

# Family Tree Newsletter

THE COLEMAN-FEASTER-MOBLEY FAMILY ASSOCIATION

1926 Old Blair Rd Blair South Carolina 29015

August 24, 2012

## 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual C-F-M Reunion

**REUNION DATE FOR THE 72<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL COLEMAN – FEASTER - MOBLEY FAMILY REUNION IS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6-7, 2012.**

## **NEW MARKER FOR ANTIOCH CHURCH**

The Antioch Church and Cemetery have a new roadside marker. Donated, manufactured, and installed by the Carrington Family of Elberton, Georgia. The marker is the work of Janet Crowder Carrington and her son James Carrington.



## **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS CLEAN-UP DAY**

We need your help. Saturday, September 29. This is the weekend before the reunion. Bring your own lunch and get there around 9:00 a.m.

We need many volunteers to get the Boarding House, the School, and Liberty Church ready for our meetings. These buildings have spent a year waiting on us to get back to them, and through no fault of their own, they need some cleaning up.

Clean-up day is also when the registration tent gets put up. This is about a 30 minute job for 3 to 4 people. Other tasks include inventory of supplies, fire ant control, and so on.

Don't let distance be an excuse. We routinely have help coming from Florida and North Carolina.

## **NEED HELP WITH RESEARCH ON LAGRANGE CEMETERY IN TITUSVILLE, FLORIDA**

Ron Chicone has been doing some research on the Feasters and Colemans in the Lagrange Cemetery in Titusville, Florida and is hoping someone out there can point him to some good resources. Andrew Feaster (son of John Feaster who built the Boarding House may be the oldest burial there (1869), and was one of the founding members of the adjacent Lagrange Church. There are other Feasters and Colemans in the cemetery. Ron wants to find out about Feasters and Colemans that moved from Feasterville to Titusville. In George Washington Coleman's 1925 diary, he writes about visiting the cemetery and time spent in Titusville. Ron will be at the Reunion again this year, and will surely have the walking trail to the spring in good shape, as he always does.

## **THE SEARCH FOR FORT WAGNER by Steven White**

My family, or extended family, the Dickeys, owned the land on which Fort Wagner is thought to have resided. As a boy, I trekked all over the environs of the fort. But I was led to believe that no traces of the fort were still to be found at that time. So I did not make any concerted effort to find its remains.

I learned that about 14 years ago, Mike Harden followed a branch from Fort Wagner Road down to Beaver Creek. There he found the remains of an old dam and also found some relics with a metal-detector. Hans Wagner was a miller and is said to have built a dam across Beaver Creek in order to drive his mill. Mike also reported seeing some trenches that he thought might have been where the stockade's wall was.

Terry Easler, who now owns my mother's former land, and I visited, on July 4, 2012, the area where this branch flows into Beaver Creek. The branch does not flow directly into the creek, but turns south and flows near the creek for quite a ways before it finally joins the creek. At the point where the two streams actually converge today, we did not see anything we thought was a dam nor did we see any trenches. It's possible the stream bed has changed in the 14 years since Mike was there. Or possibly Mike was describing the area where the two streams come near each other and the branch turns.

About a hundred yards or so down Beaver Creek, at the northeast corner of his property where it bounds the lands of Pinkey Dickey Dukes and the former lands of Mr. Jim Coleman, we found what appeared to be a dam extending at least 100-150 feet on the east side of Beaver Creek. It was no more than two to three feet higher than the surrounding land. Undoubtedly, the land has filled in around it since the dam was built. Bryan Greer also describes having seen this dam. Although there is no trace of the dam in the present stream-bed, Bryan reports that the dam extends onto the west bank and then forms an L-shaped section. We think now that this could be the remains of Hans Wagner's dam.

And there is evidence that the fort was not right at the junction of the branch and Beaver Creek. I have two other accounts which indicate that the fort was some ways back to the west of Beaver Creek. Henrietta Rosson Morton went with Curtis Boulware to a site that she is convinced was the site of the fort. She indicated that it was a ways back to the west of the creek and slightly south of a logging road that comes in to Terry Easler's property from Highway 215.

