

THE HEADSTONE

Vol. I

November 2023

Issue XI

I hope this newsletter finds all in good health and with thankful hearts as we approach Thanksgiving. We all have so much to be thankful for every day, and in the midst of all that we see in the world, even with our own problems at home, it is still a blessing to live in a free country. It makes me wonder sometimes just what life was like when our ancestors made the journey to America.

While I stated last month that we would have the story of the German migration of Johann Melchoir Hengerer by Marie Sproul in this month's newsletter, I have instead featured her most recent blog post. The link is below and should take you straight to her page. Great work Marie and thanks for sharing your work with the world. The link to her complete site can be found on the DHHCemetery website under the *Research Links* tab.

<https://www.familyoriginstories.com/blog#/>

I also stated in last month's newsletter that I would have a conceptual drawing of a sign for the graveyard. That has not happened! I have tried but it seems that I just can't get it to come together like I would like it to. Call it writer's block for a picture I suppose. I think I will do two things. First, I will consult with a sign company and get them to put together some concepts and secondly, I won't promise you the results until I have them in the newsletter! I will keep you posted. But what I do have is a photo of the gate that I am in the process of purchasing. It will have to be primed and painted but I think it will do well. (44"H X 48"W) The fencing contractor will install it somewhere for easy access into the cemetery. Probably adjacent to the bench and parking area. More information on the fence part of the project will be in next month's newsletter.



For those of you that access the website, please consider using the forum to ask questions or just leave comments. It might stir someone that we don't even know to ask questions, offer answers, or even get involved with our work.

As an example of that I will remind you all of the article in the August issue of the newsletter about the Cook-Teaford Cemetery. The Weeks family of Ohio stumbled upon our website while doing family research. It was a good find for them given that George Cook, an ancestor of Mrs. Weeks, married Sarah Hanger, daughter of Frederick Hanger, Jr., and just as good for me for the same reason. As a result, I have learned a great deal about the Cooks and by default, the Teafords. (Mostly through my own research mistakes I might add!) That learning has continued to grow and as a result I am now on the mailing list for the Cook-Teaford Cemetery Newsletter. The Lavalles family of Connecticut who help with the cemetery and newsletter have given me permission to include their most recent issue in our newsletter for your enjoyment and knowledge. Thank you, Mr. & Mrs. Lavalles. I have learned a lot since I first came to know about the Cook-Teaford Cemetery, and I am sure you all will as well. Rather than attach it as a separate download I have pasted it in its entirety below.

COOK-TEAFORD CEMETERY

Fall Newsletter 2023

Located on the former Cook/Teaford farm, Augusta Co. VA

Paulus Koch/Paul Cook married Margaret (Peggy)Teaford in 1780. In settlement papers of the Jacob Teaford estate, Paul Cook inherited 323 acres along Middle River and purchased his Uncle Henry Hawpes' share of the estate (Source: Tammy Depoy). Paul and Peggy are the parents of David Cook, buried in the Cook-Teaford Cemetery. Where Paul and Peggy are buried remains a mystery, could it be this cemetery?

May 21, 2023, A Day to Remember



Joe OGorek and Jackson; Megan Cook OGorek and Olivia, Benny, and Kitty Cook; Brent Cook, Rev. Dr. Henry Scoggins; Kim Bixel; Tom and Debra Lavalles; Carolyn Bartlett; Billie Cook Banks; Jan Kitts Cook; Betty Cook Whitmore; Tammy DePoy; Joyce Coleman; Craig and Shirley Peterson; and Wanda Ocheltree. (photographer Allen Peterson)

The above good-looking group of people met in Hebron Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. The purpose, share and have fun learning more about our roots. The family heritage included the Teaforths, Cooks, and Kellers.

