

2013

DuVal Family News

*A Corporation Established in Virginia in 1999 by and for
the Descendants of Huguenot Daniel DuVal*

Current News:

Dues and Getting in
Touch with You

New Way To Pay Dues
PayPal

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The News, the Dues and Getting in Touch with You

When was the last time you heard from the DFA? At the very least, it should have been a year ago in November, when I sent out the last newsletter.

Unfortunately a number of the newsletters were returned, either because of a bad postal or email address.

The DFA needs your help in several ways.

- 1) Have you paid your dues?
- 2) Did you receive the last newsletter?
- 3) Did you receive your newsletter in the format you expected and wanted?
- 4) Could you check with other DFA members you know to make sure they received the newsletter?

Here's some help. **DFA members now owe dues for next year.**

Dues: Individual members (Active, Associate, and Allied) \$10

Family members (couples with children 18 and under) \$25 (but please let us know about any new children)

The DFA has a new treasurer, Deana Snow, who was the DFA Historian before.

Payments can be made in two ways:

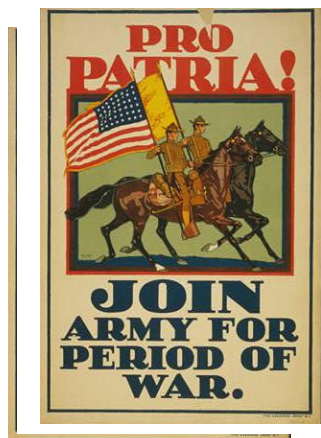
Mail a check to Deana Snow:

Deana Snow
P.O. Box 112
Smiths Grove, KY 42171

Or send a PayPal transfer to Deana at

duval1701@aol.com

In either case, tell her what it's for and how you'd like to receive your newsletter - a paper or email copy. Also if you're paying for a family, please let her know who you are paying for with children's birthdates. If you didn't receive the last newsletter and would like a copy let us know that, too.



"Let's honor some who might otherwise be forgotten"

Pro Patria

The DuVal Family motto is "Pro Patria" and our family members have lived and died in many ways that support that motto.

As your newsletter editor, I want to honor Daniel's descendants in each issue, based on when conflicts ended.

If you or someone in your family line have served our country please contact me to make sure they're honored for their service.

Until then, please help honor some who may be otherwise forgotten such as two who served in WW1 and spent the rest of their lives in Veterans Hospitals - Russell P Morris (S) who lived for over 50 years in VA Hospitals and Benjamin Hamilton Bowden (D) who spent the remaining 41 years of his life in VA hospitals, and Major Albert Payne DuVal USA (D), a career military officer who was given a military funeral and buried 52 years after his death when his unclaimed

remains were discovered in a Missouri funeral home.

Support our VA hospitals and honor the military warriors there.

Support Lost In America as they give lost military veterans the honorary funerals to which they are entitled.

Check out the Eight-Eighties!
(<http://www.woundedwarriorsteam.com/880s.html>)

Pro Patria!

DuVal Coat of Arms Pins Now Available

Over the years, DuVal descendants have expressed pride in their heritage through the DuVal Coat of Arms with paintings, rings, tattoos and more.

If you'd like an enameled pin of the DuVal Family Coat of Arms, here's your opportunity for only \$7 including postage.

The pins work well as tie tacks, and tiny scarf and

brooch pins.

All but the wholesale cost and postage goes to the DFA.

If you are interested, please specify curly (on the left) or shield (on the right). Curly is more limited.

DuVal cousins got these pins at the Texas Reunion, but if you'd like some too, please contact me.



Sarah DuVal

POB 153

Adairville, KY 42202-0153

(270) 282-3550

sarahduval@hotmail.com

DuVal Family Trivia Challenge - Win a DuVal Coat of Arms Pin

- What DuVal family line forged three of the original trails to Oregon, including the Meeks Trail? William, Samuel, Benjamin or Daniel?
- Which DuVal family line stood up for a member of the James Gang? OR which DuVal descendant helped route the Dalton Gang?'
- Name a DuVal descendant who helped recreate Williamsburg, Virginia and their line. (There is more than one)

- Name the DuVal descendant line of the first poet laureate of Virginia.

The top 5 people who can answer these tough questions most, best and first will receive a DuVal COA pin, compliments of the editor.

This means you don't have to answer all the questions, or all the questions correctly, just the best in the top five I receive.

Contest ends February 14, 2014.

So you have plenty of time. But don't wait – if you know, answer quickly.

Winners and answers in the next newsletter.

Email, call or write Sarah – see contact information above.

When Silver Trumps Gold – Scouts and Astronauts

There have been many DuVal family members who have served and been a part of Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Guides and other similar organizations. (For example read on in our newsletter about new member Hannah). Gertrude Howard Olmsted McCormick (S) was a prominent member of the National Girl Scouts Advisory Board for decades and Ellen Warren Taylor Woodside (S) supported the Campfire Guides.

Over the years, the Boy Scout Association has honored adults who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self sacrifice, dedication and many years of service. The awards are given to those who do not actively seek it.

The Silver Beaver is given at a Council level and the Silver Antelope is given at a Regional level.

Here are some DuVal family members who have received these awards:



John Edward Duval Baskette Jr (S)

Nancy Burton Braswell *Holderness* (B)

Ford Walker Heacock Jr (S)

Dr. William Carroll LaHue (D)

James Willis Mott (W)

BSA Silver Beaver



Walter Duane Aspley (S)

BSA Silver Antelope

The Silver Snoopy – John Bennett Lee (S) - WW2 and Neil Armstrong

John Bennett Lee and his twin brother enlisted at 18 to fight during WW2.

