newsletter

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

Vol.IX, No. 4 Autumn, 1995



Another famous English family connection - The Cromwells

Recently the Lees, now the Cromwells

by John Parry-Wingfield

Papers in my possession throw an interesting light on connections between the Wingfields and two famous figures in English history - Thomas Cromwell and Oliver Cromwell. This article explains how, if things had worked out differently, I might now be known as Baron Cromwell rather than plain John Parry-Wingfield. (Ed Note: John modestly ignores that

WAIL to be issued every three years instead of annually

As result of the research of our genealogists Lee Preston and Jocelyn Wingfield on the immigration of Wingfields into America, in 1992 the WFS published a 4 page report for our members under the title WAIL 92-1 (Wingfield Americas Immigration List 1992 No.1). This was an extremely valuable report which could save hours and hours of research time in attempting to locate a particular immigrant progenitor. It was loaded with valuable information.

The second year, WAIL 93-1 was published with a number of updates and went to 5 pages. Last year, 1994, the WAIL report had only 3 additions and corrections.

Our genealogists did such a thorough job the past three years that it is believed WAIL 94-1, is still very much up to date and it is not necessary to continue issuing these reports every year. Hereafter we expect to publish the WAIL report only at 3 year intervals.

We will accumulate the new information as it is uncovered and incorporate it in the next WAIL, which should come out in 1997. Should there be a particular important discovery, it will be reported in the newsletter.

he is Lord of the Manor of Tickencote.)

Thomas Cromwell, the son of a blacksmith, was born in 1485 and entered the service of Cardinal Wolsey, King Henry VIII's Lord Chancellor, rapidly becoming one of Wolsey's chief agents. In 1530 Wolsey fell out of favor with Henry VIII and was executed, whereupon Cromwell, then aged 45, entered Henry VIII's ser-

To Page 49 - Cromwell

Arizona Meeting Preview May 23-26, 1996

A warm welcome - the wild wild west awaits the Wingfields

We're off to Arizona again! What can be done to match the fantastic meeting we had in Arizona in 1989? Those that were there will remember the high-



Jerome, AZ: Its rich copper ore was discovered in 1876. Presently a restored village and the ghost town of a past era

light of the entire trip was a visit and barbecue at Louis Wingfield's Horse Shoe Ranch. Sorry, we can't do that again as Louis has sold the ranch, but we have a great program in the final stages of planning that promises to be something you will enjoy and remember forever.

That ranch visit will be a hard act to follow and it means the meeting planners are obligated to see that the cousins attending the 9th annual meeting have

See Page 44 - Meeting

Was John Smith a dirty old man?

This summer children have slurped their grape juice from Pocahontas mugs, received Pocahontas toys from Burger King, wrote with Pocahontas pencils, slept in Pocahontas pajamas and played with Pocahontas dolls. The Walt Disney Co. has literally saturated the country with Pocahontas memorabilia to promote their film, you guessed it, entitled "Pocahontas." It appears the movie was not the blockbuster they envisioned and probably waning by the time you receive this newsletter.

The producers created a love story involving John Smith and Pocahontas taking a historical event, then changing the facts to make them apply to their

See Page 43 - Pocahantas

WFS newsletters now available to public in two major libraries

The WFS has placed a set of all it's back issues of the newsletter into two important libraries in the U.S. These date back from 1987. One complete set has been accepted by the Library of Virginia in Richmond and another by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Subsequent issues will be sent to these libraries at the same time they are mailed to our members.

The Family History Library has asked permission to microfilm the past issues for easy access.

We do not have enough back issues on file to make a general offer to libraries or genealogical sections, nor would we want to blanket them anyway. However, we invite our members for recommenda-

See Page 44 - Library

Wingfields in Action

Skip Wingfield was Grand Marshall of the 4th of July parade for White Bear Lake, MN. She was picked because of her community service dating back many years. According to her husband, Duke, she likes working with money. She has been treasurer for the county club for 20 years, was women's church club trea-



Skip Wingfield is driven through White Bear, MN as Grand Marshall of the 4th of July parade

surer for 14 years and is currently treasurer of her antique club. In the fall she runs the church bazaar. Now that's generous action!

Louis Wingfield, one of our rancher members from Arizona, sold his Horse Shoe Ranch at Bloody Basin near Mayer, AZ about 18 months ago. This 70,000 acre spread is now being used with an unusual twist of allowing visitors to do most of the work. Sort of like those greenhorns in the movie "City Slickers." But it is not a dude ranch, it continues to be a working ranch. Of course, the visitors pay for this "privilege" (about \$140 a day), which includes their room and board and requires 6 to 8 hours a day of work. There were several buildings on the property that have been remodeled into luxury bunk houses for these working visitors. The regular cowboys give instructions and teach the fledgling ones the ropes so they can assist with the routine ranch work.

Where do these novice cowboys and girls come from? Not only from the U.S. but many originate overseas. Louis has been back to the ranch several times and found visitors from New Zealand, Australia, Holland, England and Norway. Their reaction? They love it!

Don't feel sorry for Louis giving up his ranch, he still has his other 54,000 acre ranch near the Grand Canyon that keeps him occupied.

Susan Cavanagh purchased one of the Lee-Wingfield booklets to give to Professor Emory Thomas who teaches history at the University of Georgia. Professor Thomas recently published a biography of Robert E. Lee.

WFS president and Lady of the Manor **Dale Wingfield Ruf** along with her husband **Ray** and family flew to Spain for their son Ted's wedding to Monica Cabezas on August 31st. The wedding was at the Chapel LaGranja Palace near Segovia. Dale explains the customs in Spain are quite different than in the U. S. For example there is no best man and the mother (Dale in this case) walks the groom down the aisle. Congratulations, Ted.

Bob Wingfield of Buffalo Grove, IL will complete 50 years of service with Erickson Electrical Equipment Co. in Elk Grove, IL on January 4, 1996. He was executive Vice President and Operations Manager until 1991 when he semi retired at age 65, cutting his work with the company to 3 days a week. Bob has since filled the extra time with WFS duties, first as president and now treasurer and comembership chairman.

