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Ruffner Family Association

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RUFFNER ROOTS & RAMBLINGS

Volume 6, Issue #2

June 2003

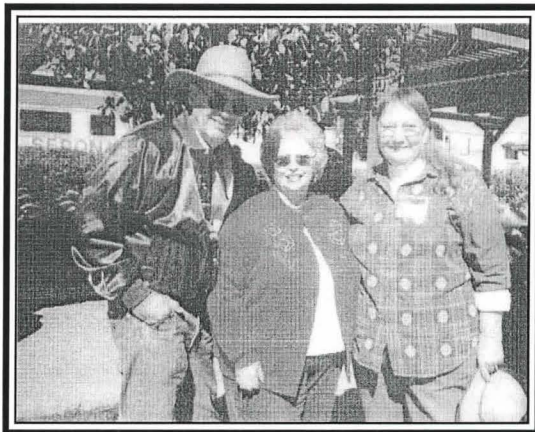
All Aboard for Prescott, Arizona

All arrangements are complete for the wonderful reunion weekend with your Western cousins. We have not reached capacity on registration, which may be received until June 6 - but the sooner, the better!

There will be lots to do for all ages in an incomparable setting - historic downtown Prescott - so bring your cameras. You may also have photographs made a half block from the hotel in old fashioned costume.

Sharlot Hall Museum, where we will spend Friday afternoon and return for Sunday chuck wagon lunch, has prepared a list of Ruffner related objects in the museum collection, as well as a copy of the card catalogue referencing all articles and photos in the archives. The senior curator at the museum will display some of the collection for us and there will be copies of the catalogue available for researchers.

Some of the Ruffner memorabilia which will be on display at Sharlot Hall Museum includes Sheriff George Ruffner's grey felt cowboy hat and the silver mounted bridle he won at the first Prescott rodeo in 1888, when he became the first man in the Arizona Territory to successfully bulldog a steer.



Just to show that happy memories remain long after the event is over, the photo on the left was taken last winter at the Verde Canyon Railway Depot in Clarkdale, Arizona. On the right is Melissa Ruffner, chairman of the 2003 reunion. On the left are Marcia and Carroll Moore of Thornville, Ohio. The Moores were in an Elderhostel group Melissa was leading in Arizona and they reminded her of meeting the Ruffner family when we visited the Mary Ruffner Bridge during the 1999 reunion in Lancaster (Fairfield County), Ohio. The bridge was purchased by the Moores in 1986, and moved to their farm in Perry County, Ohio on State Route 13, seven miles south of Interstate 70. Mr. Moore rebuilt the bridge over a small lake, where it is visible from Route 13 (see page 2).

The photo on the right shows Rebecca Ruffner (Melissa's sister), on the porch of the Prescott Ruffners, relating her happy discovery that Ruffner Mountain was located just over the next ridge from her cabin in

Colorado between Ridgway and Telluride. Ruffner Mountain is named for Lt. Ernest H. Ruffner (desc. Joseph) who surveyed through Southwestern Colorado in the late 1870s.

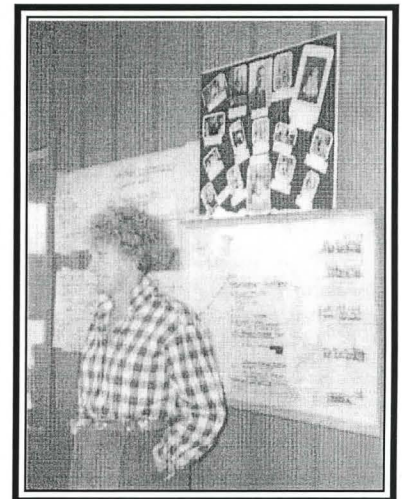
Rebecca renews her invitation to anyone on the way to Prescott to stop over in the Telluride, Colorado area to visit her cabin and take a hike to Ruffner Mountain in the Sneffels Range. See the last edition of RR&R for details, and email her IMMEDIATELY at beck@cableone.net.

Please come to make more memories with us in Prescott - June 19-22, 2003. For additional information, contact:

Melissa Ruffner, Chairman - 2003 Ruffner Family Reunion

PO Box 2577, Prescott, AZ 86302

(928) 445-4567 or email: elisabeth19@aol.com



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— and much more

News from the Past

Columbus (Ohio) Evening Dispatch, Monday, May 3, 1909

THUGS HOLD UP AND ROB A FARMER BOY

**Ray Ruffner Seized in Dark Street
and is Relieved of \$45 by Three Ruffians**

Ray Ruffner, a young farmer from New Rushville, Fairfield county, who came to Columbus Friday evening, hoping to secure a position with the street car company, was held up and robbed of \$45 in bills between 10 and 1 o'clock Sunday night on a side street between the Central Market line car barn in the South Side, and High street, by three masked men who sprang on him from a vacant lot.

Two of them grabbed him, each shoving a revolver into his face, while the third searched his pockets. They handled him so roughly that his left wrist was sprained. His assailants did not speak a word. It was at a dark point on the street and he does not believe he could recognize the men.

The police were notified Monday morning. Ruffner is stopping at the European hotel.

Editor's Note: The above was submitted by Barbara Rowles of Lancaster, Ohio. Ray may have been the son of Jacob Marion Ruffner (Peter/Emanuel/Jacob/Jacob II) and Stanzie Montgomery. He was born March 18, 1885, making him just 24 years old at the time of this incident.

The Beanpole Family

Historically, families have usually had more children than parents, resulting in family trees that looked like pyramids. However, in recent years, especially in countries like the United States, the number of children per generation has steadily gone down, while life span has increased. This has led to a shape of family tree that some researchers have likened to a beanpole - tall and thin, with few people in each generation. The term "beanpole family" has been around in the academic literature at least since 1987, but it rarely appears elsewhere. Some researchers find it too slangy and prefer the jargon term "verticalised" to describe such families.

The Mary Ruffner Bridge

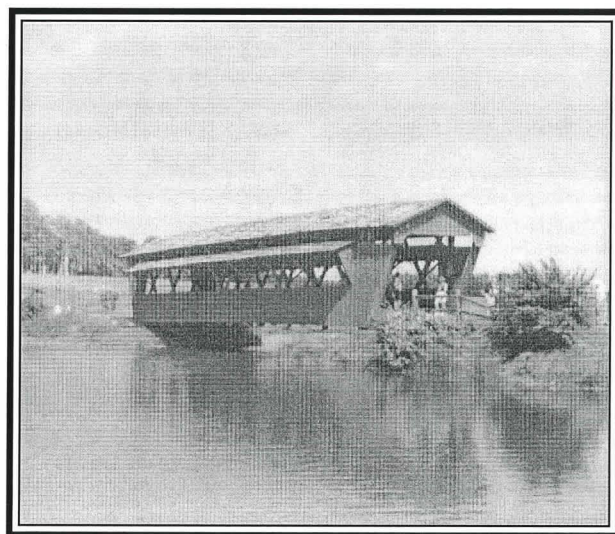
Built in 1875, the bridge was named for Mary Ann (Ruffner) Hill, the youngest child of Emanuel Ruffner and Magdalene Grove. Mary was born 18 March 1802, in Shenandoah County, Virginia, and was carried by her mother on horseback when the family migrated to Fairfield County, Ohio in the early 1800s. She married William Hill, the son of George Hill and Elizabeth Manly, on 30 November 1823. They had one son, John Ruffner, born 23 March 1828. Unfortunately, Mary just lived six months after the birth of her son. She died 26 September 1828, and is buried in New Salem, Ohio.

