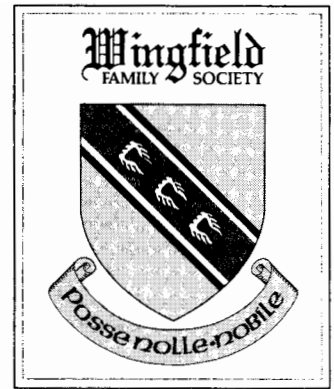


# newsletter



"Wynkefeld The Saxon held honor and fee, ere William The Norman came over the sea"

... Ancient Suffolk England Rhyme

Vol. V, No. 2

Spring, 1991

## Changing of the Guard New Officers for Wingfield Family Society To be elected for 3 years

One of the first orders of business at the Fredericksburg meeting May 17-19 will be election of officers for the next 3 years. Only members in attendance will have an opportunity to vote.

A nominating committee has suggested a team they believe will provide the type leadership the Wingfield Family Society needs as it faces the challenges of the years ahead.

Wilsie Carr, the WFS's first and retiring president, says she has been extremely pleased with the overwhelming enthusiasm and dedication displayed by the members since the Society was formed in 1987.

"The best is yet to come," says our retiring president and it is now time for new blood to take over. With the quality of candidates for officers she sees exciting and spectacular accomplishments for the WFS in the decade ahead.



For president, Bob Wingfield

This is the team proposed for the officers of the Wingfield Family Society for the years, 1991/94:

President: Robert Warren Wingfield  
Presently Bob is our personable and active Vice President, now candidate for president. He was born in Chicago, IL and presently lives in nearby Northbrook. On January 1, 1991 he semi-retired as Executive Vice President of Erickson Electrical Equipment Co after 46 years. Now he is a consultant for Erickson on a part time basis.

See Page 10 - Changing Guard

### Early Virginia History

#### First Wingfields to Albemarle County

By 1700, what later would become Albemarle County Virginia consisted of Indian braves, fur trappers and a few frontiersmen that had discovered this lovely, rolling countryside in the shadows of the Blue Ridge Mountains. But it wasn't until 1727 that the first crop was put into the ground and it would be another seventeen years before the name Albemarle would show up on old Dominion maps.

The Indians were Monacans and lived in the village of Monasukapanough that was located near the present city of Charlottesville. By 1700 most of the Monacans had left (settled for a time in North Carolina), so although it was a frontier, the settlers had little to fear from the few Indians. The men and women that took up the arduous task of settling a new land, suffered the loneliness of isolation and the rigors of what was then wilderness.

From 1727 to 1730 nine individuals acquired vast acreage in the Albemarle area. One of these was Charles Hudson, whose daughter Mary (Polly), would marry John Wingfield of Hanover County (b.ca.1695), and this land was undoubtedly the prime magnet for the motivation for Mary Hudson Wingfield's son, Charles, the first Wingfield to move to Albemarle County.

When Albemarle County was formed in 1744 from Goochland it was known as "Big Albemarle" and included the present counties of Bedford, Franklin, Nelson, Buckingham, Amherst, Fluvanna, Appomattox and part of Campbell.

Virginians at that time could buy land directly from the crown, thereby bypassing the often abused headright system. As the frontier moved, counties were constantly being formed and subdivided to give centers for new local governments.

Tobacco was the basic economy of colonial Virginia and within a few years the dark green, broad-leaved plants were appearing in hundreds of clearings and hogsheads were floating down the James River toward warehouses. By 1760 they discovered the soil was not well suited for tobacco and the distance

See Page 11 - History

### Fredericksburg Meeting registrations strong

#### Theme, Early Virginia

It looks like a record attendance to the annual WFS meeting in Fredericksburg. Our largest meeting was in Ashland in 1987 with 146. We expect this one to beat that.

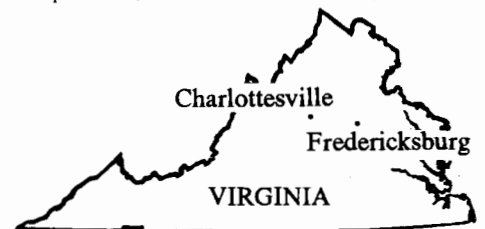
Dale Ruf says the hotel is prepared for an influx of Wingfields and Betty Gamache has driven the route to Charlottesville twice to make sure the full day tour will go off without a hitch.

Since the meeting is in the heart of Virginia, Wingfield country, it is expected many locals will attend at least some of the functions.

Our speaker for the final banquet on May 18 will be Lee Shepard of the Virginia Historical Society. He will speak on the early Wingfields in Virginia.

Vance Wingfield will be there with his computer demonstrating how the data is stored and the ways it can be accessed. The first demonstration will be on May 16 in the afternoon especially for the early arrivals.

The Wingfield Store will have specialty items for purchase.



Registration will begin at 9 AM on Friday May 17, upstairs from the lobby of the Fredericksburg Sheraton Hotel. All of our functions will be in the same area.

Our main speaker on Saturday night, May 18 will be Lee Shepard, Senior Archivist for the Virginia Historical Society. His speech will focus on the early Wingfields in Virginia and conditions at the time. Mr Shepard was trained as a legal historian and has written and over the years has published articles in several Virginia historical magazines.

See Page 10 - Meeting

**THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER**

if you have NOT renewed your membership for 1991.

## From Page 9 - Changing Guard

Our presidential candidate is a graduate of Vanderbilt with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He was in the Air Force during WWII. He is and has been active in many organizations and associations, too many to list here. Of special note is his membership in the International Association of Electrical Inspectors and a Life member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. He has served as Electrical Commissioner for the village of Niles, Illinois, writing and enforcing codes. Bob was appointed for the past ten year to serve on Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. Industrial Advisory Committee having to do with safety. He still has time to be a Trustee of his church.

Bob is married to Virginia (Ginny) who is a school teacher. They have been married 41 years and have two sons, James Robert, and Thomas Alan. Bob and Ginny have a second home on a nearby private lake which they utilize all year indulging in both summer and winter activities.