Gail Miller of Richmond, noticed an article in the Richmond Times Dispatch this past August written by Gregory Wingfield the president of the Greater Richmond Partnership, Inc. The article explains the philosophy and goals of the one year old organization that expects to bring 4200 new jobs to the Greater Richmond area by 1999. Gregory dips back into history by reminding the world that in 1607 the Virginia Companie (Jamestown Colony) prospered in the area and has kept a pro business climate strong and intact ever since.

Who is Charles Wingfield?

The one you will be hearing a lot from lives in Alexandria, VA and is a distant cousin of our computer guru, Vance Wingfield. Charles is married to a lovely lady, Barbara. He was formerly an officer in the Navy and now retired.

Ironically, Charles, too is computer skilled and is taking over the honored WFS Roots computer database from Vance, so Vance can go back to working as a Vice President for an insurance company in Ft. Worth, TX.

We all welcome Charles as the newest WFS director. His responsibility will

be to be sure the genealogical data is properly entered into the WFS computer in such a way that it can be retrieved correctly and intact for the benefit of the members and future generations.

Welcome - New Members

The following new members have recently joined the Wingfield Family Society. Under the by-laws of the WFS, all related person residing at the same address are also members. If additional family members were noted on the application, their names are included below. New members are requested to notify the membership chairman if their addition family memberships are not shown below and should be included.

New members are: Patricia Wingfield of Peterboro, England; Virginia Wingfield Coley and husband Bernice of Roanoke, VA; Richard Wingfield Quarles III of New Orleans, LA; Lt. Thomas C. Wingfield of Washington, DC: Charleen McKinney and husband Henry B. Lange of Maitland, FL; Anne Walker Swanson and husband Douglas of Columbia, SC; Suzanne Cliborn Forbes, husband John and son Brad of Roeland Park, KS; Leah Wingfield and husband Stephen Clements and son Dustin of Tucson, AZ; Elmer A. Wingfield of Little Rock, AR; Rev. Wayne and Patricia Wingfield of High Point, NC; Robert Dean Wingfield, wife Pam and sons Scott and Jeff from Vernon, CO; Mary Dunckley of Las Vegas, NV; Luana Butt from Ft Pierce, FL; James Wingfield Harrison, wife Margaret and daughters Elise, Jeppa and Lynn of Mechanicsville, MD; Sue Harris and daughter Sarah and son Christopher of Hurst, TX; Donna Biodrowski and husband Dennis of Ft Worth, TX; Michael Walker of Vienna, VA: John C. and Nancy Wingfield plus son Johnathan Wingfield and dau Amy Noel Talbot of Granger, IN; and Robert L. Potter of Northglenn, CO

A family reunion is a time when people travel from the four corners of the earth to get together with all their relatives - which helps them remember why they moved to the four corners of the earth in the first place.

"Family Tree" cartoon continues courtesy Ken Wingfield's daughter

With the sad loss of our esteemed artist member, Ken Wingfield who doubled as cartoonist for the WFS newsletter's Family Tree feature, it appeared we would have to abandon his popular cartoon. The cartoons poked fun at history and current events relating to the Wingfields. With Ken gone, who could replace this versatile all around artist?

Both of Ken's daughters are artists. One, his youngest, Mia, came forward and modestly offered to draw the strip if we wanted. She explained she liked cartooning, but made it clear that her style was different from her dad's. Mia's technique, of course is her own, however I'm sure you will find the drawings superb, distinctive and a continuing delightful complement to our newsletter.

This issue contains Mia's first cartoon. Mia is married and lives in Phoenix.

newsletter

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Robert E. Carr (813) 461-4187

r 87

OFFICERS

Dale Wingfield Ruf. . . . President Vance Wingfield Vice Pres. Betty Wingfield Sec. Robert W. Wingfield Treas.

DIRECTORS

Appointed:

Bob Carr - Newsletter
Susan & Terry Cavanagh - Publishing
Robert Wingfield - Membership
Wingfield Hughes - Wingfield Store
Lee Preston - Genealogy
Floyd Wingfield - Chaplain
Jocelyn Wingfield - Historian
Vance Wingfield - Computer

Elected:

Whitney Blair Gail Mansfield
Wilsie Carr Gail Miller
Ed Coussens June Mueller
John Coussens John Wingfield

Single Issue Cost \$4.00

Arizona. Please welcome Mia Wingfield McCauley's talent into your home with each issue of the WFS newsletter.



Mia Wingfield McCauley, daughter of Ken Wingfield takes over the pen

From Page 41 - Pocahantas

story. For starters, there is no solid evidence that Smith and Pocahontas even met and if they did certainly there was no romance but if there was it probably qualifies Smith as the first immigrant dirty old man since Pocahontas was no more that 8 and at most 11 and the bearded Smith was stocky, swarthy and 28.

Teachers and historians openly questioned the irresponsibility of persons that warp history to serve their own selfish ends. Some historians have come forth publicly expressing doubts that Pocahontas actually saved John Smith's life and contend Smith made up the story after he read a previously published account of Juan Oritz who was captured by Indians in Florida in 1528 and saved by the daughter of the Chief of the Timucua Indians in an almost exact scenario of the alleged Smith rescue by Pocahontas. It was pointed out that not until after Pocahontas died in 1617 years after Smith had been back in England did the rescue story appear in Smith's revised diaries. Smith in 1608 after returning to Jamestown, published a day to day account of his sojourn up in the area of Werowocomoco where he was allegedly captured. This early report strangely fails to mention the rescue episode at all and called the Indians that accompanied him "guides." Nine years later he added the rescue tale and called the Indians "guards." Historian William Coker says. "It's something nobody can prove one way or the other, but on the other hand the evidence leans pretty heavily in favor of him (Smith) borrowing the story." Many historians dismiss John Smith as a blowhard and self promoter. This is exactly what Jocelyn Wingfield suggests in his book "Virginia's True Founder." In 1609 John Smith was disposed and sent back to England in disgrace. (VTF, pp 180, 245-248).

"Teachers are now forced to correct these wrongs," says Cornel Pewewardy, a Comanche-Kiowa who trains teachers in multicultural education. "And we will." She responded in a speech at a recent National Association Conference in Minneapolis, Pewewardy, "Exposing misconceptions about Walt Disney's new animated movie, 'Pocahontas,' requires courage for teachers to tread into unsafe domains."

