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Board of Directors Meeting - June 26, 2000

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RUFFNER
FAMILY ASSN. LURAY, VA. JUNE 26 & 27, 2000

CALLED TO ORDER AND WELCOME GIVEN BY R.F.A. PRESIDENT,
SAM MC NEELY. BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

ELISABETH F. RUFFNER - ARIZONA
SAM MC NEELY - VIRGINIA
BOB SHEETS
SHIRLEY SHEETS - COLORADO
ROBERTA KIRWIN - OHIO
SALLY SPANGLER - VIRGINIA
JOAN REID - OHIO
DOROTHY M. RUSSELL - STATE NOT LISTED
FRED RUFFNER - MICHIGAN
JOE RUFFNER - ALABAMA
BARBARA KIBLER - VIRGINIA
JUDI MC NEELY - OHIO
BARBARA BURNER - MISSOURI
JANE R. LUCAS - VIRGINIA
SARA R. LYTLE - SOUTH CAROLINA
NANCY LEE SHIFFLETT - VIRGINIA
MELISSA RUFFNER - ARIZONA

THE FOLLOWING REPORTS WERE MADE TO THE BOARD:

NON - PROFIT STATUS-----

BOB SHEETS REPORTED THAT WE NEED TO INCORPORATE AS A NON-
PROFIT ORGANIZATION. GROUPS WHICH ARE STRICTLY GENELOGICAL IN
NATURE CANNOT SEEK INC. STATUS SO WE MUST HAVE A HISTORY,
EDUCATION OR OTHER PURPOSE. AFTER QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION,
ELISABETH RUFFNER VOLUNTEERED TO SUBMIT INC. PAPERS FOR 501 (C)
(3). PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MEMBERSHIP-----

IT WAS REPORTED THAT IN 1997, RFA HAD 53 MEMBERS ; IN 1998 WE
HAD 58 MEMBERS; IN 1999 WE HAD 96; IN 2000 WE HAD 102 MEMBERS.
DUES ARE NOW \$15.00 PER PERSON, PER YEAR.

DISCUSSION ENSUED ON HOW R.F.A. SHOULD OPERATE:

- SHOULD WE INCREASE DUES?
- SHOULD WE CONTINUE TO SEND NEWSLETTERS TO NON-PAYING
PEOPLE ON OUR R.F.A. MEMBERSHIP LIST?
- HOW SHOULD DUES BE COLLECTED?
- SHOULD A MEMBERSHIP CARD BE USED TO ACKNOWLEDGE DUES
PAYMENT?

IT WAS DECIDED THAT A MEMBERSHIP CARD BE MAILED ON A POSTCARD
AND THAT A NOTICE OF DUES BE PLACED IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF
"RUFFNER ROOTS AND RAMBLINGS" NEWSLETTER AS DUE AND PAYABLE
IMMEDIATELY FOR THE UPCOMING CALENDAR YEAR.

IT WAS NOTED THAT THROUGH THE SUBMISSION OF THE GENEEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE UPCOMING PUBLICATION, PETER RUFFNER AND HIS DESCENDANTS , 69 NEW NAMES AND ADDRESSES HAVE BEEN GENERATED. SHOULD WE CREATE A LETTER OF INVITATION TO PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS SO THAT THEY BECOME OFFICIAL, DUES-PAYING MEMBERS AND THEN RECEIVE A R.R.R. NEWSLETTER?

HAVING REPORTED THE MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS, FURTHER DISCUSSION OF MEMBERSHIP WILL COME UNDER "NEW BUSINESS".

