



by A Mary Chavis Jones

Holiday Greetings from Saddletree

By the time you read this week's news, Thanksgiving will be behind us. But I hope that each one of you will have a great day and that you took the time to stop and thank, and to give thanks for your many blessings.

We are so blessed. But many times when we think of Thanksgiving, we think of feasting and often-times we forget that Thanksgiving is an Annual Holiday, observed on the fourth Thursday in November, as a day of Formal Public Expression of Thanks to God. And, personally, I have a lot to be thankful for. I'm very thankful for my four children and their families. Together they have given me 12 healthy and beautiful grandchildren whom I love dearly. And I thank God for their good health and for their LOVE!

I may not possess vast riches or great acclaim, but I feel very successful without worldly fame. I know that my family loves and cares and though we're many miles apart, we're always close, in our thoughts and prayers. Thank God for my family! I love you all! Happy Thanksgiving, Tony, Mike, Scott, Bobbie Jo and families.

And, now let's see what tales the signalstell: it looks like more reunions.

Descendants of the late William (Billy) and Lucinda Lowery held their 6th annual family reunion on Saturday, November 11th at Deep Branch School. Billy and Lucinda Lowery had a large family of eight boys and one daughter who are all deceased. They were as follows:

Mr. Hector Lowery (my maternal grandfather), Mr. Pete Lowery, Mr. Tommy Lowery, Mr. James Lowery, Mr. Frank Lowery, Ms. Ida (Lowery) Scott, Mr. Dock Lowery, Mr. Melvin Lowery, Mr. Archie Lowery.

From this ancestry grew many Lowery families. As could be witnessed as they gathered on Saturday for this time of family unity and

celebration. This year the reunion was hosted by the late Frank Lowery families. The welcome and presentation of guests was made by Mr. Welton Locklear (grandson of Frank Lowery). Invocation was by Mr. Bradford Locklear (son-in-law of Frank Lowery). Dinner was served around 1:30 p.m. followed by some reminiscing and special thoughts by Mr. Randy Revels (grandson of Frank Lowery). This was followed by comments and announcements and presentations of gifts and awards by Ms. Bonnie (Lowery) Tatum (daughter of the late Mr. Dock Lowery).

Mr. Leroy Lowery, age 76, was honored with the special plaque that each year goes to the "Elders of Lowery Descendants in Attendance." Congratulations, Mr. Lowery. We are so glad that you were able to be with us this year, and looking great after a very courageous battle with illness.

Traveling the longest distance for the Lowery Reunion as Ms. Velma Carol (Lowery) Carter (daughter of the late Mr. Hoover Lowery). Velma Carol hails from San Antonio, Texas. Many families were here from out of state, but unfortunately, we can't mention them all.

Following the awards and prizes, we were treated to some beautiful

gospel music by Eric and Debbie Chavis and their son, Ross and their daughter, Savannah. This family is very well known around our Saddletree area and is also very talented. It was indeed a treat! (Debbie is a great granddaughter of Frank Lowery).

Following the Chavis Family Singers, door prizes were awarded. And last not least Ms. Kelli Wallace (great granddaughter of Mr. Dock Lowery) performed a great rendition of an Allison Krouse song "When You Say Nothing At All" and another year's reunion came to an end with the usual mingling, visiting, and perhaps getting to know a relative that you

never knew before and catching up on all the latest with the ones you hadn't seen for perhaps a year. The Lowerys agreed to meet again next year. Same time! Same place!

But alas, if you missed the Post Reunion Party at Ms. Pat (Lowery) Whitakers' house, you missed a fun time! And the Italian pasta dinner afterwards, it seems to be a tradition "kicking back" at Pat and Chuck's after the reunion each year. This year was special because Pat's sister, Faye (Lowery) Rollin was home from Michigan. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Revering was home from Virginia Beach, Va. Mr. Leroy (Jr.) Lowery and his daughter, Angel, were there from Michigan. Ms. Ellen Lowery from Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Lowery and son stopped by. Ms. Lottie (Lowery) Locklear and husband James were there. Mr. and Mrs. Archie Lowery from the Fayetteville area stopped by also. And many others, some that the fear of the tornado alert had frightened a bit, like Mr. Terry Locklear, who abandoned his pet dog, Gala, when his residence began to shake, and he decided he'd join the crowd. It was scary for awhile, but aside from the accident and damage on Mt. Olive Church Road, we were very lucky around Saddletree.

Bethel Hill Baptist Church played host to the Bullard Family Gospel Trio on Sunday, the 12th of November. This trip is made up and led by Mr. Johnnie Bullard, his sister, Ms. Carolyn (Bullard) Jacobs and her son, Mr. Bobby Jacobs, with daughter, Amy Jacobs on the controls. The Bullards have a very unique style unlike many who sing and sound a lot the same. Their song selections are very good and many are originals, written by group members and are delivered with a very clean, fluent distinct sound, with all members of the group possessing great quality voices which are soft, yet very expressive. As in one song entitled "Prayer Warriors" which delivers a strong message.