Bob feels that membership is very important for growth of the society. "There is strength in numbers with very positive and lasting results in an active membership. If elected he wants to see working committees where all can make a contribution as to what, how, and when things get done." Continuation of present activities is necessary, but it is his hope that all new planning include all age groups.



**For Vice President, Dale Ruf**

Vice President: Carolyn Dale Ruf

Dale is one of our most active members. She and her family have participated in every WFS project. She has made every meeting, including the WFS tour to England in 1988. Currently she is a director, was our meeting chairman in 1988 is co-chairman of the 1991 annual meeting, and will be on the 1991 tour.

She is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a B.S. degree in home economics and a specialty in interior design. Before marriage Dale was a stewardess for Pan Am. She and her husband, Ray have five children, at least two are members of the WFS.

Dale believes in planning and thinks we should have more opportunities for the family to get together as friendship and fellowship are the societies greatest rewards.

Secretary: Betty Wingfield Gamache. Betty is up for re-election for secretary, the position she has held since the WFS was formed. She has worked for Reynolds Metal Co. for the past 14 years. Currently she is manager of the Reynolds credit union in



**For Secretary, Betty Gamache**

Richmond. Betty is single and has been an avid Wingfield genealogist for many years. She spends what time she can as a hospital volunteer. In her other spare time she likes to read and go antiquing.

She abhors any thought of cruelty to animals and has been an animal rehabilitator for years, especially orphaned and baby animals. She has been known to have several squirrels or birds in her care awaiting either release or a permanent home. Once she even had a porcupine that became a pet.

Betty thinks the most important goal of the society should be to increase membership, giving us a new resource for ideas and manpower, plus the bonus of new family associates and friends. She would also like to see more books published. Finally, she wants Capt. Edward Maria Wingfield, the first president of the Jamestown Colony to be properly recognized for his place in history.



**For Treasurer, Lynn Wingfield**

Treasurer: William Lynn Wingfield. The son of Dr. Bill Wingfield (now deceased) who lived in the charming old home called Marl Ridge, and was co-founder of the Wingfield Family Society. Lynn now lives in Marl Ridge with his wife Martha. They have one daughter, Martha Ellen age 4 1/2. His vocation is Personnel Administration. Formerly he was Assistant Vice President of Fidelity Bankers Life and personal manager with Peoples Drug Stores.

He is Vestry member, of St Paul's Episcopal Church, Hanover Courthouse Puritans, Vice President Hanover Citizens for Quality of Life and member of Hanover Country Club. His hobbies are gardening, jogging and farm work.

Lynn believes the WFS should strive for growth in membership and provide even greater availability of family research information.

## From Page 9 - Meeting

If you need and have not made hotel reservations please call (703) 786-8321, the Sheraton in Fredericksburg. Tell them you are with the Wingfield group and you will get our special rate. We have no objection to members showing up without pre-registering. If you do, we cannot guarantee that there will be room on the bus for the tour to Charlottesville as the coaches are reserved in advance. Usually we have no problem ordering extra meals. We want you to come and will do everything possible to accommodate arrivals with no advance notice.

The full day tour to Charlottesville will be especially exciting. Members will get a tour of Bellair a private estate, built by Charles Wingfield, Jr. that is being opened up to WFS by its owners, Mr and Mrs Corwith Davis.

See you in Fredericksburg!

## Newsletter Page Numbering change

Starting with the winter (past) issue Volume V, No. 1, the pages will be consecutively numbered irrespective of issue. That means the winter issue (Vol V, No. 1) that had 8 pages and was numbered 1 through 8. This issue (spring), Vol. V, No. 2, will pick up at page 9, etc. Each subsequent issue will start with the page number where the previous issue left off and this will continue for the entire year.

Reason? We are developing an index for those that keep all issues of the newsletter and wish to look up an article, can merely go to the referenced page number for a particular year. They will not have to search Volumes and numbers.

We hope you like the idea.

## Burleigh House article Town and Country

The April, 1991 edition of Town and Country features a great story on Burleigh House. This was the home of the Cecil family whose daughter Elizabeth Cecil married Sir Robert Wingfield before 1565. The enormous and elegant house is near Stamford and is open to the public.

### MUNIMENTS OF THE ANCIENT SAXON FAMILY OF WINGFIELD

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For its members  
Single Issue Cost \$4.00

### From Page 9 - History

was presenting problems. Attention was being directed toward the revolution and life changed again for the settlers.

The British enemy, as marauders only, appeared only once in the area. But as prisoners, captured German mercenaries (Hessians) came by the hundreds, virtually doubling the population of Albemarle.

The demand now was for wheat which ironically solved the crop dilemma and tobacco never regained prominence. By 1800, wheat reigned supreme.

The westward migration was primarily a search for cheaper and more fertile land as poor farming practices had greatly depleted the soil. This type of farming in early Virginia had left the land stripped of productivity. People moved to areas where virgin land was available. Much of the land they inherited was not productive. As sons grew up there was limited local land and the option was to move to new areas.

The Charles Hudson family of Hanover County owned land in Hanover, Henrico, Amelia and Albemarle counties. Indeed he was one of the largest patentees of Albemarle County, acquiring fifty six hundred acres of land between 1730 and 1735. Charles Hudson died in 1748 and his son-in-law John Wingfield was executor.

The first Wingfield to move to Albemarle County, Virginia was Charles Wingfield (b.1728 at Walnut Shade, Hanover County) the son of John Wingfield and Mary Hudson. Charles Hudson left his daughter, Mary, a working plantation, "Prospect" in Albemarle County,

with a lifetime interest, then to go to her son Charles on her death. Richard Quarles believes Charles was sent to Albemarle County immediately to take over the property in 1748.

Charles Wingfield (b.1728) married Rachael Joyner in 1750 in Albemarle. The Joyner's land was processed in 1743 in Hanover County but it is believed the Joyners, too, went to Albemarle.

Charles lived at "Prospect" and upon his death in 1803 it was left to his youngest son Francis (b.1770), who lived there until he died in 1864.

