

# THE LOCKE FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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PUBLISHER **Vann Helms** VOLUME NUMBER **1** ISSUE NUMBER **2** **May, 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 the 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. **Huntersville** is just north of **Charlotte**. 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](mailto:vann@miami-art.com)

## THE **Locke** DNA PROJECT... AN UPDATE

In the first newsletter, the early results of the **Locke DNA Project** were unveiled. Since then, more information has come to light because of those results. **Furman Master Locke, Jr.**, had a 12 marker match with **Judson Cleveland Locke, Jr.**, who lived in Wetumpka, Alabama near Montgomery, and with **Thomas Whitlock**, from Nashville, Arkansas. It was believed that both of these men descended from **Jesse McCullough Locke**, who moved from Chester County, South Carolina, to Roane County, Tennessee, late in 1830. Our contact in Arkansas is **Joyce Couch**, possible g-g-g-granddaughter of **Jesse McCullough**. Over the past few months, after a more detailed DNA analysis, it has been determined that **Thomas Whitlock** is not related to **Judson Cleveland Locke, Jr.**, and therefore, not related to the **Josias Locke** family.

**Sandra Locke Wright** of Huntsville, Alabama, informed me that **Judson Cleveland Locke, Jr.**, grandson of **Adoniram Locke**, G-Grandson of **Jonathan Newell Locke**, and G-G-Grandson of **Jesse McCullough Locke**, passed away in February. Our sympathies go out to his family.

Another discovery attributed to our participation in **The Locke Project** is the family of **Jesse McCullough's** grandson, also named **Jesse**, son of **James Henry Locke**, and brother to **Jonathan Newell Locke**. That family lives from Oklahoma to California. Our contacts are **Maydell Thomas**, G-G-daughter of **James Henry**, and **Dee Childers**, who has done extensive research on the family of **Jesse McCullough**. Her husband, **Owen**, descends from **James Henry**. Their family will host a large reunion in late June in Oklahoma.

## THE HISTORY OF THE **Jesse McCullough Locke** FAMILY

One of the more colorful ancestors of our modern *Locke* family was also its most mobile. When *Josias and Susanna Hall Locke* moved their family from *Halifax County, North Carolina*, to *Chester County, South Carolina*, around 1800, they made certain that their son, *Jesse McCullough*, who had been born in 1793, was securely in the wagon, along with his brothers *Stephen, Benjamin, Joseph, and Asa*, and his two sisters, *Sarah and Priscilla*. The family settled on a large tract of land near the *Catawba River* in eastern *Chester District*, near the town of *Chesterville*, today known as *Chester*. There were seven *McCullough* families, and five *Culp* families living in that area when *Josias* and his brother, *William*, arrived. Because *Josias* and *Susanna* gave *Jesse* the middle name *McCullough* when they lived on the *North Carolina-Virginia* border, these families were obviously related to them, probably through *Susanna's* mother's family in *North Carolina*. *Jesse* enlisted into the American army at *Mount Dearbourne, South Carolina*, and served gallantly in *The War of 1812*. He was discharged at *Platzburg* in 1814. *Jesse* returned to *Chester* to wed *Mary Agnes Hunter* around 1815, and settle down to raise his family. Oral history says that *Mary's* mother was a *McCullough*, and possibly *Jesse's* cousin. *Mary's* father, *George*, was believed to have been a full Creek Indian. While living in *Chester County*, *Jesse* and *Mary Agnes* had at least five children. Census records from 1820 show *Jesse* living with two sons under age five. *Josiah Hall* was born in 1817, *James Henry* was born on March 18, 1818, *Jesse Culp* was born on June 18, 1822, *Mary Elvinah*, on February 23, 1827, and *Jonathan Newell* in November, 1829. Some researchers believe that *Mary Hunter* died just after the birth of *Jonathan*, and *Jesse* married an *Agnes* in early 1830. Other researchers believe that *Mary's* full name was *Mary Agnes Hunter*, and that her middle name was used in later census reports. *Jesse* and "Agnes" moved their family to *Snow Hill, Tennessee*, twelve miles from *Chattanooga*, where the fifth son, *Adoniram Judson*, was born in 1831, and the last son, *Benjamin Franklin McCullough Locke* was born in 1836.

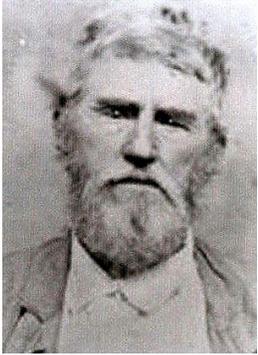
*James Henry Locke* married *Matilda Rogers* in *Meigs County, Tennessee*, in 1846. They moved to *Macon County, Alabama*, shortly afterward. *Elizabeth* was born in 1848, *Mary Agnes* in 1849, *Jesse R. Locke*, in 1853, *Judson Lafayette* in 1855, , *Alice* in 1858, *Benjamin F.* in 1861, and *Eutoka* in 1865. By the census of 1860, the family was living in *Choctaw County, Alabama*. During the Civil War, *James Henry* served the Confederacy in the Third Alabama Infantry, Company G. *James Henry*, his wife, *Matilda*, and many family members are buried at Old Bethel Cemetery near Gilberttown, Alabama.

Oral history says that *Jesse's* sons served in the War, but his youngest son, *Benjamin Franklin*, served on the side of the Union. He was disowned by the family, and supposedly left a wife and daughter in Missouri. *Jesse's* wife, *Mary Agnes*, was at home with their daughter, *Mary Elvinah.*, near *Chattanooga*, in the winter of 1864. The house was robbed and burned by Union troops as they swept through *Chattanooga*, and *Mary Agnes* was killed in the fire! *Jesse McCullough* was away at the time.