TREASURER'S REPORT-----

THERE ARE TWO R.F.A. FUNDS:
MONUMENTS = \$3,268.00
GENERAL ACCOUNT
(DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS) = \$2,129.27

\$5,397.27

THE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SCHOLARSHIP DONATION (FROM CONTRIBUTIONS) WAS PUT INTO THE GENERAL FUND AND THE AMOUNT OF \$1,120.00 WAS PRESENTED TO THEM AT THEIR FAMILY REUNION THE WEEK-END BEFORE THIS BOARD MEETING. IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE R.F.A. CONTINUE TO ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR THE B.T.W. SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND A R.F.A. REPRESENTATIVE WILL DELIVER THE AMOUNT TO THE B.T.W.FAMILY AT THEIR NEXT REUNION IN MAULDEN, W. VA. IN 2002. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

FURTHER, THE R.F.A. BOARD WISHES TO DISCUSS UNDER NEW BUSINESS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN THE NAME OF DR. HENRY RUFFNER AT WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY (WHERE HE WAS PRESIDENT WHEN IT WAS WASHINGTON COLLEGE). THIS SCHOLARSHIP WOULD BENEFIT A STUDENT OF THE R.F.A.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:

- SHOULD THE R.F.A. ACCOUNTS (DUES, CONTRIBUTIONS, ETC.) CONTINUE TO BE HELD IN DENVER, COLORADO OR BE MOVED TO LURAY, VA.
- SHOULD THE R.F.A. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR THE I.R.S. BE IN LURAY, VA.
- SHOULD THE R.F.A. TREASURER BE FROM LURAY, VA. IF THE ACCOUNTS ARE HELD THERE, WHILE OTHER OFFICERS CAN BE FROM ANY STATE?

PRESIDENT SAM MC NEELY APPOINTED BOB SHEETS, JOAN RUFFNER REID, JOE RUFFNER AND ELISABETH RUFFNER TO DELIBERATE ON WAYS TO RESOLVE WHERE THE R.F.A. ACCOUNTS SHOULD BE HELD AND- SINCE BANKING CAN BE DONE ELECTRONICLY FROM ANY LOCATION- IF THE R.F.A. TREASURER NEEDS TO BE FROM LURAY, VA.

CEMETERY RESOTRATION-----

DURING OUR 1999 REUNION IN OHIO, A COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED TO COMPILE AND MAINTAIN CEMETERY AND MONUMENTS RECORDS RELATING TO RUFFNER ANCESTORS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS. SOME BURIALS ARE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THESE BUT WE SHOULD DOCUMENT WHO IS BURIED THERE. PRESIDENT SAM MC NEELY PROPOSED SOME OF US GOING TO SOME CEMETERY LOCATIONS TO WORK ON MAINTENANCE AND DOCUMENTATION AND FURTHER PROPOSED THAT WE DEDICATE A SPECIAL R.R.R.NEWSLETTER EDITION TO INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT. BOB SHEETS SUGGESTED THAT A FUTURE PUBLICATION BE DONE ON RUFFNER MONUMENTS AND CEMETERIES. ADDITIONALLY, WE COULD INCLUDE RUFFNER HOMES AROUND THE COUNTRY. DISCUSSION ENSUED AS TO THE PROBLEMS SURROUNDING EASEMENTS, LOCAL LAWS, PRIVATE OWNERSHIP - ALL CONCERNS WHICH WOULD NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN DOCUMENTING PROPERTIES IN SUCH A PUBLICATION, IE. WE WOULD NOT WANT TO INFRINGE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS BY IDENTIFYING PLACES WHICH PEOPLE MIGHT THEN WANT TO CHECK OUT ON THEIR OWN. FRED RUFFNER INDICATED THAT HE HAS LISTED 25 OR 30 LOCATIONS NAMED AFTER RUFFNERS. ELISABETH RUFFNER STATED THAT THE DOCUMENTATION AND PRESERVATION OF RUFFNER SITES AND CEMETERIES WILL BE HELPFUL IN OBTAINING NON-PROFIT STATUS FROM THE I.R.S. THE COAL COMPANY IN MAULDEN, W. VA. WILL PROVIDE LABOR AND MACHINERY TO PRESERVE AND IMPROVE THE VERY OVERGROWN CONDITION OF THE RUFFNER BURIALS. PRESIDENT SAM IS WORKING ON THIS CEMETERY THIS FALL. JOE RUFFNER PRESENTED THE BOARD WITH A BOOK ABOUT CAVE HILL CEMETERY, WHERE VIOLA RUFFNER AND SOME OF THE RUFFNER CHILDREN ARE BURIED. (VIOLA IS OUR ORIGINAL LINK TO BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, AND NOW HIS FAMILY.)

