

Locke Family Newsletter

Publisher **Vann Helms** Volume Number 1 Issue Number 2 February, 2006

Welcome Back!

Since the first newsletter, many of you have responded to my request for more information and photographs. This was my hope all along! For too many years, our family has guarded its secrets like hidden treasure. We have so much to share, and time has come to open the vaults. This second issue corrects a number of errors from the first issue. That was my hope all along. I appreciate your help and honesty in this ongoing process. Please continue to communicate!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for this year's reunion. The first Sunday in October at **Ray and Bruce Howell's** farm outside of Huntersville, North Carolina is the day. That's October the first this year. Please encourage all of your family to attend, especially the younger folks and the children. Many of our loved ones are no longer with us, and without this revitalization, our future as a family who gathers on a regular basis is in serious jeopardy. Those who worked so hard to bring us to this point would be proud of our efforts. We do not intend to let them down!

The first mailing went to 130 separate homes. I've since received 41 new addresses who want to be on the mailing list. My intention is to go electronic, and use the web for as many recipients as possible. Please e-mail your internet addresses to vann@miami-art.com

The Locke Reunion of September 18, 2005

On September 18, our annual Sunday Dinner was held at Catawba Baptist Church. It was a beautiful, sunny afternoon. Although the numbers were smaller than previous years, we all had a wonderful time sharing delicious Southern cuisine and desserts, and talking about our ancestors. Nancy Locke and her family are to be commended on another successful event. A table was set up to display family history and memorabilia. Vann Helms who drove up from Ft. Lauderdale, brought his computer stocked full of photographs and family tree pages. Marie Locke Herres and her son Danny, from Columbia and Charleston, had discovered a new photo of Absalom Lewis Locke, her grandfather, when he was about 35 years old. Truly a remarkable find! Charlie Winchester and his family brought photographs of his mother, Sadie Locke Winchester, with her sisters Mattie Helms and Mamie Boyce. They also brought a old picture of Charlie's Grandmother, Sarah Elizabeth "Lizzie" Locke, taken in the late 1920's when she was in her 70's. A portrait of the John Calhoun/Nancy Ira Locke family was displayed for all to enjoy. John T. Locke, and his sisters and brothers looked out to us from the past.

It was decided that **Vann Helms** would organize next year's reunion, and that the date would be changed to the first Sunday in October. Please mark your calendars today! It was also agreed upon that **Furman Locke, Jr.**, would be encouraged to contribute a sample of his DNA for the national "Locke Project", so that we might determine where our family fits in with all the other branches of Lockes in America. Marie and Danny Herres generously contributed the \$ 150 to underwrite the testing.

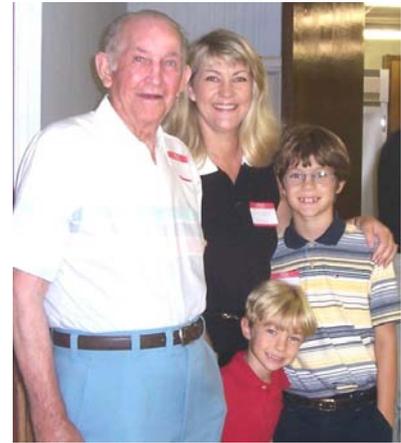
Others in attendance were Furman and his daughter Kim with her husband Scott Agnew, and their children, Nate and Max; Myrtle Winchester and her daughter Myra with dad Charlie; twins Don Locke from Raleigh, and Ron, Meg, Will, Robert, and Margaret Locke from Hickory, N.C. with their mom Nancy; many descendants of Georgia Cordelia (Cordie) Locke Carter, including James Carter, Tom and Jessie Carter, Frances Marshall, Katherine, Hannah, and Abbey Steel, and Gene and Peggy Carter Weathers; and George Culp, son of Virginia (Janie) Hope Locke.



Southern home cooking!



The Locke Twins



Furman, Kim, Max and Nate

The Locke DNA Project

During the past year, one of our distant cousins, **Donald Locke**, established a special website devoted to sharing information about the many branches of the **Locke** family in America. You can correspond with Don at LOCKEROOTS@COMCAST.NET. He has a lot of information about the various groups of **Lockes** scattered across the United States and England. Through his web site, it was learned that a special DNA Project had been set up, where males with the **Locke** last name could be tested to see how their families might be related in past generations.

Furman Master Locke, Jr., the Great-Great-Grandson of **Stephen Locke**, agreed to donate a sample of his DNA for testing. When you think about it, this was a major decision on his part. You just never know what these kinds of tests might uncover about a person's ancestors. He swabbed the inside of his mouth with a special "Q-Tip", and sent the sample to Family Tree DNA, Inc., in Houston, Texas in October. On Thanksgiving Day, the results were sent to us. It was a successful test. It checked for 12 special markers, and found two exact matches. For the first time, we had specific evidence of our past connection with another **Locke** family. The matching names were **Judson Cleveland Locke**, who lives in Watumpka, Alabama near Montgomery, and **Thomas Whitlock**, who descended from a Chester County **Locke** who was adopted by the **Whitlock family** and moved to Arkansas. After contacting **Sandra Locke Wright**, the GGG granddaughter of **Jesse McCulloch Locke**, we confirmed that our common ancestor was **Josias Locke**, **Jesse** and **Stephen's** father, who had emigrated from Halifax County, North Carolina, to Chester County, South Carolina, in 1804, along with his brother, **William Locke**. **Joyce Couch**, who lives in Nashville, Arkansas, is a cousin to **Thomas Whitlock**, and is hopeful to learn much more about our family!

So far, less than twenty **Locke** men have been tested in America, and as that number grows, we will be compared to them all for common ancestors. Currently, the project is waiting for results from testing in Tennessee that could link that family with the Chester clan! Eventually, we should know how closely related we are to the **Lockes** in Virginia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and West Virginia. We will even be able to find out from which Locke family in England we descend. Much thanks to **Furman** and his family for taking a giant step!

Recently, I was contacted by another branch of **Jesse McCulloch's** family living in Oklahoma. Their reunion will be in late June, and I hope to go out there to meet this wonderful group!



Absalom Lewis Locke in the 1890's.



Granddaughter Bennie Locke in 2003



Absalom Locke's descendants in 1946. How many can you name?