John earned his Wings at 19 as a Fighter Pilot and before age 22 escorted B-17 and B-24 Bombers in High Altitude Missions during 52 combat missions. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross, six Air Medals and the three battle Stars, but his most treasured award was yet to come - twenty years later.

After WW2, John earned a degree in mechanical engineering with additional courses in aeronautical engineering.

He was one of the first people President Eisenhower assigned to the Mercury Space Task Group.

It soon became a tradition for astronauts to give a "Silver Snoopy" to the member of their team they most appreciated.

After Commander Neil Armstrong became the first person to step foot on the moon, he awarded his Silver Snoopy to John Bennett Lee.

"One giant leap for mankind" - thanks in part to John Bennett Lee.

For more fascinating information about John Bennett Lee, go to http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/history/oral_histories/LeeJB/leejb.htm



Elephants and the DuVal Family

"An elephant trainer should have a strong back, a weak mind and a savage disposition."



William Woodcock and Lulu

When Jenette DuVal Messer (S) died in Portales New Mexico in 1904 nine days after giving birth to her fifth child, her husband Methodist minister John Henry Messer made a decision that may have affected you too if you've ever seen a performing elephant in the United States since 1921.

Faced with raising four sons on a minister's uncertain income, he allowed a prosperous couple, Charles and Mattie Woodcock to adopt his newborn, William. They named him William Howard Woodcock.

Charles Woodcock, a prosperous but asthmatic merchant and his family frequently travelled to help Charles' medical problem and took their son to the entertainments most often available – the theatre

and the circus.

The circus entranced William. He saw a show with elephants at age 6 and ran away to join the circus in his teens. As a result his parents put him in a military academy in Bethpage, Tennessee.

Again he ran away and joined the circus – this time for the rest of his life. He married Sarah Orton, granddaughter of Hugh Orton who started his first circus in 1854. She was known for saying that "My family was in the circus when the Ringling brothers were still wearing wooden shoes." He started working with elephants at age 17 and over the next four decades trained over 125.

All performing elephants seen in the United States since 1921, whether in a circus, on television or in a movie were most likely trained by William Woodcock or his son.

Although William told his son that an elephant trainer should have "a strong back, a weak mind, and a savage disposition." they are both remembered as very intelligent and kind.

In 1995, his son was inducted into the Circus Hall of Fame in Peru, Indiana, and in 1997, into the Circus Ring of Fame in Sarasota, Florida.

This is not the only DuVal connection with elephants.

After Louise Elizabeth Compton married James Eggborn Fant (D), and became Mrs. L. E. Fant, she made national headlines with her collection of elephant statues and other memorabilia.

Do you have an interesting connection to elephants?

Let Sarah know!

Pictures from the Past

I was recently looking through some copies of old family photographs and found one of my great uncle Samuel Clarence DuVal (B) holding a cat in front of his store in Henrico County, Virginia.

It was taken in 1932, a year before he died and decades before I was born.

For many years all I knew about my uncle Sam was that he ran the store across the road from my grandparents' home.

By the time my grandmother told me about him, the store was a boarded-up ruin now long gone. Over the years I've learned that uncle Sam never married and lived most if not all of his life in the home where he was born, just a few miles from the store where he sold many things including gasoline for 2 cents a gallon.

If you have an old photo of DuVal descendants that you'd like to share please mail or email Sarah.



Meet Miss Grace – DFA Honorary Member

It's difficult to tell you why Miss Grace is our newest honorary member.

But that's only because there are so many reasons and such little space.

When Grace Darling Hopkins (B) celebrated her 100th birthday in November, the DFA fortunately learned the news from her grand niece, DFA member Shirley Kennett.

Grace Hopkins DuVal O'Brien (B) is the daughter of John Stuart Hopkins and Martha Henrietta DuVal who immigrated to Canada and also wife of Benjamin Joseph DuVal (B), son of Miles Percy DuVal and Minnie Lee Chalkley.

At 100, Grace still lives alone in her home in Charlottesville, Virginia, does her own shopping, sings in her church choir, goes to the local gym, attends a ceramics class and meets friends to gab and drink coffee.

During a centenarian birthday interview with news reporter David Maurer, she made the following statements:

"They want to send me off to assisted living, but I'll tell you what," O'Brien said with a dismissive wave of a hand. "You can fall down stairs or out of bed there as easily as you can at home, and I'd rather fall at home."

"I've been on my own since 1982. That's why I think I should know what I'm doing. But when you're old, people think they can tell you what to do, where to go, what not to do."

Three weeks before her last birthday, Grace gave another of many lectures she's given to the University Of Virginia School Of Nursing. She's been an honorary Visiting Lecturer there since 2008 - two years after her talk "Ageing with Grace" became very popular with all the nursing students.

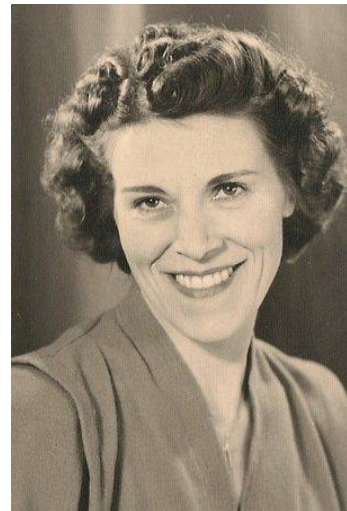
"I tell the students I don't know a thing about old people," O'Brien said with a laugh. "I'm not sure I like them either."

