

The Thrasher Newsletter

CoEditors: Sue Q. Thrasher & Nancy T. Cherry Circulation: John E. Thrasher III Volume 35 No.3 July 2017

This Year's Thrasher Family Reunion was Great Fun!

- John E. Thrasher III



Front row: Vickie Mills-Smith, Buddy Thrasher, Joan Stine, Joe Stine, John E. Thrasher; Second row: Juanita Thrasher, Glenda Thompson, Glenda Thrasher, Celestea Sharp, Susie Thrasher, David Thrasher, Elise Sumner, Eleanor Thrasher; Tucked in Third Row: David and Alice Thrasher's children and grandchildren; Fourth row: Judy Creighton, Hershel Thrasher, Claudia Wynne, Bill H. Thrasher, Terry Thompson, John Long, Helen Thrasher, Joe Grooms, Ivy Darnall, Klaus Darnall (at top), Angie Grooms, Anna Southerland, Karen Thrasher, Ken Southerland, Jim Moule, David Sumner, Bonnie Bolin, Nancy Cherry, John Paul Thrasher, Mitzi Mills-Smith

Many thanks to our super hosts, David and Alice Thrasher. We had new kin folks with us and quite a number of "regulars" who, for one reason or another, had not been able to be with us for some time. Nancy Cherry, our top-notch Secretary has given us a real picture of all the events of the reunion in the Minutes, so I won't try to talk about all of the fun and serious things that happened. I will say this, however: If you visit Disney World in Orlando and get to see the "Indiana Jones" re-enactment, know that you are seeing a Thrasher

cousin, Robert Wynne. I am so pleased that our VP, John Paul Thrasher and his committee have already made plans for the 2018 Thrasher reunion which will be held near Jamestown and Williamsburg, Virginia, the first weekend in May. There will be more information about the reunion later in the Thrasher Newsletters and on Susie's web site. Looking ahead, I hope that you will contribute family information to the Thrasher Newsletters. Susie needs your continuing assistance with that.

In the April 2017 issue of the Thrasher Newsletter, I talked about the need to up-date existing genealogical records. As you will see, I am ready to help out and when Susie finds the room in some of the new issues, will have several up-dates to present. I sincerely hope you will do this too! Our Newsletters need your contributions!

If you did not renew your TFA membership or will be a new member, send your completed membership form to Robert "Buddy" P. Thrasher right away. The forms will be included in the Thrasher Newsletters that are mailed with this issue and on-line for those of you who receive your newsletter via the internet. If you have suggestions for the TFA, the meetings, gatherings, plans, programs, please let me know your thoughts. I do appreciate that you have again elected me as your Chairman for 2017 - 2018. I am so anxious for next year's reunion to be! Hope you are also.

MINUTES

The Thrasher Family Association
Meeting of May 6, 2017
Montgomery, Alabama

Hosts: David and Alice Thrasher

Attending: Bonnie Bolin of Fayetteville, GA; Nancy Cherry of Beltsville, MD; Judy Creighton from Pelham, AL; Ivy and Klaus Darnall of Atlanta, GA; Angie and Joe Grooms of Davidson, NC; Helen Raye Thrasher-Long and John Long of Birmingham, AL; Vickie Mills-Smith of Jackson, GA; Mitzi Mills-Smith of Covington, GA; James C. Moule of Berkeley, CA; Celestea Sharp of New York, NY; Caroline Thrasher Sermon of Newland, NC; Joan and Joe Stine of Orlando, FL; Elise and David Sumner of Anderson, IN; Anna and Ken Sutherland of Jacksonville, FL; Glenda and Terry Thompson of Pflugerville, TX; Karen and Hershel Thrasher of Shelbyville, TN; Juanita and Bill H. Thrasher of Live Oak, FL; Alice and David Thrasher of Montgomery, AL; Eleanor and John E. Thrasher III of Micanopy, FL; Glenda and Robert P. (Buddy) Thrasher of Columbus, MS; Paula and John Paul Thrasher of Newnan, GA; Sue Thrasher of Watkinsville, GA; Claudia Thrasher Wynne of Pensacola, FL.

Pre-meeting Activities: The group enjoyed dinner on Friday evening at Sinclair's East Mediterranean Restaurant in Montgomery. On Saturday morning, attendees toured the state capitol building.

Call to Order: The annual business meeting of the Thrasher Family Association (TFA) was called to order by the Chair, John E. Thrasher III, at 2:06 p.m., on Saturday, May 6, 2017 in Meeting Room I of the Staybridge Suites Hotel Eastchase - Montgomery. Many attendees had brought charts, research notebooks, and interesting memorabilia of Thrasher families which were displayed around the room. John E. stated that he would follow his “sort-of agenda” based on discussions that ensued as each topic was introduced. John E. welcomed returning members who had not been with us for some time and new attendees, including a trio of sisters, Claudia Wynne, Caroline Sirman, and Judy Creighton. He thanked David and Alice for arranging the morning tour and for hosting this year’s reunion, and he asked attendees to write their names on a paper leaf to be fastened in the appropriate column of the chart he had prepared.