The Locke Family Reunion 2006

Mark your calendars and Blackberries now! On Sunday, **October 1**, we will gather at **1:30** for dinner and so much more. Our Locke reunion will be held on a farm near Huntersville, N.C., and our hosts will be **Ray and Bruce Howell** and their family. Ray is the son of **Mae Helms Howell**, who was the eldest daughter of **Mattie Locke Helms**. They have graciously offered their family pavilion on a beautiful lake for our next gathering! On the farm, you'll find lots of animals for the younger crowd, as well as excellent fishing in the lake for those anglers among us. Bruce's father, Bud Davis, just for family gatherings, built the pavilion many years ago. Many successful Davis reunions have been held there, and people just don't want to leave. The hillside and ancient oaks are very much like our ancestral farms in Chester and York counties.

We plan to eat around 2 p.m., but come early so that we can prepare the tables and make the iced tea. Of course, bring your favorite meats, fish, vegetables, breads, and desserts. I seem to remember that the pavilion has a large grill for hamburgers, hotdogs, and BBQ chicken. And let's make sure to boil up a big pot for fresh corn-on-the-cob this year!

We will have a computer and scanner set up in the pavilion, so bring those priceless Locke photos and documents so they can be preserved for everyone to enjoy. We'll have plenty of blank discs so you can take your own copy home. Our goal over the next year is to make a Locke family DVD with thousands of pictures, census records, wills, and marriage and death certificates. Our family has so much to share, and times' a wastin.

Bring your Frisbees, kites, fishing poles, and anything else that might get your blood pumping after such a great meal! Let's spend a leisurely afternoon together, sharing stories, and learning about Locke history. We hope to have the original Civil War letters from Josiah Henry Locke, who was killed near Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864. We'll also have a large family tree chart with everyone's name in the proper place. And we'll have a big screen to watch all the Panther football action! Stay tuned for a complete map and directions to the Howell farm. If you need transportation, we'll make sure somebody picks you up. This will be a reunion for the record books!

Who Was the First **Locke** in South Carolina?

Who was our most common ancestor? This is an important question for those of us who research the **Locke** family name, and who hope to tie us all together with the Lockes who came before. Actually, we are finding out more about these people every day, with the help of the Internet, and with the electronic publication of marriage and death records, census records, war records, and immigration logs. Let's take a trip back through history, and discover our roots in a detail we previously never thought possible.

Our first destination is 17th century England, at a time when the King required all subjects of Scotland, England, and Wales to belong to the Church of England, and to pay taxes directly to the church. If someone chose to practice another religion, they were still forced to pay fees to the state church, also known as the Anglicans, and were penalized unmercifully if they refused. Our **Locke** ancestors chose to leave England, rather than support a religion they didn't embrace. Initially, they settled in what is now called Northern Ireland, near the county of Antrim. Because so many of the settlers were from Scotland, they were called Scots-Irish when they arrived in America. They really weren't Irish at all, but were Protestants who had lived on the northern tip of Ireland prior to their passage to the new world.

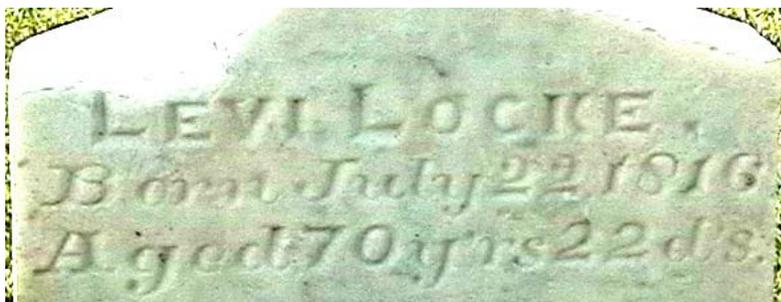
The Atlantic crossings took between two and three months to complete. The tall sailing ships carried as many as 300 passengers, and losing as many as 30 people during the crossing was not uncommon. Also, many lasting relationships were formed during those harrowing days, and marriage between young immigrants was common. Most of these ships landed in the ports of Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, and Charlestown (now Charleston). From all we have been able to learn, the ship that carried our earliest Locke immigrant landed in Baltimore, or along the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The first two generations raised their families in St. Mary's County, but strong incentives by the King of England encouraged many of them to seek free land in the interior frontiers of Virginia and the Carolinas. **James Locke**, born around 1718, and **Susanna Green**, born around 1714, who married in St. Mary's, Md., around 1740, were our first ancestors to move into North Carolina, settling in Halifax County on the Virginia border around 1760. They had at least six children. **Josias**, our direct ancestor, was born in Maryland around 1756. He married **Susanna Hall** in Halifax County around 1780. Around 1783, our next ancestor, **Stephen**, was born in Halifax. In 1800-06, **Josias** and his brother **William**, sold their land in Halifax County, and moved their families into Chester District, South Carolina. **Josias** purchased 200 acres on December 2, 1807. **Josias and Susanna** had at least seven children. They were **Priscilla, Sarah, Stephen, Asa, Benjamin Lafayette, Jesse McCulloch, and Joseph**. **Stephen** married **Nancy Hines** in Chester County in 1805. She was the daughter of **Thomas Hines**, who lived on the farm next to **Josias and Susanna**. **Stephen and Nancy** had at least six children. They were **Willis, Thena, Martha, Rebecca, Nancy, and Levi**. **Thena** was born July 30, 1806, and lived until June 18, 1887. **Rebecca** was born in 1811, and passed on February 28, 1899. **Nancy** was born in September, 1812, and passed on July 4, 1901. **Levi**, our ancestor, was born July 22, 1816. He had two marriages. The first was to **Ruth** (?), in 1837, in Chester County. They had at least seven children. They were **William**, born in 1838, and **Josiah**, born in 1841, in Chester County. Records indicate that **Levi** and **Ruth** (?) moved to the Catawba region of York County in 1842. **Mary** was born in 1842, **Nancy**, born in 1843, **Sarah**, born in 1845, **Eliza**, born in 1846, and **Ruth**, born in 1848, with mother, **Ruth**, dying in childbirth. **Levi** married **Malinda (Linda) Shurley**, already 36 years old, in York County in 1849. **Malinda** (Old Granny Locke), was born on August 22, 1813, to **Philemon Shurley**, who was born October 25, 1790, and **Lucretia Walston**, who was born May 5, 1794. **Philemon and Lucretia** had been married on November 5, 1812, in York County. **Levi and Malinda** had five children together. **James A.** was born in 1850, and died in 1869. **Martha** was born in 1852 and died in 1881. **John Calhoun** was born on March 28, 1854. He

married *Nancy Frances (Fannie) Ira Ferguson*, and had seven children. They were *William George*, born 1874, *Georgia Cordelia*, born 1876, *James Ira*, born 1883, *Minnie Bell*, born 1885, *Virginia (Janie) Hope*, born 1887, *Callie*, a twin to Janie, who died at age three, and *John Tillman*, born 1890. *Washington Philemon* was born May 22, 1857. He married *Margaret Alice West-Mellon*, and had two children. They were *Elizabeth Bea*, born in 1894, and an infant son born in 1899. The last child, *Absalom Lewis*, was born June 14, 1859. He married *Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons Campbell*, and they had seven children. They were *Martha (Mattie) Hope*, born 1882, *Mary Malinda*, born 1884, *Sadie Lewis*, born 1887, *Furman Master*, born 1890, *Mamie Scenia*, born 1893, *Walston Levi*, born 1896, and an unnamed boy, born 1898.