Another son of Charles, Charles, Jr. (b.1752) was a magistrate (1794), sheriff (1819) and preacher. He is the Wingfield that built "Bellair," the plantation home that the WFS members will visit on the day trip to Charlottesville from Fredericksburg on May 18. Charles, Jr was quite wealthy, having married Mary Lewis, widow of Col. Charles Lewis and cousin of Thomas Jefferson. When he died in 1819, "Bellair" was bought by Martin Dawson and was later given to the University of Virginia, one of its first large bequests. The estate of "Bellair" near Charlottesville, Albemarle County was presumably built after 1783, the year he married Mary Lewis.

WFS members on the day tour to Charlottesville have been invited by the present owners, Mr and Mrs Corwith Davis to visit "Bellair."



**Thomas Fox Wingfield, early ancestor  
Born 1803, died 1888**

Probably the next to move to Albemarle was from Louisa County and another John Wingfield (b.1743), the son of Robert (born ca.1697, birthplace still under debate). Robert had lived in Louisa so it seems logical the move was from Louisa County and not Hanover. He married Robina Lankford in Albemarle and settled there in 1766. In 1768, John bought 100 acres of land in Albemarle near the Hardware River, not far from Charles Wingfield's "Prospect" property. In 1788 he purchased two more parcels one of which became the Rock Wall where the Wingfield Cemetery is located. This property was known as "Pleasant Dale." All the parcels joined each other. The house is no longer in existence, but the nearby Wingfield cemetery has been deeded in perpetuity for this use. While in

shambles, some of the tombstones are still there. It is believed John and Robina are buried in the cemetery, but the oldest tombstone is dated 1766 for John's son Edward.

The migration of the Wingfields westbound is a fascinating story and the move to Albemarle County by two branches is only a token example. In a later issue we will followup with more examples of the Wingfield movement west.

So much research is still to be done. A comprehensive, complete report is impossible, but we will tell you what we do know or believe.

## Early Wingfield houses near Charlottesville, VA

The following are a three of the early houses in the Charlottesville area, built, owned, or occupied by Wingfields. There are certainly many more. This listing does not imply these houses to be the only ones. But they are good examples of early Wingfield homes.

### PROSPECT

Without question "Prospect" is one of the oldest, if not the oldest house still standing in Albemarle County. Parts of the house may have been erected as early as 1730, probably before Charles Wingfield arrived in 1748. The property was conveyed to him by his mother, Mary Hudson, at the death of his father, Charles Hudson. This was part of a 500 acre Hudson farm.

The original residence consisted of two rooms, one above the other. The house is of frame studding, covered outside with yellow poplar clapboard. An addition with two brick chimneys were built on the eastern end of the house about 1810. The construction is unique. It is called "brick nogging" and consists of a section of brick wall perhaps 18 inches by two feet wide, then pine studding, alternating in this fashion across the width a room. Angled cross braces also cut across the brick wall. The doors throughout the house are the wide-pine batten type. The original rock chimney on the eastern end was blown down by Hurricane Hazel in 1954.

Another unusual feature of the original building is that the ceiling of the second floor is made of hand-driven white oak boards, apparently smoothed with a drawing knife. The



**"Prospect" as it is today  
Photo from Taz Wingfield with  
present owner Harold Sinclair**

To Page 12 - Houses

**From Page 11 - Houses**

boards are nailed to the rafters like clapboard, or weatherboarding, except they appear like weatherboarding put on up side down.

Charles Wingfield, Sr's son Francis inherited the property and is believed to have lived there after his father's death in 1803. The present owner-occupant is Harold Sinclair, a bachelor ninety one years old who was born in the house. He lives there without modern conveniences. The house sits back about one half mile from the main road.

Legend says that Thomas Jefferson spent the night at "Prospect" when fleeing Tarleton's troops. If proper arrangements can be made, those on the tour will see this old house.



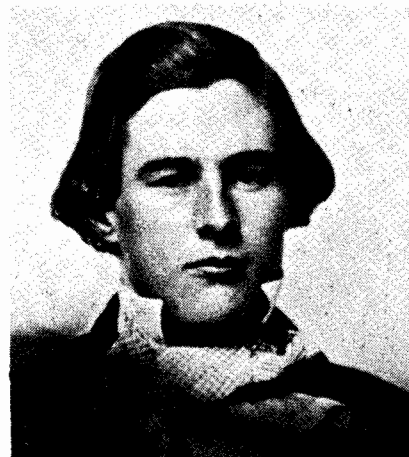
**OLD EDGEWOOD**

Old Edgewood's house was built by Robert Ledbetter Wingfield, the son of Thomas Fox Wingfield. Robert Ledbetter (b.1829) was a Civil War veteran and it is believed he built Edgewood about 1850.

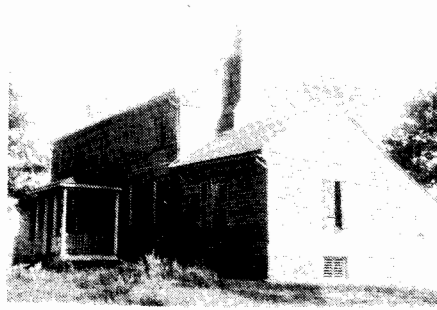
Before the Civil War, the property was probably the westernmost part of the Col. Thomas Fox Wingfield farm. The part on the east side of the Hardware River was one of the best farms in the Carter's Bridge Section. Col. Robert Ledbetter Wingfield made his home there following the War between the States. In 1890 it was conveyed by Robert Ledbetter and his wife Ann, to their children.

Bill Stevens (WFS member) is Robert Ledbetter's grandson.