"We're such a nuisance. We really are. We move so slowly. But I'm strong. I lift 45 pounds at the gym."

(Many thanks to Grace O'Brien, Shirley Hopkins Kennett and David Maurer, news reporter for the Charlottesville Progress-Index for their contributions and permission for the content in this article).



Grace Darling Hopkins - 1913



Grace Darling Hopkins
DuVal



Grace Darling Hopkins
DuVal O'Brien - 2013

"When you're old, people think they can tell you what to do, where to go, what not to do. They want to send me off to assisted living, but I'll tell you what," O'Brien said with a dismissive wave of a hand. "You can fall down stairs or out of bed there as easily as you can at home, and I'd rather fall at home."

"I don't know a thing about old people. I'm not sure I like them, either."

The Anderson County, Texas Duvals And Their Service In The War Between The States

by Michelle Ule

While researching the family of William Jennings Duval (1801-1877) who lived in Anderson County, TX, I realized he had six sons old enough to go to war in 1861.

They all joined the Confederate Army: John Benjamin (1831-1885); William Anthony (1833-1863); Thomas James (1836-1875); Richard Park Waddy (1838-1868), Joseph Dabney (1840-1886) and Ballard Smith (1842-1867).

William and Joseph enlisted in the First Texas Infantry, Hood's Brigade at Palestine, TX in May, 1861. They were assigned to Company G and went to Richmond, VA to fight. William lost his life on July 2, 1863 during the battle of Gettysburg: "Corporal William A Duval fell as he touched one of the trophy guns" captured during the fight in Devil's Den.

Joseph was injured two months after enlisting and was discharged at Richmond, VA with a surgeon's certificate of disability. Richard Park Waddy (Woody?) was called Buck. I don't have his unit, but a letter written during the war by his sister-in-law refers to him as gone to war. [Editor's note: Richard Park Waddy DuVal served with the CSA 1st Texas Infantry and curiously was discharged in 1862 due to a genetic disability and died in 1868]

The youngest brothers are the ones who interested me. Thomas and Ballard enlisted on May 4, 1861 with the 15th Texas Cavalry in Marion County. Their service jacket notes they traveled 139 miles to join up. Thomas entered as a sergeant. He brought his horse, worth \$120 and \$20 worth of personal possessions.

I descend from the youngest son, Ballard, who entered as a private, had a horse worth \$140 and a similar \$20 worth of personal possessions. In 1862 both brothers drew out of company stores double barrel shotguns worth \$40.

Five months later, Thomas was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and served in that capacity until he was captured at Deer Creek, MS in 1864. He was moved about the United States as a prisoner for the rest of the war, serving time in Ohio, Delaware, Hilton Head, SC and finally back to Fort Delaware.

Given the terrible way prisoners were treated, it's amazing he survived. At the end of the war he signed an oath of allegiance and returned to Anderson County. It included a description of Thomas: "sallow complexioned, light haired, blue eyed man, five feet, seven inches tall."

Ballard returned from war and worked on the Anderson County road crews. He married Sally Posey in December 1866 and died in the July 1867 yellow fever epidemic. Sally was one month pregnant. Her posthumous son, Ballard Bennett Duval, was my great-grandfather.

History came alive to me as I did my family research and obviously inspired some of my published writing. Genealogy introduced me to ideas and places I'd never thought about before, along with putting names to historical events.

The Duval brothers of Anderson County, Texas, provided me with a personal connection to the Civil War. The day my family stood at the site of the Battle of Little Round Top and looked down into the Devil's Den was filled with poignancy for me—knowing my great-great-great uncle had died at that spot.

Thomas' prison experience coupled with Ballard's personal circumstances, played a role when I plotted my novella *An Inconvenient Gamble* (part of Barbour's *A Texas Brides Collection*) published in May 2013.

An Inconvenient Gamble is the story of a reformed Civil War gambler Charles Moss grappling with his past and a woman he unknowingly wronged with a poor bet. Jenny Duncan is forced to run the family horse ranch when her father and husband both die of yellow fever in 1867 Texas, leaving her to raise two teenage brothers and deal with a crochety mother-in-law. Then she discovers she is pregnant.

Just like Sally Posey Duval.

For further information contact michelle@michelleule.com

The 2013 DFA Reunion – San Antonio Texas March 21 - 23

The DFA Reunion was great except for one thing – we missed the cousins who couldn't attend!

But if you couldn't come, then this issue will tell you a little more about the activities and cousins you missed as well as DFA plans for the future.

The Hotel Indigo is a beautiful historical boutique accommodation with wonderful employees who worked hard to take care of our every need. The hotel was originally a business building which was converted into the hotel, directly across from the Alamo.



The Alamo - Photo Courtesy Joseph Hays



Hotel Indigo Entrance



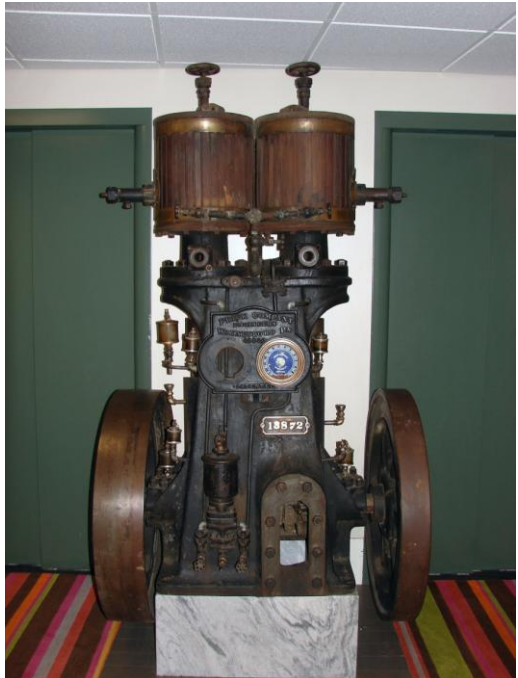
The DFA welcomed Reunion attendees in front of the original elevator doors with gift bags filled with nice offerings provided by DFA historian, Deana Snow and DFA Coat of Arms pins.