For some, the morning started by attending Sunday services in the same sanctuary where our ancestors would have worshipped, and where some are buried in Hebron Cemetery (older and newer sections.) Notable graves include Mary Magdalane (Hoover) Cook's father Michael Hoover, and her children Samuel Lewis Cook and Eliza Cook Keller. Eliza is the Great Grandmother of attendees Kim Bixel of San Diego, California, Deb Lavalley of Trumbull, Connecticut, and Carolyn Bartlett of Galax, Virginia. Only a few miles from Hebron, in the Cook-Teaford Cemetery, rests David Cook and his aforementioned wife, Mary Magdalane. They are the Great-grandparents (3rd, 4th, and 5th) to people attending the gathering.

We were delighted to have Alivia and Jackson O'Gorek attending with their parents and grandparents. David and Magdalane Cook would be their 5th Great-grandparents.

Our sincere thanks to Deb Lavalley who gave a brief presentation on those interred in the Cook Teaford Cemetery. Copies of ancestor pictures and documents were available to take home. Tammy Depoy, our local expert on the Cook history, and Billy Banks our cemetery restoration champion, shared many pictures of our ancestors. Other highlights were Tammy's detailed chart of the Cook family and Craig Peterson's framed copy of a land grant signed by Thomas Jefferson.

A delicious barbeque lunch, prepared by Shirley Peterson, Kitty Cook, Megan O'Gorek, Betty C. Whitmore, Joy Henderson, and Billie C. Banks followed the presentation. Wanda Ocheltree, who lives and grew up on the original Teaforth land, helped serve the gathering. At the end of the day, the kitchen was spotless thanks to many, including Joy Henderson and Betty C. Whitmore.

Our next stop on this beautiful Sunday afternoon was a visit to the Cook Teaford Cemetery. Allen Peterson manned the cattle gate which opened into a nicely mowed lane and parking area which had been prepared by Alex Weller. Kathy C. Swisher was on duty at the cemetery. Billy Gilmer, Don and Gaynell C. Roby, who live on original Cook land, joined us; their information is always a treat.



Missing was the man hired to restore many of the stones. Noah Turnage was on duty at Henry Funeral Home; however, his work represented him well.

The three Great-granddaughters of Eliza Cook Keller ventured on later that afternoon to visit the Keller farmhouse still standing on the portion of the David Cook estate willed to John B. and Eliza. The current owner, Phil Fauver, gave a most enjoyable tour of the property and farmhouse his ancestors purchased when Eliza passed away.

More Visitors to the Cemetery

On July 10, 2023, Glenn Hanger and his neighbor visited our cemetery. Kathy Cook Swisher, Don Roby, and Billie Cook Banks enjoyed this visit and their discussions. One observation was our ancestor's selection of the cemetery site. Showing respect for their family, the cemetery is sited on one of the best parts of the Cook land, high above the flooding potential of Middle River.

What led Glenn to our cemetery? Andy Weeks, from Columbus, Ohio, discovered Glenn's website for the Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery, located south of Middlebrook. Andy is researching his wife Carolyn's Cook relatives. Her direct line relative is George Cook, who married Sarah Hanger. George was the brother of our David Cook in the Cook-Teaford Cemetery.

Questions answered

In our last newsletter, we wondered, how was Sarah Jane, the widow of Civil War soldier David Franklin Cook, able to care for herself and her children following her husband's death from typhoid fever in 1863. Remember, she would have no widow's pension and no social security. The 1870 Federal Census, Riverheads, Augusta, Virginia has the answer. In this document, we find Sarah Jane and her children, Alice J. and David F. Miller, Jr. living in the household of her brother David F. Miller with his wife and their three children. Also in this household are Sarah and David's parents. When Sarah died, at age 59, her body was interred in the Cook-Teaford Cemetery, next to her daughter Mary Jane Cook who died of "flux" at age two. What of Sarah and David Cook's other two children? Alice married John Jacob Points, in West View, Virginia in 1876. He was a clerk in a tin store after his arm was amputated in the Civil War. John died in 1881. Five years later, Alice married Benjamin F. Hughes, with whom she had three children, Janet, Herbert Edwin and Anna Page. All three of Alice's children remained in Staunton, Virginia. Alice's brother David Franklin Cook, Jr. married Rosa Etta Mizer, he farmed near Middlebrook all of his life. There are no known children born to David and Rosa.