The WFS seems to have some allies on our crusade to get the schools to teach correct history. The ongoing problem is the original history that has been taught for years is what John Smith himself recorded and is itself fraught with inaccuracies and distortions.

All in all perhaps the WFS did not suffer too much from the fictional movie, and in a sense may have scored a point or two, not in correcting history, but in raising doubts about the rescue episode and thereby the credibility of John Smith.

(Ed. note: Our thanks to the Evelyn Estes, Frank Reinauer, Gale Miller and other WFS members that forwarded information that appeared in newspapers nationwide.)

Family Tree

by Mia Wingfield McCauley



© Wingfield Family Society, 1995

From Page 41 - Meeting

an extra special experience they will again remember with fondness and maybe come close to the other Arizona meeting. All details are not firm, and subject to change but here's what it looks like at this point.

During the time you are at the meeting, convert to a true Westerner. You should start with your attire. If you have western gear bring it. If not pack your casual garb as you will be expected to dress comfortably casual for the entire time. Once you check into the hotel, change into your western (casual) attire and wear it until the end of the meeting. That includes every function from your registration, visiting the Wingfield Store, attending the regular meeting, reception, dinner and all day Saturday.

The itinerary calls for an early arrival of the directors for their annual meeting on Thursday, May 23. Of course, anyone can come 2 days early or stay over 2 days at the special WFS rate of \$65 single or double. There's lot to do in Arizona, and you may want to take advantage of being there for other personal recreation and sightseeing.

Friday morning is registration and a gathering in the Wingfield Store to meet old friends and see what's new with our computer. Perhaps pick up some of the Wingfield specialty items available only in the Wingfield Store. After lunch will be our regular meeting with some surprises and later a reception followed with a private dinner and a fun evening.

Saturday in your western duds, you will board your motorcoach for a drive to Jerome, an abandoned old mining town, precariously perched on side of a mountain. It is called a ghost town, and there is evidence of that, but its streets are now lined with shops and old buildings making it most unusual and distinctively picturesque. Then a short drive to Sedona located in the heart of the Red Rock country one of the most colorful and dazzling area in all of Arizona. A fleet of famous pink jeeps will take those that sign up in advance on a rugged, but safe and not uncomfortable off road adventure for a look at breathtaking and spectacular scenery. For those that want can explore the town of Sedona, and spend time experiencing why this is a paradise for artists, photographers and lovers of

unique scenery.

Then it is back towards Scottsdale and for a sundown cookout. This will be an authentic feast in the desert. There will be a horse drawn haywagon ride to the cookout area for mesquite-broiled steak or chicken accompanied by live music so you can jingle your spurs with some line dancing. There will also be Indian dancers and some wranglers doing whatever wranglers do. After a great evening, the waiting coaches will take you to the hotel.

That's what's on the drawing board. It will be scenic, social, enjoyable and certainly memorable. You gotta be in Arizona in '96!

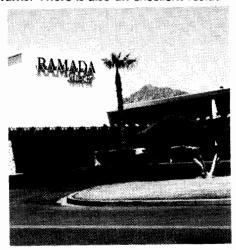
Mingfield Hamily Society
9th Annual Meeting
ARIZONA
May 24-26, 1996

The meeting hotel will be: In the heart of Scottsdale -The Ramada Hotel Valley Ho

Our hotel selection for the Arizona meeting is the 289 room Ramada Hotel Valley Ho in the heart of Scottsdale. The perfect size for our meeting and we will not be overwhelmed with crowds of competing meetings. It is designed in the style of Frank Lloyd Wright, 15 minutes from the Phoenix airport. It sits on 14 lushly landscaped acres with 3 swimming pools,

tennis courts, and a fitness par course.

It is a renowned resort set amidst all the favorite attractions in "Old Town" Scottsdale. Only a stones throw from shops, shopping malls and fine restaurants. There is also an excellent restau-



The Ramada Valley Ho Perfect for our meeting

rant in the hotel.

Not only is this the ideal hotel for our meeting, the price is right. Only \$65 per night for a single or twin (double). The rate will apply 2 days before the meeting dates and two days after for those that wish to arrive early or stay over.

Another plus, the hotel offers complimentary transportation from and to the airport. Just call from the baggage claim (there are a bank of telephones) upon arrival at the Phoenix Airport and their 9 passenger van will be on its way.

Correction on WFS Cookbook

Those purchasing one of the new "Delicious Memories and Fine Family Food" books, please make the following correction to your book:

The gravy recipe on page 51 should be put into the "stew" recipe at the bottom of page 131.

As Lady Campbell, who submitted the recipe, points out, "It is the gravy made with consommé which makes the stew taste so different and so delicious." Gail Mansfield apologizes to Lady Campbell for the misunderstanding, but also reports that she tried the recipe as a gravy on potatoes and found it wonderful. She also cooked the stew and it was likewise delicious. Try it either way, you'll love it!

From Page 41 - Library

tions as to other select libraries that we may mail current issues of our newsletter provided they will in turn keep the binder up to date and make the WFS publication available to the general public. Please do not make any commitments to any libraries.

These new libraries would not have all back issues but could build from that point forward.

About five more libraries would be the maximum we could commit to send our publication, at least until we see how it works out.

Give your recommendations to Bob Carr, Wingfield Family Society Newsletter Editor, 301 Belleview Blvd., Belleair, FL 34616.

WFS MEMBER PROFILE:

Wilsie Wingfield Carr



Wilsie Wingfield Carr

In 1986, Wilsie Wingfield Carr visited Dr. Bill Wingfield at his home in Marl Ridge in Ashland, Virginia with an idea of starting a family society. Dr. Bill was well known and respected having been guite active in research of the Wingfield family heritage over the years. So with his endorsement, enthusiasm and cooperation the idea went forward. As a result of that visit, an organizational meeting was set up in Hanover, Virginia for the following May (1987). It was through Bill that Wilsie learned about Jocelyn Wingfield in London who has since become such a stalwart within the society. Arrangements were made for Jocelyn to attend this meeting. A small but important core mailing list of Wingfields was developed. Each was contacted and asked to invite their relatives. Out of that one mailing an unbelievable 100 plus possible members came from all over the United States. Virtually every one joined. The rest is history. The WFS has flourished and grown beyond Wilsie's or anyone else's fondest dreams.