DFA member Morretta Holland Weatherford receives a gift bag from President Ken Pfeiffer upon her arrival



The hallways were beautiful.



There was an interesting machine on the lowest floor, where the dinner and presentation room was. The engineer of the hotel, who also was there when the hotel was converted from a business building graciously went into the convention room the DFA used for presentations and the banquet and answered a lot of questions the DuVal cousins had about the hotel, including information about the machine, which was a steam engine for fire protection.



During the reception, reunion attendees renewed old friendships and made new ones with DuVal cousins while they snacked on hors d'oeuvres and enjoyed the music of a talented young singer.

Friday morning, while other DFA members relaxed, the DFA board got together and decided the following:

Attendees: Ken Pfeiffer, Jim Duval, Joan Thomas, Deana Snow, Joseph Hays, Sarah DuVal.

DFA Genealogist Joseph Hays will find out the costs to produce a Benjamin DuVal Pottery Marker in Richmond, Virginia in time for the next DFA Reunion.

DFA Registrar Joan Thomas reported that 82 members were currently in good standing.

DFA Vice President Thomas DuVal Roberts will continue looking into the refurbishment of the grave marker of William Pope DuVal in the Congressional Cemetery in Washington, D.C. to be followed up by DFA Historian Deana Snow, also Chairman of the Grave Restoration Committee and much more.

DFA Vice President Thomas DuVal Roberts is also in the process of producing more complete and comprehensive DFA policy and procedures.

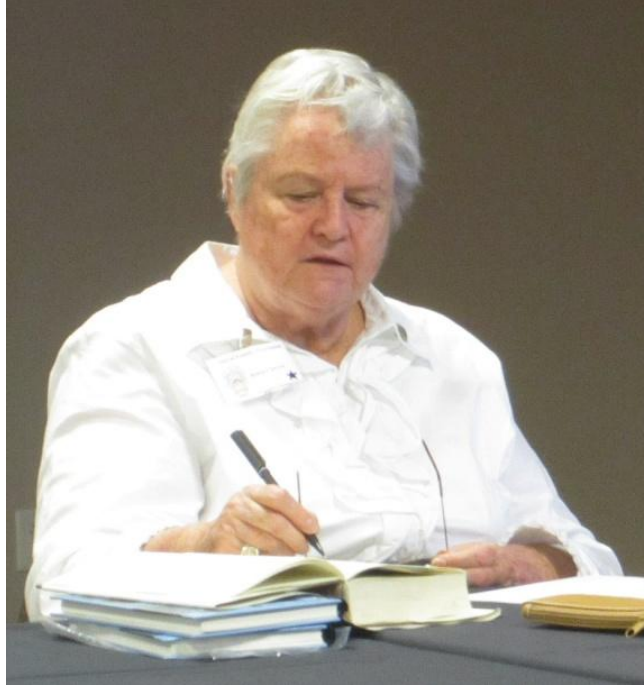
DFA Newsletter Editor Sarah DuVal, who has been a DuVal family genealogist and family historian for many decades, will continue to work with DFA Genealogist Joseph Hays to consolidate the DFA database with hers for the DFA.

DFA Member At Large Pat Koenig (DFA Co-Founder and more – thanks, Pat!) will ship applications and supporting documents in her possession to Joseph Hays.

Board voted to have next scheduled Board meeting in vicinity of Richmond 25 April, 2014. DFA VP Tom to chair with assistance of Bonnie Daughtry.

Sarah DuVal will establish quarterly newsletter schedule with specified month target date and one month prior deadline for articles and changes and publish in next newsletter.

Reunion Presentations



New DFA member Helen Cawyer brought her copy of "Texas Civilizers" to the reunion and had all the attendees sign it (Editor: Wish I had thought of that!)



while DFA Genealogist Joseph Hays gave an insightful presentation based on the DuVal Texas Civilizers



Then the DFA newsletter editor (me) gave a presentation about how DuVal family members came to Texas over decades, Texan DuVal slavery, Texas DuVals in several military conflicts and some Texan DuVal descendants who should be remembered for other reasons, such as having invented Liquid Paper. One attending family member upon learning this exclaimed: "I've still got a bottle of Liquid Paper on my DESK!" (Editor: Me too.)

The Banquet

While we ate a delicious dinner, Maria Watson Pfeiffer, sister-in-law of DFA President Ken Pfeiffer, gave a detailed history of San Antonio. Maria really knows her stuff and here's what Maria said about it:



I am a self-employed professional historian. I received my B.A. in Political Science from the University of Texas at Austin and my M.A. in Urban Studies from Trinity University. During thirty-seven years as a historian and preservation consultant I have specialized in documenting the 19th and 20th century history of San Antonio and Southwest Texas. My work includes numerous nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designations, as well as museum exhibits and interpretive signage. I serve on the Brackenridge Park Conservancy board and am a member of the Texas Antiquities Advisory Board. I am the author of *School by the River: Ursuline Academy to Southwest School of Art and Craft, 1851-2001*, and am currently writing a history of San Antonio's King William neighborhood where I live in a home that has been in my family for over 100 years.