After the fire, *Jesse McCullough* lived only five more years, dying in Tennessee or Alabama in 1869 at the age of 76. In 1938, his grandsons recalled their memories of their grandfather in letters written to *Rev. W.C. Cooper*. Grandson *Leopold Locke* recalled that his grandfather had been a Baptist preacher, the last in the family, and grandson, *Jesse R.*, recalled that *Jesse McCullough's* brother, *Stephen*, had been killed in a duel. *Jesse R.* also recalled that his father, *James Henry*, had a favorite cousin in Chester County named *William*. His uncle, *Stephen*, in addition to his son, *Levi Locke*, had a son named *Willis*, called "Will", who was probably the cousin of whom *Jesse R.* referred.

*Jesse R. Locke* married *Alice Jane Johnson*, at the home of her father, *Augustus*, in Choctaw County,

Alabama, in 1882. Their first son, *Edgar*, was born there in 1884. Shortly afterward, the family moved to Hopkins County, Texas, where their second son, *Lester*, was born in 1886. Over the next twenty years, they would have eleven more children. They were *Victor, Ruby Lee, Sam Houston, Walter, Pearle Mae, William Earl, Arthur Hayden, Erdice Matilda, Jewel Camly, Floyd Henry, and Mildred Asaline*, who was the only child born after the family moved to eastern Oklahoma in 1906. *Jessie R. Locke*, died at age 90 in 1943, and, along with his wife *Alice*, five of their sons, and three of their daughters, is buried in Buffalo Cemetery, northwest of *Sayre, Oklahoma*.



JAMES HENRY LOCKE      ARTHUR HAYDEN LOCKE FAMILY JOINS COUSINS AT 1946 REUNION IN OKLAHOMA  
LEVI'S FIRST COUSIN



JAMES HENRY LOCKE

JESSE R. LOCKE  
SON OF JAMES HENRY

JESSE R. & ALICE J. LOCKE

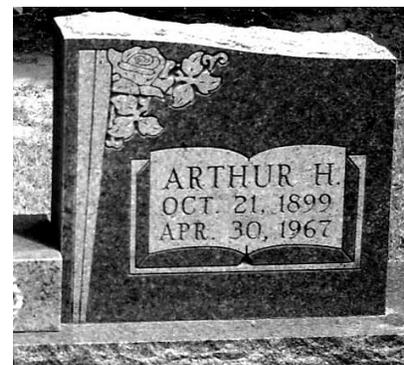
RUBY LOCKE FORD  
DAUGHTER OF VICTOR



JESSE R. LOCKE AND WIFE ALICE JOHNSON



ARTHUR HAYDEN LOCKE- SON OF JESSE R. AND ALICE



1913-2003

## Descendants of John Calhoun Locke



THE CULP BROTHERS AND SISTERS AT A REUNION IN THE 1970'S  
AND



JANIE LOCKE

GEORGE "WILLIE"

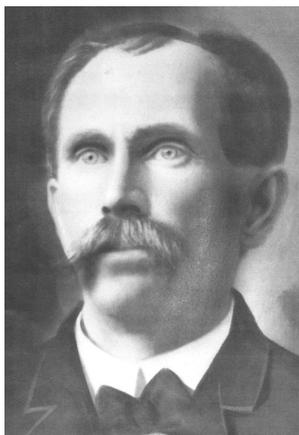
### CULP

When *Levi* and *Malinda's* son, *John Calhoun Locke*, married *Nancy Frances "Fannie" Ira Ferguson*, in 1873, he could not have imagined the large number of descendants who would result from that union. Six surviving children, and thirty two grandchildren, left a legacy of *Lockes* that would make a major dent in the population of northern South Carolina for generations to come! The next *Locke* newsletter will focus on that wonderful family, but in the meantime, let's enjoy some historic photographs submitted by *Frances Byrd Harris*, of Indian Trail, North Carolina, granddaughter of *Virginia Hope "Janie" Locke* and her husband *George William "Willie" Culp*. "*Fran*", as she prefers to be called, had five children of her own with her husband, the late *Walter E. Harris*. Their children have blessed them with 13 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. *Fran's* uncle, *George W. Culp, Jr.*, attended the **Locke Family Reunion** this past September. *Fran* divides her time between her North Carolina home, and a home in Florida. She's looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's reunion in October. She attended one other reunion in the past, and can't wait for this one!

## FAMILIAR **Locke** FACES THROUGH THE YEARS



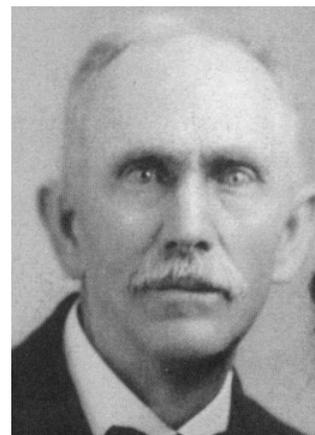
FURMAN LOCKE, JR.  
1923



ABSALOM LOCKE 1890



BENNIE LOCKE WALLACE



ABSALOM IN

*Absalom Lewis Locke* was a man with bright blue eyes, a sharp nose, and a high forehead. It's always interesting to look at later generations for facial similarities. We didn't need to look very far in the *Locke* family. *Absalom's* son, *Furman Master Locke*, and his wife, *Sue Winchester*, had two children who prove the old adage, "An apple doesn't fall far from the tree!" *Furman Master, Jr.*, has the same blue eyes, the same nose, and the same forehead. His sister, *Bennie Locke Wallace*, shows an even more striking resemblance to her Grandfather. The same bright blue eyes, same nose, and the same forehead. If you have photos of family members that you believe look very similar, please share them.