NEWSLETTER-----

SEE JOAN RUFFNER REID'S REPORT (ATTACHED)

OF THE 380 APPROXIMATELY SENT OUT, 102 ARE SENT TO DUES-PAYING MEMBERS OF THE R.F.A. AND COPIES ARE DONATED TO EDUCATIONAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND LIBRARIES. THE B.T.W. FAMILY IS ALSO ON OUR MAILING LIST AND ARE VERY IMPRESSED WITH IT. THE COST OF THE NEWSLETTER IS PAID FROM THE GENERAL FUND (DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS.)

NEWSLETTER REPORT

Ruffner Roots & Ramblings

June 2000

Since June of 1999, we have published three issues of the RR&R and a total of seven issues since its inception in 1997. We continue to receive favorable comments, however interest may have already peaked in the newsletter. During the first two years, we were receiving regular inquiries, but these are now few and far between. The time has probably come to be more aggressive in the RR&R's promotion to boost membership and recognition of the Association. One suggestion, from Joe Ruffner, would be to have the newsletter listed as a topic on the Ruffner Web Site conceived and managed by Dan Ruffner (son of Ernest Ruffner). This topic would encompass an entire page of the web site with a description, its role as a membership benefit, brief past articles and features, and what is coming up in future issues. Suggestions from the Board of Directors and members of the Editorial Board for RR&R are urged.

Deadline Dates for 2000

Summer Issue Copy Deadline - July 15/Publication Date - August 15

Fall Issue Copy Deadline - September 15/Publication Date - October 15

Winter Issue Copy Deadline - November 15/Publication Date - December 15

*—big & good photo of board members
in ed. issue w/ descend. info*

Content for Summer Issue

Many of the activities taking place this month will be featured in the Summer Issue, e.g., the Booker T. Washington Family Reunion; the Eleanor, WV 65th Anniversary Celebration; the Annual Meeting of the RFA Board of Directors, and the Publications Committee meeting.

Others will be a continuation of Joe Ruffner's "Trekking thru Ohio, WV and VA" and the final series of the "History of the Ruffner Family of Kanawha," with selected short subjects. Even though the next issue will come out after July 4th, I would like to include the "Tribute to the United States" submitted by Sally Spangler. Since this article had already been published on the Internet, I would assume there would be no copyright infringement.

Content for Future Issues

We have received some excellent input from members for future issues ~

- History of the West Virginia churches in which Henry Ruffner played a significant role.
- Portraits of Colonel Henry Daniel Ruffner and his wife, Sarah Athela Patrick Ruffner.

*who
pays
for*

- "Treasures of Life" submitted by Barbara Burner.
- "Genealogy Humor" submitted by Barbara Burner.

Starting with the Fall Issue, we will begin extensive promotion of the 2001 Reunion. One article I would like to feature would be the activities planned for the younger generation. Trena Ruffner has sent some delightful photos of her grandson taken at the last reunion.

A continuing feature will be the "What Is It" "Where Is It" article. If anyone has a photo and history they would like to share - please do.

A new feature being considered is to profile members of the association - starting with members of the Board of Directors. Yes, this is a request for all of you to participate if possible. We would need your bio and a good photo. I would also like to extend this to a profile of one of your ancestors (photo not absolutely necessary) on the facing page. In other words, a look at the past and the present. Once we get this started, a personal invitation in the newsletter would be extended to all readers for their input.

As always, the Editor and Board of RR&R welcome all suggestions for features you would like to see in "your newsletter."

Cataloguing

I received a call from Craig Bickle, Genealogy Librarian, State Library of Ohio, who will be cataloguing the RR&R. He is anxious to receive all future issues for their records. The State Library will be moving some time this year to a new, more accessible location. For years, it has been housed in one of the State office buildings in downtown Columbus with scarce parking. The new location just north of downtown on Fourth Street in the old Jeffrey Mining & Manufacturing Building will give them much needed room. In fact, I have heard they plan to expand their research facilities. This is good news for all Ohioans.