Other Welcome Reunion Attendees



Dance artiste Patton White (DFA200 - S) and his mother Nancy Emerson White (DFA149 - S) whose family contributed much of the information for the book *Civilizers of Texas*,
(Editor's note: I was so glad to see them again as I remember meeting them at a DuVal reunion in Virginia)



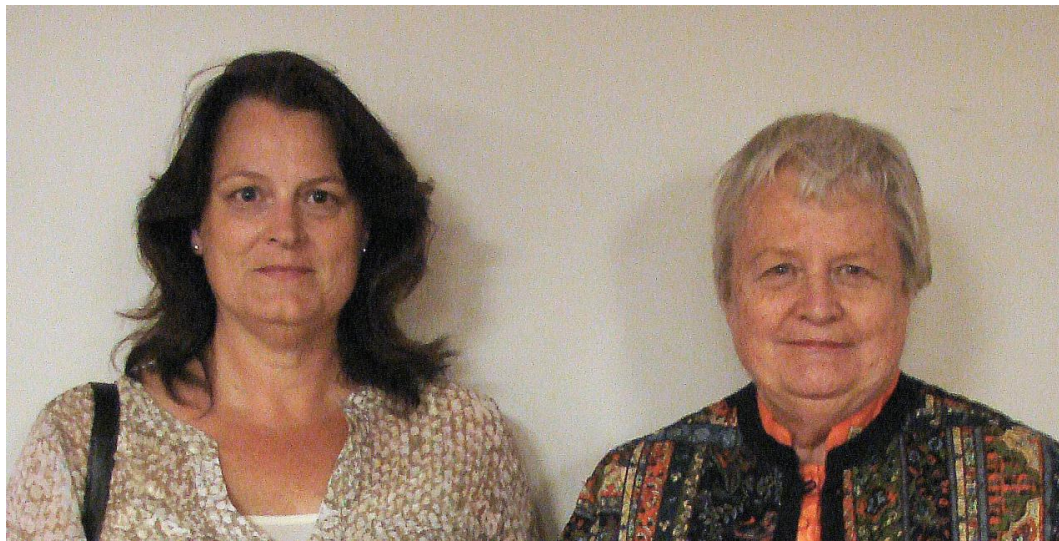
Entrepreneur and blogger *James Weatherford* (DFA279A - D) and Morreta Ann Holland Weatherford (DFA192 - D), genealogist and family historian whose DuVal ancestors were some of the first DuVal family members in Texas. It was an honor to include history about Morreta's DuVal ancestors in my presentation and find out more about James' blog. Thank you both!.



Mary Alice Gray Dunscombe (DFA260 - SA) and Thomas Donovan Dunscombe, Jr. (DFA23 - S)
Tom is not only one of the DFA's earliest members but also appeared as a toddler in the Buchanan DuVal genealogy *DuVals From Virginia to Kentucky*



DFA Treasurer James P DuVal (DFA29 - D) and wife Brownie (DFA268 - DA)
The DFA was very sad when Jim passed on recently. We posthumously thank Jim and give our condolences to Brownie and all the rest of his family. DFA Vice President Thomas DuVal Roberts and wife Marty attended the funeral service on behalf of the DFA. Thanks, Tom and Marty.



Janet Cawyer and mother Helen Adair Patton Cawyer (S)

Here's what Helen had to say about the Reunion:

"The Reunion was a great experience for me as I was able to meet a lot of distant relatives I had never known about. San Antonio is a fun town. There were a lot of things to do there, although it would probably take about two weeks to see everything. But the Alamo was a great experience everyone should see if they have the chance. I also enjoyed meeting the gentlemen who portrayed my two fourth great uncles, one of whom died at Goliad and one of whom escaped to write stories about Texas. Updating and confirming family genealogy was another bonus. The final day, Sunday, my daughter drove me up to Austin and we were able to locate the family grave site there and leave flowers. I probably never would have done that if I hadn't attended the Reunion." (Editor's note: Helen has since then contributed copies of many family treasures from her DuVal twig.)



DFA registrar, Joan DuVal Robbins Thomas (DFA202 – S)

By the way, please let Joan know if things with you (such as address) have changed. The DFA wants to stay in touch.



New member Joel Hays (B/S) had this to say about his experience at the reunion:

"I was pleased to be able to attend the DuVal Family Association Meeting last March. San Antonio was a perfect location with roots deep in the early history of Texas. A highlight of the reunion for me was the excursion to Goliad to see the site where Burr and John Crittenden DuVal fought for the Republic of Texas and meeting the re-enactors who portrayed Burr and John.

As a new member of the DuVal Family Association I was delighted to meet everyone and it was exciting finding out how we are all related. Having been a history buff all my life, I found the presentations by Ken Pfeiffer, Joseph Hays, and Sarah DuVal to be very informative. The presentations showed the roles that DuVal family members played in the early history of Texas as a republic and its later development.

Growing up and living in Mississippi I was somewhat removed from my DuVal family roots (both of my grandparents who lived in Kentucky were DuVal descendants; my grandfather from Benjamin and my grandmother from Samuel). My family, once or twice a year, would make the six hour drive to my grandfather's home in Bowling Green, Kentucky for a holiday or other special occasion. A highlight of these trips was hearing my father's brother Joseph (DFA genealogist) tell family stories. One of my early memories is that of watching, fascinated, as Joseph drew a genealogy diagram from memory, on a sheet of notebook paper, illustrating our relationship to President George Washington (3rd cousin 8x removed). I believe that my first recollection of hearing of the DuVal family reunions is when the DuVal family cookbook came out and my parents got a copy.