## THE LOCKES ON THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST

*Martha (Mattie) Hope Locke Helms*, daughter of *Absalom Locke*, bought a house and cottage near *Kure's* Fishing Pier (pronounced Cure-ee), on the North Carolina coast in 1945. She had seen an ad in the *Charlotte Observer*, and saw an opportunity to change her life. At that time, she owned a rooming house in uptown Charlotte, and wanted a place to which she and her husband, *Lon*, could eventually retire. The price was very low, and she bought it right away! Buying a house just a quarter-mile south was her younger brother, *Furman Master Locke*, and his wife *Sue Winchester*. For years, *Mattie* made seasonal moves between the "Beach" and the Charlotte house on Eleventh Street. Finally, she sold the Charlotte house, and moved to the beach fulltime around 1955. She kept a one room garage apartment in Charlotte behind the home of her daughter, *Margaret McCauley* until 1960, when she bought a small bungalow on Commonwealth Avenue for her Charlotte visits. Until her death in 1965, she welcomed thousands of visitors to the two story frame house, and three cottages that would fill the beach property. Her brother did the same at his compound just down the road. Among those "tourists" were many of their family members. Chances are, you, or one of your parents, was among that lucky group.



HELMS COTTAGES IN 1953  
1955



MATTIE LOCKE HELMS



HOUSE WITH PORCH IN  
1955

Although the Beach offered the usual coastal forms of escape such as fishing, boating, swimming and sightseeing, it also had its darker side. Hovering less than a half mile north of the beach house was a strange, foreboding place known only as "**The Intake**" to the residents and visitors to the sleepy coastal village. It was a large brick building surrounded by a high barbed wire fence. It sat on the land just above the sand, and faced the ocean. Stretching into the surf was a series of rusting iron and steel walls anchored in the sand, making for unusual hiding places when playing along the beach. Directly between the building and the steel walls, behind the high fence, was a pond of black water. Signs

featuring a “*Scull and Crossbones*” were attached to the fence. Small skeletons of rats and birds were visible on the dark sand around the pond. No one ever climbed that fence! No one ever seemed to know why the plant was built or why it had closed. After sixty years the truth has finally been uncovered!

## IT’S AMAZING WHAT THEY CAN EXTRACT FROM SEAWATER!

In the 1920’s, scientists were searching for an additive to gasoline that would eliminate knocking and pre-firing of spark plugs. Finally, in 1930, an employee for Dow Corporation discovered that adding a certain kind of lead derivative stopped the knocking. That additive was called **ETHYL**, and Dow Chemical, who had previously been involved with extracting salt from large domes deep under Michigan, was obliged to form a new division, called **ETHYL-DOW**, for the sole purpose of producing this gasoline additive. What they needed most was **BROMINE**, and they developed a process which extracted it from common seawater. In 1933, they built the largest chemical plant ever to attempt such a bold undertaking. They chose the **Fort Fisher Sea Beach** area of North Carolina, just south of Wilmington, because it was a desolate area, with only a fishing pier operated by the *Kure* family as any sign of civilization. The coastline was considered the most ideal for the type of extraction that was needed. Many small cottages and garage apartments were constructed north of the pier, and south of the plant to house the workers who maintained its 24 hour operation schedule for over twelve years!

The plant featured a large holding pond, and an intricate network of iron and steel “**INTAKES**” to supply the enormous flow of seawater necessary for the job. It used the rising tide to capture the water in the steel “locks”, and pumped millions of gallons per day through its extraction pipelines in a technology very similar to today’s desalinization process. In the beginning, it produced over ten million pounds of **Bromine** per year for the petroleum industry, and that quota was raised to over 20 million within a few years. During the Second World War, an additional ten million pounds per year was ordered, bringing the total to over 30 million pounds, and to accommodate that large volume, an additional building was constructed.

Because this facility was so important to our war effort, the Germans brought submarines within sight of the facility many times, and on a dark night in late 1943, are believed to have fired five large shells from their deck mounted cannon. Although the shells went long, and landed in the nearby Cape Fear River, this attack is still believed to be the only actual surface attack against the American mainland in all of World War II. How about that?

During this time, many workers in the Dow plants where the bromine was combined with lead suffered from lead exposure, and many died horrible deaths. Pressure on politicians to keep these tragedies secret allowed the continuation of the process, and it wasn’t until the 1960’s that lead additives in gasoline were finally eliminated.

## HISTORY MADE AT FORT FISHER BEACH IN THE FIELD OF METALLURGY!

In the 1930’s, a French Canadian metallurgist became a pioneer in the study of the corrosive effects of air on metals. The most destructive of these processes was caused by proximity to the oceans. Salt was the most corrosive element of all. In another joint venture with the *Dow* people, he established the first

marine corrosive metals testing facility in the world at the **ETHYL-DOW Chemical Plant** near the **Kure Pier**. Initially, he placed his test frames directly in the canal between the tidal locks, and the main building. Over time, the testing facility grew to include air testing on a large portion of the **DOW** land north of the plant. That testing facility survives today!

Although the original plant was dismantled shortly after the end of the War, the second “brick” building was allowed to stand on that spot for many years, and the network of tidal corrals were left to deteriorate in the very water that had provided the **bromine** for so long. Another dream of **DOW** was that the plant could be converted to extract **gold** from seawater, but the environmental damage from the **bromine** extraction had rendered the site unusable. After surviving countless hurricanes over the years, the brick building was finally torn down in the 1970’s, but the land would be fenced and restricted for use even to this day! Deep water wells that had been constructed throughout the site during **Bromine** production poisoned the fresh and brackish water aquifer for many miles inland. Those wells remain a source of concern today. They are closely monitored for intrusion into the water tables as far away as Wilmington. Had authorities known about the extent of the contamination, they might never have allowed any of the old houses to be sold and inhabited after the plant was closed in 1945. A special road and rail line had been constructed to carry the chemicals out of the area. The rails are long gone, but the **ETHYL-DOW ROAD** is still in use along the Cape Fear River as an alternate escape from the barrier island.