Jesse McCulloch Locke, *Stephen's* younger brother, had married *Mary Hunter*, in 1815, and they had a number of children before relocating to northern Alabama around 1825. The arrival of *Josiah* (1817-1864), *James Henry* (1818-1896), *Jesse Culp* (1822-1892), *Mary*, *Jonathan Newell*, *Adoniram Judson*, and *Benjamin McCulloch*, made for a large farming family. In a horrible tragedy in 1864, *Josiah*, and many other family members were killed when the Yankees burned their home near Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Because we have chosen the *Levi Locke-Malinda Shurley* descendants for our reunion family, we should also remember that the children from *Levi's* first marriage are still close relatives, and were raised by *Levi and Malinda* in York County, as a family of twelve.

Old Granny *Malinda Locke* lived to be **96** years old, and is buried at Catawba Baptist Church in Lesslie, South Carolina, along with *Levi*, who passed in **1886**. Many other family members are also buried at Catawba, including *John Calhoun*, *Washington Philemon*, *Bea Locke Ballard*, *Martha*, *James*, *Mary Malinda*, *Cordelia Locke Carter*, and *John Tillman*. *Absalom Lewis* and his son, *Walston Levi*, are buried at Waxhaw Cemetery in North Carolina beside *Sarah Elizabeth "Lizzie" Locke*..



Levi Locke marker at Catawba Baptist Church, Lesslie, South Carolina



James Henry Locke
Levi's first cousin!



Chester County Courthouse

The History of Malinda Shurley Locke

When *Levi Locke* married *Malinda Shurley* in 1849, he already had seven children by his first wife. What kind of woman was ready to assume the responsibility of such a brood, then go on to have five children of her own? And to top it all, she would live to be **95** years old at a time when most people were lucky to see fifty!

How and when *Thaddeus Shurley*, Malinda's grandfather, would arrive in *South Carolina* remains a mystery. He had fought valiantly as a young man in the *Revolutionary War*. What we do know is that he first appeared in the "**96th District**" of northern *South Carolina* in the 1790 census. His land was

located at the fork of the *Enoree* and *Broad Rivers*, very near the modern town of *Newberry*. This part of the upcountry was settled largely by Scots-Irish, English, and German immigrants. Germans were so prevalent in that part of *Newberry County*, that it became known as “*Dutch Fork*”, with the *Dutch* actually meaning *deutsch*, or German. He had inherited more land from **John and Sarah Robertson, Jr.**, on February 27, 1791, but his relationship to this family is unknown. **Thaddeus** was born August 16, 1757, most likely in *Virginia*. A number of *Shirley/Shurley* families were shown living in *Louisa, Madison, and New Kent* counties in *Virginia* in the mid 1700’s

It seems that he had not moved to *South Carolina* alone. Census records for 1800 in *Fairfield County*, show an Eli or **Elijah Shirley** living with his wife and 4 small children. In the 1810 *Fairfield* census, he is shown as being over 45 years old, placing his birth date as before 1765. **Thaddeus** named his fourth son, **Eli**, most likely after his “brother”, who had moved south with him years earlier. . **Absalom Shurley**, another *Virginia* immigrant, was shown as living in *Edgefield County, South Carolina*, in the 1800 census. (**Absalom Locke’s** name came from the **Shurley** side of the family.) To further complicate the picture, a deed was registered to a **Thomas Shirley**, in *Abbeville County, South Carolina*, on April 5, 1791.

On January 4, 1793, Thaddeus assigned 100 acres of land to William Thomas Linton, in what was to become *Newberry County* by 1795. He then moved his family to *York County*. He first appears on a *York County* census in 1800, with his wife, **Elizabeth**, and six children. **Elizabeth** was probably a **Clawson** by birth. They settled on Indian land on the *Catawba River* known as the *Nations Ford*. **Thaddeus** and **Elizabeth** had four sons and four daughters. The eldest son, **Meredith**, born in 1785, was college educated, and taught for many years at the prestigious preparatory school, *Ebenezer Academy*, near *Fort Mill*, in *York County*. **Meredith’s** oldest son was named for a popular Baptist minister, **John Rooker**, and the marriage ceremony between him and **Martha Ann Leitner** in 1847, was performed by **Professor James C. Furman** who founded *Furman College* near Greenville. **John Rooker Shurley** also became a teacher at *Ebenezer Academy*, and served as Principal near the end of his life. The second son was **Philemon**, born in 1790. This is our ancestor. Both **Meredith** and **Philemon** married daughters of **Elias** and **Sythenia Washington Walston** of *York County*. **Elias’** father was **Thomas Walston**, from *Warrenton, Virginia*. (Take note of these names. They would surface again in subsequent generations.) In October, 1823, **Thaddeus** was able to avoid jury duty by claiming that he suffered from a “Rheumatic affliction”.

Philemon Shurley married **Lucretia Walston** November 5, 1812, and their oldest daughter, **Malinda**, was born the following August. Her nickname was **Linda**. She had seven brothers and sisters. Her brother, **Absalom**, born in 1818, moved his family to *Giles, Tennessee*, around 1845, where he built a large plantation with over 30 slaves. In 1859, he moved to *Walker County, Alabama*, and died there in 1898. **Linda’s** other brother, **Eli Washington**, died in *York County* in 1857. Her sisters’ names were **Lucinda, Lucretia, Barbara, Elvira, and Emeline**.

Thaddeus Shurley died at his home near *Nations Ford*, on November 29, 1840, at the age of 83. He was one of the last surviving *Revolutionary War* veterans. His wife **Elizabeth** died in 1846, at 85 years of age. Their plantation covered more than 450 acres, and they owned sixteen slaves.

Philemon Shurley died in September of 1854, at the age of 64. When he willed **Malinda** her share of his estate, he specified that the money would be hers, and would “be free from the interference of, or control of her husband, **Levi Locke**”. **Lucretia Walston Shurley** lived until after 1860 with her daughter, **Lucretia Shurley Schooley**, on a farm adjacent to **Malinda** and **Levi Locke** in *York County*.