Carolyn wanted to make sure that we did not think of or refer to the group as entertainers, but rather as True Soldiers in the Lord's Army. Not looking for fame or fortune, but serving as a ministry of song and trying to win souls for Christ. They are indeed an excellent talent. We hope they'll come back soon.

Pastor and members of Bethel Hill would like to thank each one who showed up to help in the fall clean up day when they also planned 100 red-tips on church property line. Lunch was served. Thanks for a great job on a very bleak day.

Don't forget to check out the special Bible study classes every Wednesday night at Bethel Hill. Word has it that Mr. Travis and Ms. Sherree Sampson are doing a superb job of teaching these classes, beginning at 7:30 p.m. But they welcome your questions and input during this special session for enhancing your Biblical skills. They invite you to come and join them.

We'd like to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Elsie Carter back to our area after spending many years in the Fayetteville area. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have returned to the area and are living in Clibourne Pins area. We say "Welcome Back." Also, we're very happy to hear that Mr. and Mrs. Carter's son, Mr. David Carter, is out of the hospital and is doing much better. We are very happy to hear that and we wish you continued good health, David.

Our deepest heartfelt sympathies go out this week to the families of Mr. Willy Foster Locklear, Jr. who passed away on November 16th. May God comfort you during this time of bereavement in the loss of your loved one.

Continue to remember all the sick and shut ins when you pray and thanks for the many prayers for Mr. Leroy Lowery, Mr. Archie Hammonds, Jr., Ms. Rosie Lowery, Mr. Charlie Lowery, Mr. Derek Bell and others who are doing much better thanks to your prayers and God's Grace! Our thought for this Thanksgiving weekend:

Give thanks to God for family and loved ones and make new friends, but keep the old for one is silver and one is gold.

Christmas Open House

There will be a special Open House and Tree Trimming Program at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center on Saturday, December 9, 1995 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and participated in getting into the Holiday Spirit as a United People. Each of the Tribes and Urban Indian Centers who make up the NC Indian Cultural Center Board will have representatives there to decorate their individual Christmas tree - planted at the entrance to the Center.

Once the trees have been decorated, there will be a special ceremony to officially begin the Holiday season at the Cultural Center. There will be singing, storytelling, tree ornament making for your personal tree and an marshmallow roast.

For additional information on participating in this special celebration, please call the NC Indian Cultural Center at (910) 521-2433.

Come, share the Spirit with us and make a Joyful Noise while you enjoy the sights and sounds of YOUR Cultural Center.

The Sunday School Lesson

BY JOHN R. BRATTON
SALEM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Power of the Gospel Acts 19:1-6, 11-20

Outline
I. Revealing Questions (Acts 19:1-2)

Paul, in our lesson this week, was on his third missionary journey which took him to Ephesus. In verse 1 the upper coasts refers to the highlands and not sea coast. Apollos who had been teaching at Ephesus had moved on to Corinth, but before he departed, Priscilla and Aquila who saw the defect in his teaching, corrected him. They took him home with them and expounded unto him the gospel of Jesus Christ. Apollos had been teaching John's baptism to the people in Ephesus.

Paul came upon some disciples whom he questioned as to whether they had received the Holy Ghost. The reply from Christians was that they did not know if there was any such thing as the Holy Ghost.

II. Two Baptisms (Acts 19:3-5)
The next question Paul had for these Christians was to whose baptism had they been baptized? They answered that it was to John's baptism. There are those who would argue that these Christians would have been lost had they not received the Holy Ghost. We must keep in mind that they had not heard the gospel of Jesus Christ, therefore, they were Christians by faith and had acknowledged their sins and repented and were baptized with water. The same message that John the Baptist preached at the Jordan River.

Paul did not rebuke or criticize these believers, but acknowledged that John did baptize with baptism of repentance. He further stated that John had said that one would come after him that they should believe on whose name was Jesus. Sometimes Christians are quick to judge others for what they do not know, instead of instructing them more clearly in the word. Paul declared to the disciples that Jesus had come to redeem man from sin and that His baptism was with the Spirit of God. Paul no doubt took the time to teach them so that they fully understood. When they understood the gospel of Jesus (birth, death, burial, and resurrection), they believed and were baptized again.

III. Power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:6)

Paul laid hands on these disciples and they received the Holy Ghost. They spoke with tongues and prophesied! Contrary to some teaching that we have today that you have to be saved, sanctified and then filled with the Holy Ghost, these disciples had not heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. The scripture tells him that no man can be saved apart from the spirit of God. When God saves a person the spirit takes up abode in his life immediately. These disciples were empowered with special gifts for the work of God.

