



FARRAR FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Official publication of the Farrar Family Reunion, Inc.

www.farrarinc.com

OCTOBER 2007 ISSUE



Well, the 30th Annual Farrar Family Reunion was a BLAST!!! Tent city was full, our drive was packed with cars and campers, and the motels (and ice companies) did a fine business that week. We didn't break the record of 88 in 2002 at our 25th reunion, but we were close—we had a total of 86. To those of you who came, THANK YOU, and to those of you who couldn't, WE MISSED YOU!!

A big thanks to our new ground maintenance crew, Chuck and Marleen Bayes, who had our site looking fantastic. To Kurt Stanford and all who helped him in getting the new screens on the pavilion and repairs to our "ice box" accomplished, to the people who came early to clean up, and to those of you who stayed to help put things away — THANK YOU!!

We started off with a great business meeting, lots of matters taken care of, including Bob Farrar's sale of the 10-acre Reunion site to the Farrar Family Reunion, Inc. With the help of Randy Farrar and Kevin Hite, this feat will be a done deal by our next Reunion.

The kids games were hilarious ... a big thanks to Doug & Patty Williams, who never fail to amaze us with their ingenuity. With the rain and other happenings, the adult games never materialized, but we did manage to have a rousing water balloon fight with Tom, Bob, Dick, Nelda, Betty, Marleen, Chuck, Nancee, Jill, Carol and Gary. Uncle Joe ambled off muttering something about "people in their second childhood," but on a hot afternoon, it definitely cooled everyone off!

We also had a spectacular fireworks display thanks to Doug & Patty Williams, Mark & Kathy Ridgway, Rich & Joan Farrar, Nick Linebaugh & Marita Stumpf. Nick also deserves additional thanks for his generous donation of three more fans (and gas money for the generator) and to Chuck Bayes for his donation of wiring supplies. Chuck and Nick installed the new fans in the pavilion and, now with a fan in every corner, the air flow positively cools down the room.

Quite a few went on a long canoe ride down the Spring River. Thirteen-year-old Aspen Williams paddled a kayak solo and was really pooped out when the day was done. Helen Lucius, friend of Cindy Hintz, wants to go on another canoe trip next year (NOT!). But all in all, they had a great time ... well, except for Helen.

Everyone really enjoyed the volleyball and washer games, and the many card and board games. We managed a few rousing games of charades in the process, too. But on the last night of this year's Reunion, as the sun set slowly in the west, and the last 20 or so members of our clan sat around the flagpole, we played a game that will always be remembered as the "Up-chuck, construction, scout, zone" game. Um ... don't ask!!

The food was wonderful, the company fantastic, and if you didn't get to be with us this year, please try to plan for next year. I promise, you won't regret it!!

-- Nancee (Farrar) Lehnhoff
Reunion President
July 2007

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From the Editor: As is normal, this fall edition of our Newsletter is an abbreviated version. I received more than 200 pictures from folks who attended the 30th Reunion (thank you!!), and it would cost a mint to publish a N/L with all of them. I've selected a few for this edition, and am busily uploading the others to our website for your viewing and downloading pleasure.

Photo contributors include: Nancee Lehnhoff, Mark & Kathy Ridgway, Greg & Pat Zak, Jean Hite, Joe Farrar, Floyd Farrar, Stephanie Fortune. Many thanks to all of you!

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The 30th Annual Farrar Family Reunion Photo—see the full-size version in our Photo Gallery!



Family News & Notes

[From a note provided by Joseph V. Farrar, Jr. to the Editor.]

The Vision Forum Ministries

The Vision Forum Ministries, family-oriented and children-focused, conducts numerous activities throughout the country annually. Recently they forwarded some undated, uncaptioned pictures of their week-long Jamestown quadricentennial celebration to me, a sponsor.

For the past number of years I've attempted to drum up interest in a Farrar Family Rendezvous on Farrar's Island this year to participate in the Commonwealth of Virginia's year-long commemoration (of the founding of Jamestown), and to again walk where our immigrant grandparents and four generations of Farrars lived and died. I failed.

