



Homers of America

RUSSEL KING HOMER FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Spring 1992

Presidents Message

by Russell Anderson

The Russel King Family Association has made some great progress because of the work and dedication of a few of the family members. I want to thank all those involved and especially Gareth Homer, the 1st Vice President. Gary has decided that his health will not allow him to continue to participate actively in the family organization. LaRene Tanner has also found that her schedule now makes it impossible for her to continue as an officer, however she will continue to attend meetings and provide information. We have had these same officers for about two years, and it is important that we give all the family opportunities to serve. I had also indicated my desire to let someone else assume the leadership of this family. However, I will continue to function until we find someone else interested to take over.

It has been fun and exciting to become acquainted with more of the Homer family. All those involved in the reunion last year had a very enjoyable time. We hope many of you will be able to attend our next family breakfast, Saturday - March 28th. We hope to complete our organization at this meeting. We need membership on our executive board from all branches of the family and I hope that we might be able to have better representation in the future. Some have expressed concern that not enough of the family have been represented. We also have been concerned and encourage all who have even a partial interest to come and join with us. We know that the future continuation of this organization will depend on the involvement of all the family.

The family continues to make progress in genealogical research and location of family members. We encourage all those who receive this newsletter to let us know of other family members who might want to be on our mailing list.

We are making progress on the books and have a lot of information to include. Our continued progress will depend on the continual interest and participation of all the family members.

HOMER FAMILY BREAKFAST MEETING

Saturday - March 28th

9:00 A.M.

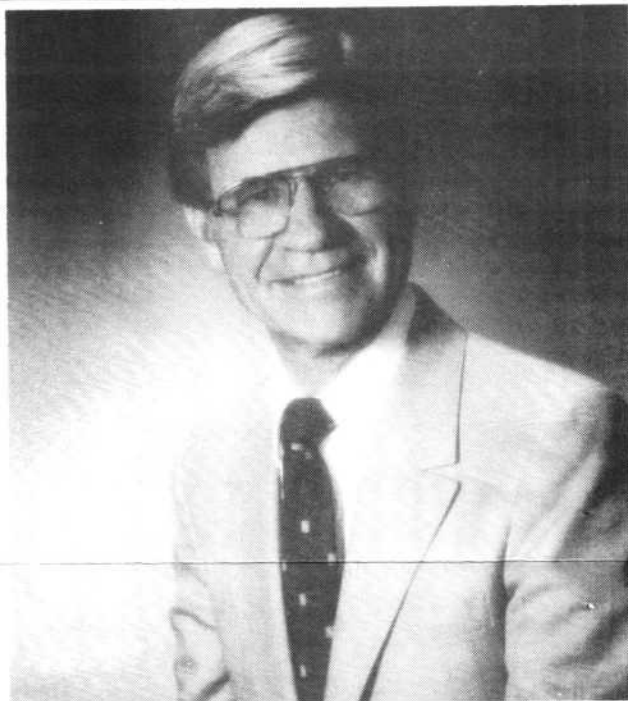
**\$6.25 per person
(includes tax and tip)**

**CHUCK-A-RAMA
Fashion Place Mall
6400 South State Street
Murray**

We need to have 30 family members attend this meeting to get FREE use of the room. Invite other family members to attend with you

**Do you have any
pictures,
diaries, histories,
or early documents of
Russel King Homer's
grandchildren?**

Contact Susan Roylance
(801) 266-0076
5141 Clover Meadow Drive
Murray, Utah 84123



M. Ray Longhurst

Our 3rd Vice President – in charge of Finances

The youngest child, a daughter of Russell King Homer II, Eliza Homer Longhurst, was the mother of three sons, one of which became known as M. Ray Longhurst.

Ray remembers well the hard times of the great depression, when he lost his life's savings, a total of three dollars, when the Idaho First National Bank in Shelley closed.

During his early school years he joined a photography club, and enjoyed taking pictures, processing and printing the film.