The bridge was originally situated over Little Rush Creek, 3 miles north-northwest of Rushville on Township Road 413 (Gunbarrel Road).

One author (name unknown) described its original location thus: "This beautiful and serene spot, away from the hustle and din of modern traffic, is further enhanced by huge catalpa trees just south of the covered bridge. Cows were contentedly eating lunch in the lush pasture nearby."

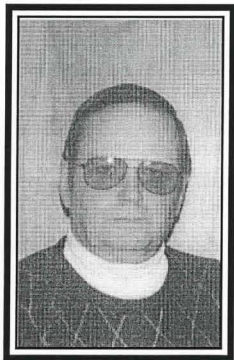
The author went on to describe a historical note about Rushville, Ohio. "In Rushville, the residence of Dr. R.S. Bode was originally the home in which Ben Hanby composed the original song, "Darling Nellie Gray." He acquired the inspiration for the ballad through his friend here, relating the romantic and tragic chapter from the life story of Joe Selby, a fugitive underground slave who had left his sweetheart, Nellie Gray, in the south homeland. Selby became ill while passing through here. He died and was buried in the Rushville Cemetery south of town."

As noted on the front page of this issue, the Mary Ruffner Bridge was purchased and moved by Carroll Moore in 1986. The photo below shows the restored bridge in its present setting.



*A bridge to the future
Clothed in memories from the past
May it stand in remembrance
Of our family's past
~ Your Editor*

A Message from the President



For one final time I send you greetings via this newsletter from the valley of our distinguished ancestors. After our upcoming reunion in Arizona, I will relinquish my job as president to another of our cousins. To say I am honored to have served as your president for the last four years would be an exaggerated understatement. I can truly say that I have benefitted more from the experience than our association did from my serving as your first president. Without the help of many dedicated members, we would not have progressed nearly as far as we have since we became an association in 1999.

As I have stated many times before, the greatest rewards from being your president have come from meeting so many wonderful family members. There is

hardly a month goes by that I don't have contact with another of our cousins, either in person or via the correspondence of e-mail, regular mail or telephone. This serves to reinforce my belief that we are indeed a diverse and highly unique group of immigrant descendants. Our family seems to have people in it that range the entire spectrum of occupations within our country. It is hard to believe our forbears were mainly farmers whose desire to see new frontiers led us to become what we currently are - spread far and wide across our great nation.

I look forward to June and the opportunity to visit a part of our country that so far I have not had the pleasure to experience. I am filled with excitement to see the places that I have read or heard tales told about. I am just sorry that two of our most notable cousins are no longer with us to help us enjoy this reunion. I am sure the spirits of "Budge" and George will be prevalent at our gathering. They have had an influence that caused us to be what we have become as a family association. They are truly missed by us all. I am sure we will have attendees at this reunion from the west that many of us have not had the opportunity to previously meet. This will be an additional reward from the reunion.

Thanks once again for the confidence placed in me for the past four years. See you in Prescott.

~ *Samuel H. McNeely*

LETTERS FROM THE PAST

To Rev. William Henry Ruffner from General Robert E. Lee when the latter was President of Washington College (now Washington & Lee)

Lexington, VA 22 June 1869

My dear Dr.

I enclose you a letter in this mail from Mr. Hugh Blaine Grigsby, for the purpose of stating my concurrence in his opinion for the reasons given by him and others, that he did not mention, that you are the fittest person to write the history of Washington College. Such a history as he suggests is the kind that I desire to see written and the only kind that will answer the purpose that I have had in view, and which, as you must have known from the first, that I desire you to write. You have the interest of the college at heart, you are acquainted with its early history, its members, faculty, etc., and I hope that you will undertake the work as early as practicable. A discourse from Mr. Grigsby will be well enough, but as he truly says, however well it may be accomplished, it will not be sufficient.

Please after perusal return me the letter.

Very truly yours,
R. E. Lee

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Luray, Virginia

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Chartered and incorporated in 1999, to maintain a society of members who will research their common heritage through the collection of historical artifacts and documents that form the basis for knowledge and appreciation of the historical role played by the Ruffner descendants and their collateral lines in the settlement of the American Frontier.

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Ruffners in the News

From the Lancaster Eagle Gazette - March 14, 2003

Farm family honored for 204 years of work

By Leo Shane III
E-G Columbus Bureau

Even before Ohio was a state, **Dixie Smith's** great-great-grandfather was an Ohio farmer.

Today, the 80-acre farm north of Lancaster still produces hay and vegetables for Ohio, one of 13 properties in the state to be tended continuously for more than 200 years.

"Her grandmother was the one who really kept it going several years ago," said Smith's husband, Howard. "She'd be real proud of it today."

On Thursday, the Ohio Department of Agriculture honored families from the state's 13 bicentennial farms in a Statehouse ceremony, recognizing their dedication to agriculture and inspiration as models of success.

"There's something you know that's important to every resident. You've been able to change with the times," said Fred Dailey, director of the state's Department of Agriculture. "And we want to put you up on a pedestal as someone to emulate."

The state's oldest, continuously tended farm, the John Smiley farm in Adams County, planted its first crops in 1772.

The Smiths' Three Springs Farm, founded by Frederick Harman in 1799, features the state's first official road, Zane's Trace, and the oldest building in the county, the family's home.

Howard Smith said the house is a log cabin, built in 1802, with much of the original timber still inside. The building doubled as one of the earliest Ohio schools as well, with a number of children in the early 1800s gathering on the second floor for lessons.

Dixie Smith said her grandmother was born in the farmhouse, moved out when she was married, but later returned to live there for 60 more years.

"We need to try and preserve the older homesteads and farms for not only historical reasons, but also legacies," she said. "Families need to have a family home or farm to return to."

The home sits beside the three springs for which the property was named. The farmland - which originally stretched more than 650 acres - today also is used to raise beef cattle.

Senate President Doug White, R-Manchester, told the gathering his family has worked as farmers in southern Ohio for more than 200 years and his family farm is nearing its 100th anniversary. He applauded the bicentennial farmers for their perfection of "the art and science of agriculture."

"Your history is not just a story about Ohio and America," he said, "It is Ohio and America." ■

Editor's Note: The property referred to in the foregoing article was featured in the March 2003 issue of RR&R, "What Is It? Where Is It?". Dixie Smith, the current owner, is the great-granddaughter of Rebecca Ruffner and John P. Harman, Jr. Her grandmother was Fannie (Harman) George and her parents were Richard Harman George and Sarah Burcham.

The Smith family received a framed certificate from the Ohio Department of Agriculture, signed by Governor Bob Taft, that designates their farm as an Ohio Century Farm.