IV. Miracles done and attempted (Acts 19:11-14)

God through Paul performed miracles at Ephesus. People brought pieces of cloth that Paul touched and it healed the sick and drove out demons. God did these miracles through Paul that people would believe and also that they would not be deceived by imitators.

The scripture says there were vagabond Jews (Jews who traveled from place to place using their skill as exorcists) to call evil spirits out of people in the name of Jesus. They were using Paul's name in commanding the evil spirits to come out. There is mention here for whatever reason that seven sons of Sceva, a Jew and Chief of the Priests.

V. Triumph of Truth (Acts 19:15-20)

They were trying to cast out demons in a man in the name of Jesus. The evil spirit replied to them that Jesus he knew, and Paul he knew, but he did not know them. The man that had the evil spirit jumped on them and beat them and stripped them and they ran away naked.

The news spread all over Ephesus as to what had happened to Sceva's sons. The name of the Lord Jesus was greatly honored and glorified. This gave more credibility to Paul's ministry and many believed. Those who did not believe were careful not to say anything against the Lord. It would do well for America today to return to a reverence of the Lord.

Because of the ministry of Paul and the miracles wrought by God, many people believed. Many of these brought their books of sorcery, divination, and magic and burned them before everyone. The value of all the books was fifty thousand pieces of silver. This is evident that the new birth in Jesus changes people.

Unsaved, God can change your life, if you will accept Jesus as your savior. Come to Him now. He wants to save you.

God bless you until next week and have a safe and happy Thanksgiving weekend.

Birth Announcement

Byron Jeffery Hunt was born November 8 at Lumberton, NC to Jeffery and Wanda Oxendine Hunt of Pembroke, NC. Wanda is the daughter of Alta Nye Oxendine and the late Leon Oxendine of Pembroke. Jeffery is the son of Elsie Hunt of Lumberton, and the late Willie Hunt. The baby weighed eight pounds, four ounces. He is the great grandson of Harry and Alta Nye, and their daughter, Alta's first grandchild.

Reflections

by Alta Nye Oxendine

A Variety of "Happenings"

During the past couple of years our Redfield branch of the Page family has experienced a number of deaths, including Mother, her sister, Bertha Gagos (in 1994); Bertha's husband, Kenneth; Elna Martin, our oldest cousin; Priscilla Nancarrow and Jim Redfield, also our cousins; Ruth "Pat" Redfield Wheeler's grandson, Bobby; and by brother Stan's wife, Shirley Ryan Nye. Also, another Page descendant, Shirley Iverson, who was recently killed in an accident in Oregon.

By the time I left Montana, I was getting tired of hearing about so many people leaving this life.

Newest Page Descendant

Now to the opposite extreme—those coming INTO this world!! As far as I know, Byron Jeffery Hunt is the newest descendant of Pageville's original Page family. He arrived early on the morning of November 8 at the Lumberton hospital. His parents are Jeffery and Wanda Oxendine Hunt. He is a great grandson of Harry and Alta Nye, and the grandson of Elsie Hunt at the late Willie Hunt (Lumberton, NC) and Alta Nye Oxendine and the late Leon Oxendine (Pembroke, NC). So, at 68, I am a Grandma for the VERY FIRST time!

As always, I hated to leave Montana—especially those towering Rockies. But I'm glad I got to NC in time to go with my daughter to a hospital orientation on Halloween and then to be present for Baby Byron's birth on the next Tuesday night. SO interesting to observe a baby entering the world from a different vantage point in the VERY SAME hospital where I gave birth to Wanda Kay and her two brothers thirty-some years ago.

Ironically, by the time Baby Byron came home, I'd developed my first bad cold in ages. So I had to wait a week before holding my first grandchild!

The new parents are happy to finally be a threesome after nine-plus years of marriage.

One of my first thoughts was to call Mother, who had heard about the baby before her stroke. (One of the times I've missed her most). She enjoyed meeting Byron's daddy and seeing Wanda Kay again, in 1993. Wish she could have met ALL her other grandchildren's spouses, and all nine great grands.



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Pharmacist

Howard Brooks



Personal diabetic diet

Rather than handing a person with diabetes a preprinted diet sheet, now doctors often recommend that people with diabetes work with a dietitian.

This is particularly helpful for someone with insulin dependent diabetes because changes in diet may have a profound effect on insulin requirements and should be done with caution. The dietitian will review medical needs, diet history and eating habits as well as lifestyle, work habits and culture before devising an individualized meal plan.

To find a dietitian in your area, call the American Dietetic Association's hotline at 1-800-366-1655.

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