Lucretia Schooley lived to be 84 years old, dying on December 4, 1900. **Malinda** died in 1909, and is buried at *Catawba Baptist Church*, beside her husband, **Levi**. Known as “*Old Granny Locke*”, her strength and longevity are to be admired by us all!

William Minton
James McCommon
Elias Walton
Philamon Shirley
James Hogge
Alexander Campbell
William Whitley

1820 York District Census: Malinda's father and grandfather

Locke Absalom S	W	M	21
Locke Malinda	W	F	66
Martha A	W	F	26
Washington S	W	M	23
Levi	W	M	63

1880 York County Census: Absalom, Martha, and Washington living with Levi and Malinda

The Pioneering Spirit of **Thomas Hines** and his daughter **Nancy**

One of the most inspiring women from the Locke family was not a Locke at all. Her name was **Nancy Hines**, and she chose to become the wife of **Stephen Locke**, the father of our patriarch, **Levi**. The Hines family had been living in South Carolina for over thirty years when **Josias Locke** first settled in Chester County. In a respected 19th century publication, *The Scots-Irish in America*, Nancy's father, **Thomas Hines**, was mentioned as a real pioneer in the colonization of the Indian territories of the Carolinas. It was also noted that he possessed the ability to write his name, which was rare for that time. He served in the Colonial army during the Revolutionary War, fighting against the troops of General Cornwallis at the battle of Kings Mountain. He was a true patriot!

The Hines roots were found in Scotland, and the family fled to Northern Ireland in the late 1500's in search of religious freedom. The earliest record of a Hines in Virginia was of a **John William Hines**, who was born around 1600 in Northern Ireland, and arrived in the colonies aboard the first ships to sail up the James River. Around 1670, a **Thomas Hines** sailed from Ulster to the James River colony, and settled in Essex County, Virginia. He died in 1709, and left his small plantation to his wife, **Rebecca**, and to his oldest son, **John**. A **John Hines, Jr.** was born around 1740 in Southampton County, Virginia, and died in 1807 in Sussex County, Virginia.

So far, research has not linked our **Thomas Hines** with the other **Hines** families in Virginia and North Carolina, but that connection might be established through more intensive searches. **Sarah Frances Hines** recorded a land transaction in the Catawba Creek area of York, County, on June 8, 1783. It's fair to assume that many other **Hines** settlers were already active in this area prior to that time.

When **Josias Locke** moved into Chester County from North Carolina just after 1800, his neighbors were none other than the **Thomas Hines** family. In one house were **Thomas, Sr.**, his wife, name unknown, and his daughters, **Nancy, Eleanor (Nelly), Mary (Polly), and Clara Ford**. In another house were **Nancy's** brother **Ignatius**, and his family, and in yet another house were her brother **Thomas, Jr.**, and his family. **Nancy and Stephen** most likely met in church, which was the only social outlet in those days. They married in 1805, and their first child was born July 30, 1806. The first girl's name was **Thena**, and she went on to marry **B.B. Ellison**. The other children were **Willis** (William), **Martha** (Jones), **Rebecca, Nancy**, and finally, **Levi**. **Nancy** had to raise five small children while **Stephen** was away for two years fighting the British in *The War of 1812*.

Stephen was still alive when his father *Josias*' will was probated in 1828, but he died *before Nancy's* death in 1847. In a recollection of *Jesse McCulloch Locke*, himself, *Stephen* died in a duel during the 1830's. *Nancy Hines Locke* left no will, but her son, *Willis*, administered a very complete probate procedure that included a complete listing of her real property and belongings. That large file is stored in the basement of the historic *Chester County Courthouse*. She marked an "X" on her legal documents, indicating an inability to read and write. She made certain that all of her children would be educated, giving them every opportunity in life. That made her a very proud mother! The *Hines* genetic material gave *Nancy's* descendants a potential for long lives, and a pioneering spirit that still drives us today!

Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons Campbell Locke



Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons Campbell



Mattie Hope Locke

One of the greatest mysteries surrounding the *Absalom Lewis Locke* side of the family has been the origin of *Absalom's* wife, *Sarah Elizabeth*. Since her death in 1942, no one has really been sure about her parents, or even her age. Many said that she was half Indian, and others suggested that she was illegitimate. Some said that she was born a Campbell, and others said that she was born a Thompson. Most agreed that she spent a certain time of her life with a *Roddey* family in the Rock Hill area. Finally, the mystery seems to have been solved, and it was a letter written by her daughter, *Mattie Hope Locke Helms*, to her grandson, *Walston Levi Locke*, just a year before Mattie's death in 1965 that brought the truth to light. As with many such investigations, you need to be careful what you look for.

From *Mattie Helms'* letter, we learned that *Sarah Elizabeth's* mother was named **Martha Ann Campbell**, and was born in northern Chester County near Harmony Baptist Church. We also learned that Martha was married four times during her long life. The first husband was **John Thompson**, whom she married in 1857, and who was killed during the Civil War. The second husband was **David Roddey**, with whom she had two children, **William and Eliza**. He died before 1870. She then married **Madison Bell**, who died in the 1870's. Her last marriage was to **Henry Lee**, a widower farmer 26 years her senior, who died in 1890. It was also passed down that Martha's daughter, **Sarah Elizabeth**, was born on June 9, 1857, and that Martha had another son named "**Jimmy**", and a daughter named **Rebecca**. *Martha Ann Campbell Thompson Roddey Bell Lee* died on September 28, 1914, and is buried at Harmony Baptist Church. *Mattie* had a vague recollection that **Andy** and **Susan Campbell** of Chester County, were **Martha's** parents. Armed with these names, the extensive search of U.S. Census records yielded a treasure trove of names, dates, and intrigues. The trail stretched all the way back to Scotland and Ulster in Northern Ireland. Like any complex puzzle, pieces that seemed an obvious fit sometimes fooled the searcher. Only perseverance would lead to startling discoveries.

The 1860 Chester census showed that a **John Thompson**, age 35, was living with his wife, **Martha A. Thompson**, age 24, in the Harmony Church district of the county. Shown in the same census as Martha's daughter was **Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons**, age 3, and a 78 year old woman named **Nancy**

Sanders living in the same household. It seems obvious that **John Thompson**, who married **Martha Ann** in 1857, was not the biological father of **Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons**, who was also born in 1857. But from where did the “**Lemmons**” name come? And was this **Martha Ann Campbell**, or were the names just a coincidence? Looking at the 1870 Chester census in the Harmony Church area, a **Martha A. Roddey**, age 34, was shown living in the household of **Jane Campbell**, age 57, with two children, **William**, age 5, and **Eliza**, age 6 months. No male head-of-household is shown. David Roddey must have already died, and Martha had moved in with an older relative, most likely her mother or her aunt. In the 1880 Chester census, Harmony district, we find a **Martha A. Bell**, age 44, living near **Jane Campbell**, age 67, with two children, Eliza J., age 11, and James J. Wylie, age 6. **William Roddey**, age 15, is shown living with a neighboring Campbell family. She is listed as “widowed” in the document.