His favorite class in high school was aeronautical navigation. Prior to his 18th birthday, he enlisted in the cadet program in the Army Air Corp. To better prepare himself, he commenced fly-

ing instruction and obtained his student license. Called to active duty after graduation in the spring of '44, his class never got into pilot training, and as the war ended he was assigned as a public relations photographer in Springfield, Mass. After his discharge, he was called to serve a mission in Northern California.

Graduating from Utah State University, he purchased a photographic studio in Blackfoot. Shortly thereafter he married Joan Flamm, whom he had been dating while at school. During the second year in business fire consumed the building and equipment. About a year later, after moving back into a new building designed for its intended use he launched the business into retailing photo

equipment in addition to portrait work. While in Blackfoot he served as a Counselor in the 6th Ward Bishopric.

He opened a second retail store in Idaho Falls and, shortly after moving the family there, was again called to serve as counselor in the bishopric. After nearly twenty years in the business he sold the stores and moved to Bountiful, and took a job in real property management. Shortly thereafter the firm sold the properties he was managing, leaving him unemployed; at this time he started his own business managing large multi-residential properties. He continued in this business until retirement, selling the company to his sons.

Owning and managing a small business proved to be very tiring, and thus over the years not many long vacations were enjoyed; however the children still talk about being crammed into a small airplane with mom and dad and stopping to see the sights in Nauvoo, Kirtland, Palmyra, New York City and Washington, D.C.

Joan and Ray now serve at The Family History Library, helping patrons with their research.

Ray says his greatest success and only claim to fame is Joan and his five wonderful children and eleven grandchildren.

RESEARCH REPORT

by Susan Roylance

When my daughter moved to Connecticut about two years ago, I saw this as an opportunity to visit her and use her home as a base to travel to various locations in New England and New York that could possibly add information to the research problems we were having on the Warner line.

The first trip produced helpful information on the Williamsons in Spafford, New York, and discovered the History of Westmoreland, which I have read and re-read many times. From this book, I gained a great appreciation for the pioneers of the New Hampshire/Vermont area. Many people died in their effort to gain this new frontier for the United States. Records are sketchy, and many people are missed in the compilations of people who lived in this era. And just when things became settled, and the record keeping improved, our ancestors were off to settle another new frontier.

I brought back over 100 pages of notes, and am still receiving in the mail information which I had asked to be copied and forwarded later.

Westmoreland, N. H.

The first research day was spent with Carol Andrews, of the Westmoreland Historical Society. My original contact with her had been from a referral from the Cheshire County Historical Society (Keene, New Hampshire). This referral was given in an effort to determine the source of the Warner information in the History of Westmoreland. Most of the documentation for information in this book is in the County Historical Society, but the Warner information was lacking documentation. I soon realized that I would not be able to make notes on everything I wanted, so she agreed to send me copies of the pages I chose to have copied. However, I did buy a copy of Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust, The Cemetery and Burial Records of the Past and Present in the Town of Westmoreland, New Hampshire. This is an extremely helpful 406 page book. When one drives through the town of Westmoreland today it

is hard to believe there are so many cemeteries, and that so many people have lived in this area. Carol said they continue to find new cemeteries tucked away in the woods. *It would be very helpful if some family member wanted to prepare this information for temple submissions.*

One of the main objectives of my trip was to personally see the early records of Westmoreland to determine the actual spelling of "New Hampstead", which is given in the History of Westmoreland as the residence of the William Warner who married Hannah Wilbore.

I was disappointed when the woman who could give permission for the viewing of the early church record, which contained this statement, was not available that day. However, I called her when I returned home, and she sent me a copy of the record. When you compare the capital "F" used by the clerk in other entries, that are clearer, it is obvious to me that it reads "New Flamstead" — which is the early name of Chester, Vermont. Thus, we now know that William Warner was from Chester, Vermont at the time he married Hannah Wilbore.

Putney, Vermont

The next day I traveled to Putney. I was hopeful that early records might shed further light on the Warners that were in the fort on "The Great Meadow". A Joshua Warner and son Daniel is reported by some historians to be in the early fort (1944) and the later fort (1955). This is disputed by others, based on the age of son Daniel. I had previously contacted the Putney Town Historian to get permission to see the early Congregational Church records. I did view these records, and copied some pages from the town vital statistics records. I saw the handwritten page which gave a diagram of the fort, and the names of families present. That diagram seems consistent with the one on page 13 of the book Putney, 1753 to 1953, which I purchased.

