hugh Rogers/Nancy Thornton.

LEWIS SMITH/MARY (POLLY) WIKLE

On page 5 of Linden Coward's book, he made reference to Lewis Smith (the first) and his wife Polly Wicle (Wikle). The descendants of Lewis J. Smith/Clara Coward and Bob Coward/Lena Allen would be interested in information about this couple, I believe, and others may also.

I'll share with you some information about Lewis Smith (the first), son of Ludwig Schmidt/Anna Gertraud Erfurt, who married Mary (Polly) Wikle, daughter of Peter and Mary Magdalene Wikle.

Ludwig Schmidt very likely was a German immigrant who came to this country prior to 1760. On ships coming into the Port of Philadelphia, between 1750 and 1753, I found four persons named Ludwig Schmidt:

12 September 1750	on the ship Priscilla
26 September 1752	on the ship Richard & Mary
15 September 1753	on the ship Patience
19 September 1753	on the ship Leathey

The age for the young man on the ship Patience was listed as 22. Ages were not given in the other instances.

During this early period, Pennsylvania was governed by the British. English common law was in force and the English language was used. This explains how the German name "Ludwig Schmidt" would be anglicized to "Lewis Smith".

In 1727 a law was enacted which required all immigrants arriving at the Port of Philadelphia to take an oath of allegiance to the British crown. In 1729 another law required immigrants to take an oath of adjuration and fidelity to the lord proprietor and the laws of the Province. As a result, there may be, not just one, but three lists with the names of immigrants:

- A list kept by the ship captain,
- A list of the signers of the oath of allegiance, and
- A list of signers of the oath of abjuration.

All of these helps one in doing research.

In the Trinity Lutheran Church records in Lancaster, Pa. is a record of the marriage of his parents Ludwig Schmidt and Anna Gertraud Erfurt on 22 April 1760. Four of their children were christened at this church, including the Lewis Smith who settled in Haywood County. The birth dates and christening dates are listed in these records.

Lewis Smith was born 4 March 1763 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. When he was a young boy, his parents moved to Augusta County, Virginia.

This Lewis Smith - who later settled in Haywood County - was a Revolutionary soldier, and his pension file No. W4805 is in the National Archives in Washington, DC.

Prior to Lewis Smith's eighteenth birthday (4 March 1781), men were being drafted in Augusta County as soldiers to fight in the Revolutionary War. Not yet 18, Lewis Smith was not old enough to be drafted. However, many of his neighbors were drafted, so he decided to enlist in order to go with them on a three-month tour of duty.

Private Lewis Smith was a rifleman, serving under Col. Lewis and Captain Bell, and later a Captain Smith. His company marched directly to Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina. According to his pension record, they joined General Green's army. Lewis was not in the actual battle which took place there because his company was located about one mile from the battleground. After the battle, his company returned to Virginia and he was discharged. In July 1781, he was drafted for a three-month tour of duty. Again he served under Col. Lewis and Captain Smith. This time his company went to Richmond and crossed the James River. Marching on, they crossed the James River again about eight miles from Little York (Yorktown) where they joined General George Washington's main army. At Little York, Lewis Smith was in battle but was not injured.

On 19 October 1781, Cornwallis surrendered to General Washington. Lewis Smith's company was called upon to help disarm Cornwallis' troops, and he was required to extend his tour of duty for fifteen days. He arrived at his Augusta County home in November 1781. He remained here for a few years.

When a treaty was signed in 1785 with the Cherokee Indians, this opened up land in Western North Carolina. Revolutionary War veterans had some priority in obtaining land grants. Since land was cheap, Lewis Smith traveled into Western North Carolina to see if this might be a place where he would like to settle. He was one of the first white people to arrive in this new territory.

By Act of Congress, it was required that a Census be taken in 1790. In the United States Census, Seventh District of North Carolina, Morgan District, Rutherford County, I found a "Lewis Smith". He was alone in his household when the census was taken.

Later that year his single status changed. On 25 Oct 1790 he obtained a Rutherford County marriage bond to marry Mary Wikle (called "Polly"). This marriage bond is on file in the N. C. Archives in Raleigh, NC. Their marriage took place two days later, 27 Oct. 1790, and this was recorded in their family Bible. Years later, after Lewis had died, the page where their marriage was recorded was torn from the Bible and sent in as proof of marriage in order that the widow, Mary (Polly), could qualify for a widow's pension. The page from the Bible remains in Lewis Smith's pension file in the National Archives.

Lewis Smith's wife Polly (Mary Wikle) was the daughter of Peter Wikle and his wife Mary Magdalene. When Peter Wikle died, his wife married a man named Tanner. The original handwritten will of Mary Magdalene Wikle Tanner is in the Haywood County file in the North Carolina Archives in Raleigh.

In 1792 Lewis Smith began entering land on Richland Creek, according to land records in the office of the Secretary of State in Raleigh, NC, and he acquired quite a bit of land over a period of a few years. (Around 1792 land sold for about twenty to fifty cents an acre for small tracts and large mountain tracts could be bought for as little as four to six cents per acre.)

Lewis Smith/Mary (Polly) Wikle raised several children. Many members of the Nathan Coward/Jane Rogers family are descendants of this couple.

It's about time to close. Thanks so much for the donations you have made to the cost of the Newsletter. This is a great help with the printing and postage, both of which have gone up, up, up over the years.

Until next year.....

God Bless Each of You,

Jo Ann Smith
The Family Scribe

DEED TO LEWIS SMITH - 400 ACRES - ENTERED 17 APRIL 1792 BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA - RECORDED IN SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE 17 DECEMBER 1808 - REGISTERED IN HAYWOOD COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE 14 JUNE 1809

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Know Ye That we for and in consideration of the sum of Fifty Shillings for every hundred acres hereby Granted paid into our Treasury by Lewis Smith assignee of John Davidson have given and granted and by these presents do give and grant unto the said Lewis Smith a tract of land Containing four hundred acres lying and being in the County of Buncombe beginning at a white oak at the point of Rocky Ridge about one hundred poles below the mouth of a small Creek running up both sides of Richland Creek for compliment. runs North forty two poles to a white oak thence West two hundred and Seventy Six poles to a stake thence East crossing the Creek two hundred and twenty six poles to a stake thence North Crossing the Creek to the beginning. Entered 17th April 1792 as by the plat hereunto annexed doth appear.

Together with all woods waters mines, minerals, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said land belonging or appertaining. To hold to the said Lewis Smith his heirs and assigns forever. Yielding and paying to us such sums of money Yearly or otherwise as our General Assembly from time to time may direct, Provided always that the said Grantee shall cause this Grant to be registered in the Registers office of our said County of Buncombe within twelve months from the date hereof otherwise the same shall be void.

In Testimony whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent and our Great seal to be thereunto affixed. Witness David Stone Esquire our Governor Captain General and Commander in Chief at Raleigh the 17th day of Dec in the thirty 3rd year of our Independence and the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Eight. by Command.

Will White Sec.

David Stone

Recorded in the Secretarys office

Wm. M. White Sec.

Registered in the Registers office in Haywood County this 14th day of June 1809

Phil. Burford RHC

Note: Haywood became a county in 1808.