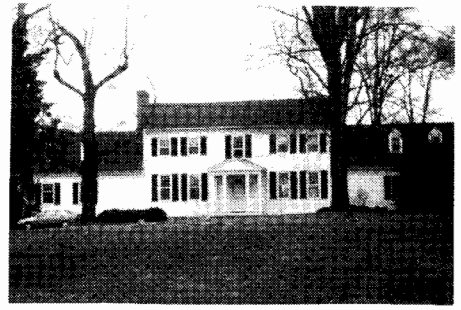
Old Edgewood's front section (c. 1850) has stone walls on the ground floor with clapboard exterior for the floor above. In all there are 8



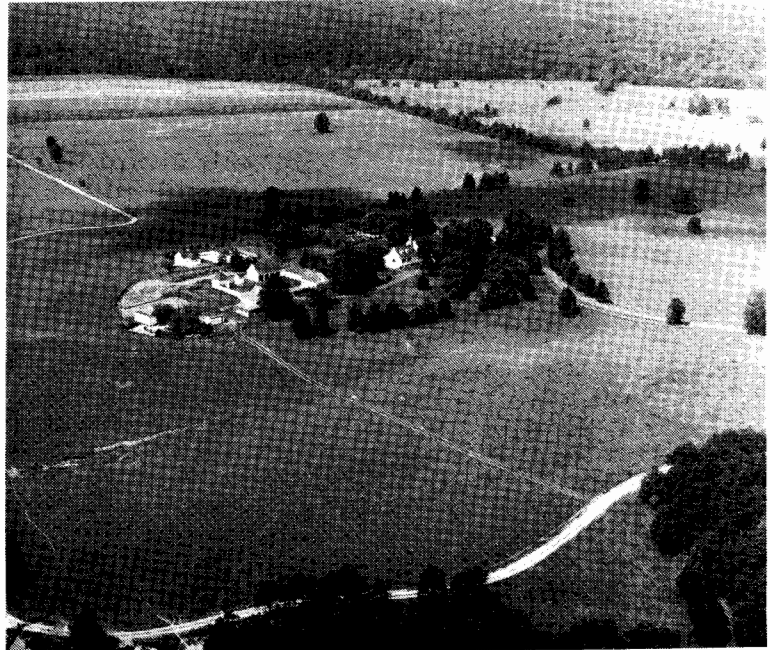
**Robert Ledbetter Wingfield  
Born 1829, died 1919**



**Bellair in 1938**



**Bellair as it is today**



**Aerial photo of Bellair**

rooms and bath. The ground level within the stone exterior walls contain the original kitchen and dining room as storage area and a lavatory. In the gable are two quaint bedrooms. Heat is by stoves. Chimneys are stone.

**BELLAIR**

Built by Charles Wingfield, Jr who was appointed a magistrate in 1794, served as sheriff in 1819, and reportedly was also an Episcopal minister. Most historians believe the house was built earlier than 1794, more likely after 1783, the year he married.

Charles was quite wealthy, having married Mary Lewis, widow of Col. Charles Lewis and cousin of Thomas Jefferson. He was the son of Charles Wingfield and Rachael Joiner of nearby Prospect. It is a delightful plantation estate on 853 acres. It is private indeed, with a paved drive winding into the domain of Bellair. Today there are two guest cottages, a servant cottage, garage for 4 cars, overseer's house, a smoke house, well house and the main house.

The main house, is a two-story center block, single story wing on each end, all of 18th Century origin (including its fine exterior cornice treatment).

All buildings were neglected in the 1930s but have been restored to charming elegance after 1938 by Floyd E. Johnson, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. They added the double galley porch with a Chinese

Chippendale railing on the facade facing the fertile low grounds, the breadbasket of the old Bellair Plantation.

The Little Hardware River, for about 3600 feet, is within the Bellair Plantation. The width of the fertile lowlands abutting the river is in all nearly two miles, creating an estimated 200 acres of farmland.

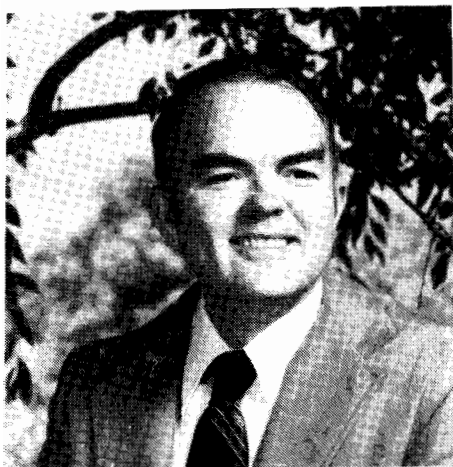
Bellair is now owned by Mr and Mrs Corwith Davis who have graciously agreed to open this lovely home to members of the WFS day tour to Charlottesville, May 18.



**Betty Gamache and Harold Sinclair  
91 years old, owner "Prospect"**

## **WFS MEMBER PROFILE:**

### **John Dyson Wingfield**



### **John Wingfield**

Some people seem to just fit into the timing of the onrush of technology development of the era. John Wingfield is a perfect example. He caught the electronic gush as it really started to emerge in the 40s and found his niche, riding to the crest of the wave that carried electronics to a fine tuned state of sophistication.

John Dyson Wingfield was born in Umatilla, Florida on April 9, 1935 the son of J. D. Wingfield and Minnie T. Friedel Wingfield. John's Father is a Washington, GA Wingfield who moved to central Florida in the 1920s. Both parents still live in Umatilla. His father is almost 91 and mother 78.

John is a descendant of the Wingfields that migrated in a group of 40 or more to Georgia in 1784 from Virginia immediately after the Revolutionary War. His progenitor was John Wingfield (b. 1723) from Hanover, Virginia who married Frances Buck.

He attended local schools in Umatilla and graduated in 1953 from the local high school and was president of his Senior Class. While very young his curiosity in science and especially electricity with the support and cooperation of his parents, fueled an interest in radio and things mechanical. He liked to take them apart and see how they worked. He received his first soldering iron when he was seven.

While in high school he obtained his Amateur radio (Ham) license (1951) and built his first transmitter. His call through the years has been W4TKD. This hobby propelled him into a vocation that would be his lifetime specialty; electronics. In addition to radio, John was interested in photography and had his own darkroom for film processing. As a high school student he did some free lance photo work. When disasters or newsworthy events occurred nearby he would often have the first or sometimes only pictures of the occurrence quickly in the hands of the local editors.

John went to the University of Florida in Gainesville, graduating with a BEE degree in Electrical Engineering in 1957. It was necessary that he worked while in college and naturally

he was drawn to his specialty, radio and was a staff engineer for WGGG for over three years.

In 1955 during summer vacation he was the first chief engineer where he assembled all the equipment for WLCO, a 250 watt commercial radio station in Eustis, Florida which was about seven miles from his home in Umatilla. It was a low budget, local station and John was not only the chief engineer, but also had additional announcer duties as well. He was the disk jockey after six in the evening where they played records on request. He recalled commenting after an Elvis record that he (Elvis) would not be around for long. So much for his ability as a music critic.