Nehemiah Wood/Eve Ruffner Homestead now site of museum

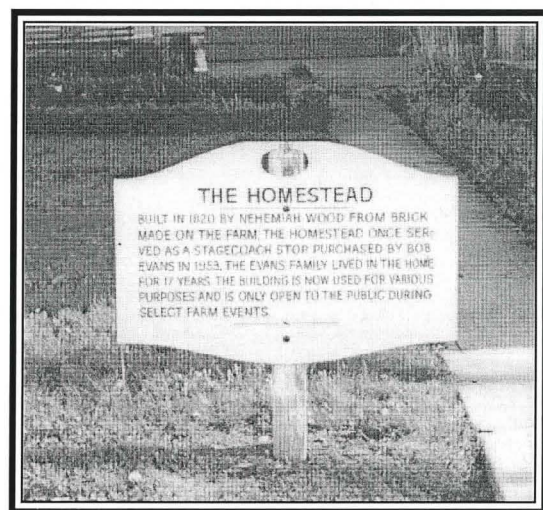
On May 1st, Bob Evans Farm opened The Homestead Museum in the lovely brick home originally built by Nehemiah Wood, Jr., his wife Eve Ruffner (desc. Joseph) and their sons. The house, located at the Evans farm on State Route 588 just off U.S. Route 35 in Rio Grande, Ohio, was completed by the sons in 1825, after the death of Nehemiah in 1824. As late as 1862, with the property owned by their son, Harrison, "The Old Homestead" or the "Wood House," as it was variously known, served as a stagecoach stop. The home was featured in the September 2001 issue of RR&R and a vignette of Eve and Nehemiah appeared in the March 2003 issue. It is in the National Register of Historic Places.

The farm was purchased by the Evans' family in 1953. The Wood House, known as the Homestead, was the home where Bob Evans and his wife Jewell raised their six children. For those readers unfamiliar with the name "Bob Evans," it is famous in this area of the country as one of the most successful family business enterprises in history. Starting in 1962, from a small "Sausage Shop" on the farm, Bob Evans Restaurants are now located in several states and many super market chains feature their packaged products.

The museum may be a disappointment to those seeking Wood and Ruffner history as it was designed more as a repository for the history of the Bob Evans company, their family and the region. However, the house retains its colonial charm with the original exterior bricks fired on a kiln, hand carved cherry woodwork and a beautiful staircase.

The Bob Evans Farm is still a working farm and it is open daily. Beside the Homestead Museum, the farm features a welcome center, craft barn, log cabin village and a Bob Evans Restaurant. They also have campgrounds available from March through December. Special events are conducted at the farm from April through November of each year.

For additional information, you can call (800) 994-FARM or log-on to their website at www.bobevans.com.



Landmark sign now on display at the museum.

History Note: Nehemiah Wood Jr. was the great-great uncle of President Harry S. Truman. Nehemiah's sister, Nancy, was the great-grandmother of Martha Ellen Young, Harry's mother.

Iva Glenrose (Kauffman) Anderson

A 6th Generation Ruffner

By Pam & Mark Flasch

While compiling the survey forms returned for the Ruffner Family Association's update of the Ruffner family genealogy, we encountered a submission from Iva Glenrose (Kauffman) Anderson of Luray, Virginia. While most surveys were from eighth or ninth generation Ruffners, it became clear to us that Iva was actually a sixth generation Ruffner. In addition, we realized that both her parents were in fact fifth generation Ruffner cousins. This makes Iva probably the most "Ruffner" person we know of and perhaps the only living sixth generation Peter Jr. descendant. Caleb Ruffner (desc. Emanuel) of Pleasantville, Ohio is also a sixth generation descendant.

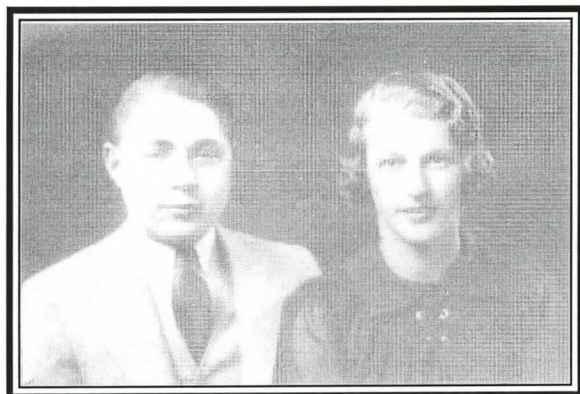
Iva's parents were Peter Kauffman (1849-1924) and Sudie Francis Ruffner (1871-1949). Both Peter and Sudie were grandchildren of John Ruffner, the youngest child of Peter Ruffner, Jr. (1746-1811), the son of Peter the Pioneer (1713-1778).

Sudie, the daughter of Philip Ruffner (1832-1909), married Peter, the son of Adaline (Ruffner) Kauffman (1824-1899), after the death of her second husband, Joseph Kauffman (also a Ruffner descendent through Adaline). Sudie had lost her first husband, Samuel 'Miles' Riley, in a farming accident in 1898. Joseph, Sudie's second husband, died in 1905, only five years after their marriage in 1900. Peter Kauffman was actually Joseph's uncle. Peter had seven children in his first family with Susan Fristoe, all born before 1895. Peter and Sudie married in 1907, and had two children: Goldie Pearl Kauffman (1908-1993) and Iva, born in Luray in 1914. Iva is now 89 years old.

Iva married Garland Anderson, from near Winchester, Virginia, in 1936. They were grocers in Luray, operating a store there during WWII, and moving to a second building in Luray from 1945 until their retirement in the 1970s. The building, on the north side of east Main Street in Luray, now houses a flower shop. Garland was a member of the Luray Volunteer Fire Department.

Iva, an avid card player, gives new meaning to the word "youthful." She looks twenty-five years younger than her age and is a charming and witty lady. Her two sons, Andy and John, along with several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, live nearby.

We visited with Iva twice. On our second visit with Sam McNeely (president of the Ruffner Family Association), we came to the spectacular realization that Iva's nephew through Sudie's second husband, Joseph, was Donham Douglas Kauffman, a friend of Sam from Summerville, South Carolina, who he had known long before his relationship with the Ruffner Family Association. Small World!!!



Garland and Iva (Kauffman) Anderson

Noah Ruffner

Supplement to Ruffner Pioneers of Ohio March 2003 issue

In the last issue of RR&R, in our story about the Ohio pioneers, we neglected to include complete information for Noah Ruffner, the son of Benjamin II and Anna (Coffman) Ruffner. Noah was born 27 January 1812, in Pleasant Township, Fairfield County, Ohio. He was the twin of Lydia. **Barbara Rowles** of Lancaster has been kind enough to provide Noah's information for us.

Noah married Sarah Friend (sister to John and William) on 18 April 1841. They had two children: Lucretia Ann and David F.

Lucretia Ann was born 9 January 1842. She married Josiah Berry on 1 December 1867, in Fairfield County. Lucretia and Josiah later moved to Roanoke, Louisiana. They had two children: Ruffner Arthur and Nellie Dail.

David F. was born 22 October 1843. He married Emma Eliza Claypool on 7 June 1877, in Fairfield County. David died near Bethany, Illinois on 6 February 1884. He was preceded in death by a small child in March 1878.

Noah Ruffner died on 17 June 1844, and is buried in Pleasant Run Primitive Baptist Cemetery. Noah disposed of much of his land just one month prior to his death, only keeping 7 acres (which is still in the Ruffner-Friend family).

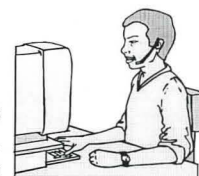
Sarah (Friend) Ruffner moved to Illinois in the spring of 1869. She died at Moweaqua, Illinois on 9 March 1898 and is buried in Todd's Point cemetery next to her son David and the small child.

What's New on the Web?