**SUNNY POINT AMMUNITIONS TERMINAL** was constructed on the western side of the **Cape Fear River** after the war, and this was the main reason for the decommissioning of the **bromine** plant. It stood within the safety area required by the government that guaranteed the integrity of the weapons terminal. Even today, thousands of acres of land are within barbed wire fencing along the **Cape Fear River**, and it is because of these restrictions that developers were never allowed to bring thousands of new residents and vacationers to this most desirable of oceanfront locations. **Kure Beach** was incorporated in 1947, and the rest is history. **Grandma Helms** actually bought that house before there was a town of **Kure Beach**, and just after the plant had closed. Because of that, property values in that area were the lowest along the entire Atlantic coast. Tourism was limited to the fishermen who visited the **Kure Pier**. No wonder she could afford to buy that place. It was within a half mile of one of the Atlantic coast’s most notorious industrial waste sights. Of course, in those days, people knew nothing of the pollution that saturated the sand just yards beneath their feet. Good thing for us that the “*beach water*” was undrinkable so close to the ocean!



MOTEL ON ORIGINAL SITE OF BEACH HOUSE



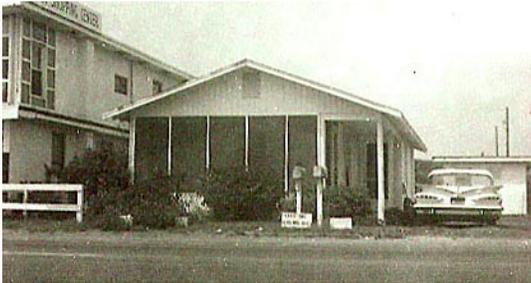
KURE FISHING PIER IN 1956



AERIAL VIEW OF KURE BEACH IN THE 1960'S OCEAN...



THE BEACH HOUSE FROM THE



THE THIRD COTTAGE, SHOWN IN 1959.... ....STILL STANDS TODAY!  
HELMs



MATTIE

The corrosion testing center is still operating today. The entire site is listed on the “*Significant Industrial Pioneer Historic Sites*” register. New cottages and homes are being built every day along the narrow island. Hurricanes still ravage the coastline, and the historic **Kure Beach Fishing Pier**, the first ocean pier built along the east coast, still welcomes anglers to its pine boards every day. The beach house was demolished in 1968, to make way for a modern motel, but the last cottage still stands across the road where it was built in 1955, an enduring monument to the resolve of **Mattie Locke Helms**.

## THE DESCENDANTS OF **Benjamin Locke**, SON OF **Josias** AND **Susanna**

Since discovering that **Levi Locke**'s son, **Josiah Locke**, who was born in 1839, and **Henry Jefferson Locke**'s father, **Josiah H. Locke**, who was born in 1833, were not the same person, a search was made to find the biological father of **Josiah H. Locke**. The discovery was a remarkable one!

**Josias and Susanna Locke** had five sons and two daughters when they moved to Chester County from Halifax County, North Carolina in 1804. The eldest was **Stephen**, who was born in 1785. The other four sons were **Joseph**, born around 1787, **Asa**, born around 1790, **Jesse McCullough**, born in 1793, and **Benjamin**, who was born about 1795. **Sarah** and **Priscilla** were the daughters.

When **Josias** died in 1826, **Benjamin** was the administrator of the estate. **Benjamin, Joseph, and Stephen** signed the documents. **Jesse**, who would shortly move to Tennessee, and **Asa**, didn't sign.

and the Executor obtain acceptance of the  
 probate thereof and the said Benjamin Lock  
 do in such case of liquidation and delivery of the  
 said letters of Administration then this obligation  
 to be void and in full force  
 signed & sealed in presence of  
 E. Styles order

Benjamin Lock  
 Josiah Lock  
 Stephen Lock



ADMINISTRATION AND BOND DOCUMENT FROM ESTATE OF JOSIAS LOCK  
 COURTHOUSE

CHESTER

**Benjamin "Lock"** appears in the **1830** Chester census as being between 30 and 40 years old, with a 20 year old wife, and a daughter under 5 years of age. By the **1840** census, he is between 40 and 50 years old, with a 30 year old wife, a daughter between 10 and 15, another daughter between 5 and 10, two sons between 5 and 10, two daughters under 5, and one son under 5 years of age. That same census also shows him living next door to **Thomas White**, between 30 and 40 years old, and **William White**, between 20 and 30 years old, possible sons to **Hugh White**, who appeared in the **Josias Lock** estate papers. Also appearing in those papers was another neighbor, **Robert White**, who was given a bay mare.

1 Water Saddle		To Priscilla Lock	03 25
1 Side Saddle		To Sarah Lock	03 30
1 Side Saddle		To Stephen Lock	00 50
1 Saddle Iron		To Benjamin Lock	00 56 1/4
1 Saddle Iron		To Joseph Hines	01 40
1 Horse Razor & Spectacles		To Joseph Lock	16 00
1 Hat wearing Clothes		To Hugh White	28 31 1/4
1 field of Cotton Resold		To Jesse Lock	08 43 3/4
5 Bushels Corn	5 6 1/4		
5 Do			

ESTATE PAPERS FROM JOSIAS LOCK IN 1827.

NOTICE THE HUGH WHITE ENTRY FOR "FIELD OF COTTON".