This book states that in 1755: "the fort was built with the assistance of a number of men from Westmoreland, among whom were . . . Joshua Warner and son, Daniel Warner, wife and son. . . . At the

close of the war they all moved back to Westmoreland. . . ." The diagram in the book shows Joshua Warner, John Warner, and John Warner's son. (each area on the diagram represents a family dwelling area)

Early Putney records also show residence of a Daniel Warner. On 12 Oct. 1781 the Westmoreland Congregational Church records recommend Daniel Warner to the church in Putney. I copied pages of the Putney Vital Statistics.

Chester, Vermont

The remainder of my day in Vermont was spent in Chester. However, the Warners seem to leave Chester early on, and I found nothing new here. I did make some valuable contacts for future correspondence.

Upon returning to Connecticut, I looked over the material I had gathered, and felt frustrated. I didn't feel that I had gained anything of major importance — to shed new light on a difficult research problem. I decided to fast on Sunday, and carefully read the gathered material. At the end of the day I noticed a quote by Everett Warner from Hall's History of Eastern Vermont, page 109. He states that "the William Warner who settled in New Flamstead (afterward Chester, Vermont) came from Woodstock, Conn. and Worcester and Malden, Mass."

At that point I changed my plans, and traveled to Woodstock, Worcester, and Malden.

Woodstock, Connecticut

I found the following statement in a Woodstock town history: "Woodstock was now losing many of its citizens by emigration. Thomas, youngest son of Captain John Chandler, moved with his family of sons and daughters in 1761, and after a brief sojourn in Walpole, New Hampshire, decided to lay the foundations of a new settlement westward. Jabez Sergeant, Edward and Isaiah Johnson, Charles May, William Warner and others from Woodstock joined with him in building up the township of Chester, Vermont."

This was an exciting find, and the beginning of further research in this area.

to be continued next issue

HOMER ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Homer Children's Stories (48 pages – 8 1/2 X 11 – Paper Cover) *available Dec. 1992*
Contains stories from the life of Russell King Homer, his wives, their ancestors and descendants.
(After printing — \$5.50 each) **Pre-Print 1992 Price — \$5.00 each**

We are still searching for good stories to include in the children's book. If you know any interesting stories about Russel King Homer, any of his wives, any of their children or any of the grandchildren contact Susan Roylance, 5141 Clover Meadow, Murray, Utah 84123 Phone: (801) 266-0076

Descendants of Russell King Homer and Wives (600 pages – 350 pictures) *available 1993*
Library Quality Hard-bound – 8 1/2 x 11 (cost of book based on ability to print 1000 books) Histories and pictures of descendants — to the third generation. (111 married descendants in the third generation – family group pictures of these families will include the fourth generation). Descendant charts of all known descendants. Possibly some ancestral charts, if accuracy can be established.

(After Printing – \$30.00, 1992 and 1993 – \$25.00)

Pre-print 1992 Price — \$25.00

We are still gathering pictures, and histories of the descendants of Russel King Homer. Several families have already contributed, and hundreds of pictures are now halftoned. If you have any questions about the material that would be useful, or how we will use your valuable pictures, please contact Susan Roylance — (801) 266-0076

Homer Family History by Rachel Mareta Homer Crockett, reprinted in 1976

Because there are only three small boxes of these books left, they have become a rare item. The funds from the sale of these books will be used for ancestral research. It is hoped that this research will solve some of the problems we now in the ancestral line, before the new book is published. One book will be sent for each \$25 that is donated to our research fund, until the books are gone.

Research Donation — \$25.00

**Use the enclosed form for mailing in contributions.
Your help will be greatly appreciated!**

Russel King Homer Family Association
1390 W. Canyon View Dr.
St. George, Utah 84770

Address Correction Requested



Shannon Croft
235 W. 111

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