Perhaps you could use some of these pictures to help keep the flame of our family history alive. [Editor's note: some of the pictures are included in our Photo Gallery and others will be available on our web site soon.]

— Uncle Joe

A new Farrar Family Reunion website is up!

After months of start-and-stop work, changing website hosts, and a crashed hard drive that destroyed the first site files, the new Reunion website is finally on line. Check us out at <http://www.FarrarFamilyReunion.org> for past issues of the Newsletter, some additional photos, and more!

Granted, it's not perfect yet—some of the links don't work, the Guestbook won't allow the entry of any information, and the entire site is in need of additional work—but at least it's a start!

Send your comments, suggestions, requests for content, etc. to the Editor (kevin.hite@hotmail.com) or to Webmaster@FarrarFamilyReunion.org. Just be warned that it took me nearly two years to get the current, imperfect solution on line so don't expect any overnight implementations of your requests!!

— Editor

Mailing List Adds and Drops

Welcome to our mailing list:

Mrs. Kathryn Ghilino of Littleton, Colorado

Mrs. Betty Poltugill of Chevy Chase, Maryland

And say good-bye to (or contact the Editor with updated mailing information for) the following folks whose last Newsletters were returned as undeliverable:

Mr. Claude Farrar of Cameron, Oklahoma

Mr. & Mrs. Russell Sharp of Mammoth Spring, Arkansas

Mr. Scott Garner of Powhatan, Virginia

Riddle me this, Batman...

This riddle was posed during our 30th annual Reunion. It was correctly solved by Jean (Farrar) Hite, who won a hand-made stuffed bear for her astute deduction. Can you figure it out? The answer is on the next page if you're stumped.

This riddle is simple,
And easily done,
Like Agatha Christie's
"And then there were none."

What started at ten,
Became thirty-two.
A simple fact,
From me to you.

You can't get around it,
It might take a year,
But not one single cousin
Ever started here.

End-to-end, far apart,
From cousin to cousin.
And like old folks say,
"An odd one in every dozen."

From twenty-eight to thirty-one,
In time they pass and a year is done.
It helps to know two tens are here,
But nary one cousin was ever near.

Betty has a Birthday!!

Betty Farrar, wife of the O-10 's second-oldest member, Bill Farrar, Sr. (deceased) turned 80 on August 15th. Daughter Nancee and son-in-law Gary threw a surprise party in celebration of the event on August 25th.

All four of her kids — Bill, Jr. (and wife, Ellen), Nancee (and husband, Gary), Kathy (and husband, Mark), and Patty — were there for the party, plus Maxine (Bill, Jr.'s ex-wife), along with four grandchildren — Doug (and wife, Jeanette), Nick (and girlfriend, Marita), Gary, Jr., and Jacob. Two of her great-grandchildren, Bailey and Connor, were also present. Five of the O-10 showed up as well — Bob (and wife, Gerdie), Dick, Barb, Marleen (and husband, Chuck), and Carol Sue. Some second-generation members also attended: Linda Berry, Scott Rogers, Bart Williams (and wife, Kay). Gary's sister and brother-in-law, Ernestine and Junior Hulett, were there too.

All in all, there were 30 Farrar kin gathered, and a wonderful time was had by all. The family thanks all who came and also the ones who sent birthday cards — Betty got lots of cards!!

[Editor's note: see the pictures in our Photo Gallery.]

— Nancee (Farrar) Lehnhoff



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Family News & Notes

Family Trivia

[The fun facts below and elsewhere on this page were provided courtesy of Nancee Lehnhoff. This is point-in-time from July of 2007—subject to change at a moment's notice!!]