Program

Elise Sumner opened the program by singing our TFA song, “Be like John J. Thrasher, not Black Bart,” which she wrote some years ago. She has entertained us with the song twice at previous reunions, but this time her accompaniment was her ukulele rather than her guitar. She called on husband David to serve as her music stand.

Viva La Musica: Elise is a high school Spanish teacher and songwriter, and her CD with 28 original songs in Spanish is intended to help students learn the language. The CD is available on the internet. http://singspanish.com/index_alt.php.

Railroad Man: David Sumner continues to research “Cousin John” Thrasher, and he has substantially revised his book, *Railroad Man and Atlanta’s Early History 1839 – 1900*. He first published the Cousin John story in the Georgia Historical Quarterly, then put the story into booklet form, where it has grown from 24 to 36 pages. The newest printing includes data collected by Joe Stine on John’s term in the General Assembly, 1859 – 1863, and from Dr. Gene Ramsey’s talk at Norcross in 2015 about John’s role in the founding of Norcross.

David believes that Cousin John deserves to be better known for his kind-heartedness and for his contributions to early Atlanta and Norcross. The late Franklin Garrett, expert on Atlanta history, called Cousin John “one of the most interesting characters” in the early history of Atlanta. The city of Norcross has acquired 100 copies of the book, and David is donating copies to various libraries. He asks TFA members to suggest libraries to receive donated copies. John Paul Thrasher has a rough video of Franklin Garrett’s talk at an early TFA reunion in Norcross in June 1990. JP suggested that the video could be provided to the Atlanta History Center with David’s book to document the important role that “Cousin John” Thrasher played in the early history of both Atlanta and Norcross. The newly revised and expanded *Railroad Man* is available on Amazon for \$5.95 in paper or \$2.99 in kindle format. David brought copies to the reunion to sell and autograph.

Million Dollar Fumble: David’s second book is about Bear Bryant, the legendary Alabama coach, and his friend Wally Butts, athletic director at the University of Georgia.

A story leaked to the Saturday Evening Post resulted in an article published in the magazine. This brought lawsuits from Bryant and Butts which riveted the world of college football and went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. David's book is expected to drop later this year.

Mid-Atlantic Thrashers in the Civil War: Jim Moule presented an update to his talk of a few years ago, Mid-Atlantic Thrashers in the Civil War. He preceded his talk by showing slides of pandas, taken recently while he and wife Kathryn were in China. Kathryn had planned to come to Montgomery with Jim, but while they were with the pandas (Jim photographing and Kathryn, who is a watercolorist, sketching), Kathryn fell and suffered severe arm and shoulder injuries. The group sent its collective best wishes to Kathryn for a speedy recovery and congratulated Jim on his stunning photos. Jim will send Susie the URL for the site containing his nature pictures so that she can post it in the newsletter.

Following the discovery last year of a new branch of Mid-Atlantic Thrashers -- those descended from Benjamin (born 1740) who married Sarah White and who was the son of the first documentable Benjamin (died 1740) -- Jim has recalculated the number of descendants and their distribution. He has also tracked how the percentage of Union and Confederate enlistees from the family compares with the national percentages, and how the deaths on each side compare with the national average. He has found four cases of brother fighting against brother, among those was Thaddeus Thrasher of Maryland who fought and died for the Confederate side, while his brother Joseph, on the Union side, lived to return home to Frederick County. Jim's paper will be published in a future issue of the newsletter.

Jesus, the Early Years: Ken Sutherland updated us on his book, *Jesus, the Early Years*, a fictional account of Jesus' life which, while containing fact when known, endeavors to answer gaps in what we know of Jesus and his family. Ken has put so much research into the book and now is grappling with the marketing. John E. has read it and endorses it, and David Sumner has written a review on Amazon. Ken had copies on hand to sell, which he autographed. The book is \$15.99 on Amazon and is available through Barnes & Noble. An e-book version is also available. Susie calls the book "inspirational" and led a round of applause for Ken's work.

Show and Tell-1: David Thrasher was named by the Alabama Wildlife Foundation as the Alabama Conservationist of 2016. He has also been inducted into the International Order of Saint Hubertus, an order founded in 1695 in the Kingdom of Bohemia (then territory of the Hapsburg Empire, now the modern Czech Republic). The Order was a knightly order with emphasis on hunting and activities related to the pursuit and management of game animals. David left the room for a few minutes and returned wearing his medal and his dark-green robe emblazoned with a large cross and the motto "Deum Diligite Animalia Diligentes," which means "Honoring God by honoring His creatures."

Show and Tell-2: John E. brought two examples of decorative woodburning created by his father, John E. Thrasher II, who was born in 1887. One was a picture frame; the other was a wall plaque with painted or stained detail.