The Prescott Reunion information has been posted to the Ruffner Family WebSite. On the Family Events page, there is an itinerary and hotel information available, with links to the registration form -

<http://www.ruffnerfamily.org/2003_ruffner_reunion_prescott.htm>

We hope this will make it convenient for those of you who have not yet registered for the reunion and those of you who are seeking additional information.



QUERY

Seeking a photograph of Emanuel Ruffner [1757-1848] of Fairfield County, Ohio. Please respond to Roberta Ruffner Kirwin, 7700 Revenge Road SW, Lancaster OH 43130, (740) 689-0200 (NP). If you live in the Lancaster or Columbus, Ohio area, I will be happy to pick up the photo - have it copied - and promptly return it to you. Thank you!

Do you have a query?

We will be happy to publish it. Please include all possible information including all known names and dates. Send with your name, mailing and email addresses to: Ruffner Roots & Ramblings, 120 Rita Court, Columbus OH 43213 or email to Jokereid@aol.com. Thank you!

Descendants of Andrews' Raiders Invited to Museum Grand Opening

~ by K. Daniel Ruffner, II

On Friday evening of March 28, 2003, The Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History opened its doors to the descendants of the Andrews' Raiders and Confederate soldiers who participated in the famed Great Locomotive Chase. A major renovation has just been completed and the museum had the official grand re-opening on March 30, 2003. For those who have visited the museum before, the renovations are a very big improvement. The building is now ten times the size that it used to be and the museum has been able to expand the exhibits to include more Civil War items.

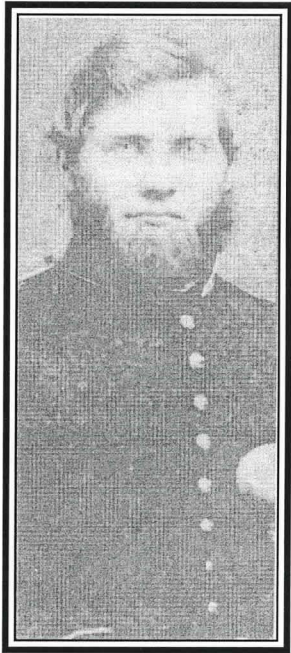
A preview party exclusively for the Andrews' Raiders descendants included a viewing of the museum exhibits, which included the famed locomotive, "The General," a new film dramatizing the event, and a new gallery honoring each individual participant. Some of the more than 150 people who attended enjoyed a southern style barbecue of pork and chicken with plenty of trimmings. The evening finished with an outdoor showing of the 1956 Disney film, "The Great Locomotive Chase."

Over twenty people with a family connection to Marion Ross were in attendance. At the conclusion of our dinner, George Deeming, the museum's curator, had the chance to speak and more formally welcome us to Kennesaw. Melville Davidson, a gr-gr-gr-gr-great grandson of Peter Ruffner, presented a framed picture to the museum that included a photo of Marion Ross and other markers and memorials to Marion and the Raiders. Melville Davidson's gr-great grandfather was Levi Ross and his gr-great grandmother was Mary (Ruffner) Ross. Levi and Mary were the parents of Marion Ross. Ivan Hastings, a gr-gr-gr-gr-gr-great grandson of Peter Ruffner, presented a book to the museum of collected information regarding Marion Ross and Andrews' Raiders.

As with any event like this, it was a great opportunity to meet and talk with others that are part of the large and very extended Ruffner family. I had a chance to talk with Ivan and Sharon Hastings and was pleased to find they receive the *Ruffner Roots & Ramblings* and are members of the Ruffner Family Association. E-mail and regular addresses were exchanged and some correspondence has resulted.

My return trip began on Saturday, March 29th. I stopped at the Chickamauga Battlefield in Georgia and found a number of the 17th of Ohio monuments. Jacob "Kate" Ruffner served in that regiment from the beginning of the Civil War until his death just outside Atlanta in August 1864. Following the stories of the specific points in the battle, each monument represented made this slight diversion a very important part of the trip.

I stopped late that afternoon at the National Cemetery in Chattanooga, TN. All concern that I had about finding the Andrews' Raiders monument and graves turned out to be unnecessary. The monument is directly in front of you as you enter the main entrance to the cemetery. The monument is topped with "The General" so there is no mistaking it. The monument and graves are within a red brick circle. Each side of the monument tells the story of Andrews' Raiders and their fate. Behind the memorial are eight headstones in a semi-circle. At the far left is the civilian and leader, James Andrews. The remaining markers, including Marion Ross, follow from left to right, all indicating the date of death as June 18, 1862.



Sgt. Major Marion A. Ross

Andrews' Raiders were the group of Union soldiers led by James Andrews, a civilian from Flemingsburg, KY. Marion Ross was serving with the Ohio 2nd Volunteer Infantry. On the morning of April 12, 1862, Andrews' Raiders took the confederate locomotive, "The General," while the train crew and passengers were eating breakfast at the Lacy Hotel. The goal was to destroy one of the main rail lines of the Confederacy and isolate Chattanooga, TN. Unfortunately for the Raiders, the conductor of the stolen train, William Fuller, chased "The General" on foot, by handcart, and eventually with another locomotive until Confederate soldiers were able to recapture the locomotive and Andrews' Raiders. James Andrews was executed by hanging on June 7, 1862. Marion Ross, along with 6 other Raiders, was executed in the same manner in Atlanta on June 18, 1862. The Raiders that were Union soldiers were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously in September 1863. At the conclusion of the war, the bodies of those that were executed were exhumed and re-interred at the National Cemetery in Chattanooga, TN. A monument to the Raiders was placed in this cemetery in May 1890 by the State of Ohio. The story of Andrews' Raiders has been the subject of many books. The Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History (pictured below) is located in Kennesaw, GA at 1829 Cherokee Street.



Do they miss me at home, do they miss me,
'Twould be an assurance most dear,
To know at this moment some loved one
Were saying, I wish he were here;
To feel that the group at the fireside
Were thinking of me as I roam,
Oh yes, 'twould be joy beyond measure
To know that they missed me at home.

(A melancholy ballad Marion taught his fellow prisoners.
It has been reported that Marion had a voice of marvelous sweetness.)

The Ash Creek Gourmets

by Lester Ward "Budge" Ruffner



Today the vast majority of ranches in Arizona send their cattle to market in huge trucks which take on the animals at the loading chutes of the ranches and in a matter of hours deliver them to their market destinations. This involves a minimum of effort for both cattleman and trucker and the cattle arrive in prime condition to command a top price. Fifty years ago there were no cattle trucks. There were, however, railroads, and ranchers like Charlie Hooker drove their stock to the nearest railhead. The benevolent railroad allowed one cowboy to ride free with every three carloads of animals.

Before World War I, Hooker owned a well-run outfit on Ash Creek which is now Orme School. When marketing time came, Hooker drove his cattle overland the fifteen miles to Mayer and loaded them on the train for Phoenix, where the cattle were delivered to the buyer. The relief of this responsibility, plus the sudden affluence created by the sale, frequently led the boss man to spring for a few drinks for the cowhands and top the celebration with a dinner at the old American Kitchen on Central Avenue in Phoenix.