In Conclusion

I wish to thank each and every member of the Board of Directors for their input in the newsletter. I look forward to working with all on future issues.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan (Ruffner) Reid, Editor

PUBLICATIONS-----

FRED RUFFNER REPORTED ON THE UPDATED VERSION OF THE BOOK, PETER RUFFNER AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

- PUBLICATION WILL COST APPROX. \$50,000.00 OR MORE
- IT WILL BE 2 VOLUMES AND APPROX. 1,000 PAGES
- THERE WILL BE 99 COPIES OF A LIMITED, DELUXE EDITION PRINTED AND BOUND ON 300 YEAR, ACID-FREE PAPER WITH A SLIPCOVER. IT WILL BE SIGNED BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.
- BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOS IN THE STANDARD EDITION WILL BE IN COLOR IN THE DELUXE EDITION AND THERE WILL BE A NUMBERED BOOK PLATE,
- 99 DELUXE COPIES WILL BE SOLD AT \$500.00 EACH TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PUBLICATION. A SHOW OF HANDS AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD INDICATED THEY WOULD PURCHASE BETWEEN 25 AND 30 COPIES.
- WHEN WE ARE TAX EXEMPT, YOU MAY BUY A COPY OF THE BOOK AT \$100.00 AND YOU RECEIVE A TAX DEDUCTION BY DONATING IT TO A HISTORICAL SOCIETIES OR UNIVERSITY.
- WE NEED TO ESTABLISH A CONSENSUS AS TO PETER'S ORIGIN FOR THE OPENING OF THE BOOK. THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE WILL CREATE SUCH A STATEMENT AND BRING IT TO THE BOARD.
- THE WORKING TITLE SUGGESTED BY THE BOARD IS:

SWISS FAMILY RUFFNER IN AMERICA:
THE ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF
PETER AND MARY (STEINMEN) RUFFNER

THIS TITLE WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL AT THE 2001 REUNION IN LURAY, VA.

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED BY THE BOARD THAT THE NEW EDITION BE DEDICATED TO OLIVE TAYLOR RUFFNER AND DORIS LAVER RUFFNER, WITH DOCUMENTATION ON HOW THEY COMPILED THE ORIGINAL 1966 EDITION. BOB SHEETS PASSED AROUND SEVERAL BOOKS AND MAGAZINES ABOUT THE HISTORY OF AREAS AND FAMILIES WHICH OTHERS HAVE PUBLISHED. DISCUSSION FOLLOWED REGARDING FORMATS FOR COMPILING INFORMATION IN THE 2001 EDITION.

REUNION 2001-----

THE NEXT R.F.A REUNION WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 15 - 17 IN LURAY, VA. WITH A GENELOGICAL WORKSHOP ON THE 14TH. IT WAS SUGGESTED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD THAT A CONTINUING AWARD BE MADE FOR THE OLDEST MEMBER OF THE R.F.A. THEY WOULD BE A "DIRECTOR EMERITUS" AND BE GIVEN A SILVER BOWL. RECOGNITION WILL ALSO BE GIVEN FOR THE OLDEST MEMBERS OF THE R.F.A. AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ATTENDING REUNIONS THE LONGEST. IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT WE REVIVE THE TRADITION BEGAN AT EARLIER REUNIONS TO DRAW ON BUICHER PAPER THE LINES FROM PETER AND MARY AND THEIR CHILDREN SO THAT WE CAN SIGN OUR NAMES UNDER OUR DESCENDANT. IN THIS WAY WE CAN SEE WHO WE ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO, AND WE CAN VISIT AND HAVE OUR PHOTOS TAKEN WITH OUR LINE. IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT WE HAVE REUNION T-SHIRTS AND THAT EACH BRANCH HAS A DIFFERENT COLOR---"BE PART OF THE RUFFNER RAINBOW". SHOULD THIS COST BE INCLUDED IN THE COST OF REGISTRATION, OR SEPERATE. WE DON'T WANT TO MAKE IT TOO EXPENSIVE FOR FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH SEVERAL CHILDREN.