This overwhelming evidence proves that the **Martha A. Thompson** in the 1860 census, and the **Martha A. Roddey** in the 1870 census, and the **Martha A. Bell** in the 1880 census are the same person. The question remains, what happened to **Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons** from the 1860 census, and who were Martha’s parents? Going back to the 1850 Chester census, we find the family of **Samuel Campbell**, age 60, and his wife, **Jane**, age 37, living in the Harmony Church area. Their children are **Susan**, age 17, **Martha**, age 14, **James**, age 12, **John**, age 10, **Samuel, Jr.**, age 7, and **Thomas**, age 4. The “**Jane**” in the 1870 and 1880 censuses was **Martha’s** mother, and **Samuel** was her father. What about **Mattie’s** recollection that **Martha’s** parents were **Andy** and **Susan Campbell**? **Samuel** had a brother, **Alexander**, and “**Andy**” was the common nickname for Alexander in those days. The possibility exists that **Andy** and his wife, possibly Susan, would have also had a daughter named Martha, who might also have been born in 1836. The census records of 1840 have failed to show **Alexander** or his family living in Chester County. Also, most census records show that **Jane Campbell**, and her daughters **Susan** and **Martha Ann** were all born in Georgia. **Samuel Campbell** appeared on the 1840 Chester census, but was not present in the 1830 census.

Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons does not appear with her mother on the 1870 Chester census. Not until the 1880 York County census does an **Elizabeth Campbell** appear. She is shown living as a cook in the household of **K. Smith** in the Catawba district of the county. We are certain that this is our Grandmother “**Lizzie**” Locke, because we have the marriage announcement from the publication, *Marriages and Death Notices from Baptist Newspapers of South Carolina, Volume 2: 1866-1887*. The entry reads; “*On December 13th, by Rev. J. H. Edwards, at the residence of Mr. Kohath Smith, Mr. Absalom Locke and Miss Lizzie Campbell; all of York County.*” The year was 1881.

Obviously, **Lizzie** was never adopted by **John Thompson**, and never legally took his name. Where she was living after her mother was widowed during the Civil War is still a question, and the search goes on. We do know this. **Martha Ann** had an older sister named **Susan**, who married **Solomon Thompson** in Chester County, and had four daughters. Their names were **Mary**, **Rebecca**, **Eliza Ann**, and **Susie**. **Susan** died in 1870, and **Solomon** died shortly afterward, leaving four orphaned daughters. **Mary** was already married when her father died, but **Rebecca**, **Eliza**, and **Susie** were raised by their grandmother, **Jane Campbell**. Most likely, **Sarah Elizabeth Lemmons**, now known to be illegitimate, was also living with her grandmother, **Jane Campbell**, during the war, and would have taken the **Campbell** name at that time. Living with her cousins, **Lizzie** would have called them “*sisters*”, and they would have called her “*sister*” for the rest of their lives.

The 1880 York census shows **Elizabeth Campbell** as being 21 years old. The grave marker for **Sarah Elizabeth Locke** in the Waxhaw cemetery shows her birth date to be June 9, 1859. Because original records show that she was actually born in 1857, it’s safe to assume that “**Lizzie**” never knew that she was not John Thompson’s daughter. The family changed her birth date so that it would not conflict with **John and Martha’s** wedding date of 1857. You can imagine how scandalous it would

have been in those times to have been “illegitimate”. She never had to live with the stigma.

So, where did the “**Lemmons**” name come from that appeared in the 1860 census? Going back to the 1850 census, **Samuel and Jane Campbell** and **Martha Ann**, age 14, were shown to be living very near two large **Lemmons** families. **James Lemmons**, age 65, and his wife, **Mary**, age 48, had ten children; three daughters and seven sons. When **Martha Ann** became pregnant with **Sarah Elizabeth** in 1856, she would have been 20 years old. Three of the **Lemmons** brothers would have been 16, 19, and 22. Most likely, one of them was the father. **J.R.** was the 16 year old. **Henry** was the 19 year old, and **A.J.** was the 22 year old. Of course, we’ll never know for sure, but my money is on **Henry!** The other **Lemmons** family lived a few miles away. **Matthew and Lucy** had eight children, including a son, **John**, who would have been 19 years old in 1856. In the 1860 census, the **Lemmons** family had disappeared from the Harmony Church area.

What about the Scotland and Northern Ireland connection mentioned earlier? **Samuel Campbell**, **Martha Ann’s** father, was one of seven sons of **John and Mary Campbell**. John had departed Larne, Antrim, Northern Ireland on October 4, 1772, aboard the ship, **Lord Dunluce**. It arrived in Charlestown, South Carolina, on December 20, 1772, and all passengers remained in quarantine for smallpox for three more weeks. The ship carried Scots-Irish Protestants led by **the Reverend William Martin**. Each Protestant male was promised 200 acres in South Carolina in exchange for making the arduous journey. Women were offered 100 acres, and each child would net their parents an additional 50 acres. **John Campbell** was given land in the Chester district, very near to his brother, who had arrived on an earlier ship. Between the two of them, they had over 600 acres of farmable land, a sizable plantation for that time. A copy of **John’s** last will and testament is still on file in the **Chester County Courthouse**. He was able to read and write. He died in 1817, having never become a U.S. citizen.



Reunion 1946: Standing: Walston Locke, Oscar Winchester, Sadie Locke Winchester, Furman Locke. Seated: Hugh Boyce, Mamie Locke Boyce, Sue Winchester Locke, Ruth Rodgers Locke.



Marie Locke Herres, Walston and Ruth’s daughter
Then and now!

After serving in the First World War, Walston Levi Locke settled in the Washington, D.C., area, and married Ruth Rodgers. Along with two sons, Walston, Jr., and Buddy, they had a lovely daughter, Marie. Marrying a West Point graduate, Marie lived in all corners of the world, finally settling in Columbia, South Carolina, where she raised three wonderful sons, and where she resides today!



Absalom Lewis and Sarah Elizabeth Locke- 1921



Locke Children: Furman Master, Mattie Hope, Mamie Scenia, Sadie Lewis, and Walston Levi, in 1946.