1. There are **99** direct descendants of the O-10: 32 members in the 2nd Generation; 46 in the 3rd Generation; 21 (so far) in the 4th Generation
2. The oldest and youngest of the 2nd Gen members are Joe Farrar, Jr.'s son, **Ron Farrar** (1948) and Dick Farrar's daughter, **Cindy Buxton** (1971)
3. The oldest and youngest of the 3rd Gen are Ron Farrar's daughter, **Deana Visentin**, and Kevin Hite's daughter, **Keita Hite**
4. The oldest and youngest of the 4th Gen are **Brittany Lawless** (6-9-1992—Great-granddaughter of Bill Farrar, Sr., granddaughter of Bill Farrar, Jr., daughter of Tracy Lawless) and **Caden Kneese** (4-18-2006—Great-grandson of Jean Hite, grandson of Karen Jones, son of "Buck" Jones)
5. Five members of the O-10 are Great-Grandparents: Joe (2), Bill (11), Bob (2), Dick (5), and Jean (1)

Want more trivia? Test your family knowledge with the **Trivia Teasers** found in the next column (the answers follow — don't peek!!).

Riddle Revealed!

The answer to the riddle on the previous page? It's the month of August—not a single member of the 2nd Generation was born during August! Here's a picture of the winner and her prize....



Trivia Teasers

1. Which one of the O-10 has the most children?
2. In what year were the most 2nd Generation members born?
3. Who among the 2nd Generation members has had the most children?
4. Who among the O-10 has the most grandchildren? How many?
5. How many members of the 2nd Generation have grandchildren?

Okay, now hum
the theme from
"Jeopardy" for
a minute....

Trivia Answers

1. Dick is the proud papa of six (yes, 6!) children.
2. In 1963, four members were added to the 2nd Generation — Bill's daughter Patty, Tom's son David, Marleen's son Tod, and Carol's son Darren.
3. Okay, this was a trick question. There is a tie for the "hostess with the mostest"—Linda (Farrar) Berry and Nancee (Farrar) Lehnhoff each have added four of our 3rd Generation cousins!
4. No, it's not Bill, Sr., even though he has the most great-grandchildren (were you paying attention?). It's Dick, with 11 grandkids! Honorable mention also goes to Bill, Sr. (10), Jean (6), Tom (5), Bob (4), Carol (3), Joe (2), Barb (2), and Gerry (1).
5. Eight members of the 2nd Generation are grandparents: Ron Farrar has 2, Bill Farrar, Jr. has 6, Nancee Lehnhoff has 4, Kathy Ridgway has 1, Linda Berry has 2, Rich Farrar, Jr., has 1, Dan Farrar has 4, and Karen Jones has 1.

So how well did you do? If you needed help, how about purchasing our Farrar Family Tree? (See back cover for details.)



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Laus Deo: A Little History Lesson You May Enjoy

[Submitted by Joseph V. Farrar, Jr.]

I thought that you and others may like to see this. One detail not mentioned in D.C. is that there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument.

With all the uproar about removing the Ten Commandments, etc., this is worth a moment or two of your time. I was not aware of this historical information.

On the aluminum cap atop the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., are displayed two words: *Laus Deo*. No one can see these words. In fact, most visitors to the monument are totally unaware they are even there, and for that matter, probably couldn't care less.


Once you know *Laus Deo's* history, you will want to share it with everyone you know. But these words have been there for many years. They are 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched atop the monument facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

Laus Deo! Two seemingly insignificant, unnoticed words, out of sight, and one might think out of mind, but very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the most successful nation in the world.

So, what do those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say "Praise be to God!"

Though construction of this giant obelisk began in 1848, when James Polk was President of the United States, it was not until 1888 that the monument was inaugurated and opened to the public. It took 25 years to finally cap the memorial with a tribute to the Father of our nation. *Laus Deo*. Praise be to God!

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, visitors may take in the beautiful, panoramic view of the city with its division into four major segments. From that vantage point, one can also easily see the original plan of the designer, Pierre Charles l'Enfant ... a perfect cross imposed upon the landscape, with the White House to the north, the Jefferson Memorial to the south, the Capitol to the east, and the Lincoln Memorial to the west.