WE WANT TO BE SURE AN INCLUDE THINGS FOR THE KIDS TO DO AT REUNION. NOT ONLY DO WE ENJOY SEEING THESE KIDS GROW UP - LIKE GARY'S DAUGHTER, WHO WAS NINE DAYS OLD WHEN SHE CAME TO THE VERY FIRST REUNION IN MASON, IL. - BUT THEY ARE THE FUTURE OF THESE FAMILY REUNIONS. WE'RE HOPING THE PAGE HERITAGE ASSN. AND BETTY BOUTEN GRUBBS WILL HOLD A CLASS AT MASSANUTTEN LIKE IT WAS A CENTURY OR MORE AGO. SAM'S DAUGHTER (NOW IN GERMANY) IS WORKING ON A COLORING BOOK WHICH WOULD INCLUDE FAMILY HISTORY.

DISCUSSION INCLUDED THE USE OF THE RUFFNER HOUSE FOR AN EVENT DURING THE REUNION. JELLYSTONE HAS A PAVILLION FOR OUR SUNDAY PICNIC AS WELL AS THINGS FOR THE KIDS TO DO. A TRIP TO LEXINGTON WAS DISCUSSED BECAUSE OF THE DR. HENRY RUFFNER CONNECTION, ET. AL. BUT IT MAY BE TOO FAR TO GO IN THE TIME WE HAVE. EDUCATION WAS SUGGESTED AS A THEME FOR THE REUNION AND FRIDAY NIGHT'S DINNER COULD BE DONE AT THE LOCAL SCHOOL WITH THE BANQUET PREPARED BY THE SCHOOL COOKS. SAM AND NANCY WILL CHECK ON WHETHER THE SCHOOL WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE WHOLE REUNION RATHER THAN USING A LOCAL HOTEL.

THE PROGRAM FOR FRIDAY EVENING COULD INCLUDE A LOCAL "JUG" BAND LIKE WE HAD AT THE SUNDAY PICNIC AT THE LAKE WHEN WE HAD THE LAST REUNION IN LURAY. MELISSA RUFFNER WILL PRESENT A SLIDE SHOW ON BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, ENDING WITH THE REUNION WE SHARED WITH HIS DESCENDANTS.

WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE DEDICATION OF A PLAQUE OR PLAQUES AT RUFFNER SITES, FOR EXAMPLE ON RUEBEN RUFFNER'S CABIN. THERE IS ALSO NO PLAQUE\STONE FOR TOBIAS RUFFNER WHO WAS THE FIRST RUFFNER TO DIE IN AMERICA AND WHO WAS THE FIRST TO BE BURIED AT THE RUFFNER HOUSE SITE. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT AN ARTICLE ABOUT WHO TOBIAS WAS BE PUT IN THE R.R.R. NEWSLETTER.

THE B.T.W. FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO PUT UP A DISPLAY ON B.T.W. AND VIOLA RUFFNER DURING OUR REUNION. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DISPLAY AND SALES TABLES AS WELL. IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT WE WAIT UNTIL THE 2001 REUNION TO COMPLETE THE COMPILATION OF THE NEW EDITION AND THAT A TABLE BE SET UP TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT, HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORMS, ANSWER QUESTIONS, ETC.

SUNDAY WE WILL BE HAVING ANOTHER AUCTION AND MELISSA RUFFNER HAS AGAIN AGREED TO FACILITATE THIS ENJOYABLE FUND RAISER FOR OUR FAMILY ASSN. WE NEED ITEMS MAILED TO LURAY BEFORE THE REUNION ALONG WITH ANY DESCRIPTIVE INFO - ESPECIALLY POPULAR ARE ITEMS WHICH HAVE A RUFFNER FAMILY CONNECTION. ITEMS MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT TO THE REUNION AND GIVEN TO MELISSA ON FRIDAY. IT HAS ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED THAT WE HAVE A SILENT AUCTION FOR MORE VALUABLE ITEMS AS WELL AS LOTS OF OTHER THINGS TO BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER...AND THE PRICES OFTEN INCREASE AS EXCITEMENT HEIGHTENS. WATCH THE R.R.R. NEWSLETTER FOR REMINDERS AND MORE INFO ABOUT THE AUCTION.