After graduation, he spent a year as a University of Florida research assistant doing tropospheric scatter research from Orange Hill on New Providence, Bahamas for the U.S. Navy contract. There they collected data daily measuring the signal strength for the microwave signals transmitted from what was then called Cape Canaveral, FL. The purpose was to determine the power and equipment required for reliable long distance communications in the microwave spectrum. Upon returning to the U of F Campus, he taught a lab in the electrical engineering department until he went on active duty.

Completing Air Force ROTC training while in college commissioned him as a 2nd Lt on graduation in 1957. For the last two years in college, he expected to become a pilot, but the country's budget restraints at the time changed that goal. Consequently John as sent to active duty as an electrical engineer and continued to work in electronics throughout his military career.

Called to active duty in 1958 he reported to Robins Air Force Base near Macon, Georgia and assigned to an engineering logistics office. An ear infection confined him to a hospital bed where he met Dorothy Culpepper who was his nurse. Although too sick to flirt, he managed to remember her, and three months later they were reintroduced on a blind date and a romance blossomed. Engagement followed and they married on July 26th, 1959 in Ft Valley, GA. Dorothy's home was about 20 miles from Robins AFB. Dorothy became an Air Force wife. She gave up nursing and became a mother. The family always managed to accompany him as he flitted between cities and continents, seeing him retire with 21 years of service in 1978.

His military service included 4 1/2 years in Georgia, 4 years in Germany (in and near Frankfurt), a stint at Wright Patterson in Dayton, where he continued his education in electronics receiving an Electrical Engineering Masters Degree in 1967, then to Eglin Air Force Base near Ft Walton Beach, Florida, on to Raleigh, North Carolina for 4 years and finally 2 1/2 years at Hanscom Air Force Base near Boston, from where he was retired as a Major.

Throughout his career, he continued to be active in Ham radio and found it especially helpful while overseas to break the ice with foreigners, who would otherwise be reluctant to communicate or to have contact with Americans. While stationed in Zweibrucken, Germany he participated in amateur radio field

operations. He spent two nights camped on a small mountain operating radio equipment in a field day exercise. The fact he speaks German enabled him to make contacts not only over ham radio, both in meetings and in daily life while living there. His duties required him to travel to Berlin, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Lebanon, and Pakistan.

Dorothy and John have two daughters, Julie Anne born in 1960. Julie Anne is married and lives in Atlanta. She has a degree in computers. Beverly Jane, born in 1952 is continuing her education in Athens, GA, where she is studying for a degree in computers.

Air Force retirement brought John to Perry, GA, near Dorothy's hometown to go into land development with her family. After developing a new subdivision, the recession of 1978 and education requirements for his daughters gave cause for rethinking his need for a more stable income. His electronic background easily put him into an instructors job in computer programming at Crandall Junior College, a private 2 year institution in Macon, GA during the years 1980/81. As John explains, the pay was small, so to compensate, the college let him use the schools computers for outside custom work. It wasn't long before a consulting firm hired him away from his teaching job and he became a computer system analyst and consultant.

In late 1984, John formed Friedel Management Systems, Inc in Perry, GA. His firm currently has 6 full time and 1 part time employees. Friedel provides custom computer programming for 3 county and 1 city government in mid-Georgia. He looks at all the possible applications for computer services and designs the system to their specific needs. As conditions change, including tax laws, he has to redesign the system to fit the job requirements.

His hobbies of Ham radio and photography are still an important part of his life. He no longer makes his own radio rigs, finding it more practical to buy them. His days of film processing are over although he still enjoys taking pictures. He also likes working with wood. In 1984 he built a two car detached garage to his home. This serves as his workshop for all his tools and electronics hobbies. He parks his cars outside.

John is a Founding member of the Wingfield Family Society and has been treasurer since its inception. Those that attend the annual meeting will remember John with his southern drawl auctioning off some important Wingfield artifact for the benefit of the society. They might also remember, his wife Dorothy as an active bidder, sometimes to John's chagrin.

In 1989 after returning from a six week visit to Europe, including a visit to Wingfield Castle and College, he was diagnosed as having prostate cancer, but after surgery at Duke Medical Center, he has been told he was cured. John reminds all to have a checkup and send a check to the Cancer Society so that we may lick the disease.

While most readers will find, John has led an extremely interesting and exciting life. To him it seems routine and uninteresting, but insists he would not trade it for any other.

## The Owen Wingfield Mystery

The controversy continues about the offspring of Thomas Wingfield of York River, the assumed immigrant (b.1664 in London, England, arrived in Virginia 1680, and d.1720 in New Kent County). Cautious and exacting genealogists require verification from actual records before declaring even an obvious assumption a fact. Written articles without verifiable sources are questionable and not taken as acceptable proof for genealogical data.

The following report covers only the descendants of Owen Wingfield, son of Mary Wingfield, believed to be one of the three proven daughters of Thomas of York River, as recorded in the Vestry Book of St. Peter's Parish. The other two are Ruth and Elizabeth, about whom nothing further is known.

Mary Wingfield had a son, Owen (b. 23 Sept 1719 in New Kent County, Virginia). Speculation is that Mary was not married. Owen's birth is recorded in the Vestry Book of St Peter's. It shows Owen as the son of Mary Winkfield. The fact no father is recorded seems to substantiate the theory that she was not married. A child was generally recorded under the father's name, or sometimes under names of both the father and mother.

This is only a guess, however, as it is also entirely possible that Mary was a widow of some Wingfield male of whom we have no record and who died prior to Owen's birth. It has to be remembered that the Vestry Book of St. Peter's Parish is not the original Vestry Book. It is a handwritten copy that was made in the mid-1700's from either the original or an earlier copy of the original. Hence, errors could have been made in copying the earlier records.

What we are sure of is that Owen was not the son of Thomas of York River and "a second wife, Mary," as originally stated by Herndon. Thomas was still alive when Owen was born. If he had been Owen's father, the Vestry Book would have said, "Owen, son of Thomas," or "Owen, son of Thomas and Mary."