Wilsie was elected the Wingfield Family Society's first president in 1988 and held the newly acquired title of Lord of the Manor of Wingfield for a short time in 1991 when it was reassigned to newly elected Bob Wingfield the society's second president.

Few know Wilsie's background and her relentless energy that would spawn such an ambitious idea, so this is her profile so all of the WFS will know her better.

Wilsie was born in Athens, Georgia, the daughter of William C. Wingfield II and Mabel Morris. She is the oldest of three children and the only girl. She is often asked where she got the name "Wilsie" inasmuch as it is a bit unusual. She was named after her maternal grandmother, Wilsie Morris. As a 5 year old child she contracted polio and contrary to the accepted treatment at the time, her mother insisted she use her legs as much as possible so she was sent to dancing school. Later these acquired dancing skills were put to work in her teenage years when she taught dancing herself. The family moved a lot to take advantage of job opportunities. The family not only lived in Athens, GA, but also Detroit and Traverse City, MI; Richmond, VA; Chattanooga, TN and finally moved to Florida in the late 1940s.

It was in Florida that she met Bob Carr who was to become her husband. Bob worked for Eastern Air Lines and had been sent to Tampa, Florida to instruct a group of newly hired reservations agents of which Wilsie was one. Bob was working out of the airline's home office and was often conscripted to special assignments such as this. After a highflying, and sometimes long distance romance for about a year, in 1951 they decided to marry and Bob was able to arrange a transfer and an appointment as a sales representative in Jacksonville, FL. They were again transferred to Chattanooga in 1955 and finally to the west coast of Florida where Bob became district sales manager for Eastern in late 1959.

Her true business acumen did not really surface until her two daughters, Melissa and Robin were older and required less supervision. In 1964, Wilsie started a travel agency in the community of Belleair Bluffs, and in 1970 opened a second office in a shopping center about 5 miles away. At that time there were only 5 or 6 agencies in the entire Pinellas county. Today there are over 300.

With Bob employed by an airline and Wilsie in the travel industry, she was fortunate to be able to travel to the four corners of the globe and that she did almost always with her husband. Her memories are rich with reminisces of a safari in East Africa, a trip to the south Pacific, the Orient, India and Egypt. There

also were many trips to the county she loves, England. Also there were several transits of the Panama Canal, one while on a cruise around South American when she also sailed through the Straits of Magellan that was especially memorable.

In 1974 Bob left Eastern and became involved in the agencies full time as the booming business required more managerial attention. It became a family enterprise. From here they expanded the operation to 5 retail offices, plus a wholesale tour company in the late 1970s. This meant frequent trips to Mexico, Central, South American and Europe.

Unbelievably her entrepreneurial energy had not peaked as she discovered another vital need in 1975. Many of the communities in the Pinellas County area near Clearwater, Florida did not have a weekly newspaper. What a great way of advertising travel services to the local citizenry. So she started the weekly Belleair Bee newspaper from scratch with its circulation targeting an affluent market. Within two years the one newspaper expanded to three. The timing was right as nationwide weekly newspapers began to fill a void as they sprang up all over the country giving advertisers lower ad costs than the traditional large metropolitan papers and could focus on a defined area. It was truly unique foresight, with the right product at the right time in the right place.

Meanwhile Wilsie continued to devote most of her activities to her travel responsibilities, while at the same time but did not overlook local community needs. She was president of the Business and Professional Association of Belleair Bluffs, was formerly on the board of the prestigious Gulf Coast Art Center, one of the founders and past board member of the Pinellas County Arts Center, director of the Largo Chamber of Commerce, was one of the leaders to start a Performing Arts Center in Clearwater and later was a board member of the Leading Ladies of the same center. In 1985 she was appointed to the board of directors of the First Florida Banks and served until the banks were merged with the Barnett chain in 1991.

The newspapers were purchased by a national chain in 1980 in response to an offer she could not refuse. One by one

See Page 46 - Profile

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Wingfield Hallet, 90 an educator and historian of Camp Verde, Arizona died June 30. Her entire life was tied in with the history of Camp Verde, much of the Verde Valley and Sedona. She was a retired school teacher in Camp Verde. A pillar of the community with perhaps her most visual tribute is in Camp Verde's Main Street fountain park. The park was called "Margaret Wingfield Hallet Plaza" according to the mayor, Carter Rogers. She is survived by her son, Harold Hallett, Jr., her daughter-inlaw, Marjorie; two grandaughters, Debbie Odell and Donna Young; four greatgrandchildren, Terry Odell Binkley, Glenn Odell and Stephanie and Rob Young. two sisters, Loma Baker and Vera Sturges all of Camp Verde. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold.

Tazwell "Taz" Wingfield, 74 of

Tavares, FL died April 15. He was a former school teacher and principal of Tavares Elementary School. He had a bachelor's degree from Florida Southern and a master's degree from Stetson University. During World War II he was in the U.S. Army Air Corps, a B-17 navigator and was shot down and interned in Switzerland for seven months. He is survived by his wife Rosalie; daughter, Esther Benitez of Bloomington, IN; brother, Alfred J. Of Umatilla, FL; three sisters, Mary Louise Bell, Elsie Salomon, both of Altamonte Springs, FL and Eva Ballard of Lakeland, FL.

Marjorie R. Parcell of Phoenix died February 1, 1995. She was born in 1912 in Kansas City, KS. to Hosea and Edith Parcell. Marjorie moved to Phoenix in 1941 and devoted all of her life to educating young minds. She never married and her students were her "children." She had been a WFS member for about a year.

From Page 45 - Profile

the travel agencies were sold until 1992 when Wilsie retired completely from what she called the rat race.

Wilsie's long interest in genealogy has flourished as has her intense interest in history and especially that of the War between the States. It is no secret she is proud of her southern heritage and of the hundreds of books she has in her personal library many are devoted to that unfortunate war. One book she recommends all to read is "The South was Right."

She is a member of United Daughters of the Confederacy, First Family of Georgia, DAR Clearwater Chapter, and Colonial Dames of XVII Century. Before the Magna Charter Dames was discredited, she was Regent of the local chapter.

Her hobbies are now the Wingfield Family Society which comes right after her 5 year old grandson, Thomas Callaway Schenck, the very bright young son of her daughter, Robin who lives nearby. Her other daughter, Melissa also is married and lives in California but has no children.