Reports

Minutes: The minutes of the 2016 TFA meeting at Sweet Briar were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Buddy reported a balance of \$6,006.32 as of March 31, 2017. The treasury now includes contributions and funds which closed out the treasury of the Mid-Atlantic Thrasher Association. The report was approved unanimously.

THRASHER FAMILY ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT		
05/01/2016 thru 03/31/2017		
FUNDS AVAILABLE TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK COL. MS 05/01/2016		\$4,208.45
DEPOSITS 05/01/2016 thru 03/31/2017		\$2,331.72
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE 05/01/2016 THRU 03/31/2017		\$6,540.17
DISBURSEMENTS 05/01/2016 THRU 03/31/2017		
1. NEWSLETTER EXPENSE	\$371.90	
2. FAMILY TREE DNA SCOLARSHIP	\$161.95	
TOTAL EXPENSES 05/01/2016 thru 03/31/2017	\$533.85	\$533.85
FUNDS AVAILABLE TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK COL. MS 03/31/2017		\$6,006.32
"NOTE"		
1. INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND \$300.00 FOR YEARLY DNA SCHOLARSHIPS		
2. THIS REPORT FOR 11 MONTHS SINCE REUNION IS IN MAY INSTEAD OF JUNE		

Robert Thrasher Treasury

Robert Thrasher

Buddy distributed membership forms and collected dues. The dues remain at \$20/year.

DNA Report: Nancy suggested that members get busy recruiting Thrashers for the Y-chromosome study which tests for relationships in the male line. We have "scholarship" funds to buy down partial or full costs of the testing for potential candidates, but we did not use any of our funds this year. If one of our purposes is to help place individuals into known lineages, then the Y-chromosome test is the best tool. We test with Family Tree DNA (FTDNA), a company in Houston, and our minimum test is the 37-marker test. FTDNA offers sale prices a few times each year, and Nancy suggested that we compile a list of men ready to be tested in the future so that we can take advantage of sales when they are offered. Buddy suggested that we buy and stock a few test kits so that we can send one immediately to men when they express interest.

Nancy also recommended that members who haven't yet tried the autosomal DNA test offered by FTDNA for \$89 may find useful information by testing. This test, called Family Finder, can be used by both men and women and can identify genetic matches back to fourth, fifth, or sixth cousins, or even further. Anyone who has used autosomal testing through Ancestry.com or 23andMe can enter their data into a GEDCOM utility to learn of more matches, although many people do not go this extra step. Because of this, it is recommended that individuals test through all the major testing companies.

A chart in the back of the room explained why each person has two family trees – a genealogical tree and a genetic tree. Since each child receives approximately half of his or her DNA from each parent, some genetic material is lost. Therefore, the child will not carry all the genetic material from all ancestors. Each conception is a throw of the genetic dice: siblings do not carry identical DNA. The chart also explained X-chromosome matching, which will be described in a future newsletter.

Old/New Business

Website: Susie gave a demonstration of some of the features of the website, <https://thrasherfamilyassociation.wordpress.com/>. The website is not limited in size, and any amount of material and photographs can be posted. Newsletters posted to the website will be word-searchable PDF documents. The member directory is password-protected; contact Sue to get the password. Susie pays \$30 per year from her own pocket to keep ads off the website. She asked that the TFA consider paying an annual fee of \$99 which would allow videos to be posted and would also keep ads off. Buddy motioned that TFA pay the \$99 fee. Hershel seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Digitizing old newsletters: Hershel's son Lee and Lee's daughter Kirsten have scanned and digitized all issues of the newsletter, and John E. has indexed them. Susie is prepared to post all issues of the old newsletters online but shared Jim's concern over privacy since the newsletters show birthdates for living individuals. Jim displays only a year, not month and day, when posting his own material on living persons. Nancy worried that some of the people mentioned in the old newsletters might have other privacy issues. Angie suggested that the newsletters be published in a password protected tab of the website. Bill Thrasher had made a motion, seconded by David Thrasher, that the newsletters be posted so that everyone has access to them, but Hershel suggested that the motion be tabled and the vote taken next year. David amended the motion on the floor to include Angie's suggestion that the newsletters be put online but password protected. The motion passed unanimously.

African-American connections: John E. spoke of the African-American connection in his family. John and Susan Barton Thrasher's grandson John Oates Thrasher had a "bright mulatto" woman named Scott as his companion, and the couple had four children. Their connection to John's family line was proven through DNA testing from Ancestry.com. John said that he had been invited to a reunion of that line, held in Oklahoma. He also mentioned Alma Parker, an African-American woman and member of

the TFA who for years believed that she was related to the John and Susan Barton Thrasher line through her ancestor Charles Thrasher, listed as a freedman in the 1870 Oconee County, Georgia census. After DNA testing showed no match, she wonders about her genetic heritage. Alma lives on the West Coast and for years has planned on attending one of our reunions but has not done so.