Owen married Mary Hurst in 1748, and they had at least four children; Mary Ann (b.1755-60), Enoch (b.1755-60), Henry (b.ca.1760), and Samuel (b.1755-60). Owen and Mary were married in Stafford, County, VA, but moved to Frederick County, VA by at least 1755. Owen was a Patriot in the American Revolution in the Frederick Co., VA, Militia, and his descendants are eligible for membership in the DAR and SAR.

Owen did not die until after May 1794. Court records of Frederick, County, VA, show him being relieved from paying future levies as he was a poor man. He was 75 years old at this time.

Of their known children, Mary Ann married Fielding Hurst and had one child, but our records do not show any other offspring for Mary.

Owen's son Henry fathered 10 children and lived many years in Henry County, KY. A will book from Wayne County, Indiana, dated 24 October 1825 lists his 10 children and his widow as Sarah Meek Wingfield, so Henry moved to Indiana sometime after 1810 when he was at least 50 years old. Whether any of his children went with him is not known. One of

Henry's children was named Owen (b.ca.1790), who in turn married a Sarah Whiteside.

Owen and Sarah Whiteside had one daughter, Mary (Polly), who married a Samuel Marshall, according to our computer records, but WFS member Lee Preston has recently corresponded with Mrs. Edith Leach of Clearlake, CA, whose records give five additional children for Owen and Sarah Whiteside Wingfield: Elizabeth (b.1815) m.Caleb Wallace, the above Polly (b.1816), Matilda (b.1817), m.Addison Barker, Elvira (b.1818) m.Caleb Wallace after the death of his first wife, Elizabeth (Elvira's sister), Jane m. Erasmus Fowler, and Henry, who died young.

Owen and Sarah are believed to have moved to Texas before 1838, and the WFS computer records indicate an Owen Wingfield died in Montgomery County, Texas in 1838. That also confirms Mrs. Leach's "Wallace Family Tree" data that says Owen's estate was administered on 30 January 1838 by Caleb Wallace with Samuel Marshall and John Whitaker. Polly, Owen's daughter died in Bell County, Texas on 21 January 1861.

Henry and Sarah Meek also had a son, Henry (b.ca.1794, Henry Co. KY ). Interestingly he had a son, Owen (b.ca.1816, Henry Co, KY). Our computer records did not show any children for him, but Lee Preston has found this Owen in 1850 census of Dade Co., MO, p.306, with seven children, John, Thomas, May, Lucinda, George, Charles and Robert.

Our research does not show if the two known remaining sons of Owen and Mary Hurst, Enoch and Samuel had any children. They were living in Woodford, County Kentucky as next door neighbors in 1833, where Enoch applied for a pension as a Revolutionary War soldier.

As so often happens, there are gaps in continuity as history fades and Owen's descendants move westward to Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri and Kansas. It picks up again with the Territorial papers of the United States, Vol XII (Territory of Louisiana-Missouri, 1803-1806). On page 344, it lists an Owen Wingfield as signing a petition on 29 December 1805 in the District of St Louis (which was then part of the Louisiana Territory). Which Owen was this? It could not have been Owen (m. Sarah Whitesides) if he was born 1790, as he was only 15 years old in 1805. Could Enoch or Samuel (sons of Owen and Mary Hurst) have had a son, and named him Owen? Or, could Owen and Mary Hurst also have had a son named Owen (Jr.) who was in Missouri in 1805?

The plot is still fuzzy, as another petition to Congress is signed in 1818 by an Owen Wingfield to establish a Post Office at Florissant, 15 miles from St Louis. The same petition was also signed by John Whiteside and Thomas Whiteside. The name ties to the Whitesides and it must be more than coincidence and evidence points to a connection to Henry's son, Owen (b.ca.1790) who married Sarah Whiteside. WFS computer records show that another child of Henry's, Sarah, also married a Whiteside (Thomas, ca.1815 in Henry Co. KY).

In 1787 the tax records of Frederick County show taxes for Owen, Samuel and Enoch Wingfield. Also in 1787 there is a John

Whiteside paying taxes in Frederick County. Lee Preston wonders if a large contingent of Wingfields and other connected families moved from Frederick, County, VA to Missouri. Lee has compared names on the records of both places and there are too many similarities to be coincidence. However, there were Whitesides in North and South Carolina and elsewhere during the same period, who could have moved into Missouri.

Descendants of Wingfields living in Indiana, Missouri, Texas Kansas and many other states, including, YES, VIRGINIA, may be able to claim Owen as a progenitor. More research is needed to pull all the scattered facts together. If you can add any clues to help us update our records on Owen's family, please help us with this or any other Wingfield line. (Ed Note: After this article was written, Lee Preston inserted comments and additions where appropriate.)

## Bob Wingfield hits 65

Bob Wingfield, candidate for president of the Wingfield Family Society, reached a plateau that will enable him to collect social security benefits and no longer kid some of us about medicare. The magic number of 65 was reached on October 20, 1990, but the information did not reach the "newsletter" in time for the Winter issue.

His company, Erickson Electrical Equipment Co. threw a birthday party for Bob who at the time was their Executive Vice President. On January 1st, he retired and is now a consultant for the company, working 3 days a week from his home, complete with FAX and car phone.

They presented him with a cake colorfully decorated with the Wingfield Coat of arms as everyone at Erickson knows of Bob's interest in his heritage.

Belated congratulations, Bob.



**Bob Wingfield gets birthday cake with Wingfield shield, full color**

## OBITUARY

### James L. Hughes, Jr.

James L Hughes died suddenly of a heart attack on December 30, 1990 at his home in Birmingham, AL. He was born in 1915 in Birmingham, AL.

He attended Birmingham Southern College, University of Virginia School of Law and Naval War College. His fraternity was Omicron Delta Kappa (Leadership), Sigma Alpha Epsilon (Social), Phi Alpha Delta (Legal), Kappa Phi Kappa (Educational), and Tau Kappa Alpha (Forensic).

After 22 years he retired as a Naval Commander from U. S. Naval Judge Advocate General Corp. He then became a law professor at Cumberland School of Law at Samford University, Birmingham. While there he was voted Best Professor Award four times during his 24 years tenure. He sponsored and was active in the International Law Society of Birmingham.