Charlie Hooker was a generous man, and not the type to flout such a gallant tradition. After the cattle were delivered and the basic social amenities observed, he herded his men to the big oak table in the back room of that fine old Chinese establishment. It was a sacrilege, of course, to order anything but steak, so the bashful, tongue-tied cowboys sat patiently while the boss ordered from the menu, then unanimously agreed that whatever he had ordered was good enough for them. This plan had always worked well for them, but this time, feeling a little adventuresome, the boss ordered with the steak, an artichoke.

A half century ago, artichokes were seldom seen along the banks of Ash Creek. To have such a gastronomical offering placed before him created deep-seated anxieties in a cowboy. Each one waiting for another to demonstrate the method of eating this odd bloom. No one ever suspected that Charlie Hooker had yet to consume his first artichoke. Finally, one brave soul broke the tension by liberally sprinkling his with salt and pepper, picking up his knife and fork and cutting it to shreds. Every man at the table methodically repeated the process, then mechanically and indifferently, each man pushed a generous portion of the thorny leaves into his mouth. They hacked and squirmed and coughed, eyes watered and facial muscles twitched. Water offered little relief and chewed beefsteak only served as a temporary padding.

One sufferer allowed as how it must be a midget Spanish bayonet or yucca plant. Another reckoned as how he would just as soon try to eat a pine cone. It was the last time the Ash Creek gang ever charged an artichoke.

Reprinted with permission from *All Hell Needs Is Water* by Budge Ruffner, (1972) © September 1999 - Elisabeth F. Ruffner and Melissa J. Ruffner

The late Lester Ward "Budge" Ruffner loved folk history. He listened to the stories, remembered them and wrote them down. In 1964, he became a columnist for the Prescott Courier.. He

wrote articles and reviews for Arizona Highways magazine, New Mexico magazine, Arizona Attorney magazine, Southwest Art, Western Folklorist and *Poems Southwest* and *Arizona Anthem*. In addition to *All Hell Needs Is Water*, he authored two other books: *Shot In The Ass With Pesos: A Collection of Frontier Tales* (1979) and *Ruff Country: Tales West by Southwest* (1994). He and his daughter, Melissa (chairman of the 2003 Ruffner Family Reunion), co-authored the *Arizona Territorial Sampler: Food and Lifestyles of a Frontier* (1982, now in its 3rd edition).

A brief biography of Budge, co-founder of the Ruffner family reunions, appeared in the May 2001 issue of Ruffner Roots & Ramblings. Attendees at the 2003 Ruffner Family Reunion in his beloved hometown of Prescott, Arizona will learn more about this remarkable man.

QUERY

Who was William Ruffner, one of the first trustees of Cincinnati, Ohio?

Don Ruffner of Piqua, Ohio sent us an old clipping from a Cincinnati newspaper dated January 2, 1902.

"One hundred years ago, on January 2, 1802, the little village of Cincinnati was given added distinction by the territorial Legislature of Ohio. Although there were scarcely 800 inhabitants in the little frontier settlement, it was the metropolis of the future great State of Ohio. In 1801, it was made the capital of the territory, and on January 2 of the following year Cincinnati was incorporated as a town. That was ~ **Exactly a Century Ago To-Day.**

Mud streets and rambling, low-built log cabins have since been replaced by towering edifices of brick and stone. The outskirts of the village of a century ago did not reach further north than Fourth street of the present day, nor west of Vine. Broadway was the main and fashionable thoroughfare. Beyond these limitations were a few scattered fields of corn. The rest was a wilderness of forest and swamp. The old river flatboats furnished the only communication with the Eastern and Southern settlements, and to the North and West lay a vast expanse of almost unexplored, and save for wandering bands of ferocious redskins, uninhabited territory. Small as it was - **The Little Town of Cincinnati** was then, as it is to-day, the mart of the Western world. Its importance was recognized by the Territorial Legislature, an act incorporating the hitherto unorganized village was passed, and on the second day of January 1802, Cincinnati proudly became a town. Its first officers were appointed the same day. They were: David Ziegler, president of the corporation; Jacob Burnett, recorder; Jo. Prince, assessor; Abram Cory, collector; James Smith, town marshal; trustees, William Ramsey, David E. Wade, Charles Avery, John Reily, William Stanley, Samuel Dick, and **William Ruffner.**"

We cannot find a William Ruffner in this time frame of Peter and Mary (Steinman) Ruffner's descendants.

Do you know who he was?

**Please respond to Ruffner Roots & Ramblings
120 Rita Court, Columbus OH 43213**

Email: Jokereid@aol.com

Thank you!

Answer to March Query ~ A Group of Friends

In the March 2003 issue of RR&R, on page 9, we ran a query to identify a group of Ruffner descendants in a photo we thought was a Barr Family Reunion. We have received two excellent responses to the query and **it is not a Barr Family Reunion**. Thanks to help from **Barbara Rowles** of Lancaster, Ohio and **Florence Friend Boyer** of Canal Winchester, Ohio, almost all of the people in the photo have been identified. We are re-printing the photo, taken between 1889 and 1890, below with the answers we received.



First row - seated on the ground, left to right: Nettie (Barr) Leith, Nellie (Barr) Sims, Stella (Barr) Wyker, Gertrude (Friend) Geiger, Blanche (Barr) Winegarner, John Furry Friend and Marion Baker. Nettie, Nellie, Stella and Blanche were sisters. They were the daughters of Maybell (Friend) and Jacob Barr, Jr. Gertrude (Friend) Geiger and John Furry Friend were brother and sister. They were the children of Joachim and Sophie (Furry) Friend. Marion Baker was the husband of Alice (Sands) Baker. Alice was the daughter of Simeon and Eliza Ann (Friend) Sands. Eliza was the sister of William, John and Elijah Friend.

Second row - seated on chairs, left to right: Mary Ann (Ruffner) Friend with Mary Estella (Bauman) Reynolds on her lap, William Friend (Mary Ann's husband), either Sarah (Friend) Ruffner or Eleanor Friend, John Friend (Elizabeth's husband), Elizabeth (Ruffner) Friend, Elijah Friend and Barbara (Mast) Friend (Elijah's wife). Mary Ann and Elizabeth were sisters. They were the daughters of Joseph Ruffner (youngest son of Emanuel) and Ronda Davis. William, John and Elijah Friend were brothers. Mary Estella (Bauman) Reynolds was the daughter of William Bauman and Estella Friend.

Third row - standing, left to right: _____ Crist (sister of Jacob Barr), Maybell (Friend) Barr, Estella (Friend) Bauman, unknown, Margaret Jane Friend, Charles Friend, Joachim Friend, Jacob Barr (Maybell's husband) and unknown. Maybell (Friend) Barr and Joachim Friend were children of Elizabeth Ruffner and John Friend. Estella (Friend) Bauman and Charles Friend were children of Mary Ann Ruffner and William Friend.

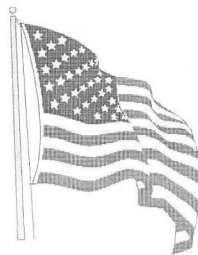
Back row - standing, left to right: Possibly William Bauman

(husband of Estella), **Sophie (Furry) Friend** (wife of Joachim), unknown, unknown and **Josephine (Spitler) Dobson**, who was the daughter of Levi and Elizabeth (Friend) Spitler. Elizabeth was a sister to William, John and Elijah.