Losses in the family: John E. reminded the group of those we have lost within the past year: TFA members Trudy (Gertrude Iola Boucha) Thrasher (8/20/1931 – 8/8/2016), wife of Dale Thrasher of Leesburg, FL; James F. Thrasher (Jim) of Lake City, FL (9/18/1946 -1/20/2017); Roger Hinton Thrasher (4/14/1950 - 2/11/2017) of Hueytown, AL, son of Rastus and Ruth Thrasher; Robert Hugh Thrasher, Jr., U.S. Army (Ret.) (7/26/1964 – 8/10/2016) of Columbia, SC; Robert Hugh Thrasher, Sr. U.S. Army (Ret.) of Rock Hill, SC (10/1/1940 – 4/7/2017); Buddy's mother Mary Lorene (Pridmore) Thrasher (8/11/1917 – 3/10/2017) of Columbus, MS; and John E's sister Cade Thrasher Whittington (12/13/1919 – 4/13/2017) of McIntosh, FL.



Trudy Thrasher

Relationship notes: Claudia Wynne and Caroline Sirman are the daughters of Lanfert C. Thrasher. Judy Creighton is their half-sister and is not a Thrasher. Vickie Mills-Smith and her sister Mitzi Mills-Smith are cousins to Bonnie Bolin, but on Bonnie's "other side of the family."

Next Year: John Paul announced that arrangements have already been made to hold the next reunion in Williamsburg/Jamestown/Yorktown, Virginia during the weekend of May 4-6, 2018. The hosting hotel will be the Holiday Inn & Suites which is located just a mile from the Visitors Center. Angie and Joe Grooms are working with John Paul to plan the weekend.



Next year's TFA reunion
Williamsburg Jamestown &
Yorktown, Virginia
Weekend of May 4-6, 2018.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were awarded at various times during the business meeting. Alice had selected items with an Alabama or Montgomery theme: locally made popcorn, a book on Hank Williams, Gee's Bend quilted potholders, can chillers with the Montgomery Biscuits (baseball team) logo. Other prizes included an original Atlantic Thrashers tee-shirt and a tote bag from the Micanopy Historical Society. Eleanor drew the names. Winners were Glenda Thompson, John Paul Thrasher,

Anna Sutherland, Joe Stine, Juanita Thrasher, Hershel Thrasher, David Sumner, Terry Thompson, and Susie Thrasher.

Election of Officers: John E. made his annual plea that a new TFA Chair be elected, and once again the group refused to vote him out of office. John Paul will continue in his role as vice-chair. Hershel made a motion, and David Thrasher seconded it, that the slate of current officers be retained. That includes Nancy as secretary, Buddy as treasurer, and Peggy Thrasher as backup treasurer. The motion was passed unanimously.

Adjournment: John E. concluded the meeting by once again thanking our outstanding hosts, Alice and David Thrasher, and Bill H. Thrasher for his wonderful group photos over the past years and again for what he will soon do for us this year. At that point, he turned control over to Bill H. for picture-taking.

Group Picture: Bill H. took group pictures, including one of Thrasher men only. He will create a composite photo, inserting photos of those not present at the time the group picture was taken and adding an interesting background. We are all enormously grateful to Bill for the wonderful group photos taken over several years and their display at the reunion.

Saturday Dinner: The group enjoyed a scrumptious southern buffet dinner at the Oak Park clubhouse a few miles from the hotel, where we were joined by David and Alice's son and daughter-in-law Jody and Melissa Thrasher and delightful four-year-old grand-twins, Mae Magee and Reynolds, and Robert and Kristen Wynne of the Orlando, FL area, Claudia Wynne's son and daughter-in-law. Interesting note: Robert Wynne is the Indiana Jones enactor at Disney World.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Thrasher Cherry
Recording Secretary, TFA

Dr. David Thrasher: Physician and Conservationist

by David E. Sumner

The 2017 Thrasher Family Association reunion was hosted by David and Alice Thrasher in Montgomery, where he grew up and currently practices pulmonary medicine. They were joined during the weekend by their son Jody, daughter-in-law Melissa, and twin grandchildren, Mae Magee and Reynolds.



David says he first learned about the association in 2009 from one of his patients—Bill S. Thrasher—who was in the intensive care unit at Baptist Hospital at the time.

Dr. David Thrasher

“We started talking about our names, and he told me about the Thrasher association and the reunions. That’s how I first discovered the Thrasher association,” says David. He got in touch with John E. Thrasher III for more information and attended his first reunion in 2010. Bill Thrasher, a long-time member of TFA, died in December 2009.

David’s father was a wildlife biologist for the Alabama Department of Conversation, and he planned to follow in his father’s footsteps—for a while. After earning a bachelor’s degree in biology from Auburn, he earned an M.S. in fisheries biology in 1974.