During the visit to the land by Terry Easler and I on July 4, 2012, in which we attempted to locate the site of the fort, we encountered thick undergrowth due to the clear cutting and the stage of the forest. There is a flat ridge about 300 years west of Beaver Creek which would have been a good place for a fort. But we were unable to locate the site of the fort in any of the areas that we visited on the ridge that were clear of underbrush. We hope to go back during the winter months when the undergrowth should not be quite so thick. We would like to take a good number of volunteers and sweep the land, so far as possible, between this ridge and the creek in hopes of finding a site that corresponds to the description given by D. B. Clayton and others who have seen the site.

## **RECOGNIZING THE WORK CREWS OF THE REUNION**

Every Reunion has an experienced and dedicated crew of workers who make the various and necessary pieces fit together. Harry Jeter and Billy Hendrix get volunteers and set out tables and chairs. Sally Garner makes sure that the tea is made, and that plates and utensils are in place. Michael Blair provides ice. Teddi Miles runs the registration desk. Allison Blair sets out the Communion elements. Ted Morton leads the church service and Henrietta Morton plays piano. James Green is host of the genealogy exhibits at the school building. Probably left some names out.

## **RV CAMPING AVAILABLE ON THE BOARDING HOUSE GROUNDS**

A small number of potable water and electrical hook-ups are available on the northern side of the Boarding House. The electrical receptacles are of the RV type. There is also plenty of flat ground for pitching tents.

## **SEARCH FOR SITE OF FORT WAGNER**

The search for the actual site of Fort Wagner continues currently with a determined effort by some of our friends and relatives. Using historical documents and maps, and modern topo maps, this group has started covering the ground around Beaver Creek and Reedy Branch. The members of this group, which seems to be growing in size, include Bryan Greer, Pelham Lyles, James Green, Steven White, Kenneth Shelton, Mark Waggoner, and Mike Harden.



The inscription reads:

**FORT WAGNER**  
Site one mile east of junction of Beaver Creek and Reedy Branch. Built in 1760 by Hans Wagner as a refuge from the Cherokee Indians.

Richard Winn DAR 1938

## **SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Salem Presbyterian Church, located on Hwy 215 several miles south of Feasterville and less than a mile north of Salem Crossroads, will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday, October 21, 2012. This church is active with many descendents and relatives of the Coleman, Feaster, and Mobley lines.

## **SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION**

This issue of the newsletter includes a donation envelope for an easy and convenient way to support your C-F-M Family Association. There are routine expenses that occur and reoccur throughout the year and from year to year, and then there are the occasional major expenses that come about more randomly. All have to be handled in order for our properties to be maintained. Don't forget, we have five old buildings, three cemeteries, and a fairly new shelter. And several acres of grounds around the buildings.

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### Association Officers and Committee Members

- President ..... Ronnie Feaster, 560 Coldstream Dr, Columbia SC 29212
- Vice President ..... Dru Blair, 2592 Buckhead Rd, Blair SC 29015
- Secretary ..... Kim Noonan, 392 St. Thomas Church Rd, Chapin SC 29036
- Treasurer ..... Teddi M. Miles, 167 Rutledge Rd, Greenwood SC 29649
- Chaplain ..... Ted R. Morton, Jr., 167 Rutledge Rd, Greenwood SC 29649
- Genealogist ..... James W. Green, III, 285 Agnew Rd, Winnsboro SC 29180
- Historian ..... Henrietta Rosson Morton, 167 Rutledge Rd, Greenwood SC 29649
- Webmaster ..... Nancy Jo Ross Smith, PO Box 295, Pleasant Garden NC 27313
- Past President ..... Preston H. Coleman, 392 St. Thomas Church Rd, Chapin SC 29036
- Trustees ..... Frank Blair, Henrietta Rosson Morton, Feaster S. Coleman, Jr.
- Newsletter Editor ..... Robert C. Blair, Jr., 1926 Old Blair Rd, Blair SC 29015

Nominating Committee: Isabel Alexander, John L. Feaster

Communion Arrangements: Wylie Parham, Allison Blair

Picnic Arrangements: Harry Jeter (Chairman), Michael Blair, Billy Hendrix, Jr., Sally Garner, Teddi Miles

Cemetery Committee: Frank Blair (Chairman), John Collins, Nancy Jo Ross Smith, Val Green

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