Florence Friend Boyer has three generations of her family in this photograph: Her great-grandparents - Elizabeth Ruffner and John Friend; her grandparents - Joachim and Sophie (Furry) Friend and her father, John Furry Friend. **Barbara Rowles** is the great-great-granddaughter of Mary Ann Ruffner & William Friend and the great-granddaughter of Estella Friend & William Bauman.

A Homestead Celebration

On this special day of remembrance, I wonder what the day, July 4th, had come to mean to those ancestors living at the Homestead on Hawksbill Creek back in 1776. It was probably



weeks before Peter, Mary and their children learned of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, maybe not even until August. Having been a part of the community of settlers who endured the hardships of immigration from the Old World as well as into the Valley of Virginia, they undoubtedly reacted positive to the cry for independence coming out of Williamsburg, Boston and Philadelphia. I can picture the long rider

having crossed the Blue Ridge, now reining his horse up the road to the massive log home built upon that sturdy stone foundation. After reading the printed broadside, Peter instructs his young servant lad, Lewis Long, to fetch the boys from the fields and then ride over to the farms of Joseph and Benjamin and tell their families the exciting news. Joseph (age 36) and Benjamin (age 34) have been members of a militia unit since October of '75 and very well could still not be at home.

The settlers of the Shenandoah Valley have been on edge since the October 10, 1774, Battle at Point Pleasant in which so many of her young men had participated and the treachery of Lord Dunmore had been exposed. Until now we can only see in our mind's eye the excitement of Peter, Jr. (age 30), Reuben (age 28), Emanuel (age 19) and Elizabeth (age 21, as they learned of the news. Peter Senior probably shared with his family the experiences of his youth in a landscape littered by wars in Europe. We have yet to discover any documents that reflect their observations over the next five years of the Revolution, but they must have been strongly in support of the new government in Williamsburg. At the war's end, Peter the Patriarch is buried near where we raised the Ruffner Monument in 1997; Mary is his widow at age 67; Joseph is 41 and his last child Abraham is born eight days before Gen. Cornwallis surrenders to Gen. Washington at Yorktown; Benjamin is 39; Peter, Jr. is 35 and married to Elizabeth Burner; Reuben age 33 has married Catherine Deger; Elizabeth age 26 has married Jacob Stover; and Emanuel now age 24 was married to Magdalene Grove. Young Emanuel had made a name for himself as a teamster in the war. We can speculate that his travels from the Valley to the places the war left more visible scars, has had a profound effect on his future actions in seeking a land across the Ohio where the Declaration that all persons are created equal and have a right to share in the pursuit of happiness was indeed for all people.

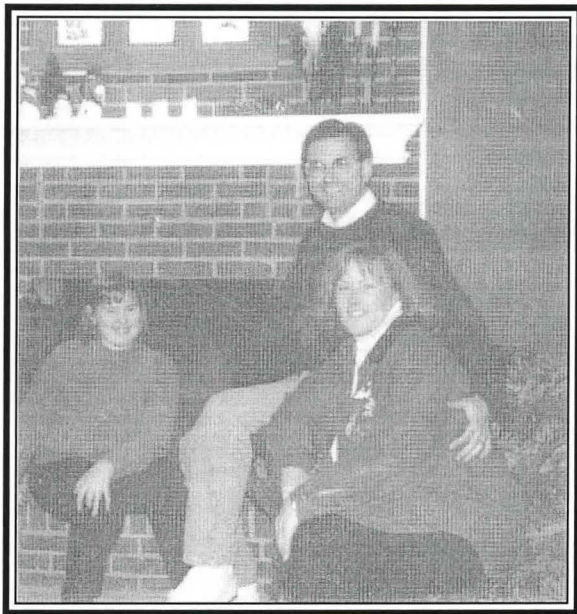
*Happy 4th of July,
~ Robert Newman Sheets*

Knowing Your Board of Directors

K. Daniel Ruffner, II of West Chester, Ohio

Kail Daniel Ruffner, II, who goes by Dan Ruffner, was elected to the RFA Board in 2001. Dan is a gr-gr-gr-gr-gr-great grandson of Peter Ruffner. He is descended from Peter's son Emanuel, continuing on to Jacob, Jonas, Joseph, James, George, Kail, then Dan. He was born June 13, 1963, in Cincinnati, Ohio to Kail Daniel Ruffner and Rosalyn (Burton) Ruffner. At the time, his father was an elementary school teacher during the week and a minister in the Church of Christ/Christian church on the weekend. After Dan's father became a full time minister in 1964, Dan accompanied his family to Portland, Indiana (1964-1968), East Lansing, Michigan (1968-1972) and Connersville, Indiana (1972-1983). Dan's sister, Kari (Ruffner) Shield, was born in Portland, Indiana in 1968.

Upon graduation from Connersville High School in Indiana, Dan attended Indiana University from 1981-1985, and received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Business Administration. While in college, he played trumpet in the Indiana University Marching Hundred and the Basketball Pep Band. Dan met his wife, Ann (Hoffman) Ruffner, while attending Indiana University and they were married in Speedway, Indiana in December 1984. Dan and Ann lived briefly in Miamisburg, Ohio. In 1986, they eventually made their way to Cincinnati, Ohio where Dan started work at Fifth Third Bank, and Ann worked as an Occupational Therapist at Emerson A. North Hospital. Dan attended Xavier University in Cincinnati from 1986-1990, and received a Masters in Business Administration in Finance. Dan has continued to work in the finance and investment fields throughout his career. He is currently a manager at Fidelity Investments in the Greater Cincinnati area, where he oversees people who manage the retirement plan and benefits relationships that Fidelity has with many corporate clients.



Kate, Dan & Ann Ruffner ~ Christmas 2001

The daughter of Dan and Ann, Kate Lauren Ruffner, was born in September 1990, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Kate just completed the 6th grade and has many interests, most notably a strong interest in writing. She is also active in volleyball and Girl Scouts. Ann is the leader of Kate's Girl Scout troop. Just like her dad, Kate is now involved in the school band and plays the clarinet. Kate also enjoys traveling to Indiana University for football and basketball games with her alumni parents.

Dan's wife, Ann, continues to work as an Occupational Therapist in the Cincinnati area. A couple of her many outside interests include reading and, during the summer, vacationing in the state of Maine. Ann's experience with the Ruffner Family Association prompted her to take on a huge project three years ago. When she came home from the 1999 Ruffner Reunion in Lancaster, Ohio, Ann almost immediately began figuring out the logistics of putting such a reunion together for the Rissler family branch on her mother's side. By all accounts her efforts were a great success, with a reunion of almost 200 people getting together over one weekend in 2000 in Cloverdale, Indiana. It is worth noting that through this Rissler branch of Ann's family, she is able to count the frontiersman Daniel Boone as her gr-gr-gr-gr-great granduncle.

Dan puts a lot of energy into his work and hobbies. Like Ann, Dan is always in the middle of a book (his taste is almost exclusively non-fiction). He has a strong interest in history, which is one reason researching the Ruffner Family is so rewarding. Like many people who are currently involved in the Ruffner Family Association and attend the reunions, Dan simply stumbled across the organization back in 1996. Dan came across The Ruffner House in Luray, VA while browsing the Internet. Knowing only there was a probable connection to the Ruffner family, Dan's parents went for a visit and stayed at the Ruffner

House in the fall of 1996. By chance, they were introduced to Nancy Lee Shiflett who mentioned the 1997 reunion in Luray. From that point on, Dan and his family have attended each biennial reunion held by the Ruffner Family.