“My plan was to go to Cornell and get a PhD and come back and teach at Auburn,” he says. He visited a college roommate who was in medical school and decided on an impulse to apply for medical school. He was accepted and later graduated second in his class from the University

of Alabama Medical School in Birmingham in 1977. He stayed in Birmingham for the next five years to complete his internship and residencies in pulmonary medicine.

David and Alice were married in 1973 and have three sons: Jody, 39; John Reynolds, 36; and William Lewis, 31.

His younger brother, William, is a Professor of Bible and Theology at Moody Theological Seminary in Chicago, where he has taught since 1980. William graduated from Auburn with a business degree and earned a Th.D. from Dallas Theological Seminary. He has written eight books, including his latest, *God as He Wants You to Know Him*. Both David and William were class valedictorians at Robert E. Lee High School in Montgomery and both were Eagle Scouts.



Dr. William Thrasher

“My brother, David, is very generous and so wonderfully paved the way for me in so many things. He is a great brother,” William said in an e-mail.

In August 2016, David was awarded the Conservationist of the Year award by the Alabama Wildlife Federation, which is the state’s oldest and largest citizens’ conservation organization. An AWF press release describes him as “a leading philanthropist in the conservation community” and “a pulmonary and critical care physician who has a heart for wildlife conservation and stewardship.” The award was based in part on many ways he has developed, maintained and allowed others to use “Two Creek,” the 800-acre plantation near Montgomery that he and Alice purchased in 1997.

When they purchased the land, it was largely used for pastureland and row crops. Since then he has planted more than 40,000 hardwood and pine trees on more than 300 acres.

A green tree reservoir was constructed to create a habitat for waterfowl. The press release says, “Dr. Thrasher’s love for wildlife and natural resources is also evident through other projects. He has been involved in the restoration of rare and declining habitats, forestry demonstrations, extensive studies with white-tail deer and largemouth bass, and hosting Wounded Warrior and youth hunts.”

David says, “We’ve let Boy Scouts, church groups, conservation groups and others go out there and picnic. The Boy Scouts have worked on merit badges for fishing, gun safety, reptile studies, bird studies, and forestry. Auburn forestry and wildlife students have come here to study. Basically, they use my land as an outdoor lab,” he says. But he takes time to enjoy the property, too. “Between my son and I, we go there most weekends and work or do something there.”

David’s other unique honor was his induction into the Venerable Order of Saint Hubertus in Los Angeles in March 2016. An international conservation and hunting society dating back to 1695, it honors the patron saint of hunters and fisherman. Membership is by-invitation-only with about 400 American members and 300 in thirteen other countries.

According to legend, Hubertus was hunting stags on Good Friday about 684 A.D. in the forest of Ardennese (France) instead of attending church services. He came upon a magnificent deer that he was intending to take until he saw that the stag had a golden cross between his horns. At that point, St. Hubert had a Holy vision that he was to forsake his hedonistic ways, divest his worldly possessions, and devote his fortune and life to helping the poor. His symbol—the stag’s head and golden cross—is a familiar sight all over Europe.



Members of the order wear dark-green robes emblazoned with a large cross and the motto “Deum Diligite Animalia Diligentes,” which means “Honoring God by Honoring His Creatures.” Among its best-known members was Justice Antonin Scalia, who was on a hunting trip in Texas in February 2016 with some other members of the order when he died.

David’s list of community service activities is long: An Eagle Scout, he received the national Distinguished Eagle Scout award in 1997; Montgomery United Way board member; Robert E. Lee High School Hall of Fame; board president for the Tukabatchee Area Council of the Boy Scouts; Auburn University Research board; founding member of the Montgomery Boys and Girls Club Foundation; YMCA board; Alabama Judicial Inquiry Commission; Montgomery Chamber of Commerce board, and the Montgomery Rotary Club, to name a few. He also received the W. Kelly Mosely Environmental Award in 2004. The citation described him as “A passionate provider of youth dove hunt opportunities, exemplary land management and the promotion of outdoor education events, past president of the Alabama Wildlife Federation, and a certified Treasure forest owner.”

David has traces his family genealogy back to his great-great-grandfather, James Cloud Thrasher, who was the brother of "Cousin John."

What does he do for fun? David says, "We hike, kayak, take pictures of Grizzly bears and play with grandkids at our farm." Does he have any retirement plans? "Lord willing, I plan to slow down next year but will always practice medicine as long as I am capable and making a difference."

In Memoriam

Col. Robert H. Thrasher

Col. Robert Hugh Thrasher (Ret.), U.S. Army, passed away on April 7, 2017, in Rock Hill, South Carolina, after a long and valiant battle with Alzheimer's disease. Robert was 76 years old. He is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Virginia T. Thrasher, his sons James R. Crippen, Michael S. Crippen and wife Elizabeth, and Eric J. Thrasher and wife Abby. He was preceded in death last year by his son LTC. Robert H. Thrasher Jr. (Ret.) U.S. Army. Robert was blessed with his grandchildren Ashlen Thrasher, Gabrielle Walker (Crippen), Delilah Mung, Megan Thrasher, Kristen Thrasher, Teller Crippen, Baxley Crippen, Robert Scoville Crippen, and his great-granddaughter Opal Caroline Thrasher.