An avid reader she subscribes to many magazines on a variety of subjects from fashion, architecture, history, business, to good fiction. She reads them all. Wilsie adores and accumulate books with

her library covering every available cranny in the den. For years the supply of the Wingfield Muniment books was stored in one of the closets in her den. These books have now been moved to the new WFS store in nearby Riverview, Florida courtesy of Wing Hughes. This closet will soon become another personal bookshelf and recently acquired books will move off their temporary spots.

She likes designing, whether it be clothes, furniture or interiors of homes. If she had it to do over again, would she go into design? She ponders and admits she probably would not, as she looks over her years of accomplishments with pride.

If asked what was her greatest accomplishment, what would she say? (Ed. note: The answer would probably be snagging Bob Carr, but fortunately no one asked)

England's Wimbledon Museum recognizes the Father of Tennis, Walter Clopton Wingfield

Photo of the bust of Walter Clopton Wingfield (1833-1912) taken at Wimbledon museum in England during the Wingfield tour, 1995.

Wimbledon's tennis museum recognizes Walter Wingfield as well as others that were early proponents of tennis. Although Wingfield is considered the inventor of tennis, there are some that dispute Wingfield's claim to this title as other games using a racket and hitting a ball over a net had been played for years so they insist the claim is invalid.

A roughly similar game has had different names from earlier eras. It was called "Sphairistike" from Grecian and "Pila" from Roman times. These games used a ball that was also hit over a net and this premise was the basis of lawn tennis.

Actually Walter Wingfield did not receive a patent for *inventing* the game of lawn tennis, his patent was for a portable court for playing the game. A set of rules for games as such are not patentable. Patent No. 685 awarded to Walter Wingfield in February 1874 describes the patent as "A Portable Court for Playing Tennis." So one could argue technically that he did not invent tennis.

See Page 48 - Tennis

Wingfield name on Viet Nam Memorial in Washington

Listed upon the Viet Nam Memorial in Washington, DC are thousands of names of our heroes that died in that bloody conflict. Certainly there are many members that lost loved ones and their names are also embossed on the memorial, but it wasn't until Gail Miller of Richmond, VA visited the site had we been aware that a Wingfield was listed. Gail noted and reported her find.

The name is Albert C. Wingfield, Jr.



If this is relative of one of our members, we would like to know about it. Then with that person's permission, we will report it in the newsletter.

THE WFS WINGFIELD MANORIAL TITLE IS AUTHENTIC!

by Jocelyn Wingfield & Bob Carr

[The authors have written this article in response to a request from a member, following several sales of fake manorial titles (plastered with seals and coats of arms) to Americans for \$25,000 to \$60,000. It is therefore deliberately detailed].

Of the many English manorial lordships-including Wighefelda/Wineberga [Suffolk] - recorded in the Domesday Book (1086), and despite mergers and additions, at least 25,000 remain today. Of the four mediaeval Wingfield (Suffolk) lordships, it is possible that fewer than four remain - but we do know that as late as 1859 that Wingfield Old Hall Manor and Wingfield Frumbalds Manor, both



News article: British swindlers selling fake English titles

then held by Lord Berners, were still separate. This must have been Henry W. Wilson, the 3rd Lord Berners who sold Wingfield Castle in 1856. [Aldwell. Wingfield, Its Church, Castle & College, WFS, 1994, p.118]. Regardless of this, since 1989-90 one Wingfield Manor has been "held jointly by four WFS Directors, but vested in the President of the WFS" currently Dale Wingfield Ruf. There used to be twelve Wingfield and one Winkfield lordship in England in Tudor times [see Newsletter of Spring 1995. p.11]. One former Wingfield-owned Manor, Laxfield near Wingfield, recently was owned by a Pension Fund.

The word manor in Domesday denoted (1) a single administrative unit of landed estate, with or without the lord's residence (or one of them), or (2) a substantial farmhouse. From the 15th century manor also acquired an extension of the first meaning, coming to de-

note a substantial piece of land with living on it tenants over whom the Lord of the Manor held jurisdiction - that is to say he could hold a Court Baron.

An English manorial lordship, probably costing now between \$10,000 and \$50,000 or even \$160,000 is often held today as an investment, as is a Scottish barony - which means the same as the English word **manor** and costs between \$16,000 and \$800,000. With **English** lordships the holder remains for example just plain John Brown (Mr. John Brown or John Brown, Esquire - whichever the holder prefers), followed by the territorial lordship title. As the Lord you can put "Lord of the Manor of --" on your passport, writing paper and checks, and maybe use it for reserving tables in restaurants that claim to be full; but you don't get a seat in the House of Lords or a coat of arms and no one will be touching their forelock to you on the manor - as that actual land or most of it, unless you have purchased land as well as the lordship - belongs to someone else. We say "most of it" as with a very few manors, it has been discovered from ancient records by astute new Lords of the Manor that they have rights to gather acoms, hold fairs [Beaconsfield, also Stowe] or graze swine; or have a reduced electricity bill if you actually live on the manor land, or (as in the case of the Lord of Liston (Essex), "the ancient right to serve wafers at the monarch's coronation banquet". One Kings Lynn manor Lord of the Manor is paid 24 cents a year Brewing Rights by the local brewery. If Common land was ever enclosed, sporting rights were sometimes reserved to the Lord of the Manor.

One or two manorial lords even discovered they held rights to mineral excavation royalties, and one made annually 80 cents a ton on 50,000 tons of gravel excavated. The new Lord of the Manor of Lynford claimed \$288,000 on trees felled on "his" 980-acre manor.

With Scottish baronies all sorts of possibilities open up. With some, such as the Barony of Airlie, you can call yourself Earl of Airlie. With the Barony of Chirnside, the holder is permitted to style himself "Much Honored Baron" and his wife "Baroness of Chirnside". But none of these baronies entitle the holder to a seat in the House of Lords.

