

Herewith is the first Slusher Family Newsletter which is sent out to you with love and appreciation. Also with a request for your suggestions, requests, genealogical material, comments and/or criticism, this being the first project of its kind we ever did attempt. Please send all such comments etc. to Mrs. W. S. Slusher, 206 Rivermont, McMinnville, Tenn. 37110, since the president of the Slusher Family Organization says he's an engineer, not an editor, and on my head be it! We are writing to various people who know about family newsletters, so next time, perhaps we will know more about what should be done and how to go about it.

Here are some Little Items which have come our way:

Sgt. David J. Hylton has been a patient in Charleston Naval Hospital recently. He is the son of Elder & Mrs. A.J. Hylton of Willis, Va. He served over two years in the Air Force. If we had an address, we could say get well fast!)

Samuel W. Slusher and his wife, Eva Nugent Slusher celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary October 16th. He is the youngest son of David Slusher II, who was sheriff of Floyd County 16 years. Congratulations and many more!

Mrs. Virginia L. Slusher Fisher of Lexington, Missouri has had some more copies of "Slusher Homemakers Club" books published. If you are interested in the homes, people and history of the Missouri Slushers, who are descendants of Christopher, Jr. write to her at 504 So. Garth, Columbia, Missouri 65201.

William S. Slusher, Jr. has been discharged from the Army after  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years as a helicopter pilot with a year in Vietnam. He and family have moved to Maryland.

#### RECAP OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL LETTER

Organizational meeting was held July 18, 1970, in Floyd County, Va.

Officers: Note: An error must be corrected in the list of officers sent out with the first letter. We are sorry about it too.

President: Wm. S. Slusher, McMinnville, Tennessee.

Secretary: Mrs. Janet S. Keith, Willis, Virginia.

Treasurer: Mr. Freeman M. Slusher, Floyd, Virginia.

Genealogists: Mr. & Mrs. Hatcher King, Spout Springs, Va.

AND: Mrs. Robert M. Norris, Hampton, Va.

Historians: Mrs. Wm. S. Slusher, McMinnville, Tenn.

AND: Mr. Ronald Miller, East Hartford, Connecticut

Of the two underlined, Mrs. Norris was misplaced, and Mr. Miller was omitted.

Dues: \$2.00 per year (See below)

Reunions to be held every other year.

AND: please send in the names and addresses of your brothers and sisters, parents

aunts, uncles, and grandparents and children for the mailing list.

The first mailing was sent to 75 people. We now have names and addresses of over 250, but there are a whole lot more!

#### WHY??

Some people have asked WHY a Slusher Family Organization? WHY officers? Why dues? Ancestor worship? Not at all! It's the history of our family we are after, and coincidentally the history of our country. Example: one of the letters that have turned up recently (c 1835) was concerned with some counterfeit money one of our ancestors had been given. At that time, banks (10,000 different ones) were issuing their own paper money, and it was very easy for the crooks and counterfeiters to get into that game. The Government didn't standardize paper money until 1863. This is history; so is the picture of Christopher, Sr.'s trek from Pennsylvania down the Valley of Virginia to what is now Floyd County, and the trip of Christopher Jr. to Missouri by wagon train.

--- why dues? Because postage for over 250 letters costs over \$15.00, not to mention the stencils, paper, envelopes, etc. This is the only 'why dues'. We said to begin with that there would be no compulsion to pay the \$2.00, and there won't, but if the letters are to continue to be sent out, the postage must be forthcoming. We don't blame you for not wanting to buy a 'pig in a poke' so to speak, but maybe with this letter, you will be interested enough to want to send in your dues. Send them to Mr. F. M. Slusher, Rt. #3, Box 18, Floyd, Va. 24091, or you can return them to the address on this envelope with your genealogical sheet and they will be forwarded.

#### REQUESTS

Here lately, three or four old letters have come to light written between members of the family in the early 1800's. There are almost bound to be others. Who has one they will copy and let us publish? Be sure to copy them exactly as they are written, spelling, punctuation (or lack of same) etc. (After reading some of the old letters we know where some members of the modern generation got their unique ability to spell (?) - they inherited it!)

Anyone know any of the descendants of Elijah and Barbara Slusher Turman who moved to Carroll Co. after their marriage in 1812? How about Caty and Cary Simmons?

Please, when you send in names for the mailing list, send whole names if you have them (maiden and married), especially if the name happens to be Slusher! Of the 250 names we have, about 100 of them are Slushers and it's sometimes hard to tell if, for instance, a Mrs. Jane Slusher is the same as Mrs. Wm. or Mrs. John Slusher, especially if only a town name is used. If you get two letters, it's because of this.

If your letter should be marked 'Third Class' it'll be because the United States Post Office department wouldn't let us send four sheets of paper for 6¢ and you who are new on the mailing list need to have a genealogical sheet to return which makes four sheets. AND if you don't return that genealogical sheet, we won't know whether you got the letter or not, because the post office won't forward or return third class mail. So please return that genealogical sheet if you find one in your letter. Also, all you folks who haven't returned the sheets you were sent in the organizational letter, Please do. How are we going to get a complete picture of the family if you and yours aren't in it?

Just to let you know that Family Associations have a place in the scope of things, we received a letter from the President of the National Genealogical Society, Mr. Kenn Stryker-Rodda, who informed us that there is a definite place for family news letters in various archives, and that copies of this one should be sent to the National Society as well as the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, the State Library, Harrisburg, Pa.; New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (because a considerable amount of Pennsylvania research is done there); the Library of Congress (!) the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond and local societies. So: we are going on record! Be sure you are there with the rest of us.

Many thanks to everyone who has returned the genealogical sheets, and sent in names and addresses of people they know who belong with us. The Good Lord willin' the next one of these letters should reach you sometime in January or early February, so we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous and Healthy New Year!