Robert was born in Eustis, Florida, Oct. 1, 1940. He was raised in Orlando, Florida, by his parents Robert Carter Thrasher and Katherine Waters Thrasher. Robert attended The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, where he distinguished himself. Upon his graduation, Class of 1962, Robert was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He served with valor and distinction during 2 tours in Vietnam, where he was a Company Commander, Detachment B-57, 5th Special Forces Group (Green Beret). As a highly decorated Military Intelligence Officer, Robert continued his military career in multiple high level assignments, including the Pentagon, Defense Intelligence Agency, NATO, and General Staff of the Army, Washington DC.

Robert retired after 30 years of Active Duty service in 1992, to Mt. Dora, Florida with his wife Virginia. They relocated to Rock Hill, South Carolina, in 2006. Robert will be remembered by family and friends as a loving husband, a caring father and grandfather, and a loyal and stalwart friend. His commitment and devotion to duty were unswerving, and his gentle spirit and inner strength will live on in all of those whom he touched. A memorial service was held at Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, South Carolina. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery, with full Military Honors.

Published in the Orlando Sentinel from Apr. 4 to Apr. 7, 2017

Thomas F. Thrasher

What follows is an important update to the published records for Thomas F. Thrasher, one of the sons of Isaac and Elizabeth Hester Thrasher. (John/Ruth Cloud Thrasher; John/Susan Barton Thrasher; Isaac/Elizabeth Hester Thrasher)

In *Thrasher-Barton Descendants of Georgia* by Vessie Thrasher Rainer (1977) page 46, Vessie said: "The old Anderson house, which was bought by Isaac Thrasher and willed to his grandson Isaac Watson Thrasher, who lived in this house until about 1900, when he moved to Watkinsville, remains." In *Our Thrasher heritage* by D.S. Pruett (1986) Thomas F. Thrasher, Isaac and Elizabeth's son is only listed from the census.

John E. Thrasher III

Descendants of Thomas F. Thrasher

Generation No. 1

1. THOMAS F.³ THRASHER (*ISAAC², JOHN¹*) was born Abt. 1834 in Clarke Co. Ga., and died Abt. 1864 in USA. He married AMY WATSON.

Notes for THOMAS F. THRASHER:

"A History of the Thrasher Family traced through the Eighteenth & Nineteenth Century in England & America" by Dr. Maion Thrasher. San Francisco, Cal. 1895, Page 13: "Sixth son of Isaac Thrasher married Amys Watson, died in the War of the Confederacy; left a widow and two children."

"Thrasher - Barton Descendants of Georgia" by Vessie Thrasher Rainer, 1977. Pages 13, 44 & 46.

Will of Isaac Thrasher (Oconee Co. Ga - Abstracts of Wills 1875 - 1966, Will #8, p. 13) Isaac willed property to his grandson Isaac W. Thrasher, son of his son, Thomas F. Thrasher.

Child of THOMAS THRASHER and AMY WATSON is:

2. i. ISAAC WATSON⁴ THRASHER, b. March 29, 1858, Clarke Co. Ga.; d. February 7, 1907, Oconee Co. Ga..

Generation No. 2

2. ISAAC WATSON⁴ THRASHER (*THOMAS F.³, ISAAC², JOHN¹*) was born March 29, 1858 in Clarke Co. Ga., and died February 7, 1907 in Oconee Co. Ga.. He married LOUISA LULA MURRAY. She was born June 14, 1861 in Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga., and died July 9, 1903 in Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga..

Notes for ISAAC WATSON THRASHER:

Find a Grave #63516213

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

"Thrasher - Barton Descendants of Georgia" by Vessie Thrasher Rainer, 1977. Pages 44 & 46. "The old Anderson home, which was bought by Isaac Thrasher and willed to his grandson Isaac Watson Thrasher, who lived in this house until about 1900, when he moved to Watkinsville, remains."

"Will" of Isaac Thrasher.

"Bishop, Georgia - The Ancient Roots, Rich History and Enduring Spirit of a Southern Crossroads Community" by Celestea Gentry Sharp, 1996. Pages 256 & 258.

Oconee Co. Ga Abstracts of Wills 1875 - 1966. In the Oconee Will Book, Will #8, p. 13. Property inherited from his grandfather Isaac Thrasher. Identifies his relationship to his grandfather Isaac and to his father, Thomas F. Thrasher.

More About ISAAC WATSON THRASHER:

Burial: Watkinsville Cemetery, Oconee Co. Ga.