Early Life in Chester, Lancaster, and York Counties

Today, we take so many things for granted. In this age of instant communication, it's difficult to imagine growing up with few wagon trails, no electricity, no plumbing, and no food stores! Thanks to the journalistic habit of an early visitor to **Lancaster, York, and Chester** counties, we can glimpse into that forgotten world where the word "*convenience*" meant an outdoor privy, or a small closet with a cold chamber pot.

This account of early life was provided by **Louise Pettus**, history professor emeritus from **Winthrop College** in **Rock Hill, South Carolina**. She has dedicated her life to the preservation of priceless stories and remembrances of the three county area referred to as the "*English district*". Her ancestors were from **Lancaster County**, but her expertise covered the entire area.

In **1822**, **Lucius Verus Bierce**, a recent 21 year old graduate of **Ohio University**, came to **York County** in search of a teaching job. He was accompanied by his walking companion **Peter Doty**, who was also seeking a teaching position. Both were able to secure employment. **Doty** was hired at **Ebenezer Academy** near present day **Rock Hill**, and **Bierce** found a place at the **Pleasant Valley Academy** in the Indian land of **Lancaster District**. Our family ties to **Ebenezer Academy** are strong. Old Granny **Malinda Shurley Locke** had an uncle, **Meredith Shurley**, who taught there for many years, and his son, **John Rooker Shurley**, was principal of the prestigious preparatory school in his later years. **Louise Pettus** is a direct descendant of the **Rev. John Rooker**, after whom **John Rooker Shurley** was named!

Lucius Bierce kept a journal, but wrote very little about his students. Instead, he made many observations about the people of the area, and their living conditions. He noted that farms were usually one to three miles apart, and the houses were placed on hills far off the roads, in a grove of trees, and very near a natural spring. Up north, he had observed that most farm houses were built beside the road. Where the ground was swampy and made of clay, the farmer would dig a well about seven feet deep. He would fill the resulting hole within two feet of the top with a fine white rock powder made by crushing flint stone as fine as possible. Each layer was pounded down as hard as possible. The remaining walls of the well were lined with the same crushed flint stone. The water from the spring

would rise up through the powdered flint, and would be purified in the process. Bierce observed that the “worse” water would be “clear and wholesome”.

The main crops of the area were cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, and figs. He saw no wheat or Irish potatoes, which were staples in his home state of *Ohio*.

As for diet, he wrote that the “*white people*” regularly ate “salt dried pork (country ham), rice mush, Johnny cake (corn bread), and fried crout (cabbage), for breakfast; pork and crout boiled with sweet potatoes, Johnny cake, and sour milk (buttermilk) for dinner; and the same cold, with rice mush, for supper”. This remained the menu the entire time Bierce was in *Lancaster County*. He yearned for breads, apples, and cakes.

Butter was made by churning “bonny clabber” (sour milk), with an equal amount of sweet milk until it arrived at the consistency of butter. It was then formed in tumblers, and placed on the table for “bite and sup”.

Hunting and dancing were the primary forms of entertainment. He wrote, “Balls are frequent, being given by persons to their friends, where all is free and the expense of the giver!” He attended one ball with a crowd of over 200 people, which must have cost the host about \$150.00. All classes of people attended the balls, including, to Bierce’s surprise, the local minister. He observed that morals were loose, noting that the people paid little attention to the Sabbath or religion. He did note that the “negroes” had their “liberty” on Sundays, which they spent hunting, fishing, and raising small crops of rice on land allowed to them by their masters.

Bierce found superstition to abound in the area. He wrote, “They would almost as soon burn themselves, as burn a stick of sassafras, which bodes ill luck!” He also wrote that, “Tattling is far more common here than in those places at the North where I have lived.”

When Lucius left *Pleasant Valley*, he walked down the old *Camden to Charlotte* road, and crossed the *Catawba River* at *Lands Ford*, very near the Locke homesteads. (It should be noted here that **Lands Ford** remained a main crossing point way into the twentieth century. *Walston Levi Locke* recalled that the ferry was a large flat barge-like construction that was pulled across the river by mules attached to long ropes. Often wagons and their mule contingent were balanced in the middle of the platform, and later automobiles shared the ride. The toll was set by the state.) He wrote that the river abounded in fish, especially shad, and that the water was “literally covered with ducks and geese.” *The Lands Ford Canal* was beside the river at that place. He observed that, “The canal is about two miles in length, having four beautiful and substantial locks. They are made of gray granite, and wrought by Irishmen in a manner which combines strength and beauty.”

Once across the river, *Bierce* walked north to find *Ebenezer Academy*, and his friend, *Peter Doty*. He had traveled twenty-seven miles with a knapsack that weighed almost twenty pounds. No reason was given as to why he had not crossed the *Catawba* at *Nations Ford*. Because the month was March, the river may have been too high to safely cross.

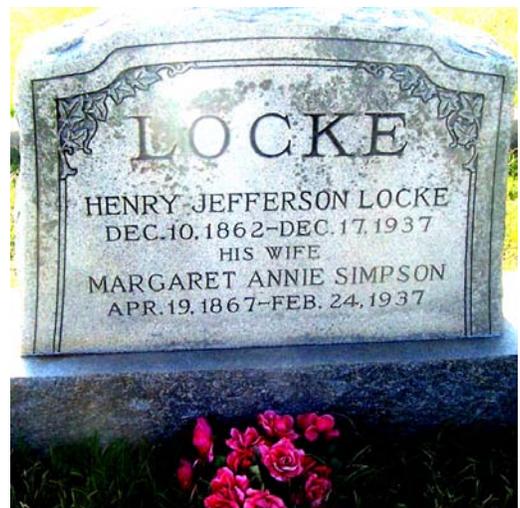
Bierce spent almost two weeks with *Doty* before leaving for *Chesterville* (Chester), which he reached by walking over twenty-two miles in the rain. Of *Chesterville*, Bierce wrote, “...a beautiful village of about sixty houses and capital of *Chester District*.” He stayed there for one night, then headed west, crossing the *Broad River* by ferry at *Pinckneyville* on the *Union District* line. There, *Lucius Bierce* wrote, he found, “a beautiful girl and plenty of Goshen cheese.”