Thank you

Much gratitude goes out to Allen Peterson of the John Cook Family, who has offered to take over the very important task of mowing and weed eating at the cemetery. He has been interested in the cemetery for some time, and has worked to remove invasive plants and shrubs.

In Closing

Thank you to all working to keep this cemetery intact. What a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate those who came before us. Fortunately, we are blessed to work with the current owners, Scott and Alex Weller. Many thanks go out to them! Future owners of the cemetery and surrounding property may not be as accommodating. In the state of Virginia, a landowner can petition the circuit court to remove a neglected cemetery. Working together and sharing this cemetery's importance with younger generations can prevent this from ever happening. Spread the word, share this newsletter. Let's bring more of our people together to celebrate the Cook Teaford Cemetery.



Before Restoration, Photo by TLD find-a-grave cemetery



Photo of restored Cook-Teaford

Reminder: During Hunting Season we have limited visitation rights. Hunting has been a long standing tradition in the Cook family and we are very supportive of this. Call Billie Banks (540-430-8160) and she will check with Josh Robey to know if it is safe to visit or work in the cemetery.

Cook Teaford Cemetery Financial Report for 2020-2023

Contributions (in alphabetical order).....\$3,450.00

Alexander, Bob & Susan

Peterson, Craig & Shirley

Banks, Billie Jean Cook

Rich, Shirley

Cook, Benny, Kitty & Brent

Swisher, Kathy Cook

Cook, Mark & Valerie

Weeks, Andrew & Carolyn Cook

Femrite, Stephen & Sharon

Whitmore, Betty Lou Cook

Lee, John & Terri

Williams, Harold & Paige

Expenses.....		\$3,030.00
Restoration of Cemetery Markers paid to Noah Turnage	11/8/20	\$500.00
Removal of tress by Phil Sheets	7/6/21	\$650.00
Restoration of Cemetery Markers paid to Noah Turnage	7/15/22	\$300.00
Supplies for setting two bases and four footstones	7/15/22	\$200.00
Restoration of Markers & Supplies paid to Noah Turnage	6/12/23	\$580.00



Reserved for memorial cemetery gate.....-\$800.00

Balance.....	\$420.00
Interest on \$5.00 savings deposit required by DuPont Credit Union.....	\$1.97
Grand Total to be spent.....	\$421.97

As you can see, contributions are much appreciated!!!

Make you check to Cook Teafood Cemetery Fund and mail to Shirley H. Peterson, 703 West Beverley Street, Staunton, Virginia 24401 or to Billie Banks 309 White Oak Gap, Staunton, Virginia 24401

You will receive a copy of the deposit slip. In addition to the persons above, there are several workers who paid for supplies out of pocket, including, Sawyer Messer, Jimmy Brown, Billie Banks, Kathy Swisher, Wand Ocheltree, Noah Turnage, Craig and Shirley Peterson, Allen Peterson. *[End of Newsletter]*

A great newsletter, and again, thanks to all who have worked so hard on the Cook-Teafood Cemetery and the newsletter. I have also uploaded the newsletter to our website under the Library/Archives tab. Once there just click on the category labeled Cook-Teafood Cemetery. Please tell others that might be interested in its content as well.