In 2000, Dan became involved with the Ruffner Family Association website (www.ruffnerfamily.org). With much help from Joe Ruffner, Bob Sheets, Dan Ruffner (of Washington, DC) and Joan Ruffner Reid, Dan did the operational work to get the site up and going. The website is now visited by hundreds of people each month and can be considered a success because it is definitely serving its basic purpose - to introduce family and friends to the Ruffner Family Association and our family history.

Dan's parents, Kail and Rosalyn, currently live in Grayson, Kentucky. Kail received his PhD in Education from Indiana University in 1982, and Rosalyn received her PhD in Education from the University of Kentucky in 1988. Kail is the departmental head and a professor in Elementary Education at Kentucky Christian College in Grayson, Kentucky. Rosalyn is also a professor in Elementary Education at Kentucky Christian College. Dan's sister, Kari, is a graduate of Louisville School of Medicine. She lives in Grayson, Kentucky with her husband Chris Shield and currently practices at an outreach clinic.

Dan would like to add, "My work within the Ruffner Family Association has been very personal and rewarding. The Ruffner Family story is a truly American story. Being able to track the Ruffner Family and their contributions to this country throughout the last 250 years is very exciting. I am looking forward to the reunion in Prescott, Arizona this June. It is special to be able to gather together with so many people who share a common heritage."



In Memoriam

EDNA RUFFNER TROUP, 97, Lancaster, Ohio and formerly of Pleasantville, died Friday, February 14, 2003, at her residence.

Edna, a descendant of Emanuel, was born April 15, 1905, in Pleasantville, the daughter of the late George and Estella Shrider Ruffner.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, former member and past worthy matron of CES, White Shield Chapter No. 97, Pleasant Garden Club, Brush and Easel Club (Edna loved to paint), Ladies Oriental Shrine, DAR and Fairfield Heritage Association.

She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Nancy and Rowland Purdy of Vienna, VA, Mary Anne and Paul Long of High Point, NC, and Elizabeth and Patrick Rogers of Hilton Head, SC; her son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Delores Troup of Lancaster; grandchildren, Lisabeth Purdy, Jennifer Stansbery, Susan Stringer, Timothy Rogers, Kevin Rogers, Megan Rogers, Robert Troup and Ryan Troup; great-grandchildren, Thomas Troup, Andrew Troup, James Troup and Sophia Stansbery; brother, Caleb Ruffner of Pleasantville; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, R.E. (Dick) Troup, who died November 1978; two sisters; and three brothers.

MARGARET DABNEY RUFFNER, beloved wife of the late Herman Ovis "Toot" Ruffner, Jr. (descendant of Joseph). Toot had a garage and automobile agency in Charleston, West Virginia.

Margaret was the devoted mother of Anne Ruffner James, Prospect, Ohio, and Brenda Ruffner, Cincinnati, Ohio. Loving grandmother of Katy Hughes, Mark Stowers, Eric Stowers, Mike Wooddell and Joe Wooddell. She is also survived by seven great-grandchildren.

Margaret passed away March 20, 2003, in Delaware, Ohio, at age 90.

SANDRA SUE (REED) ELLIOTT, age 65, of Fenton, Michigan, formerly of Holly, died Saturday, February 22, 2003.

Sandra, a descendant of Emanuel, was born in Jackson, Michigan on March 1, 1937, the daughter of Leo and Evelyn (Ruffner) Reed. She graduated from Holly High School in 1955. She was united in marriage in 1956, to Thomas Elliott.

She is survived by her husband, Tom; 3 children, Thomas H. Elliott of Marquette, Donald J. (Vickie) Elliott of Holly, and Marria D. (Steven) Blinn of Illinois; 4 grandchildren; 1 sister, Cheryl L. Reed (Peter) White of Cross Village, Michigan; 2 nieces and a great-nephew; and special friend, Mary Jane Honeywell of Grand Blanc.

She was interred at Oakwood Cemetery in Fenton, Michigan.

Sandra's sister, Cheryl L. Reed, wrote the following beautiful poem in honor of her dear sister on January 3, 2003, and has given us permission to print it.

Sisters ~

There she is.
Shining hair, long and dark and smooth;
She sweeps up the walk, we run to greet her.
Folded into her arms, always a good hug.
Our hand in hers, we enter the house.
We feast on our mother's Italian Spaghetti.
She laughs, she listens, she feeds, she teaches.
We lunch together;
We *dine* together.

Shining hair, long and dark and smooth;
She sits, lean legs draped over the arm of an overstuffed chair,
Head bowed, she reads her lessons, frowning with concentration.
Good students are made, not born.
She rises each morning long before her family awakens.
In that dark and quiet and private time, she fills the bath.
She bathes, she washes her shining hair, long and dark and smooth.
She dresses, she studies, she walks to school;
She is so bright, she is so bright.

There she is.
Shining hair, long and dark and smooth;
She rocks; she sings the old songs.
The familiar words carry a sleepy child into night.
Lean legs push the chair into a rhythm of rest.
She holds us warm and close.
There is no need to hurry;
She has time for us.
She makes time for us.

Shining hair, long and dark and smooth;
She stands in the afternoon sunlight, peeling potatoes.
My nephews play at her feet.
She stands at the kitchen counter,
Knees locked and lean legs bowed somehow back,
Peeling potatoes.
No movement is wasted in her graceful work;
Nothing is wasted.

There she is.
Shining hair, long and dark and smooth;
She feeds her family well.
Perfume of tender roast, fried chicken, fills the house.
Sweet smell of onion, carrots, thick brown gravy,
Cakes, pies, warm chocolate chip cookies.
Celery sticks, fresh tomatoes, cucumber slices bathed in vinegar.
There is real lemonade.
Feast of turkey, oyster stuffing,
Yams and sweet frozen white salad at Thanksgiving,
Christmas hams wearing pineapple rings, maraschino cherries
and cloves.
She feeds her family well.

Shining hair, long and dark and smooth;
Wherever we look, she is there.
Knees locked and lean legs bowed somehow back,
She listens as she works.
She works, she works, she works.
She smiles, she strokes our hair;
What is empty, she fills;
She answers, she mends.
She comes always;
She stays as long as she is needed.
She stays a lifetime.
It is not enough.

In Memoriam ~

GLADYS RUFFNER WISHER, 87, passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2003, at the Masonic Home in Sullivan, Illinois.

Gladys was born August 1, 1916, to Edward White Ruffner [1872-1968] and Macy (Anderson) Ruffner [1878-1952]. She was a descendant of Benjamin.

She is survived by her brother Glen Ruffner of Florida. She was preceded in death by her husband, Hugh Wisher; brothers, Ray and Clare A. Ruffner, and sister, Neva Ruffner Woodall.

WALTER A. DEEBACH, JR. (desc. of Peter Ruffner, Jr.), age 70, of Retsil, WA, died in Bremerton, WA on April 19, 2003.

He was born in Mankato, Minnesota on July 31, 1923, the son of Walter and Marie (Tutt) Deebach. He was a great grandson of Martha C.M. (Ruffner) Tutt, whose story was told in Ruffner Roots & Ramblings, Dec. 2002.

Walt was preceded in death by his three wives: Francis, Josephine and Mae. He is survived by his son, Walter A. Deebach, III; two adopted daughters, Gail (Gailene) Johnson and Farrell Deebach-Carpenter, and their families, and his brothers, Robert, Thomas and Donald Deebach; his sisters, Sally Nickell and Betty Lou Gaeng; several nieces and nephews, and a large extended family.