Civil War Letters of Josiah Henry Locke

Born to *Mary Locke* in 1833, *Josiah Locke* married his neighbor, *Dorothy White* in 1858, and they had three children before *Josiah* joined the Confederate army in 1862. Tragically, he was killed in the battle of *Petersburg* in Virginia on June 17, 1864. His wife and sisters saved many of his letters, and they were passed down from generation to generation, until they came to be possessed by *Gerald “Jerry” Thomas Locke*, his great-grandson, of *Chester, South Carolina*. *Josiah’s* son *Henry Jefferson* was Jerry’s grandfather. They are remarkable in their simplicity, and in their sheer historical value. The condition of the original letters is not good, but with a great deal of patience and care, the words can live again, as they did over 141 years ago. *Josiah’s* name appears on a large monument in the Union ARP church cemetery in Chester County, near Richburg, and honors him for the hero he was. We’re hoping to have the original letters on display at the reunion in October. Please make every effort to take advantage of this once in a lifetime opportunity to see these priceless Locke family documents. *Josiah’s* father’s name is still unknown, but some believe he was *Willis Locke*, Levi’s brother. He must have been dead when the letters were written, because he is not mentioned. In the Chester census of 1850, *Josiah* is shown living with his mother, *Mary*, his brother, *Andrew*, and his sisters *Martha*, *Margaret*, and *Elizabeth*. His father is not living with the family! It is thought that *Mary Locke* may have been a *Hefley*, and went by the nickname, *Polly*.



□ Portion of letter sent in 1863.....



Jerry Locke’s Grandfather at Union ARP

Mother (Mary Locke), you don’t know the good it would do me to hear from my family. (Josiah was married to Dorothy White, and they had three children) I have never received the first line from home since I left, and I have wrote Dorothy four letters. I started the last one yesterday. I think surely she has got some of them by this time. Tell Mrs. Orr and Mrs. White to write to me and I will return the same. Tell Sarah and Betsy (his sisters) to let me hear from them, and to let me know where Daniel is, and where I ought to direct a letter to him. I haven’t heard a word since the last fight.

Our men has suffered badly in the last fight. Our men is getting very tired and short on supplies at the present time. I haven't any idea we will wipe the enemy if we get Charleston. I think it will be a bad chance our three years time will soon be out, and the men swear by all that is good or bad that they will go home when their time is out, and I think that will close the war!

Tell Martha Jane (his sister) howdy for me. Give her my best respects. Mother, I want some of you to send me some soap to wash my clothes. Tell Dorothy to send me some bread when Mrs. Anderson sends a package to James.

Write as soon as this letter is in hand.

*Direct to J. Locke
Company A, 17th Regiment
South Carolina Volunteers
Charleston*

Green Pond April 14,

1864

Dear Sister....

I take the present opportunity of informing that I am well and hardy at the present. Hoping these few lines may find you all enjoying the same blessing. There's nothing of importance to write. You will have to excuse me for not writing to you sooner. I had written a letter to you before I got your letter. I put it in my book and never thought but you had got it. Your letter was dated the third, and came to hand on the sixth.

I am still at camp, yet part of the men is here, and the other part is off working. I haven't saw J.L. , but one soldier says he was at home. Pete was not shot. I can't say what they will do with him. The last time I got a letter from home, it was written on the 16th of last month. I'm very uneasy to hear from home.

I hope we will get to stay here this month, though it is said to be a very sickly place. We have got a good many men down with chills and fever at this time. I am stouter and hardier than I ever was in my life, with the exception of a pain in my neck and right arm. Sometimes I can hardly make use of it.

Tell mother (Mary Locke) I am very much obliged to her. The money she sent me couldn't have come at a better time. We never had much money, but we are needing it very badly at this time. We are out of tobacco. I can get a bit under five dollars a plug. When any of you has a chance to send me any, I would be very glad, and will pay you for the same. I got a letter from B. Allen today. I will send you this old letter. The things you sent me arrived safe at hand. I must close. Nothing more at present. I remain, yours respectfully.

J.

Locke (Josiah "Joe" Locke)



Union ARP Church Cemetery in Richburg



Harmony Baptist Church in Lands Ford

This is the last letter written from Josiah Locke before he was killed at Petersburg, Virginia, on June 17, 1864. He was writing to his cousin, either a brother or sister to A.W. "Andy" Locke.

*Bivouac near Hanover Junction
May 23, 1864*

Dear Cousin.....

I take the pleasure of answering the letter that you wrote to Andy, but I am sorry to say that he has fallen. He fell on the 6th day of May, at the fight of The Wilderness. He was shot through the top of the head. I went to him after he fell and gave him water. He spoke once after I went to him. He says, "Joe, I am obliged to die!". I wanted to stay with him but the Yankees was firing on me so heavy that I had to leave him. I think he was dying when I left him. The Yankees held the ground that we fought on.

These few lines leaves me enjoying good health. Hoping these few lines

may find you well. Give my respects to (unknown) and all of the boys. Tell them I am spared. I hope I may have the pleasure of being with you all once more. I want you to write to me as soon as this comes to hand and let me know how you all are getting along.

Thomas Allison is missing and supposed to be killed. I was at the 12th Regiment the other day. They lost a heap of men. The 6th Regiment, Company A, Calvin Ferguson was killed. Also Nuten Owens killed. John Nichols was wounded by his own gun. J.B. Ferguson was wounded. That is all our neighbors that you know. I must come to a close. Write soon. Direct to Company B, 5th South Carolina Volunteers, Jenkins Brigade, Richmond, Virginia. Nothing more at present. I remain a cousin until death.

General Jenkins was killed by our own men!

J.H. Locke

Articles	4 page names	\$	Cts
1 Set of knives & forks	To Benj ^r Lack	00	80
1 Set tin cups	To Benj ^r Lack	00	62 1/2
1 Iron Bound keg	To Joseph Lack	01	33
1 Set Japanned tin	To Benj ^r Lack	00	22
5 Tin Jumblers	To Priscilla Lack	00	32
1 Cupboard	To James Lee	02	35
2 flour Barrels	To Stephen Lack	00	52
1 Barrel & keg	To Lodrick Tompson	00	22
1 meal Bag	To Jesse Lack	00	50
1 meal Bag	To Benj ^r Lack	00	56 1/4
1 meal Bag	To Stephen Lack	00	50
3/4 feet plank 1/2" x 4" 1\$	To Henry Carter	03	24
1 Water Pale	To Stephen Lack	00	44
1 Side Saddle	To Priscilla Lack	03	25
1 Side Saddle	To Sarah Lack	03	30
1 Sad Iron	To Stephen Lack	00	50
1 Sad Iron	To Benj ^r Lack	00	56 1/4
1 Home Razor & Spectacles	To Joseph Hines	01	40
1 Set wearing Clothes	To Joseph Lack	16	00
1 field of Cotton Russet	To Hugh White	28	31 1/4
15 Bushels Corn 5 6 1/4	To Jesse Lack	08	43 3/4
15 Do -- 1/2 Bushel			

When Josiah Locke died in 1826, he left no will, but his property and possessions were distributed to his family and friends according to the customs of the time. The above page mentions all of his children, except Asa, who was mentioned on another page. Many of his neighbors are also mentioned. There is no mention of his wife, Susanna. By seeing the kinds of things that were listed, you can get a fairly clear picture of the life that Josiah led on a large northern South Carolina farm. Many other family records can be found inside the Chester County Courthouse. Each is a piece of American history unto itself!