My grandfather passed away on Thanksgiving Day, 2009. It was a rare occasion when the entire family, cousins and all were together. Seeing old pictures and discussing grandfather's life, I had a strong interest to know more about my family history. That Christmas I went to see Joseph and we visited the old home places and family cemeteries. He gave me a crash course in how to use Legacy genealogy software and do research on ancestry.com. I have been hooked ever since.

After learning more about my family I knew I had to join the DuVal Family Association and attend one of the reunions, so I contacted Joan Thomas who graciously reviewed my application and welcomed me into the association. Again, it was great fun to meet everyone and I hope to be able to make the trip to the next reunion in Richmond."

(Editor's note: We hope you do, too. We enjoyed meeting you.)

The Pfeiffer Family



DFA President Ken Pfeiffer's family (S) came out in full force for the banquet.

From left to right: sister-in-law Maria, brother Fred, wife Trudy, Ken, granddaughter Natasha, son Jon, granddaughter Syrena, daughter-in-law Melinda, and son Steven.

The Goliad Reenactment

Reunion attendees who had ancestors or close ancestral kin who fought in the Battle of Goliad found a special connection with the enactors who portrayed members of their ancestral family line.



Reenactors Who Portrayed DuVal Family Members with DFA members

The descendants who attended the reunion with the closest family relationship to the Goliad reenactment were new member Helen Patton Cawyer, 2nd great-grandniece and her daughter Janet and DFA Historian Deana K. Snow, 3rd great-grandnieces of both Captain Burr H. DuVal who died in the conflict and his 20-year-old brother John Crittenden DuVal, who escaped and later wrote many core accounts of Texas history before he died at 80.



DFA Historian Deana Snow (DFA 73 – S) with reenactors portraying her 3rd great-uncles John Crittenden DuVal and Burr H. DuVal

The Reunion As Seen by DFA President Ken Pfeiffer

The 2013 DuVal Family Association biannual Reunion was held at the Indigo on Alamo Plaza Hotel in San Antonio, Texas March 21-24, 2013.

The reunion began with a registration Thursday afternoon where registrants were given welcome packages provided by Deana Snow and augmented with a meeting agenda and welcome letter. I provided materials provided by the City of San Antonio Visitors Bureau.

A reception was held in the hotel from 7:00 to 9:00 that evening.

The Board of Directors met March 22nd from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Members were given free time to explore San Antonio. At 1:00 PM the biannual meeting was convened in the Maverick Room of the hotel. The business of the Association was conducted and three presentations and discussions continued until 4:30 when the meeting was recessed to allow preparations for the banquet and continuance of the meeting.

The presentations included an account of the Burr Harrison and John Crittenden DuVal involvement in the Texas War for Independence that I gave that included background information and historical perspectives of events leading up to the revolution and details of the Massacre at Goliad. Joseph Hays gave an insightful look into the Roy Swift book "The Civilizers". Joseph's presentation beautifully illustrated the efforts of William Pope DuVal and his descendants, including DuVal West and the effects on the evolution of Texas.

Sarah DuVal's presentation covered the migration of several DuVal family lines into Texas and the sojourn of one Civil War cousin highlighted the trials and tribulations of many of our relatives during the turbulent times of the mid 1800's. The maps that showed the lines and times of travel were especially well done.

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 PM with the election of the 2013-2015 Board, a necrology of recently deceased members and planning for the next day's activities. A number of door prizes were awarded and several of the DFA members in attendance purchased DFA Cookbooks. We were pleased to have Nancy White and her son Patton in attendance. Nancy along with her sister Jane and Jane's husband Sam MacLin were instrumental in the publishing of Roy Swift's book "The Civilizers".

On Saturday morning I led a group of cousins to see the Phil Collins diorama of the battle of the Alamo. Afterwards, I conducted a tour around the actual battle site which highlighted numerous unknown aspects of the battle and lesser known combatants. This included the life of Toribio Losoya, a descendant of the mission Indians who built the Alamo. He was born in one of the building that made up the compound now known as Alamo Plaza and died there as an Alamo defender on March 6, 1836. I also presented the story of the Esparza brothers, one; Gregorio an Alamo defender and his older brother, Francisco, who was in Santa Anna's army. At the conclusion of the battle Santa Anna ordered the burning of the defenders bodies. When Francisco heard of this he approached an officer and obtained permission to collect his brother's remains before the funeral pyres were lit and give him a Christian burial.

At mid-day I led a convoy to Goliad, Texas where the DuVal brothers served in the Revolution. The group saw the completely recreated presidio and the actual location in the fort where Burr's command camped. I was able to find the re-enactors that played Burr and John to meet and have a photo op before the Battle of Coleto re-enactment. They expressed their honor and pleasure in meeting relatives of the men they portray. The re-enactment outside the fort was well done with much artillery and musket fire as well as cavalry charges. The group returned to San Antonio about 6:00 PM.

During the course of the reunion there were several forays to the beautiful San Antonio River Walk for meals and visiting. All cousins that spoke to me expressed their pleasure with the accommodations, especially the courtesy and attentiveness of the staff as well as the programs and activities.

Meet Our Newest DFA Member

Hannah Provence (B) is 15, lives in Wales in the United Kingdom and has been interested in her ancestry for quite some time. Her grandmother, Mary Virginia Pilcher Provence has been a DFA member since 1999.

Hannah makes regular updates to her family tree on Ancestry.com and recently became the county cadet for the Saint John Ambulance Corps there.