Walt Jr. grew up in Edmonds, WA, and attended school there. He retired as S/Sgt from the U.S. Air Force in 1970, and during WWII served in the U.S. Army in the South Pacific and in the India/Burma Theater as a member of the renowned "Merrill's Marauders." He was a 60-year life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Memorial services and military honors were conducted on April 25, 2002, at Tahoma National Cemetery, Kent, WA, by representatives from the Walter A. Deebach, Sr. VFW Memorial Post 1040, Lynnwood, WA, and the U.S. Air Force, with rifle salute, taps and the folding and presentation of the U.S. Flag. He is buried at Tahoma National Cemetery.

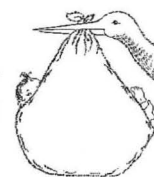
Betty Lou Gaeng, Walter's sister, writes: "As I mentioned in the story about our great grandmother Martha, she is buried at Tahoma Cemetery, Yakima, WA, and you look to the west from her grave you see the 14,410 ft. high Mt. Rainier. My brother is buried at **Tahoma National Cemetery**, and as you look to the east from there you see the other side of the same mountain. The Indian name for Mt. Rainier is Tahoma, which either means "snowiest peak" or "the mountain that was God." But, mostly it is just referred to as The Mountain. This national cemetery is a new one, opened in 1997, and is extremely beautiful.

Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There as the love of Here;
And loyal still, as he gave the blows
Of his warrior strength to his country's foes~

from Away ~ by James Whitcomb Riley

Births

Aaron John Williams (desc. Peter, Jr.), 7 lb. 7 oz., was born April 8, 2003. He is the third son of Shawn & Rebecca Williams of Catawissa, Pennsylvania.

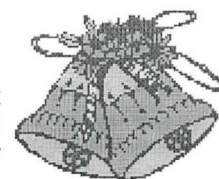


Marriages



Kristen Hershock, Front Royal, Virginia wed **Frank White**, Culpepper, Virginia in York, Pennsylvania on May 24, 2003. Kristen is a descendant of Peter, Jr. She is the daughter of Phyllis & Craig Hershock and the granddaughter of Dorothy Ruffner Rinker.

Wedding Traditions



The wedding gown ~ Although most American brides wear white today, in colonial times brides simply wore their Sunday dress - no matter the color.

It was not until the 1840s, when Queen Victoria was married in a white dress, that white gowns became fashionable. It was thought that brides who wore white were rich enough to have a dress made for a single event, thus "white" came to symbolize affluence and prosperity - plus the color's traditional symbol of purity.

Throwing rice ~ This tradition dates back to the Roman Empire when families threw rice and wheat at the newlyweds. They also hid seeds and grain in their bed sheets as fertility and bounty symbols. According to superstition, the number of rice grains remaining in the bride's hair is the number of children she will have.

This is one tradition that has gone by the wayside because it was perilous to our feathered friends. Thus we have developed new traditions such as throwing birdseed or rose petals. Some even blow bubbles or release balloons as the couple emerges from the church.

Throwing the bouquet ~ This practice, as well as the garter tossing, may have come from more destructive traditions. Brides were considered lucky, so at one time, wedding guests would tear bits of lace from the wedding dress to claim a piece of luck for themselves. To keep their dresses together - brides began tossing the bouquets. It is still traditional that the single woman who catches the bouquet and the single man that catches the garter will be the first to marry.

Giving away the bride ~ Historians say this is a tradition that dates back to the time when fathers literally gave away their daughters in arranged marriages. Then, veils were worn not only to symbolize purity, but to hide the bride's face. The veil ensured the wedding would take place in case the new husband didn't like his new bride's looks.

Over the years, weddings have become fancier and grander even for those of modest means. Who knows what the future will bring. Are some of our modern day traditions becoming a bore? It could be since the June 2003 issue of *Family Tree Magazine* has an extensive article on how to plan a vintage wedding. Something to think about for future Ruffner brides.

One Hundred Years Ago

If you don't think a century makes a big difference - just look at the following US Statistics from 100 years ago.

- ~ The average life expectancy was just forty-seven years.
- ~ Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.
- ~ Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.
- ~ A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11.00.
- ~ There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- ~ The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- ~ Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa and Tennessee each were more heavily populated than California, which was only the 21st most populous state in the country.
- ~ The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- ~ The average wage in the US was 22 cents an hour.
- ~ The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- ~ A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year; a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- ~ More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.
- ~ Ninety percent of all physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."
- ~ Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- ~ Coffee cost fifteen cents a pound.
- ~ Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- ~ Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.
- ~ The five leading causes of death in the US were: 1. Pneumonia and influenza; 2. Tuberculosis; 3. Diarrhea; 4. Heart Disease; 5. Stroke.
- ~ The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.
- ~ The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30.
- ~ Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.
- ~ There were no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
- ~ One in ten adults couldn't read or write. Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- ~ Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores. According to one pharmacist, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is in fact, a perfect guardian of health."
- ~ Eighteen percent of households in the US had at least one full-time servant or domestic.
- ~ There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire US.

☺ Genealogy Humor ☺

A modern mother was explaining to her little girl about pictures in the family photo album. The mother said, "This is the geneticist with your surrogate Mother and here's your sperm donor and your father's clone. This is me holding you when you were just a frozen embryo." "Who is that?" asked the daughter. "Oh," answered the mother, "The lady with the very troubled look on her face is your aunt. She's the family genealogist."

The Editor's Desk

Ruffner History lives on through efforts of modern-day preservationists



A recent column in *The Columbus Dispatch* stated that according to the 2000 U.S. Census, three out of four Ohio residents are natives of the state. The writer of the column goes on to indicate that many of us would therefore have deep roots here, which should make us interested in connecting with the past. However, maybe that wouldn't be enough incentive unless we knew how deep those roots go. The point the author was trying to make is that we can "connect with the past by studying family history."

The Ruffner family is very fortunate that most of the study of their family roots was already accomplished by Doris Laver Ruffner and Olive Taylor Ruffner close to 40 years ago. That study is going on and will culminate with the publication of a revised edition of their work.

The *Dispatch* columnist was spurred on to study his own family history, tracing it back eight generations. This still left him dissatisfied because as he stated, "my ancestors are gone." Unfortunately this is the feeling of many people. They need something tangible to link themselves with family history. As the author stated, "the most obvious are the possessions left by earlier generations - clothing, books, furniture and buildings. These things could seem abstract and stale without context, but when viewed through the filter of family history or our state's history, they take on new meaning."

One only needs to look through the preceding pages of this newsletter and previous editions of RR&R to find examples of Ruffner home preservation.

We can be proud of our ancestors, but we should also be very proud of, and indeed grateful to, the Ruffner descendants and owners of former Ruffner property, whether it be in Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois or wherever, who have so lovingly preserved our family history for the future.

*Looking forward to seeing many of you in Prescott,
Cousin Joan*

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Nancy Lee (Ruffner) Shifflett Luray, VA
Shawn Williams Catawissa, PA

Deadline for the next issue is August 1, 2003.

**We could use some news, articles and photos -
so please send them to:**

**Ruffner Roots & Ramblings
120 Rita Court, Columbus, OH 43213**

Jokereid@aol.com

Thank you!