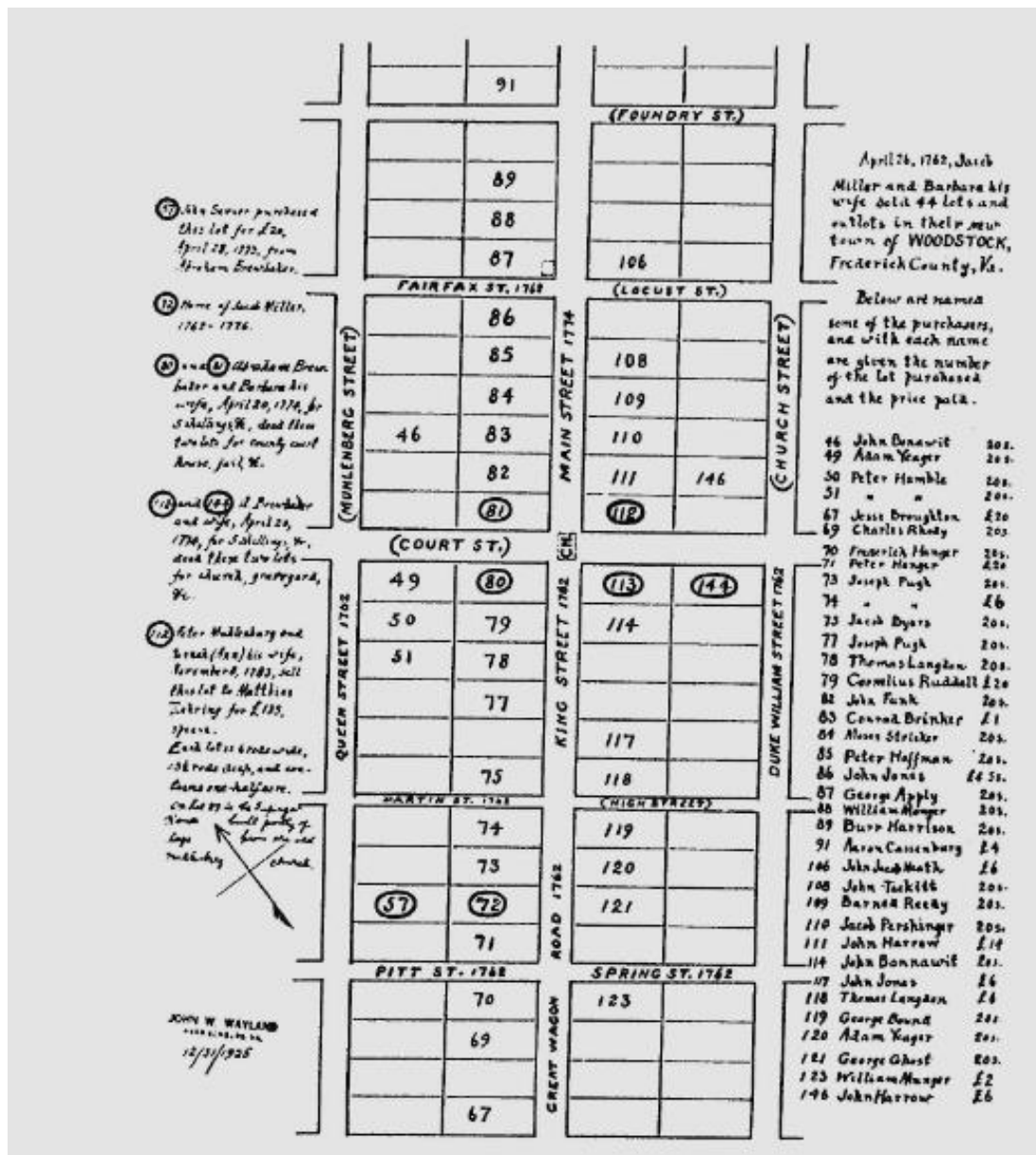
I also said in last month's newsletter I would offer more information on the town of Woodstock and Frederick and Peter Hanger's connection.

From *The History of The Lutheran Church in Virginia and East Tennessee* the following is found.