Saint John Ambulance Corps Cadets frequently compete between counties, states and countries, but Hannah says she won't because she simply doesn't have the money or time to do so. I understand – she really wants to do well with her studies in school and she's busy helping her mum Valerie with her two younger sisters Sarah and Naomi.

Welcome, Hannah. Congratulations and best wishes in all you do! (photos contributed by Hannah)



Hannah, mum Valerie and sisters Naomi and Sarah



Hannah is recognized as St. John's Cadet of the Year for Cymru Wales

The Indian Weed - Tobacco and the DuVal Family

*Tobacco is an Indian weed,
Grows green at morn, cut down at need
It shows our decay
We are but clay.
Think on this when you smoke tobacco*

*The smoke that doth so high ascend
Shows that our lives must have an end
The vapor's gone
Man's life is done
Think on this when you smoke tobacco.*

King James VI of Scotland and I of England (1566-1625) wrote this ditty nearly a century before Daniel DuVal came to Virginia, but despite how you feel about it, tobacco has played a big part in the lives of many DuVal descendant family members.

Virginian doctor *Richard Archibald Patterson* (B) had a rare strike of fortune shortly after the War Between the States due to tobacco. Before the War Between The States/Civil War, Patterson ran a tobacco factory with a partner that failed when that war occurred. During the war, Patterson served as a surgeon and doctor to Robert E Lee and then operated a small farm and practiced as a doctor near Richmond, Virginia. In 1871, he received news that very few others in the South had in the difficult times after that war. A tobacco shipment made by his defunct tobacco company had made it through the wartime blockade. During the war, the money from the sale of the tobacco had been kept for him until after the war to insure that he received it. The amount was around \$9,000.00, a fortune in those postwar days, the equivalent today of over \$165,000 dollars.

He called it Lucky Strike!





After Dr. Patterson died in 1912, Lucky Strike was sold to the American Tobacco Company and the Lucky Strike brand became part of the billionaire fortune of the Duke family in North Carolina.

Many other members of the DuVal family profited (or at least supported their families) from the Indian Weed both before and after Dr. Patterson's lucky strike. DuVal family members in Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Kentucky and Missouri grew tobacco as a cash crop, owned and managed tobacco factories and warehouses, bought tobacco for factories and as factory workers, (sometimes when they were younger than 14) processed it and made and inspected cigars and cigarettes to support their families.

One DuVal family member was the First Hostess of the National Tobacco Festival.

My mother, *Martha June Hatter* DuVal (B) Kentuckian and long-time DFA member (226A) shares what it took to produce tobacco for companies like that of Richard Archibald Patterson:

"Even during the period from 1940-1950, raising tobacco on a farm was a labor-intensive job. The soil on our farm, the home place of our ancestors for more than 150 years, was considered good for dark air-cured variety tobacco.

"The process began when the steam engine arrived in late fall or early spring to steam the plant beds. The sight when the old steam engine chugged up the front road excited this young rural child. The hot steam from the engine was pumped under pans to kill weeds before planting the expensive tobacco seeds.



Kentucky Tobacco Steam Engine



Steaming tobacco fields in nearby TN

"In the spring, after the steam engine came, farmers worked the soil into a fine powdery loam, planted the expensive tobacco seeds and covered the seeds with a fastened canvas cloth to prevent problems from wind and frost. They also took advantage of the sterilized soil and planted lettuce and other early-growing vegetables along the sides of the tobacco bed. "After all signs of frost were gone, the canvas covers were removed and the tobacco plants grew to "setting size." In back-breaking work, folks (mostly women) sat on low stools and pulled the plants and transplanted them to the fields. As the plants became waist high they each had to be checked for worms, which if found were removed to jars of old motor oil. The tobacco plants sometimes developed "suckers" that also had to be removed. In late August workers harvested the heavily gummed tobacco plants, cut off each plant and loaded about six to a stick and sent a wagon-load of tobacco-plant loaded sticks to a barn to cure. After curing the tobacco was stripped and sent to a warehouse. For a farmer, it took almost a year of hard work before he saw any cash award but it was the largest money crop raised on the farm for many years."

A hundred years after Dr. Patterson's lucky strike, the Indian weed made inventor Dr. Frank T Etscorn (S) successful for a very different reason.

Non-smoker Kentuckian psychology professor Frank Etscorn (S) made a remarkable discovery when he accidentally spilled liquid nicotine on his arm and felt as though he had chain-smoked several cigarettes. It led him to believe that putting nicotine on the skin could be an effective way to get the chemical into the blood stream and suppress smoking (eliminating the other more than 400 cancerous chemicals in cigarettes).

Voila – the Nicotine Patch! It helped Frank Etscorn's brother and wife stop smoking along with many others.

Over the years, I've identified far fewer DuVal family members who have died of cancer or other diseases that might be related to tobacco use than those worked in the tobacco industry, and I don't know how many of those who died from lung problems actually used tobacco. Many were miners or died from influenza. But those are other stories.