TUESDAY MORNING THE R.F.A. BOARD RECONVENED AND DISCUSSION WAS CONTINUED ON STANDARDIZING THE FORMAT OF THE GENELOGICAL FORMS TO COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THE NEW EDITION OF THE RUFFNER BOOK. UNTIL SOME FORM OF STANDARDIZATION OF THE INFORMATION IS AGREED UPON, THE PUBLICATION PROCESS - PAST THE INITIAL COLLECTION OF THE SURVEY INFO - CANNOT AND WILL NOT PROCEED.

MEMBERSHIP REVISIONS WERE DISCUSSED. PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS SHOULD BE SENT A LETTER OF WELCOME AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN R.F.A. ALONG WITH A FLYER OUTLINING BENEFITS. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIP FEES WERE RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD:

SINGLE = \$20.00
FAMILY/SAME ADDRESS = \$30.00
STUDENT = \$10.00
LIFETIME = \$500.00

THE BY-LAWS OF THE R.F.A. STATES THAT THE BOARD MAY CONDUCT BUSINESS OF THE ASSN. WITHOUT RATIFICATION BY THE FULL MEMBERSHIP. THE ABOVE INCREASES WILL BE AGREED UPON UNANIMOUSLY BY THE BOARD AND WILL BE EFFECTIVE BEGINNING IN 2001. INFORMATION ON DUES INCREASES WILL APPEAR IN THE R.R.R. NEWSLETTER AND AFTER AN EXTENDED PERIOD, REQUEST FOR PAYMENT WILL BE MAILED. IF NOT PAID, NEWSLETTER WILL BE DISCONTINUED BUT REUNION INFO WILL BE SENT. AT THIS TIME, DUES ARE PAYABLE JANUARY 1, 2001 FOR THE YEAR.

ON THE QUESTION OF INCREASING THE MEMBERSHIP BASE AND TO PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP, JOE RUFFNER HAS DESIGNED A FLYER. JOAN REID RUFFNER WILL KEEP A DATA BASE ON HER COMPUTER OF ALL PAID MEMBERS, FOLLOWING THE FORMAT USED BY BOB SHEETS. SARA RUFFNER LYTLE WAS APPOINTED AS MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN FOR THE EASTERN U.S. AND MELISSA RUFFNER FOR THE WESTERN U.S. THE DIVISION OF THESE TWO REGIONS WILL BE THE MISSISSIPPI, BASED ON ACTUAL AND PROJECTED POPULATION. CO-CHAIRS LYTLE AND RUFFNER WILL BE RECOMMENDED TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND ACCEPTED OR REJECTED AT THE NEXT BOARD ELECTION AT THE 2001 REUNION. IT WAS FURTHER ORDERED THAT UNTIL THAT TIME, THE CO-CHAIRS WILL OPERATE ON AN APPOINTED BASIS.

PRESIDENT SAM MC NEELY APPOINTED JOE RUFFNER, BOB SHEETS, SARA LYTLE AND BARB BURNER TO RECOMMEND A SLATE OF OFFICERS TO THE BOARD AT THEIR MEETING DURING THE 2001 REUNION.

BOB SHEETS ANNOUNCED THAT HE NEEDS TO RESIGN AS TREASURER. NANCY SCHIFFLET RUFFNER VOLUNTEERED TO ACT AS TREASURER UNTIL THE BOARD ELECTION AT THE 2001 REUNION. ESTABLISHING THE R.F.A. ACCOUNT IN A LURAY, VA. BANK SEEMS ADVISABLE DUE TO THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. PRESIDENT MC NEELY WILL ACT AS CO-SIGNER FOR THE PRESENT.