PRISCILLA, SARAH, STEPHEN, BENJAMIN, JOSEPH, AND JESSE ARE ALL LISTED ON THIS DOCUMENT

Wm Simpson	1	
Thomas White S.D.		1
Wm White L	2	
Benj Locke	1	2
Wm White		

1840 CHESTER CENSUS SHOWS BENJ. LOCK FAMILY

1127 Mary Locke	40	F
Martha J. Locke	23	F
Margaret Locke	19	F
Josiah Locke	17	M
Andrew Locke	15	M
Elizabeth Locke	12	F

1850 CHESTER CENSUS WITH MARY LOCK

In the 1850 Chester census, **Benjamin** does not appear, but **Mary Locke**, aged 40, is shown living next door to **Thomas White**, aged 40, and **Robert White**, aged 58. She is shown living with five children. They are **Martha J.**, aged 23, **Margaret**, aged 19, **Josiah**, aged 17, **Andrew**, aged 15, and **Elizabeth**, aged 12. By comparing the **Benjamin Locke** children from the 1830 and 1840 censuses, we find that all of the ages match! One child is missing, a boy, who was listed as "under 5" in the 1840 census. He must have died.

Also shown in the 1850 census, living next door to **Mary Locke**, in the household of **Robert White**, was **Dorothy White**, aged 21. We know that **Josiah H. Locke** married **Dorothy White** before 1860.

From this evidence, it is logical to assume that **Benjamin Locke**, son of **Josias Locke**, and brother to **Stephen, Joseph, Jesse, Sarah, Priscilla, and Asa Locke**, was also the father to **Josiah H. Locke**, who would marry **Dorothy White**, and father **Henry Jefferson Locke**. Census records from 1860 show that the first born child of **Josiah and Dorothy** was a daughter named **Frances C.** According to the 1870 census, two other children had been born to **Josiah and Dorothy** before he went away to war and was killed. The first was **Mary J.**, born in 1861, and the last was **Henry J.**, born in 1862. **Frances**, the child listed in the 1860 census, is not shown. She must have died. Also shown as living next door to **Dorothy Locke** in the 1870 census is her father, **Robert White**, aged 78.

Josiah J.	1	1860
134 Josiah Locke	26	M
Dorothy	27	F
Frances C.	1	7
137 Samuel Davidson	70	M
138	10	2

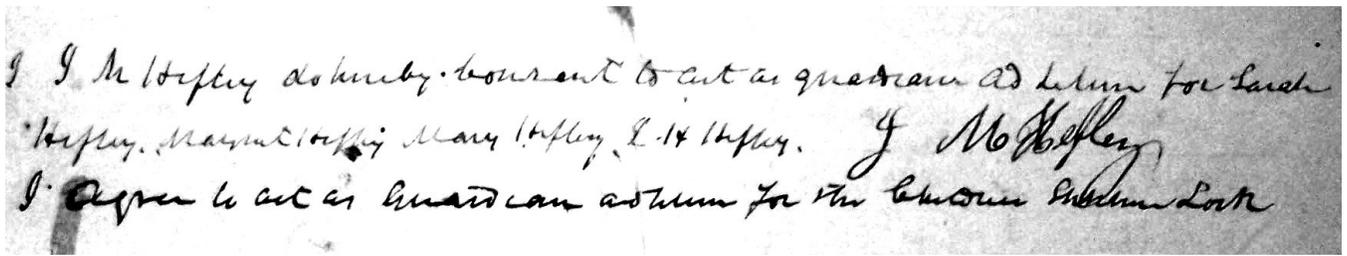
JOSIAH, DOROTHY, AND FRANCES LOCKE IN 1860 IN 1870

67	Mary J.	9	M	Keeping House
76	Locke, Dorothy	27	M	Keeping House
	Mary J.	9	M	
	Henry J.	7	M	
67	Hearney, John	52	M	Farmer
	Stephen	50	M	"
18	William	22	M	Farmer

DOROTHY, MARY, AND HENRY J. LOCKE

The next mystery was the origin of **Mary**, wife to **Benjamin Locke**. Because the name **Polly Hefley** had been passed down as being the mother of **Josiah H. Locke**, and because **Polly** was the common nickname for **Mary**, we will work around the assumption that **Mary "Polly" Hefley** was the wife of **Benjamin Locke**, and try to prove or disprove that assumption.

The **Hefley** name first appears in conjunction with the **Locke** name in the estate papers of **Josias Locke** in 1827. In the settlement of the estate, **Michal Hefley** was owed money by **Josias Locke**, and the debt was satisfied. This **Hefley** was most likely a neighbor to the **Locke** family, and possibly the father or brother to **Mary, Benjamin Locke's** new wife.



**J. M. Hefley** makes an unusual appearance in the estate papers of **Nancy Hines Locke**, in 1848. He swears to act as *Guardian Ad Litem* for **Sarah, Margaret, Mary, and J.H. Hefley**, children in the care of **Nancy Locke**. In the 1850 census, **J.M. Hefley**, age 37, is shown as the head-of-household which contains four children. They are **Sarah**, age 11, **Margaret**, age 9, **Mary**, age 7, and **James H. Hefley**, age 3. Obviously, these are the same four **Hefley** children for whom he had assumed responsibility in the **Nancy Hines Locke** estate settlement. He was most likely their uncle, and no mother or wife was shown in the household.

In the **A.W. Locke** Civil War letter to his sister, **Betty (Elizabeth)**, on *October 9, 1863*, he writes, “**Andy Hefley** was killed dead on the field, and **Jack** (presumably another Hefley) was wounded in the leg. I did not see **Jack**, but he sent me word that as soon as he was able to go and get a furlow, he was going to my house (A.W. Lock’s) and **Tom**’s to stay until he was able for duty.” Obviously, there was a close relationship with these **Hefley** and **Locke** families, most likely as cousins!

More information on the **Hefley** family in Chester County is needed. Any help that any of you could provide would be most appreciated.

