Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year

As we bring to a close our third year as an organization, it is wonderful to see just how far we have come from its crude beginnings. From just a handful of dedicated researchers, we have grown in ranks and look forward to 1998 being our best year ever with the most members and continued development of projects like our website and email discussion groups, and still hopefully maybe some talk about a Mega-Rainwater Reunion sometime in the near future.

If you are one of those lucky enough to possess a computer and are hooked up to the information superhighway and have contacts with other Rainwater researchers who are not members, suggest that they join us. I am still amazed at the amount of people who want to get the Rainwater Family Tree, but do not see the benefit of pooling resources and having access to the latest information being uncovered each year. Remember, our growth means that more information will be funnelled through the pages of this newsletter as well as our website and that can only be good for ALL of us.

This year we will be looking for others from our ranks to contribute articles or data for the pages of the newsletter. This too is an altogether forgotten resource. Submitting an article for publication containing info on your Rainwater branch of the family can only lead to others making contact with you. This is how you find new cousins and end up with pictures, data, family stories, or other pieces of the puzzle that you wouldn’t have gotten any other way. Several people over the years have submitted articles and had this very thing happen to them.

Here’s hoping that 1998 will bring each and everyone health, prosperity and more information on the Rainwater family! Those barriers of the past are slowly being broken down!!!
Request and Info on Texas RAINWATERS

I just got home from "digging up bones" and have a few questions that I need some help on. My Auntie had a newspaper clipping from Ft. Worth, Texas about Martin Van Buren Rainwater.

It was written when he was added into the West Texas Pioneer Association. It states: "I recall when three of my brothers joined the Confederate Army. We'll whip them in three days they said as they rode off. But they didn't come back for four years."

Which three brothers were these? Who were their parents? Any help will be appreciated. All of the research she had was as of yet unproven. I have my work cut out for me.

Thanks,
Nevelyn Dixon (address/email at back of this issue)

Ron Recer, another of our membership, sent her this information that was found on the internet at the site listed below. I would like to take this opportunity to let the membership know that if you locate sites on the Internet that may be of use to us in our research, please forward the URL's to me at VGPE22A@prodigy.com.

Once a year, perhaps in the 2nd issue, I would like to give the membership a listing of all the newest sites of interest to genealogical researchers, whether the site is purely "Rainwater" (which is unlikely) or not. If it covers a period in a state where Rainwaters are know to exist or have existed, then that is fair game for our membership.

The State of Texas has a number of online services including searches of their database of Confederate pension files which list 6 Rainwater as follows:

1) Rainwater, Amanda Adeline - claim rejected
   County - Jones
   Husband - Benjamin Franklin
2) Rainwater, Mrs B. G.
   County - Fannin
   Husband - John
   Pension # 07589
3) Rainwater, B. M.
   County - Collin
   Pension # 05828
4) Rainwater, Jeanette  
    County - Lampasas  
    Husband - W. A.  
    Pension # 47023
5) Rainwater, Mary F.  
    County - Smith  
    Husband - Virgil Cicero  
    Pension # 22066
6) Rainwater, W. A.  
    County - Lampasas  
    Pension # 47023

Check out the site at

http://link.tsl.state.tx.us/c/compt/pension.html

You will find info on how to request a copy of the pension files and other useful info.

Ron Recer  
Edmond, OK

"To Be, Or Not To Be (RAINWATERS), That is the Question"

Over the last several months I have responded to and seemingly inundated with researchers who are as certain as if they have spoken to God himself that the surname RAINWATER is originally pluralized with an "S" to RAINWATERS. I have seen deductive reasoning that would make Arthur Conan Doyle's "Sherlock Holmes" turn in his detective grave in a seemingly vain attempt to demonstrate to the entire world that the name should be written RAINWATERS, not RAINWATER.

Well, forgive my naivete, but two important questions come to mind.... Firstly, what does it matter, really? Whether it contains or does not contain the "s" we are all still descendants of this family. If the origin of our line is proven to be of non-english speaking origin and is not even spelled RAINWATERS or RAINWATER, then are all those living today with the surname going to change it to its correct form?

Secondly, Where are all the records with the "S" listed in the historical record. Perhaps 90% or more of written documents prior to 1800 list the name in its singular form, and at least 80% or more list it without the "s" from 1800 to present day. The record seems clear that some spelled their names with it and some did not. "You say Potayto, I say Potahtoh, so lets call the whole thing off<><>!" I am proud of my heritage whichever way it is or was written. Time changes everything.
Bartholomew Rainwater & Josiah Rainwater Family Bibles

When the census enumerator reached the home of Bartholomew Rainwater on September 19, 1850 in Pulaski County, Kentucky, something went terribly wrong. Perhaps he was tired, perhaps he had imbibed a bit along the way, perhaps the Rainwater family was not home and he relied on the testimony of a neighbor.