Notes for LOUISA LULA MURRAY:

Find a Grave #63516310

More About LOUISA LULA MURRAY:

Burial: Watkinsville Cemetery, Oconee Co. Ga.

Children of ISAAC THRASHER and LOUISA MURRAY are:

- i. DAISY ESTELLE⁵ THRASHER, b. November 4, 1880, Oconee Co. Ga.; d. February 25, 1965, Oconee Co. Ga.; m. JAMES DALA WATSON; b. September 18, 1875, Athens, Clarke Co. Ga.; d. June 26, 1954, DeKalb Co. Ga..

Notes for DAISY ESTELLE THRASHER:

Georgia Death Certificate. List her parents by name.

Find a Grave #76783029

More About DAISY ESTELLE THRASHER:

Burial: Rose Hill, Winder, Barrow Co, Ga.

Notes for JAMES DALA WATSON:

Col. CAC SAW 8, WW I
Find a Grave #17493193

More About JAMES DALA WATSON:

Burial: Rose Hill, Winder, Barrow Co, Ga.

ii. MAUDE ETHEL THRASHER, b. May 12, 1881, Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.; d. August 22, 1960, Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga..

Notes for MAUDE ETHEL THRASHER:

Find a Grave #63516337

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

1910 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

1930 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

Oconee Co. Ga Wills. (Abstracts of Wills 1875 - 1966) Will # 29 p. 118, 28 September 1959. Identifies her sister Ruth Thrasher Durham and brother Loren O. Thrasher.

More About MAUDE ETHEL THRASHER:

Burial: Watkinsville Cemetery, Oconee Co. Ga.

iii. RALPH ANDREW THRASHER, b. September 12, 1886, Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.; d. October 8, 1952, Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga..

Notes for RALPH ANDREW THRASHER:

Find a Grave #63516372

1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 & 1940 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

Oconee Co. Ga Wills. (Oconee Co. Ga Abstract of Wills 1875 - 1966) Will #238 10 June 1942.

More About RALPH ANDREW THRASHER:

Burial: Watkinsville Cemetery, Oconee Co. Ga.

3. iv. NANNIE LOU THRASHER, b. December 15, 1888, Watkinsville Oconee Co. Ga.; d. September 3, 1962, Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co. N. C..

4. v. FRANK E. THRASHER, b. August 1891, Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga..

vi. ISAAC T. THRASHER, b. August 1893, Oconee Co. Georgia.

Notes for ISAAC T. THRASHER:

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. T. Isaac Thrasher

1910 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. Isac Thrasher

1920 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. Isaac Thrasher

vii. LOREN OSWALD THRASHER, b. January 26, 1896, Watkinsville, Oconee County, Georgia; d. May 5, 1963, Watkinsville, Oconee County, Georgia; m. REBECCA; b. Abt. 1898.

Notes for LOREN OSWALD THRASHER:

Find a Grave #63516276

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

1910 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

1930 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

1940 Census for Salem, Oconee Co. Ga.

More About LOREN OSWALD THRASHER:

Burial: Watkinsville Cemetery, Oconee Co. Ga.

viii. CLOVIS THRASHER, b. October 1898, Oconee Co. Ga..

Notes for CLOVIS THRASHER:

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. Cloyce Thrasher

1910 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. Clois Thrasher

1920 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. Clois U.

1930 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga. Clayle E. Thrasher

ix. RUTH A. THRASHER, b. February 25, 1902, Watkinsville, Oconee Co. GA.; d. May 29, 1977, Clarke Co. Ga.; m. ROBERT S. DURHAM.

Notes for RUTH A. THRASHER:

Find a Grave #63333122

Georgia Death certificate #017367

Social Security Death Index: Last residence: 30677 Watklinsville, Ga.

"Thrasher - Barton Descendants of Georgia" by Vessie Thrasher Rainer 1977; pages 44 & 46
1910, 1920, 1930 & 1940 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

I visited with Ruth in her home in Watkinsville in 1976. She told me that she was the one who installed the "new" tombstone for her great grandfather Isaac Thrasher in the Thrasher Cemetery on Whitlow's Hill south of Farmington, Oconee County, Georgia. She had confused her grandfather Thomas, Isaac's son, with him and the tombstone has the name "Thomas Thrasher" there instead of just "Isaac Thrasher." John E. Thrasher III July 2016

More About RUTH A. THRASHER:

Burial: Watkinsville Cemetery, Oconee Co. Ga.

Notes for ROBERT S. DURHAM:

Oconee Co. Ga. Abstracts of Wills 1875 - 1966. (Will #247, p. 84 In County Will Book) 20 July 1953

Generation No. 3

3. NANNIE LOU⁵ THRASHER (*ISAAC WATSON⁴, THOMAS F.³, ISAAC², JOHN¹*) was born December 15, 1888 in Watkinsville Oconee Co. Ga., and died September 3, 1962 in Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co. N. C.. She married J. M. AUSTIN. He was born August 25, 1879, and died April 3, 1940.