A cross, you ask? Why a cross? What about separation of church and state? Yes, a cross. Separation of church and state was not, is not, in the Constitution. So, read on. How interesting, and no doubt intended to carry a profound 

meaning for those who bother to notice.

Praise be to God! Within the monument itself are 898 steps and 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings, the memorial stones share a message. On the 12th landing is a prayer offered by the City of Baltimore; on the 20th is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24th, a presentation made by Sunday School children from New York and Philadelphia quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16, and Proverbs 22:6. Praise be to God!

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848, deposited within it were many items, including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Praise be to God! Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy. "One Nation, Under God..."

I am awed by Washington's prayer for America. Have you ever read it? Well, now is your unique opportunity, so read on!

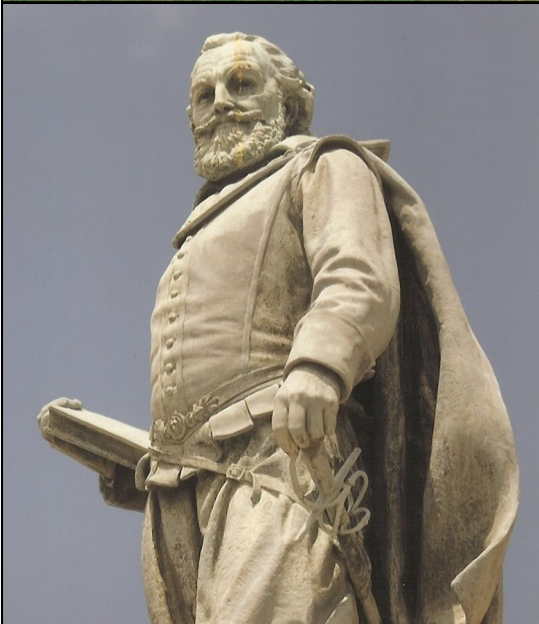
"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy Holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!"

When one stops to observe the inscription found in public places all over our nation's capital, he or she will easily find the signature of God, as it is unmistakably inscribed everywhere you look. You may forget the width and height of *Laus Deo*, its location, or the architects, but no one who reads this will be able to forget its meaning, or these words: "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain." (Psalm 127:1)

Laus Deo!



FARRAR FAMILY PHOTO GALLERY



Top: About 80 or so Farrars line up for the 30th Annual Farrar Family Reunion photo. From left to right are ... oh, never mind—figure it out for yourselves!! Eight of the O-10 are pictured in order, starting with Joe (black hat). Bill's wife Betty is to the right of Joe, followed by Bob, Dick, Jean, Tom, Barb, Marleen, and Carol.

Left: A statue of Captain John Smith, "Admiral of New England" and Governor of Virginia in 1608, presides over the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown.

Right: A statue of Pocahontas, who intervened with her father, chief of the Powhatan Indians, to save John Smith's life. She later became a friend of our ancestral grandmother, Cicely Farrar.

Lower Left: The full statue of John Smith.

Lower Right: A bust of John Tyler, 10th President of the United States, and Governor of Virginia from 1808—1811.





FARRAR FAMILY PHOTO GALLERY



Left: Betty Farrar (foreground, back to the camera) chats with Linda Berry at Betty's 80th birthday party. Grandson Gary, Jr. is behind Linda, Gary Sr., is walking away, Bart & Kay Williams are obviously distracted by something off-camera!

Below: Bob gives sister-in-law Betty a hug while Barb and Carol (back to the camera) wait their turns.

Below Left: Gathered around the traditional Father's Day cake at the 30th Annual Farrar Family Reunion. Seated, left to right: Jean, Barb, Charlotte (a beloved "honorary cousin"), and Joe. Back row: Tom, Carol, Dick, and Marleen who seems to be having a really, really bad hair day! Like Pippi Longstocking meets electrical socket!