When **Benjamin Locke**’s son, **Josiah Henry**, was killed at Petersburg in 1864, he left behind his wife **Dorothy**, a daughter, **Mary**, and a son, **Henry Jefferson**. Although we have yet to research his daughter, **Mary**, we know that **Henry Jefferson** remained on the farm that had been passed down from his grandfather, **Benjamin**, and had a large family. He married **Margaret Annie Simpson** in 1884, and had five sons and five daughters.

<b>Dorothy (Dora) Jane</b> (1884-1957)	<b>Carrie Henrietta</b> (1898-1984)
<b>Annie Belle</b> (1886-1984)	<b>Robert Cherry</b> (1900-1981)
<b>Mattie Drum</b> (1887-1979)	<b>John Franklin</b> (1903-1963)
<b>Joseph Green</b> (1894-1969)	<b>William Jamieson</b> (1905-1972)
<b>Ernest Jefferson</b> (1896-1987)	<b>Margaret Eliza</b> (1911-1911)

According to **Gerald Thomas (Jerry) Locke**, the son of **John Franklin**, the large farm was to be divided among four of the brothers, but it wasn’t large enough to support four families. Most of the brothers moved to the Greenville-Spartanburg area of South Carolina. **John Franklin** stayed on the farm and raised his family in Chester County. Today, **Jerry** still lives on the same land with his lovely wife, **Carolyn**, and shares it with members of their family. Although they no longer farm the land, just keeping ahead of the vegetation with a “*Bushhog*” can be a full time job. It’s nice to know that a large piece of the **Locke** ancestral land is still in the family!

## EARLY LIFE IN CHESTER, LANCASTER, AND YORK COUNTIES

The following article was written by **Louise Pettus**, Professor of History, Emeritus, at **Winthrop College** in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Now in her eighties, Ms. Pettus has spent her life documenting the people and politics of the northern South Carolina area. She is truly a remarkable woman!

A peddler with a pack on his back was a familiar sight to our ancestors. Storehouses were few and far between. Roads were rough. The peddler with his needles, thread, combs, quills and other sundry items

was made welcome. When **James Latta**, an Irish immigrant, brought such items into Yorkville following the Revolutionary War, he had no competition. There was not a single store in town. He spread his wares on planks under the trees in front of the courthouse.

**Latta** made a quick ascent from rags to riches. By 1799 he had accumulated enough money to build a combination store-home opposite the courthouse. The imposing brick structure remained in the family until 1931, and still stands. **Latta** prospered, and his son, Robert **Latta**, became a “merchant prince”, with additional stores in Camden and Columbia.

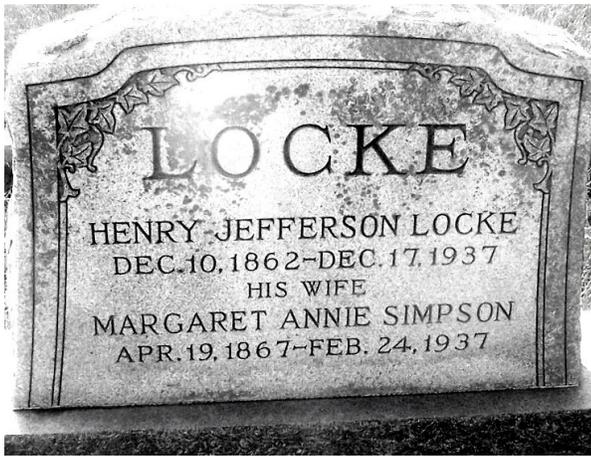
With time there were variations in the peddling routine. While many peddlers remained independent of stores or financial backing, others were employed to sell goods on commission. In Yorkville during the 1840’s there was a firm doing business as a co-partnership under the name of **McElwee and Sutton**. **Jonathan McElwee** and **Alexander C. Sutton** employed at least a half dozen men to work at the combination trading of clocks, carryalls, and slaves. Covering a geographical area that extended from North Carolina to Alabama, the “peddlers” roamed the countryside to show their wares. The carryall was a covered wagon which, in many ways, resembled a small Conestoga wagon. Inside the wagon were shelves with planking placed as a restraining device to keep the goods from sliding out when traveling over rutted roads. The carryalls were manufactured locally. **Joseph Herndon**, a Virginia native, born in 1806, moved to Cleveland County, North Carolina and started his business career as a peddler on horseback who then graduated to doing business out of a carryall. In 1847 when he had enough money, he moved to Chester, South Carolina and became a partner of **W. Dixon Henry**. In 1854, he moved to Yorkville and set up two businesses, a tannery and a grocery store. **Herndon** not only became successful, he was noted for his generosity in helping other aspiring young men rise in business.

In the 1880’s, **Leroy Springs** of Fort Mill, S.C., who had just dropped out of the University of North Carolina as a sophomore, took a job with **Burwell and Springs**, a wholesale grocery firm in Charlotte, as a “drummer”. He took a wagonload of groceries through the countryside, sleeping in barn lofts at night, and when he had sold the goods, he returned to Charlotte for another load. Like **Latta** and **Herndon**, **Leroy Springs** prospered and moved into merchandising. In 1895 he took the profits from his mercantile company (the largest store between Charlotte and Atlanta) and built the **Lancaster Cotton Mills**. **Springs** eventually controlled mills in Fort Mill, Chester, and Kershaw, as well as Lancaster. He is another example of a shrewd ambitious young man who started as a peddler and became wealthy.

Over time, country stores dotted the countryside. Gradually, opportunities for peddlers diminished, but they did not completely disappear until sometime in the first quarter of the twentieth century. **Bessie Rodgers Pettus**, 91, of Indian Land in upper Lancaster County, remembers that when she was a small girl, “Mr. **Jack Ashley** had a wagon with shelves built around the sides and a top on the wagon. It was pulled by one mule. Built in the outside were chicken coops ready for the chickens he traded. He also traded cloth, needles, pins, buttons, and thread for eggs. **Mr. Jack** lifted me up so I could see the cloth. I picked out white eyelet!”