Lineage Guide - Family Members In This Issue

- Walter Duane Aspley (S)** – Mary Alice Elliott – Gabriel Fountain Taylor – James Alexander Taylor – Caroline Elizabeth Pope Taylor – Claiborne DuVal – Samuel DuVal
- Benjamin Hamilton Bowden (D)** – Sarah Susan Hasher – Martha Ann DuVal – Benjamin James DuVal – James Thompson DuVal – Daniel DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- Nancy Burton Braswell Holderness (B)** – Lillian Grizelle Burton – Nancy DuVal Walker – Harriett Rebecca Bailey – Elizabeth Scott – Rebecca DuVal – Benjamin DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- Albert Payne DuVal (D)** – Leonidas DuVal – Isaac V DuVal – Daniel F DuVal – James Thompson DuVal – Daniel DuVal –
- Samuel Clarence DuVal (B)** – Samuel Claude DuVal – Samuel Sheppard DuVal – Stephen DuVal – Joseph DuVal – Benjamin DuVal
- Thomas James DuVal (D)** – Jennings DuVal - Benjamin James DuVal - James Thompson DuVal - Daniel DuVal - Daniel DuVal
- Frank T Escorn III (S)** – Mary Lewis Boaz – Elizabeth Brooke Lewis – Thomas Brooke Lewis – Mary Eliza DuVal – Humphrey Brooke DuVal - Daniel B DuVal – Samuel Stephen DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- Ford Walker Heacock Jr. (S)** – Mary Cornelia Saunders – Willie Maud Travis – John William Travis – Mary Ann Price – Caroline Elizabeth Pope DuVal – Claiborne DuVal – Samuel DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- Grace Darling Hopkins DuVal O'Brien (B)** – Martha Henrietta DuVal – Benjamin Joseph DuVal – Miles DuVal – Benjamin DuVal III – Joseph DuVal – Benjamin DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- John Bennett Lee (S)** – Lucy Crump Taylor – Elizabeth Dalton Cardwell – Kate Howard – Edward Calthorpe Howard – Catherine Eliza DuVal Pope – Mary DuVal – Samuel DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- Russell P Morris (S)** – Mary Gabriel Taylor – Gabriel Fountain Taylor – Caroline Elizabeth Pope DuVal – Claiborne DuVal Samuel Stephen DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- James Willis Mott (W)** – Elizabeth Penn Stubbs – George Marvin Stubbs – George Daniel Stubbs – Lawrence Smith Stubbs – Lawrence Smith Stubbs – Ellis DuVal – William DuVal – Daniel DuVal
- William Howard Woodcock (S)** – Mary Jenette DuVal – Dr. William Claiborne DuVal – Rev. Claiborne Lawson DuVal – Major Claiborne DuVal – Colonel Samuel DuVal – Daniel DuVal

Welcome Our Newest Members

Helen Adair Patton *Cawyer* (S)
 Joel Stanford Hays (B/S)
 Grace Darling Hopkins *DuVal O'Brien* (B/B)
 Hannah Provence (B)
Wayne Whitman (BA)- husband of Sarah DuVal

In Memorium

Jack Hugh Thacker (S) DFA #5
 Sarah Elizabeth McKelley *King* (D) DFA #20
 Mildred Elizabeth Baskette (S) DFA #24
 Dorothy Jarrett *Vandergriff* (S) DFA #30
 Roger Duval Baskette (S) DFA #31
 Eleanor Jarrett *Carter* (S) DFA #62
 James Palmer DuVal (D) DFA #77
 Nancy Kent Duval *Howe* (B) DFA #125
 Francis Curtis Duval (W) DFA #126
 Mary Lucy Pyne *Cobb* (B) DFA #128
 John Duval Grubbs (B) DFA #129
 Doris Minter *Cabanillas* (B) DFA #138
 Sarah Ellen DuVal *Maxey* (B) DFA #139
Thetis Lorena Peacock DuVal (SA) DFA #163A (widow of Roger Baskette DuVal)
 Thomas Vernon DuVal (B) DFA #201
Virginia Jane Bird Price (SA) DFA #214A (widow of Edward Clendenon Price III)
 Thomas Wickliffe Comer (S) DFA #219
 Frances Lucinda Jarvis *Smith* (W) DFA #263
 Virginia Kennedy Hahn (S) DFA #281

This Is Your Newsletter

By Sarah DuVal

2013 was a difficult year for me and so all you get for 2013 is one newsletter even though I intended to send one to you quarterly. (Guess what one of my 2014 New Year's resolutions will be?)

But I hope you'll give me your true opinion of this newsletter, what you like and dislike. What would you like to read about in the DFA newsletter? What did you enjoy most? How often would you like to receive the newsletter?

Did any of the articles or pictures remind you of one of your family members? Should they have been included? It's never too late. I would really appreciate more of the wonderful response I got from last newsletter.

Please share information about your family. Encourage your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to participate.

I've been recording the DuVal family for over four decades and the DuVal family is fascinating.

I wish you all the happiest upcoming holiday season and look forward to sending you the next newsletter. Thank you for your support.

How to Contact DFA Board Members

We are here for YOU

Ken Pfeiffer, President, pfeiffer327@gmail.com - (210) 684-4034 - in general

Tom Roberts, Vice-President, tdrii0@aol.com - (757) 220- 5776 - policies and procedures

Dorothy Nelson, Secretary, nelsonno@bellsouth.net - (504) 554 – 6067 - copies of meeting minutes

Deana Snow, Treasurer, naah@aol.com (270) 563 - 9524 - dues / web site / facebook

Joan Thomas, Registrar, jd.thomas225@verizon.net (609) 684 - 6284 - admission and membership

Joseph Hays, Genealogist, allenhurst1872@gmail.com (270) 563 - 9524 - genealogy

Position Open, Historian, - contact any member of the DFA about this opening

Pat Koenig, Board Member, paduval@mac.com (303) 981 - 3134 - <http://www.myfamily.com>

Sue Blair, Board Member, sblair55@aol.com (212) 988 - 3438 - <http://www.myfamily.com>

Sarah DuVal, Newsletter Editor, sarahduval@hotmail.com (270) 282 - 3550 - the newsletter.