Jim was involved in numerous historically societies and president of many, including Sons of Revolution, War of 1812 and Sons of Colonial Wars.

Jim is listed in Who's Who International, Oxford, England, Who's Who in American Colleges, Who's Who in the Southeast (twice), and Who's Who in Southwest and Who's Who in Law.

He is survived by his wife Betsey Wingfield Hughes, twin sons, Capt. Winston Jackson Hughes USN, of Alexandria, VA and Harwood Wingfield Hughes of Valrico, FL., two brothers, William Winston Hughes of Winter Park, FL and Dr. Edmund Hughes now living in Jamaica, WI

He is buried in the Wingfield Graveyard in Charlottesville, VA.

## OBITUARY

### Irwin Oats

Wingfield Family Society member, Irwin Radusch Oats was born April 7, 1928 in Kansas City, MO and died in his home in Houston, TX on December 4, 1990. Irwin's father, John Wingfield Oats, changed his name from Oats to Oats because he had a roommate in college whose last name was Wheat. His branch of the family just kept the Oats name.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Ramona, and sons John and Paul and John's wife Sally. He had lived in Houston since 1960 and was a pioneer in computer sciences and space research. He was a life member of the United States Power Squadrons.

Irwin had heart trouble for several years and was never able to make any of the meetings. At his request, his body was donated to the University of Texas for cardiac research.

He was a descendant (the Great-Great-Great-Grandson) of Charles Wingfield and Rachael Joyner noted for their early move to Albemarle County, VA.

### Wilsie Carr elected Regent Magna Charta Dames

WFS president, Wilsie Wingfield Carr was elected Regent of the Florida Suncoast Chapter of Magna Charta Dames this past March in St Petersburg, Florida. It is a two year term.

Members must prove their ascendancy back to one of the Barons that forced King John to sign the historic document in 1215AD

The organization has over 100 members and meets at a convenient location on the west coast of Florida.

## Down under cousin

### Gary Wingfield sends "Greetings"

"Greetings from New Zealand to all my cousins everywhere," says Gary Wingfield WFS members who lives in Wellington.

Gary really means it and wants to communicate with other members of the WFS to establish family friendships and learn more about the Wingfield family. As a matter of fact, this is now his hobby, along with stamp collecting, politics and vintage cars. He is a 53 year old bachelor, waiting for the right lassie to appear and is not willing to compromise. His vocation is in the executive-clerical field.

He believes he can identify his immigrant progenitor, and he wants to verify this and establish his connection in England and determine which line to fill out on his pedigree chart. His father was Thomas Robert Wingfield; grandfather, Thomas Alexander Burt Wingfield; and great grandfather, Thomas Wingfield which is as far back as he has gone.

His Grandfather, Thomas Alexander Wingfield was a dental surgeon in Dunedin, New Zealand who died about 1965. Gary believes his greatgrandfather, Thomas was born in England and if so is the emigrant for his line. He has one sister, Marilyn.

Sadly he found the library in Wellington does not have a copy of the "Muniments of the Ancient Saxon Family of Wingfield", so is now saving so he can get a personal copy and a cornerstone of his new hobby.

Anyone that wants to communicate with Gary may do so to the following address:

Gary Wingfield  
2/85A Martin SE  
Upper Hutt  
Wellington, New Zealand

## Wingfields in History

By Jocelyn Wingfield - London

### Famous Wingfield Metro party

In 1959 David Wingfield of the Powerscourt-Barrington Branch of the family held a party for about a hundred friends on the Circle Line of the London Underground (Subway). He sent out invitations inviting his guests to bring a bottle to drink and/or something to eat and to get on the last carriage of the train that was scheduled to stop at, for example: 6:30 P Westminster  
6:34 P St James Park

6:38 P Victoria

6:46 P South Kensington

6:50 P Gloucester Road

6:54 P Earl's Court, etc., etc.

There are 29 stations on the Circle Line and so by the time the train was approaching Westminster for the second time, the party was really in full swing. Even some gatecrashers had succeeded in literally gatecrashing. Some of David's guests had even brought a piano and the singing was getting quite loud enough to upset those who had not been invited. Indeed some of the latter were so upset at being refused entry into the last carriage to the Wingfield Circle Line Party, simply because they did not

have an invitation card, that when they got off, they rang 999 to complain. (Ed: note, could 999 be equivalent to U.S. 911?)

By the time the "Wingfield Express" began its second circuit there were certain guests who had been summoned awaiting to board guests uninvited by David Wingfield:

8:10 P Westminster

8:14 P St James's Park, etc.

These were the Transport Police, part of the Metropolitan Police. They were not met at the door by their host and they were, of course, refused entry, since, besides not having brought anything to eat or drink, they did not have an invitation card.

The newspapers had a heyday the following day, but they did not all catch David. He was not actually arrested, but I'm not so sure about his friends who brought the piano. As far as I remembers they were booked for transporting and obstruction on the underground.

In 1989 a couple of family members decided that we couldn't hold a 30th anniversary "underground party," since no one can remember the exact date of the first one. The author of this piece wonders if the family ever had such a subway party in New York?. Surely it can't be that Wingfield family members in the State are just more staid than their transatlantic cousins? Or are they more law-abiding?

### Wingfield tour set to go

Thirty four WFS members, at last count, will be on British Airways to England and Ireland for a 10 day tour visiting interesting, Wingfield related sites. Thirteen members are repeats that went on the 1988 Wingfield tour.

Most of the participants will also be attending the meeting in Fredericksburg and go directly by charter bus from the Sheraton to Dulles Airport on Sunday May 19. A few are flying direct to London to meet the tour at Heathrow Airport. There is one WFS member from England on the tour. Jocelyn, of course will be the historian guide again. He literally astounded the 1988 group with his endless patter and details about the various branches of the family in England.

While some features of the 1988 tour are being repeated, most are new and interesting locations, including 2 days in Ireland to explore Powerscourt. Participants will get meet a number of English and Irish Wingfields, and go into several homes.

For those that cannot go, there will be a photo album visually showing the tour members as they go from place to place. The album will be on display at the 1992 meeting in Reno.