Whatever the case, the census man got it wrong. He included in this household six children who were not part of the family: Mary 16, John 12, Abraham 10, Martin 8, Jane 7 and Jeminico 6. He also missed five children who belonged there: Miles, Polly, Ciotia, Sarelda Ann and Josiah. Somewhat better evidence can be found in the family Bibles of Bartholomew Rainwater, and his youngest son, Josiah.

This transcription was made from photocopies obtained by Roscoe Rainwater, Josiah's son, in the 1960s. The present owner of these Bibles is unknown.

Susan and Steven Rainwater
Irving, Texas

Bartholomew Rainwater & Nancy McLaughlin Family Bible

Births

Bartholomew Rainwater was born January the 20th day 1804 and died June 28, 1889

Nancy McLaughlin was born August the 2nd day 1807 and died January 20 1883

Anne Rainwater, daughter of Bartholomew and Nancy Rainwater, was born April the 15th day 1826 Saturday.

Emily Rainwater was born May the 17th day 1827 Thursday.

Daniel M. Rainwater was born November the 10th day 1828 on Monday.

Samantha Jane Rainwater was born January the 19th 1830 Tuesday.

Sally Rainwater was born February the 16th day 1832 on Thursday.

Susannah Rainwater was born February the 12th day 1834 on Tuesday.

Two girls born and deceased March the 13th day 1835.
Miles Rainwater was born April the 7th day 1836 on Friday.
Polly Rainwater was born December the 28th day 1837 on Wednesday.
Ciota Rainwater was born December the 26th day 1839 on [unreadable].
Sarelda Ann Rainwater was born December 9th day 1841 on [unreadable].
Josiah Wilson Rainwater was born October 10th day 1843 on Wednesday.
Galen E. Weddle was born May the 10 1829.
Lucy Isadore Holbrook was born March 5 1860.
Francis M. Holbrook was born July 14 1861.
Nancy Belle Holbrook was born May 1st 1863.
John Perry Chumbley was born January the 10th day 1860.
James M. Chumbley was born May 7th 1862.
Miles R. Chumbley was born 27 March 1864.
George A. Chumbley was born Dec 2 1866.
Nancy Jane Chumbley was born Sep 17 1869
Bartholomew Chumbley was born Apr 3rd 1872
Robert Chumbley was born January 12 1875
Margaret Ann Chumbley was born March 27 1877
Lewis Milton Chumbley was born July 8th 1879
Malinda Chumbley was born June 12 1883
Josiah Chumbley was born November 3rd 1886

**Marriages**

Bartholomew Rainwater was married to Nancy McLaughlin February 24th day 1825.
Alexandria Eastham and Emily Rainwater was married Sept the first day 1844.
Daniel Weddle and Anne Rainwater was married July the 26th day 1846
Daniel M. Rainwater [unreadable] December the 14th day 1848.
Galen E. Weddle was married to Sally Rainwater July the 6th day 1848.
Thomas D. Hayney was married to Susannah Rainwater January the 16 day 1856.
Alexandria Chumbley [unreadable]
J.W. Rainwater and Elizabeth J. Weddle married January 11th 1856.

Deaths
Alexandria Eastham departed this life December the 4th day 1859
Polly Holbrook, daughter of Bartholomew and Nancy Rainwater, departed this life in Linn County, Kansas, January 20th 1865 - aged 27 years & 1 month.
[Unreadable entry]
Bartholomew Rainwater departed this life June 28 1889, aged 85 years 5 months & 8 days.

Births
Daniel Weddle was born March the 14th day 1817
Anne Weddle, his wife, was born April 15th day 1826
William N. Weddle was born June the 10th day 1840
Daniel C. Weddle was born April the 10th 1842
Nancy Jane Weddle was born May 31st day 1844
Francis Marion Weddle was born June 12 1847
Joseph Milton Weddle was born Oct 5th 1848
Sarah Elen Weddle was born February 24th day 1850
John Perry Weddle was born February the 6th day 1852
James Madison Weddle was born January 12th day 1854
Millard Filmore Weddle was born July the 3rd day 1856
Bartholomew Franklin Weddle was born November 13th day 1857

**Births**

Martha E. Weddle was born October the 16th 1848
Mary Jane Weddle was born May the 27th 1850
George Wm. McDa. Weddle was born December 11 1858
Miles R. Weddle was born April the 4th 1855
Emily E. Weddle was born December the 10 1856
Daniel H. Weddle was born April the 20 1859
F.B. Weddle was born Sept the 11th 1861
Jenitta Belle Weddle was born November 18 1863
Madison Weddle was born April 1867