The first names found in connection with the settlement of Woodstock are Jacob Miller and his son-in-law, Abraham Brubaker. This settlement was first named Millerstadt after Mr. Miller, and Mr. Brubaker gave the double lot of one acre to Burr Harrison, Taverner Beale, Joseph Pugh, Abraham Keller, Laurence Snapp, George Keller, John Tipton, Jacob Holtzman, Henry

Nelson, Frederick Stover, Phillip Hoffman, and Henry Fravel. "for the use and purpose of building and supporting a church for public worship, a church yard, and a place of burial for the dead, and other such buildings as may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid." Seven of the names of this deed are the names of Germans representing the Lutheran Church; the others are English names representing the church of England. The first names directly connected with the Lutheran Church are the two on the altar cloth bearing the date of 1767, Frederick Hengerer and Eva Margaretha Hengerer. The earliest names have been lost, as it is certain that the history of the congregation extends into the past to the time of the visitation of the Hebron pastors from 1748 to the coming of the first regular pastor in the person of Peter Muhlenberg in the summer or fall of 1772.¹

In addition to Frederick's involvement in the church, he and Peter both acquired lots in Woodstock when the town was formed. A map showing the location of their property is below.²



¹ Lutheran Synod of Virginia. (1930) *History of the Lutheran Church in Virginia and East Tennessee*. Edited by C. W. Cassell, W. J. Finck, & Elon O. Henkel. Shenandoah Publishing House, Strasburg, Virginia. Pages 6-7.

² Wayland, John W. (first printing 1927, second edition 1998) *A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia*. Regional Publishing Company, Baltimore. Page 132.

The sale of the lots is dated as April 26, 1762, with Frederick and Peter purchasing lots 70 and 71 respectively on the corners of Pitt Street and the Great Wagon Road. The map, at any size, is difficult to read and I apologize for that.

Next month I hope to include a synopsis of the income and expenses year-to-date. The figures are pulled from the same spreadsheet that will be posted to the website after the first of the year when the books for 2023 are closed and supplied to the accountant for tax return prep.

As winter, and the anticipation of a little slower pace here in Dutch Hollow approaches, I hope to complete research on several more focused research files. If you have someone in the cemetery or in the Johann Frederick Hanger family line (et. al.) that you would like to see included sooner rather than later just let me know and I will make that a priority.

Website Updates: Members Section

In The Library / Archives Section

Ship Passenger Lists 1732-1754 - 15 Total

Unpublished Documents - 8 Total

Published Documents - 10 Total

Life in Dutch Hollow - 92 Total

Obituaries & Death Notices - 411 (Still several hundred to go)

Lucas-Fix Private Collection 109 Total

Department of Historical Resources Augusta County Archaeological Site Surveys - 13

DHH Cemetery Forensics, Etc. - Preliminary Findings of Ground Penetrating Radar for lower 35 feet of Cemetery and GPS of entire cemetery - 2

New Category! Cook-Teaford Cemetery - 2 Files

Coming Soon:

Elijah Jacob Hanger Private Collection (Approximately 450 files to be uploaded as time permits)

In The Focused Research Section

18 Files (40+ more to be researched, formatted , and uploaded as time permits)

Four of the *Blood of Our Blood* books have been sold, leaving one available. If you or someone you know wants one, it might be wise to get it before it is gone!



"The only thing I know about my
genealogy is I'm 5th generation iPhone."

As for this month's cartoon humor³, just remember that for some folks, the caption is really true!

Until next month, Blessings & Happy Trails.

Glenn Hanger

President, Dutch Hollow Hanger Cemetery

³ https://images.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?p=genealogy+cartoons&fr=yhs-infospace-009&type=ud-c-us--s-p-fb7vpvij--exp-none--subid-none&hspart=infospace&hsimp=yhs-009&imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fi.pinimg.com%2Foriginals%2F65%2F3a%2F6b%2F653a6b8688da37bae877fcfe53636baa.jpg#id=50&iurl=https%3A%2F%2Fs3.amazonaws.com%2Fflowres.cartoonstock.com%2Fcomputers-5th_generation-smartphones-smart_phones-mobiles-cells-cwln5313_low.jpg&action=click. Accessed 10-20-23, 9:34 pm Eastern DST.