The Lordship of Wingfield (the manor

"includes" Wingfield Castle and is indeed sometimes [Copinger, IV, 1905-1911, p. 108] called The Manor of Wingfield Castle), featured on November 8, 1989, as Lot #2 of in a Sale of 32 Lordships and Baronies by the reputable Surveyors, Estate Agents & Valuers, Bernard Thorpe of 19-24 St. George Street, London W1A 2AR [Fax: 0171 49 1776 6] in the Fanmakers' Hall, St. Botolph's Without, EC2, in the City of London. [A very fitting venue since this was the very site of the christening on July 19, 1591, of Robert Wingfield, son of Sir John Wingfield of Eresby, Lincs & his wife, Susan Wingfield, Countess of Kent (she retained her title from her first marriage). The godparents were the great Earl of Essex, the formidable Earl of Ormonde and the unfortunate Lady Fitzwalter, [WM, p.53 g. in Virginia's True Founder, pp.87,109)].

For the WFS Jocelyn Wingfield attended the auction, authorized to bid up to \$8,000 for the Lordship of Wingfield. The opening bid for Lot #2 was \$9,500 and so Jocelyn was astounded when the auctioneer finally received a successful telephone bid from a mysterious "Mr. Wingfield of the USA". It was Vance Wingfield, the current WFS vice-president, from Fort Worth, Texas! After taking the risk of having to pay the full sum himself, Vance was successful in raising by the 30-day deadline with one day to spare the full sum required - by voluntary contributions from just under 100 Wingfields and their kin world-wide (a few of them not even WFS members). Vance was the first WFS Lord, transferring the title next to Wilsie Wingfield Carr, the then President. It went next to her successor as WFS President, Bob Wingfield of now of Buffalo Grove, IL.

The Wingfield Manor Schedule reads: "The Lordship of the Manor of Wingfield Suffolk (as is described in a Vesting Deed dated 20th March 1946 and made between Sir Robert Shafto Adair (1) Alan Henry Shafto Adair (2) Charles Richard Britten and Samuel Patrick Laurence Aveling Lithgow (3) Edmund Apsley Treherne and Evelyn Ronald Moncrieff Fryer (4)), was conveyed for £8,000 [\$12,800 today] to Vance G. Wingfield by Michael Anthony Hayes of Macfarlanes, Solicitors, 10 Norwich Street London EC4A 1BD and

See Page 48 - Manor

From Page 47 - Manor

Sir Jeffrey Darell of Denton Lodge Harleston Norfolk [signed and sealed, 8th December 1989] in the presence of Paul Lennard, architect, of Raydon Cottage, Orford and of G. Ritchie, steward, of 86 Low Road, Wortwell, Norfolk."

The Conveyance of the Lordship of the Manor of Wingfield to Four Trustees in Perpetuity: the president, vice-president, treasurer and historian director (one of the four to be England-based in accordance with manorial custom) with the WFS President being the Primus inter Pares [first among equals] i.e. entitled to bear the manorial title, was conveyed for £287:50 [now \$460:00] by G. Andrew Crouch, a partner of the reputable London city firm of solicitors Bower Cotton & Bower, of 36 Whitefriars Street, London EC48BH. [Tel: 0171-3533040. ref: 17/ 520352, p.803.WP/CDI. On change of President of the WFS, the title of Lord (or Lady) of the Manor of Wingfield is formally documented (and includes the names of the other three trustees by appointment) and transferred in plenary session of the Society, with the incoming Lord formally guaranteeing that he/she will not sell the Lordship. [See also WFS bylaw Article V].

Nowhere are full manorial records or a complete list of Manorial Lords recorded, but the Manorial Documents Register at Quality House, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HP [Tel: 071-242 1198] holds the best - but very incomplete - records.

The Manorial Society of Great Britain, Estates Legal Advisers (and conveyancers) of 104 Kennington Road, London SE11 6RE, [0171-735 6633] had in 1984 900 Lords of the Manor as members. Its dues are something over £15. We have been unable to determine what gain membership has. Manorial Historical Research is often done by Susan T. Moore of 95A Klea Av., London SW4 9HZ and may be worth paying for sometime in the future, but this is expensive and 90% of it may not be very interesting.

We would like to pay tribute to all those who contributed to the WFS purchasing the Wingfield manorial Lordship, this very special possession (and investment), and would like to salute the following in particular for their very special contributions: Dale & Ray Ruf, the late

Herschel Wingfield, Jr., Vance Wingfield himself, Linnie Mills, Mary Wingfield of Worthing (former part-owner of the WFS' Bobby Wingfield scroll), Bob & Wilsie Wingfield Carr and Robert M. Wingfield of Burlington, Ontario. We feel sure that Herschel, who enjoyed the manorial Courts Baron so much and who was our first Reeve of Wingfield Manor, would particularly like to be remembered in this connection.

[The definitive books on manors are: The Evolution of the English Manorial System by J.W. Molyneux-Child, Book Guild, Lewes, ISBN 0 86332 258 1; & H.S. Bennett, Life on the English Manor, Cambridge, UK, reprinted 2-yearly in USA].

From Page 46 - Tennis

But, those that disputed Wingfield claim as the inventor of tennis and wrote their own rules for the game, never challenged his patent and it has remained valid.

In 1873 Wingfield published the "Book of the Game" on lawn tennis that describes the erection of the court and the rules for how to play the game. It was complete, offering clear and concise in-



Bust of Walter Clopton Wingfield in Wimbledon Museum, London

structions for the game to be played on croquet courts, with bats (rackets) balls, nets, posts, pegs and mallet. It was necessary to custom make a net with 5 posts and the book illustrated the layout. It summed up lawn tennis in six rules, five were one sentence in length, the sixth was two sentences long. This simplicity was a great asset to success of the game,

according to George Alexander who wrote in his book "Wingfield Edwardian Gentlemen," that it facilitated the game to spread not only within Great Britain, but to reach the four corners of the earth.

So it was Walter Wingfield's book and his patent for the court that established tennis as a major sport. He organized the game so those playing and those watching would all understand the object of the game, learn to appreciate the skills of the players and did it in a standardized manner. This was the initial step toward tennis becoming the worldwide national and popular sport it is today.

A book published by the British Museum Publication Limited for British Library lists Wingfield's patent among the 363 patents worldwide that has most impacted our lives.

Would there be millions of tennis courts throughout the world and Wimbledon tournaments today with the popularity of the game as great as it is without Walter Wingfield? Who knows, but he was the major influence in making the game the popular sport it is today. So Walter Clopton Wingfield truly deserves the title as the Father of Tennis.