## Headline "\$2.6 billion U.S. census colossal flop"

The 1990 count is done, but the criticism will linger on. Some people counted twice and many not counted at all.

Winston Churchill once said, "A census is the worst way to count people unless you count every other one."

Woe is for our descendants that look at the 1990 census and find an important connection has not been recorded.

## Popular Names

The most prevalent name in the world is Chang. There are 80 million of them. The house of Chang will probably maintain its hegemony for some time since 85 percent of them are under the age of 25.

In the United States ten the most popular surnames in descending order are Smith, Johnson, Williams(on), Taylor, Moore, Thomas, Thompson, White, Jackson, and Clark. This is according to the Dallas Morning News, and they should know.

## Mitchie Tavern a look at the past

When William Mitchie came home from the Revolutionary war looking for solitude, he settled outside of Charlottesville, VA. Boarding places were far and few between and it was not uncommon for Mitchie to be awakened in the middle of the night by strangers knocking at his cabin door seeking food and shelter. As the number of guests increased, Mitchie found himself in the tavern and shelter business.

In 1784 Mitchie was granted a licence to operate an ordinary - a place where meals and overnight accommodations were offered to weary travelers.

It remained in the Mitchie family until 1927 when it was sold and although still intact had deteriorated through neglect. The new owners decided the location was too remote and should be near the recently opened tourist attraction, Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson. The tavern was dismantled, piece by piece, each numbered for authentic reassembling at its new site.

Aggressive promotion accompanied the relocated tavern, including claims that Jefferson, Madison and Lafayette stayed there and it was the childhood home of Patrick Henry. In 1960 another owner took over the tavern (now open for meals, a museum and antique shop) and all unverifiable claims to famous people was discontinued. It is a perfect example of the 18th century period, and the type of place, perhaps Thomas Jefferson would stay. While we don't want to regenerate false claims, perhaps some of our founding fathers did . . .

Cindy Conte, assistant manager at the tavern says, "Our museum has hundreds of antiques and our Southern-style buffet is a fine example of the traditional food which was served 200 years ago."

Members of the WFS attending the meeting in Fredericksburg and the one day tour to Charlottesville will have lunch at Mitchie Tavern.

## CONTEST

### Send Photo earliest Wingfield

We believe there are some real old photographs of Wingfields out there and we want to share them with all members of the Wingfield Family Society.

All of you have to do is look in your photo albums or shoe boxes where you store your valuable old photographs. Hopefully you have taken every preservative precaution and your pictures are good enough to print. You must be able to identify the person (a Wingfield or spouse) and his/her age. Please wrap your photo carefully before mailing. They are very valuable.

If you can find among your memorabilia a photograph of one of your Wingfield predecessors that was born in the early 1800s or before, you could win a valuable prize.

Photography came into existence about the time of the Civil War, so it is conceivable that one of our members out there has a photograph of a Wingfield that was born in the late 1700s.

Date the picture was taken is important, but the birth date of the subject will determine the winner.

Rules:

1. Must be a photograph in good enough condition to screen for printing in the newsletter. Sorry, no sketches or drawings.
2. Can be a Wingfield or his wife.
3. Entries must be received by August 15, 1991. Winning photographs will be published in the newsletter. Individual must be identified, his/her age verifiable and if possible relationship stated. Although not necessary, other details such as when picture was taken, where and the circumstances would be interesting to accompany the photo in the newsletter.
4. In case of duplicate dates (same person) the earliest entry will be counted.

All photographs will be carefully handled and returned! Trust me, they will be returned after screening for printing. This does not harm the picture in any way. Please enclose self addressed envelope.

Submit to:

Photo Contest  
Wingfield Family Society  
301 Belleview Blvd.,  
Belleair, FL 34616

PRIZES:

- 1st, Copy of "Monuments of the Ancient Saxon Family of Wingfield" (value \$155.) sent anywhere in U. S.
- 2nd, 2 year membership (value \$50)
- 3rd, 1 year membership (value \$25)

**THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER**  
if you have NOT renewed your  
membership for 1991.

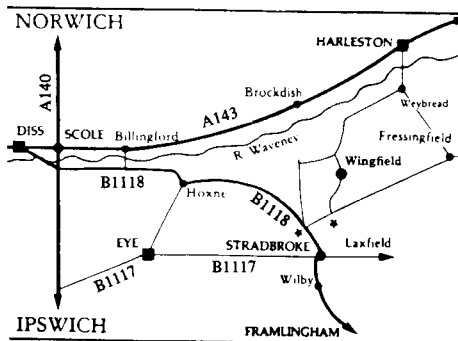
## Finding Wingfield village on your own

Many of our members, when traveling to England, want to see the Wingfield Castle in Suffolk. Only the more detailed maps show the village of Wingfield, so the one shown here may be of help in finding your way from the larger, but still small towns. The easiest route is to find your way to Diss or Stradbroke. From here travel on B1118 to a sign that shows "Wingfield" (indicated by stars on map), travel a very short way and another sign will point to the village of Wingfield.

You will pass Wingfield College and adjoining Wingfield Church. The college, now a commercial venture, owned by a non-Wingfield, sponsors various activities (art and music). There is a fee to enter and if there is something going on, you would have to buy a ticket to get inside. If not, expect to pay an entry fee, whether you are a Wingfield or not.

Be sure and visit the church with many references to the Wingfields. It should be open, but if not, the key would be at the college next door. There should not be any charge for this.

About a quarter of a mile further is Wingfield Castle. As you drive up, it sets back from the road a hundred yards or so and is splendid and imposing in all its dignity. Unfortunately it is a private home and not open to the public. The fact you are a Wingfield will not gain entrance. Please respect the privacy of the owners.



### Detailed map of area of Wingfield, Suffolk, England

### Selecting middle names

Baptist ancestors often named their children for popular local or regional ministers. Surnames used as middle names in your local family may be of their Baptist minister, not another relative. Some Methodists also used minister's names for their children. There were many Baptist Wingfields, especially in the south in the 18th century. Some were ministers or preachers.

A surname carried down in a family as a middle name isn't always a clue to ancestry, but could be of religious beliefs or locality.