605
 State
 Josiah Lock
 Benjamin Lock
 admr

State of South-Carolina, }
 Chester District. }

BY E. Syle Esquire, Ordinary of
Christie district.

WHEREAS Benjamin Lock
 has applied to me for Letters of Administration, on all and singular the
 goods and chattels, rights and credits of Josiah Lock
 late of the district aforesaid, deceased.

These are therefore to cite and admonish all and singular, the kindred and
 creditors of the said deceased, to be and appear before me, at our next
 Ordinary's Court for the said district, to be holden at Chester Court
house on the twenty fifth day of
the month next to shew cause, if any, why the said adminis-
 tration should not be granted.

GIVEN under my hand and Seal, this Eighth day of
September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hun-
 dred and twenty six and in the fiftieth year
 Year of American Independence.

*E. Syle
 ordy*

This was the legal application from Benjamin Lock to be the administrator of Josiah's estate! The signatures below were part of the document guaranteeing a bond for the estate. It's the only place that the three brothers ever signed the same document. Jesse was already living in Alabama.

Benjamin Lock Seal
 Josiah Lock Seal
 Stephen Lock Seal

Benjamin, Joseph, and Stephen Locke

New Additions to the Extended Locke Family

Levi Locke has a new Great-Great-Great-Great Granddaughter! **Ashley Taylor Freedland** was born on December 10, 2004, to **Charlene Michelle Helms Freedland** and her husband **Michael**, in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Charlene is the daughter of Walston Edd “Eddie” Helms, Jr., and his wife Carol Slater, and granddaughter to the late Walston Edd (Buddy) Helms and his late wife Virginia Ratcliffe. Ashley is Charlene and Michael’s second child, joining **Blake Harrison Freedland**, who was born in 2002. A first birthday party was held on December 17, at the proud parent’s Ft. Lauderdale home.

Heather Howell, daughter of **Pat and Kathy Howell**, granddaughter of **Gladys** and the late **Glenn Howell**, great granddaughter of **John and Mae Helms Howell**, and great-great granddaughter of **Lonnie** and **Mattie Locke Helms**, gave birth to **Elizabeth Joy** on October 19, 2005. Congratulations to Heather, and to Gladys, the proud Great Grandmother! That’s five “Greats” for Levi!

In Memoriam.....

It’s never easy to say “Goodbye!” to those we love, but death is a fact of life. If you’ve lost someone recently, and their name isn’t here, please let us know so that they can be included in the next newsletter.

In 2003, the Winchester family lost **Orrin**, son of **Sadie Lewis Locke** and **Oscar Winchester**, and brother to **Charlie**, and father to **Felicia Winchester Thomas**. Orrin was a fixture at our reunions, and everyone will miss him.

Passing on December 1, 2003 was **Walston Edd “Buddy” Helms**, the last surviving child of **Mattie Hope Locke** and Lonnie Helms, and brother to Mae, Roy, Harold, Kelly, and Margaret, and father to Eddie, Vann, Nancy, and Wade. He was 87 years old. Buddy was the oldest surviving NASCAR driver, having raced his Hudson Super Six in the inaugural season of 1949. Just two weeks before he died, he and Richard Petty were honored with special parade laps prior to the final Winston Cup race held at the Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Hugh Wilson Boyce, oldest son of **Mamie Scenia Locke** and Hugh Boyce, and brother to Neal, Osborne, Mary, Bill, Locke, Helen, and Hope, and father to John Hugh Boyce, and Diane Boyce Simpson, passed away on December 2, 2005, in a Monroe nursing home. He was 89 years old, and had been in declining health for quite some time. **Letha Moore Boyce**, Wilson’s wife, and Diane and John’s mother, passed away May 13, 2005. In the early 60’s, Wilson and Letha Moore enjoyed their visits to brother Locke and cousin Buddy in Miami, and shared many stories of Miami’s exciting nightlife!

Jean Helms Jones, born in 1935, the only child of **Roy Walton Helms**, and granddaughter to **Mattie Locke Helms**, passed away in Melbourne, Florida, on November 30, 2005.



Roy W. Helms
1909-1940

Jean Helms (Top left)
with cousins in 1940

Lon & Mattie Helms
50th Ann. in 1952

Mae Helms Howell
1904-1986

Lonnie Wilson Helms
1876-1961

Let Us Hear From You!

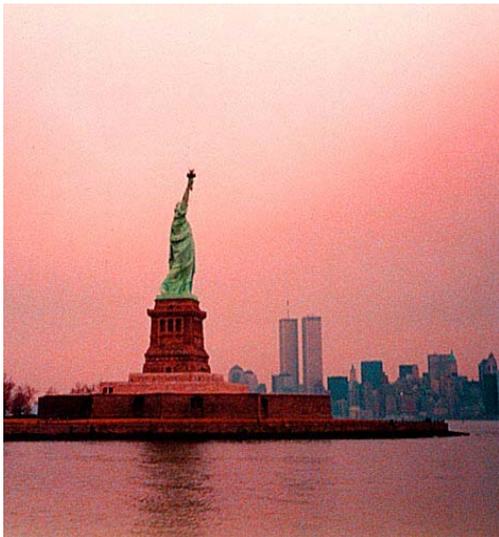
Please contact me with your family news and photos! My e-mail is vann@miami-art.com. My phone is 305/519-1934
We need photos from the John Calhoun and Washington branches for the next newsletter! See you at the reunion!



Furman Locke, Irma Locke Fields, Bennie Locke Wallace
at Buddy's memorial service at Myers Park Presbyterian.



Vann, Nancy, Wade, and Eddie Helms at the Ft. Lauderdale
home of Eddie's older daughter, Charlene Freedland.



"I lift my light before the Golden door!"
Ford 400



Buddy waves farewell at NASCAR

In the winter of 1988, **Walston Edd "Buddy" Helms** traveled to New York City with his son **Eddie**. While riding the *Staten Island Ferry*, **Buddy** snapped this poignant image of Lady Liberty and The World Trade Towers. Let it serve as a tribute to him, and to the victims of terrorism!

On November 9, Carol Slater Helms, Eddie's wife, was in a serious car accident. She was in ICU for three weeks, but is now on the road to recovery. Although many orthopedic surgeries lie ahead, her outlook is good. During these holidays, make sure that you tell all of your family how much you love and appreciate them. You just never know how events will affect those close to you. Treasure every moment you have to be together.