(Ed Note: Information for this article taken from George Alexander's book "Wingfield Edwardian Gentleman. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy, contact: editor, WFS newsletter for price and address.)

A History Question: to test your knowledge

Throughout the years Wingfields have participated in historical recorded events.

Can you name the Wingfield that fought in the Raid and Capture of Cadiz in 1596, his rank and what happened to him there?

He was a knight, so if you say "Sir," that will be the correct title, but that's not the rank we're looking for. Complete, correct answers will be in the winter issue of the Newsletter, along with the names of the submitters.

Send your answer to Editor: Wingfield Family Society Newsletter, 301 Belleview Blvd., Belleair, FL 34616. What do you get? Recognition in the newsletter for each correct and complete answer and maybe a prize for the first one received. Good luck!

From Page 41 - Cromwell

vice and soon emerged as one of the most powerful men in the Kingdom.

Thomas was granted a succession of grand titles, including Lord Great Chamberlain, the King's Vice Regent and Vicar-General in Spirituals, and Baron of Oakham and Earl of Essex. It was Thomas Cromwell who masterminded the dissolution of the monasteries and established the absolute authority of the monarchy and the protestantisation of the English church. But in 1540 he lost the support of Henry VIII and, like Wolsey and many others before, was executed, thus losing all his titles.

The Barony of Oakham was, however, returned to the family later that same year by way of a grant to Gregory, Thomas Cromwell's son. Gregory become the 1st Baron Cromwell and the title then passed through six further generations, the last holder being Vere, the 7th Baron, who died without male children in 1682.

The Wingfield connection comes through the original Thomas Cromwell's great-great grandson the 4th Baron Cromwell, confusingly also called Thomas, whose two sisters married Wingfields.

Francis, the elder of the two, married Sir John Wingfield of Tickencote (1592-1631) in January, 1619. Since Oakham, where the Barons Cromwell had their manor (until 1596) and lands (until 1606), and Tickencote, the Wingfield home, are less than 10 miles apart, this match is not altogether surprising. Frances and Sir John were buried at Tickencote, as were France's parents, the 4th Baron Cromwell and his wife Elizabeth. A full length portrait of this Cromwell hung at Tickencote Hall until it was sold in 1947.

Ann, the younger daughter of the 4th Baron Cromwell married Sir John Wingfield's cousin, Sir Edward Wingfield of Carnewin Ireland on 29th May 1619, only four months after the Tickencote marriage of her sister Frances. This too may not be surprising since Elizabeth, the mother of the two sisters, had, on Cromwell's death, married Sir Richard Wingfield, Marshal of Ireland, who on 1st February 1619 had been made 1st Viscount Powerscourt. Sir Richard was Sir Edward Wingfield's first cousin once removed and also Sir John Wingfield's

godfather.

These three Cromwell/Wingfield marriages at about the same time indicate that the Cromwell, the Powerscourt Wingfield and the Tickencote Wingfields were closely associated at this time. Possibly the marriages were part of some family arrangement. But this is not the end of the story, since subsequent generations of Tickencote Wingfields were ambitious to make more of the connection.

As was mentioned above, the Cromwell Barony was extinguished when the 7th Baron died without male issue in 1682. During the following 150 years, however, the Tickencote Wingfields endeavored to establish their claims to this Barony. It seems the attraction may have been, not just the title, but claims to land and property which the Cromwells had acquired in Ireland.

Documents show that advice on a possible claim was sought on several occasions from neighboring titled gentry and from the College of Arms. The opinion finally accepted from the College in 1835 was that Gregory, the 1st Baron, was created Baron by "letters patent" and therefore the Barony could only pass through the male line. Had it been created by "writ of summons," it would have passed through the female line, i.e. through Frances, wife of Sir John Wingfield of Tickencote (see above). It would thus have passed as the estate down through the line of Tickencote Hall Wingfields to the current senior member. John Parry-Wingfield. However, in 1835 the then John Wingfield reluctantly, but rightly, abandoned the claim.

Finally, what relationship is there with Oliver Cromwell, who was Lord Protector of England from 1653 to 1658 between the reigns of Charles I and Charles II(?). Oliver Cromwell was the grandson of Richard Williams, a Welshman, who had changed his name from Williams to Cromwell in honor of his uncle and patron, the original Thomas Cromwell (beheaded by Henry VIII). By and interesting coincidence Richard Williams was the guardian in the 1540s of Thomas Wingfield (born 1539) the Kimbolton Castle heir but, more importantly, Oliver Cromwell's favorite daughter, Elizabeth ("Betty"), married John Claypole, grandson of Dorothy Wingfield of Upton. This made Lady Frances Wingfield (see above) the 4th cousin once removed of Oliver Cromwell.

(See WFS Newsletter Vol III, No. 1, p4 for story of how Lady Frances Wingfield is said to have saved the town of Stamford (4 miles from Tickencote), where the Wingfields owned property, by pointing out her kinship with Oliver Cromwell. Also see Registrations by Jocelyn Wingfield pp 38-9 for further details of the Wingfield/Cromwell connection.)

Places called Wingfield

25 years ago, **Wingfield Hall** opened at Christopher Newport College. CNC is now Christopher Newport University. Wingfield Hall still has its classrooms, the faculty offices are used primarily by the psychology department and the modern language lab has been replaced by a psychology lab.

Recently PBS stations showed a one hour program on Irish Country Houses. **Powerscourt** the former home of the Wingfields that were Viscount Powerscourt was prominently mentioned in the program.

Wingfield connected castles on display this past summer

Three "Wingfield Family Castles" put on shows for the public this past summer. Sorry the Wingfield Castle in Suffolk was not included as it is now privately owned and shuns intrusion on the owners privacy. The three are:

Deal Castle - Kent. (Thomas Wingfield, first ever captain, 1540-51.) Two dates in June ("Bills and Bows" a Tudor murder mystery), one in August (Military Fair), and two in October (concert of Tudor music).

Orford Castle - Suffolk. Two dates in August. (Sir Henry Wingfield was governor in the 1480s.) There was a falconry display.

Sherborne Old Castle. Two dates in September (Wingfield-Digbys from 1856 on) Cavalier drill and skirmishing display of the 1640s.