[Unreadable entry]

**Births**

Elizabeth M. Eastham was borned July the 25th day 1845
Polly Ann Eastham was borned July the 8th day 1847
Zachary Taylor Eastham was borned December the 15th day 1848
Nancy P. Eastham was borned May the 9th day 1850
Obediah Eastham was borned September the 10th day 1851
Lucinda Frances Eastham was borned November 24th day 1852
Susannah Eastham was borned October the 2nd day 1854
John Foster Eastham was borned July the 5th day 1857
Talitha Isabel Eastham was borned February the 6th day 1859
Josiah W. Rainwater & Elizabeth Jane Weddle Family Bible

Marriages

J.W. Rainwater and Elizabeth Jane Weddle was married Jan the 19th 1866

J.P. Aderholt and Lucy Rainwater, and R.L. Luttrell and Doretta Rainwater was married Wednesday, Dec. 14" 1892

P.C. Rainwater and Martha J. Rainwater was married Wednesday, June 28" 1893

C.M. Gossett and Nannie Rainwater was married Wednesday, Nov. 15" 1893

Miles Rainwater and Ollie Cooper was married Wednesday, March 16" 1898

Charlie Aderholt and Mollie Rainwater was married Wednesday, Dec 22" 1898

A.F. Gaston and Cornelia Rainwater was married Wednesday, Oct 29" 1898

Roscoe Rainwater and Gertrude Caughron was married Wednesday May 23" 1906

John Brownlee and Minnie Rainwater was married Feb 27" 1908

Births

Josiah W. Rainwater was born Oct 11th 1843

Elizabeth Jane Weddle was born Sept 7th 1847

Martha Jane Rainwater was born Oct 24" 1866

Nancy Frances Rainwater was born Saturday August the 28" 1869

Lucy Isadore Rainwater was born Sunday January the 7th 1872

Doretta Rainwater was born Thursday March the 18th 1874

Miles Rainwater was born Thursday June 15 1876

Mary Rainwater was born Monday April the 28" 1879

Cornelia Rainwater was born Sunday April 17" 1881

Roscoe Rainwater was born Wednesday July the 4" 1883
Minnie Rainwater was born Wednesday July 15 1885
Gertrude Caughron was born at Taylor, Texas October 19 1884
Solomon Weddle was born May 9th 1822
Patsy Weddle was born July 18th 1822

Deaths

Josiah W. Rainwater died at Vernon, Tex March 16 1934 on Friday - age 90 years 5 months 5 days
Elizabeth Jane Weddle died at Vernon, Texas June 25, 1943 11:15 pm Friday - age 95 years
Martha Jane Rainwater died 1962 - age 96
Nancy Frances Rainwater died at Taylor, Texas August 30 1942 - age 72 years 11 months 5 days
Lucy Isadore Rainwater died at Vernon, Texas 1962 - age 90
Doretta Rainwater died April 6 1966 - age 92 years 18 days
Miles Rainwater died May 20 1956 - age 74+
Cornelia Rainwater died in Calif 1967 - age 86 - Buried in Vernon, Tex
Minnie Rainwater died Electra, Texas July 15 1971 - Buried Vernon East View Cemetery
Gertrude Caughron died at Vernon, Texas - Aug 17 1969 3 pm
Solomon Weddle departed this life on Friday March 21 1890 - aged 67 years 10 months 12 days
Patsy Weddle departed this life at home in Pulaski County, KY Thursday Dec 17 1896 - aged 73 years 7 months and 1 day.
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Volume ID: 546
Marjorie L. THOMAS
802 NE Grace Ave.
Battle Ground, WA 98604
e-mail basset@juno

Trying to trace lineage of My Great Great Grandmother: Nancy MCLAUGHLIN b. 2 Aug 1807 in NC or KY. d. 20 Jan 1863 in KY.

She was dau: of Daniel MCLAUGHLIN b. in Ireland 1775 - d. 1827 location unknown. Who was her Mother?

Nancy was wife of Bartholomew RAINWATER and I have info on their children. But of course, would like more background info to make history more interesting.

Nancy's sister Anna MCLAUGHLIN married Abraham RAINWATER brother to Bartholomew (have no other details.)

Did Nancy and Anna have other siblings? Will gladly exchange information.

Does anyone know of any RAINWATERS in the Revolutionary War? How about Daniel MCLAUGHLIN? I don't see how he could have been but another researcher keeps asking me to find out.

Can anyone give me any information on Robert RAINWATER mentioned on page 108 of CAVILIERS AND PIONEERS. That is the only page I have and I don't know who wrote the book.