Bottom Right: The newest member of the 4th Generation, Caden Kneese, and mom Jennifer.





FARRAR FAMILY PHOTO GALLERY



Above (Top Row): Water balloon fighting, Farrar-style. Jean prepares her weapon ... hurls it at her unsuspecting brother Bob ... and Jill comes to her father's defense with, um, an empty bucket. At least put some water in it, Jill!

Right: Two visiting dogs from Texas try to teach Aspen Williams the *right* way to play Frisbee. Use your mouth to pick it up, not your hand! Umph! Humans are so slow!

Far Right: Ben Jones is, um, searching the treetops for elusive whippoorwills. ZZZZZZZZZZZ

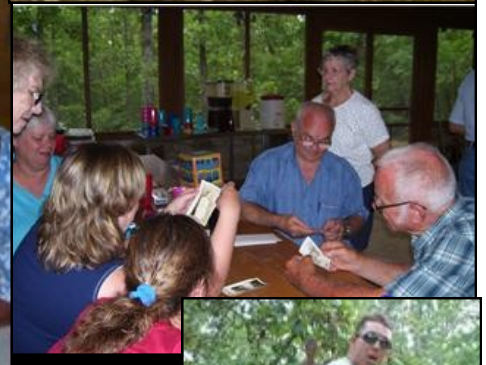
Middle and Middle Right: Oh, the games that we play ... and play ... and play

Bottom Left: Wanda Jirsa and a helper cook up the breakfast fixin's (with supervision).

Bottom Center: Nikki sets up to hit (miss) the volleyball while Aspen watches doubtfully.

Bottom Right: John Fortune, who is already about 7 feet tall, decides to elevate himself a few more feet.

See more pics on our website!!
www.FarrarFamilyReunion.org





The Farrar Family Tree

This Tree will function alone or as a great companion to the Farrar's Island books. A 3'x5' scroll, on white paper, in black ink, non-fading, easily readable, it begins three generations into England, over the ocean to Jamestown and our immigrant grandparents William and Cecily, and then follows our particular line through each generation to the present. The Farrar Family Tree is \$25.00 per copy.

The Farrar's Island Books

This two-volume set of well-researched Farrar history by author Miss Alvahn Holmes, covers the history of our line back to Jamestown and further. Learn about the deeding of 2,000 acres of land, including the 800 acre island known as Farrar Island, to our ancestor William by the government of Jamestown. Read about Pocahontas and The Starving Time.

Vol I: The Farrar's Island Family (\$48.00)
 Vol II: Some Farrar's Island Descendants (\$68.00)
 Both volumes as a matching set,
 bound in red cloth (\$108.00).

All of these items are available for purchase by anyone, and all prices include shipping and handling. Please send your order, along with payment (check or money order, payable to Farrar Family Reunion Fund) to the Reunion Treasurer:

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Remember, our Reunion is fully funded through sales of these items, annual dues from Reunion members, and the generosity of our extended family and friends. Please help support this worthwhile and long-standing organization!

The Farrar Family Reunion Newsletter

The Newsletter is a bi-annual publication of The Farrar Family Reunion, Inc., a non-profit organization founded by the descendants of Joseph Vernon Farrar, Sr. for the benefit of the Farrar family line descending from William and Cecily Farrar, immigrants from England to Jamestown, VA, in the early 1600s.

Publication of the Newsletter occurs in April and October. Deadline for submissions is the 15th day of the month prior to publication. Please send all submissions to the Editor:

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Reunion Dues

Each member of the Reunion is expected to pay annual dues to help defray expenses and keep the Reunion financially viable. Annual dues are levied as follows: the "O-10" = \$100; 2nd Gen (40+ years old) = \$50, 2nd Gen (<40 years old) = \$25.

Any additional donation amounts are appreciated, as are contributions from anyone who cares to donate. Please send your dues and donations to our Treasurer. Your timeliness in doing so is greatly appreciated.

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