Notes for NANNIE LOU THRASHER:

Find a Grave #39140337

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

More About NANNIE LOU THRASHER:

Burial: Elmwood Cemetery, Mecklenburg Co. N. C.

More About J. M. AUSTIN:

Burial: Elmwood Cemetery, Mecklenburg Co. N. C.

Children of NANNIE THRASHER and J. AUSTIN are:

- i. JAMES THOMAS⁶ AUSTIN, b. 1911.
- ii. HENRY ISAAC AUSTIN, b. 1913.
- iii. IDA LOUISE AUSTIN, b. 1914.

4. FRANK E.⁵ THRASHER (*ISAAC WATSON⁴, THOMAS F.³, ISAAC², JOHN¹*) was born August 1891 in Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.. He married GRACE D.. She was born Abt. 1890 in Georgia.

Notes for FRANK E. THRASHER:

1900 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

1910 Census for Watkinsville, Oconee Co. Ga.

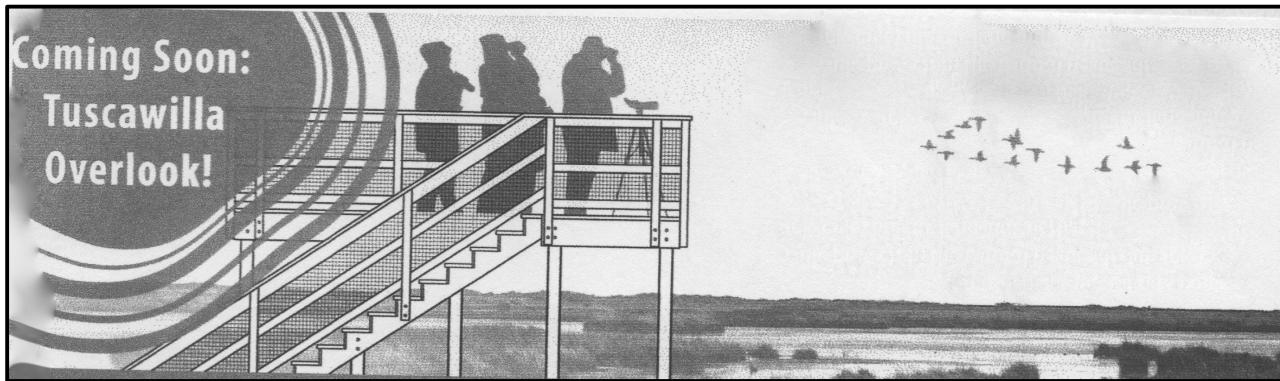
1920 Census for Salem, Oconee Co. Ga. Farmer

1930 Census for Chickasawba, Mississippi Co. Arkansas. Occupation: sampler, cotton compress. Working on own account.

Children of FRANK THRASHER and GRACE D. are:

- i. GRACE AMANDA⁶ THRASHER, b. Abt. 1918, Georgia.
- ii. BETTY THRASHER, b. Abt. 1924, Arkansas.

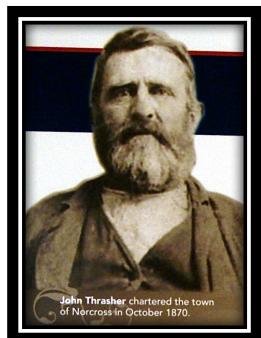
Exciting New Overlook coming to Thrasher Park in Micanopy



You may remember it was reported back in the February 2007 edition of the *Thrasher Newsletter* that John E. and Eleanor Thrasher sold more than 100 acres adjacent to the Town of Micanopy's Native American Heritage Park as a part of the 350 acre Tuscarilla Preserve. It has become a destination for many bicyclists and bird watchers, with its scenic vistas. A new overlook is being built at the John and Eleanor Thrasher park location thanks to the Alachua Audubon Society. It promises to provide exceptional views of birds and other wildlife in the marsh.

-Alachua Conservation Trust Gazetteer, Summer 2017

Cousin John says, “Remember to renew!”



Be sure to renew your Thrasher Family Association Membership for 2018. Dues are collected at the annual reunions each year. Those of you who weren't able to attend the reunion this year or haven't renewed yet, please make your \$20 membership fee check to the *Thrasher Family Association* and mail it to Treasurer, Robert P. "Buddy" Thrasher at: 1047 Old McCrary Road, Columbus, MS 39702

***Please continue to share your news and photos with your
“cousins by the dozens”***

Susie Q. Thrasher: 1101 Christian Drive, Watkinsville, GA 30677 or by email:
drsuethrasher@gmail.com

Nancy T. Cherry: 3100 Elkridge Court, Beltsville, MD 20705-3239 or email:
NancyTC@aol.com

John E. Thrasher: 6424 SE 169th Avenue, Micanopy, FL 32667 or email:
fish_jet@bellsouth.net