## MORE CIVIL WAR LETTERS FROM A **Locke** FAMILY HERO

In the last **Family Newsletter**, three letters written by **Josiah H. Locke** during the Civil War were transcribed and reprinted. Those priceless family heirlooms are in the possession of **Jerry Locke** of Chester, South Carolina, along with many other letters from members of his family who served the cause of the Confederacy. **Jerry’s** grandfather was **Henry Jefferson Locke**, son of **Josiah H. Locke**, grandson to **Benjamin Locke**. **Jerry** has offered to bring the letters to the **Locke** reunion in October.



In this issue, three letters of *A.W. Locke*, first cousin once removed to *Josiah H. Locke*, are featured. In many ways, they are much more informative than the previously published missives. Actual battle accounts, as well as camp conditions are clearly documented. The salutations for the letters were “*Dear Mother and Sisters*”, “*Dear Mother*”, and “*Dear Sister*”. The father is not mentioned, and no brothers are mentioned. One letter is sent to his sister, whose name was *Betty*, which was the nickname for *Elizabeth*. From other sources, and other letters, it is believed that “*A.W.*” stood for *Andrew William Locke*, who went by the nickname, *Andy*. He refers to his wife, *Mandee*, the nickname for *Amanda*. The couple had a daughter named *Eliza*, who was five in 1863. *Andy* was born in 1834 in Chester County, but he was living in York County for the 1860 census. He also refers to a letter he wrote to “*Jo Locke*”, most likely his younger cousin, *Josiah H. Locke*, who was still at home in 1863. In his November 30, letter to his mother, he mentions a letter from his sister, *Betty*, to her friend, *Jo Orr*, where she tells *Jo Orr* that she was going to “*Jo Lock’s* to stay with *Dor*.” (Jo’s wife). *A.W.* laments that he was “sorry that *Jo* had to go. He surely will see hard times, or he will have better luck than I have had!” Obviously, *Josiah “Jo” Locke* had gone to war. In a letter from *Josiah Locke* to his cousin, most likely *Betty*, he solemnly writes of the death of his cousin, *Andy*, on May 6, 1864, at the fight of *The Wilderness*. Most likely, this was *A.W. “Andy” Locke*, the author of the following letters.

**Camp                      near                      Chattanooga,                      Tennessee**  
**October the 9<sup>th</sup>, 1863**

**Dear Sister,**

**I seat myself to let you know I am well at this time. Hoping these lines may find you well and doing well. Betty, this is a hard old place. I caught my regiment before it got here. We did not get here in time for the big battle. Some of our division was in it. Andy Hefley was killed dead on the field, and Jack was badly wounded in the leg. I did not see Jack, but he sent me word that as soon as he was able to go and get a furlow, he was going to my house and Tom’s to stay until he was able for duty. He can’t get home, as the enemy is between here and there.**

Betty, I suppose you have heard of the fight our regiment got into last Friday night. The half of Beckham's company was killed and wounded. Marion MacLemore and his brother, Tom, was both killed dead! It was an awful place to be at night. We were in the line of battle, and has been ever since we been here. Blood will fly again before long.

I would a wrote you before now, but I had no paper. Our knapsacks was left 30 miles behind. Betty, tell Mother not to think hard of me for not coming to see her. I am tired of writing. This is the third letter I have wrote today. One to Mandee (Amanda, his wife), one to Jo Lock (cousin Josiah Locke). Betty, I want you to write as often as you can.

I want to know if you have heard anything of Jo Orr or not? If you write to him, tell him to stay at the hospital as long as he can, for this is a bad place to come. I am satisfied with it now. I am in five miles of D. Denson. I have not seen him yet. I seen Green Simpson. He was wounded in the arm. Betty, one of the Canmores has been to see me once. They are in the fifth Arkansas Regiment. Barnett Tompson is in the same regiment, and he is at home wounded. Henry and Tom is there, yet! I am going to see them as soon as I get a chance.

Betty, I will close, as I am tires of writing. Give my love to Mother and Mat, and accept the same yourself. Nothing more at present.

I remain, your brother until death!

**A.**

**W. Lock**

Address: A.W. Lock  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
S.C. Volunteers

Company D – 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment

**Care of Captain Douglas Jenkins' Brigade-Woods  
Division**

**Tell Bill Allen where to direct a letter to me if he wants to  
write to me, and if he don't, he can let it alone.**

**Write soon and fail not.....**

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**October the 30<sup>th</sup>, 1863**

**Dear Mother and Sisters,**

**I seat myself to answer your kind letter, which I received  
on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. It found me as well as common, hoping these lines  
may find you all well.**

**Betty, we had a hard battle the night before last. The battle  
commenced about 12 o'clock at night. I did not get into it until  
the worst was over. My company was on call. Our regiment is cut  
all to pieces! Our regiment lost 103 men killed and wounded.  
Thomas Collins was killed. There was 23 killed and wounded out  
of his company.**

**October the 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Betty, this is bad! Started this letter, and I am in no shape  
to write. Betty, I think we will have another fight in a few days.  
The Yanks rather got the advantage of us this time. They come  
very near getting me a prisoner, but I went like a quarter horse  
over the mountain!**

**Betty, most all my friends is killed or wounded. They was  
all nearly left in the hands of the enemy. Betty, I was scared  
worse this time than I ever was before. I would tell you all of the  
names, but you don't know them.**

Betty, I started this letter yesterday, and had to go to work, and I am sick today for sleep.