"Genealogy begins as an interest, Becomes a hobby; Continues as an avocation, Takes over as an obsession, And it its last stages, Is an incurable disease."

Entry in Domesday book raises identity question

by Jocelyn Wingfield

In Thomas Hinde's The Domesday Book, 1985, the Wingfield entry for 1086 reads:

"Wighefelda/Wineberga [Suffolk]: Walter, son of Grip, Robert de Glanville and Loemic from Robert Malet's mother; Bishop of Thetford; Abbot of Ely and Roger Bigot from him".

Comment. Robert de Glanville was 8-greats uncle of Katherine Wingfield,

Was the "Free Man" at Wingfield, pre-1086 Robert de Wingfield? and/ or was Robert son of Walter son of Grip?

Duchess of Suffolk, of Wingfield Castle; and Roger Bigod was the Earl of Norfolk.

Yet the actual entry at #384 b, and 385 a, paragraph 45, in Domesday itself, in intriguing fascinating Latin shorthand (which is quite easy and fun to interpret) reads:

Bisscopes. H. Winebgaten. libhode qo.sca. A. comend. t.r.c. II. carr trae. 7. vii. bord.

Tc.II. car in dominio. mo.I. sep.II.car houm, XI.ac pti.filua.c.XL, porc. Tc. II. runc.mo. I.7.I. an. Tc.LX. porc.m0.XX.7 XX.ous.7.II.rusc. Ecclia XX.IIII.ac. 7 ual.IIII.sol. ?XIIII.[my copy damaged] hoes. LXXX.ac. eх uno habuit antec.Robt.male&co.Tc[?]..IIII car.mo.III. Tc ual&.IIII.lib.7 XIII. sol.7.IIII. d.mo.....II.lib. H.reclamat Ro.bigot. de dono regis. sed abbas de eli de rationauit sup eu.mo ten.Rog p respectu. soca in hoxa. In Lon.I.Leug 7.II.gr.&.in lat. IIII. gr. & XI. d. & obol. degl Alii ibi tenent.

[This translates as: Bishop's Hundred. A free man, [liber hominus] over whom St. Etheldreda's had patronage before 1066, held WINGFIELD [Wineberga]; 2 caracutes of land. 7 [?bordars] smallholders. Then 2 ploughs [plows] in lordship, now 1; always 2 men's ploughs[plows]. Meadow, 11 acres; woodland, 140 pigs. Then 2 cobs [horses], now 1; 1 cattle; then 60 pigs, now 20; 20 sheep; 2 [bee]hives. A church, 24 acres; value 4 shillings. [£0.2]]. 13 free men; 80 acres. Robert Malet's predecessor

had patronage over one of them. The 4 ploughs [plows], now 3. Value then £4 13s 4d; now £4. Roger Bigot claims this by the King's gift, but the Abbot of Ely established his claim against him. Now Roger holds [it] through a postponement. The jurisdiction is in Hoxne. It has 1 league and 2 furlongs in length, and 4 furlongs in width; 11 & 1/2 pence in tax. Others hold there].

Comment. Robert Malet's mother was widow of William Malet from Graville-sur-Honorine, Seine Inferieure in Normandy - he who led the chivalry of Cotentin at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. It was William Malet who was entrusted by William the Conqueror to bury King Harold's body. Hewas William's Great Chamberlain and Sheriff of Suffolk and was granted land holdings in ten counties, including Eye in Suffolk (later a Wingfield Manor and Castle in Tudor times) and 25 manors in Norfolk. His son, Robert Malet, was Chamberlain for Henry I. IRev. George Munford, An Analysis of the Domesday Book of the County of Norfolk, London, 1863, pp. 16-17; Hinde, op.cit., p. 340. Authorities disagree however, on some points]. The

Malet (alias Mallet) family are traceable from Robert down to the Malet Baronets of Enmore, Somerset (extinct 1661) and of Ash (extant today). They were intriguingly described as part Norman part English at the Conquest. [L.G.Pine, They Came with the Conqueror, London, 1954, p.134; Debrett].

A caracute is what one man with a plow and one horse could plow round in one day. (?). A league was about 3 miles and a furlong is 220 yards.

Presumably "the free man" mentioned in the Domesday Book is a Saxon, or could he be a junior Norman? Clearly the Norman warrior-Lord on the spot was Roger Bigot (Bigod), Earl of Norfolk. Since the first listed Wingfield at this place was Robert de Wingfield, died in 1087, the year after publication of the above Domesday record, could this "free man" listed in Domesday actually be Robert Wingfield? But why has he got a Norman christian name? Or could Robert Wingfield have been son of one of the other mystery figures recorded at Wingfield: son of Loemic? or son of Walter son of Grip? Loernic and Walter are at least Saxon names.

It's a good cause

On the recent WFS tour to England, the group visited two ancient churches that provided a worship haven for Wingfield progenitors. Although there are more churches involving Wingfields, these two are especially significant. One is the church at Tickencote and the other at Letheningham. Both are suffering from declining membership and the consequential decay of the facilities. The bottom line is they both need financial help. Even a little goes a long way and makes a big difference as the group observed this past May.

WFS members have been generous to both churches and they in turn returned their appreciation with heart warming accolades of gratitude.

Lois Wickham of Ashland, VA has not only supported both churches financially, but has embarked on a project to help the church of Letheringham. This church was mentioned in the Domesday book in 1086 and is the one that has the fabulous Sir John Wingfield brass (ca. 1390).

Now you can help, too. Lois has designed and produced some note paper and envelopes that can be obtained for a very reasonable donation, with all the proceeds going to the Church at Letheringham to be used for its upkeep.

In a packet there are 5 sheets (and 5 envelopes) and each sheet has a different hand sketch of a historical Wingfield site. They illustrate; Wingfield Castle, Stonely Priory, Church at Letheringham, Kimbolton, and the Church at Jamestown. The sheets are 5 1/2" X 4". They are nice for notes, especially to other Wingfields who will appreciate the drawings..

Lois has been getting donations at the meetings in the Wingfield Store, but has not made these available to the general membership before.

Mail your donations, check payable to Lois Wickham, for the benefit of the Church at Letheringham in the amount of \$3.50 per packet (or more if you desire) and mail to: Lois Wickham, 8516 East Patrick Henry, Ashland, VA 23005. Get several.

It truly is a good cause.