GARY RUFFNER, WHO CREATED THE RUFFNER FAMILY ASSN. GOLF SHIRT, WAS APPOINTED SALES AND MERCHANDISING COORD. ALL INCOME - ABOVE THE COST TO THE PERSON WHO CREATES A PROJECT - MUST BE REMITTED TO GARY. ANY ITEMS FOR SALE AT R.F.A. REUNIONS OR TO ANY R.F.A. MEMBER MUST BE "PURPOSE RELATED" AS PER NON-PROFIT STATUS, IE. NOT FOR THE PERSONAL BENEFIT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL. GARY REPORTED THAT OF THE \$100.00 PROFIT FROM THE SALES OF THE R.F.A. GOLF SHIRTS, HE DONATED \$35.00 TO THE B.T.W. FUND AND \$65.00 FOR CEMETERY RESTORATION.

THE BOARD DISCUSSED LOCATIONS FOR THE 2003 R.F.A. REUNION. THEY INCLUDED:

EFFINGHAM, IL., DUE TO THE PROXIMITY TO RUFFNER - LEITCH HISTORY

PRESCOTT, AZ. BECAUSE IT WOULD BE THE 10TH ANN. OF THE (2ND) REUNION THERE (1993) AND THERE ARE RUFFNER HISTORICAL SITES AND BURIALS. ALL REUNIONS SINCE HAVE BEEN HELD IN THE SOUTH OR MID WEST.

FAIRFIELD, OH. TO HELP CELEBRATE THE 200TH ANN. OF THE OPENING OF OHIO. MARTIN RUFFNER WAS MASSACRED AND HIS DESCENDANTS LOST TO OTHER FAMILY. A SURVEY RELOCATED MANY IN IL.

THE GRANDFATHER OF GEORGE RUFFNER (WHO HELPED BEGIN THE CURRENT RUFFNER FAMILY REUNIONS) INVENTED THE FIRST REVERSIBLE HARROW AND AGRICULTURE HAS BEEN VERY IMPORTANT TO OUR FAMILY IN ALL PLACES AND TIMES SO A REUNION WITH THIS THEME, PERHAPS WHERE THE REVERSIBLE HARROW WAS INVENTED, COULD PULL TOGETHER HOW OUR ANCESTORS LIVED, DAY TO DAY, AS WELL AS EXPERIENCES FOR THE KIDS, ETC.

THE BOARD DISCUSSED OUR 2002 (NON-REUNION) MEETING AND IT WAS SUGGESTED BY MELISSA RUFFNER THAT SINCE OUR FAMILY HAS BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE B.I.W. FAMILY AT THEIR REUNION IN MAULDEN (NEAR CHARLESTON), WEST. VA. WE SHOULD HOLD OUR R.F.A. BOARD MEETING THERE RIGHT AFTER, AS WE HAVE DONE THIS YEAR.

JOE RUFFNER ANNOUNCED THAT THERE IS A RUFFNER WEB PAGE. DAN RUFFNER PAYS FOR IT BUT DOES NOT WANT TO BE THE WEB MASTER. DISCUSSION WAS TABLED ON THIS SUBJECT UNTIL THE BOARD MEETING AT THE 2001 REUNION.

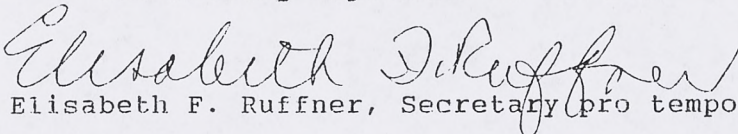
THE R,F,A, BOARD ADJOURNED AT 12:10

Endowment Fund - Joseph Ruffner
Finance - Robert Sheets - copy attached
Membership - Melissa Ruffner
Publications - Joseph Ruffner, Fred Ruffner
Tax Exemption - Elisabeth Ruffner
Website - K. Daniel Ruffner

Discussion was held on the committee activities, with a motion made, seconded and carried to approve the creation of an endowment fund under Joseph Ruffner. Elisabeth Ruffner was authorized to review the mission statement to reflect our intention to adopt a broader public purpose in order to qualify for tax exempt status.

Upon an invitation tendered by Melissa Ruffner, the board established the next reunion to be held the third weekend in June, 2003 in Prescott, Arizona.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.


Elisabeth F. Ruffner, Secretary pro tempore