Betty, I am seeing the worst times that I ever did in my life. We get corn bread and beef and no salt at all, and not half enough of that! Betty, I am sick and don't feel like writing. I will write in a few days. Tell Lizar (?) that Amzi (?) is with Aunt Mary. He is a growing man! He weighs 160. I hope you will excuse me for these few lines. Nothing more. I remain, your son and brother until death.

**A.W. Lock**

Chattan

ooga, Tennessee

Co. D, 5<sup>th</sup>

Regiment, S.C. Vol.

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Knoxville, Tennessee  
1863

November the 30<sup>th</sup>,

Dear Mother,

I seat myself to inform you that I am well and come through safe. Hoping these few lines may find you all well. I received a few lines the other day in a letter to Jo Orr from Betty (sister Elizabeth). She said she was a going to Jo Lock's to stay with Dor (Dorothy). I am sorry that Jo (Josiah) had to go. He surely will see hard times, or he will have better luck than I have had. I have seen the hardest times here that I ever did in my life! I have been in four charges in the last two weeks. It was the awfulest time I have ever seen. We have killed and taken a heap

**of prisoners, and lost a heap of good men. Last night and the night before was two of the coldest nights I ever seen. I nearly froze! We weren't allowed no fire.**

**We went to attack the enemy's fortifications on the right. We was on the left. We made the charge at daylight in the morning. We did not loose many men on the left, but on the right they slew our men awful! They could not hold the fort after they had taken it in the evening. We sent a flag of truce over and all hostilities was ceased until six o'clock in the evening to bury the dead and get the wounded, and Mother, you ought to a been there! We laid down our arms and the Yankees laid down theirs, and we met halfway and laughed and talked together until night. The Yankees said if we would lay down our arms and go home, they would do the same, and let old Abe and old Jeff fight it out themselves! They are very friendly people. I could tell you a heap that I can't write. I think we will fall back from here tonight. Old "Bray" is letting the Yanks in our rear.**

**Mother, I hain't had a letter from Mandee (his wife, Amanda) in a month, though we get regular mail here. I want you to let her see this letter. I don't know whether she gets my letters or not. I want to know if she moved to her mother's or not. I wrote to her to go if she wanted.**

**I will close, as it is so cold to write. Nothing more. I remain your son until death.**

**A.W. Lock**

IN MEMORIAM...

In April, we received word from *Sandra Locke Wright* in Huntsville, Alabama, that *Judson Cleveland Locke, Jr.*, had passed away in February. He was the Great-great grandson of *Jesse McCullough Locke*.

*Gene Rhodes*, husband of *Ann Boyce Rhodes*, who was the granddaughter of

**Mamie Locke Boyce**, passed away in early April after a lengthy illness.

Our sympathies go out to both of these fine families.

## A REMEMBRANCE...



**Roy W. Helms**  
1909-1940



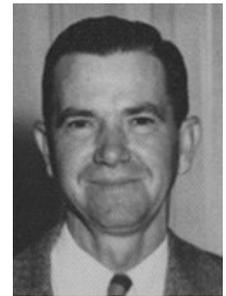
**Jean Helms** (Top left)  
with cousins in 1940



**Doris Jean Helms**  
1946 at age 11



**Mae Helms Howell**  
1904-1986

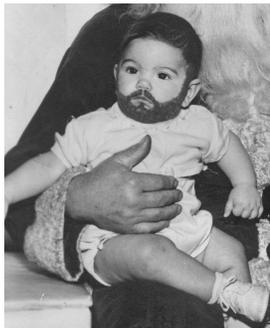


**Harold Wilson Helms**  
1913-1967

**Doris Jean Helms Jones** passed away in November in Melbourne, Florida. Born in 1935, she was the oldest grandchild of **Mattie Locke** and **Lon Helms**, and the only child of **Roy Walton Helms**, who died from asbestos poisoning in 1940. She is shown in a 1940 photo with her cousins, **Hazel**, **Nora Etta**, and **Martha Helms**, children of **Grace** and **Harold Wilson Helms**, and with **Glenn** and **Ray Howell**, children of **Mae Helms** and **John Howell**.

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

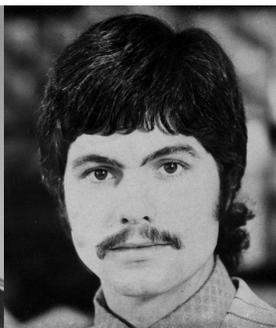
Please contact me with your family news and photos! My e-mail is [vann@miami-art.com](mailto:vann@miami-art.com). My phone is 305/519-1934. We desperately need your e-mail addresses for future newsletters!



VANN ...1948



...1955



...1973



...1992



...2005

When you come to the reunion in October, please make sure you bring as many family photos and documents as possible. We're looking for a photo of Grandpa Levi Locke and his wife, Malinda. He lived well into the 1880's, and she lived well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Check through those old albums and boxes, and bring along those unidentified pictures. It's possible that you possess a real family treasure!

Many of you have vivid memories of relatives, or the stories that they told. Please write them down, and send them to us. What you might think is a trivial recollection may hold the key to important Locke history. If you saved any letters over the years, please share them with us, and we'll reprint the ones that relate to our past!

## Flash! Levi's FATHER, Stephen Locke, KILLED IN A DUEL!

In a letter to **Reverend W.C. Cooper** written by **Jesse R. Locke** in 1938, we learned that **Levi's** father, **Stephen**, was killed in a duel in Chester County before 1840. Sounds like an intriguing story for a future newsletter! Stay tuned!

In the last newsletter, we reported about the condition of **Carol Helms**, wife of **Eddie**, who was the grandson of **Mattie Locke Helms**. She had been critically injured in an automobile accident in November. She had bone graft surgery on her left leg on March 2, and is recovering well at her Ft. Lauderdale home. Her future is looking brighter every day. She appreciates the cards and calls and flowers that she received during her over two months of hospitalization.