

## News, Updates, & More

# Varner Family Genealogy

### IN THIS ISSUE:

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| George Varner Land Warrants..... | 1 |
| From the Administrator.....      | 4 |
| Questions.....                   | 4 |
| News.....                        | 5 |
| - Varner/Riggs Update.....       | 5 |
| -2014 Reunion.....               | 5 |
| -George Varner Line DNA.....     | 5 |
| -A George Varner Line.....       | 5 |

### GEORGE VARNER LAND WARRANTS

**George Varner partook of the land grant process available at the time as recompense for service in war.**

George Varner served in two federal wars, the War of 1812 and again in the 1<sup>st</sup> Seminole War. For that service in those wars George became eligible for warrants on pieces of federal land.

The first series of warrants for War of 1812 service were issued under acts of December 24, 1811, January 11, 1812, and May 6, 1812, in which Congress provided that noncommissioned officers and soldiers serving for 5 years (unless discharged sooner), or their heirs, would be entitled to 160 acres of land from the public domain in partial compensation for their military service.<sup>1</sup>

Tracts of land were given outright by the states, and later by the federal government as partial compensation ("bounty"), for service in times of

---

<sup>1</sup> Ancestry.com; U. S War Bounty Land Warrants, 1789-1858

military conflict. Such bounty was also occasionally used by the government to incite men to serve in war or conflicts. Bounty land warrants were issued from the colonial period until 1858, when the program was discontinued, and five years later, in 1863, the rights to locate and take possession of bounty lands ceased.<sup>2</sup>

### Dates and Provisions for Bounty Land

**1811**-First warrant act

**1812**-Non-commissioned officers serving five years or their heirs received 160 acres

**1814**-"Double Bounty Warrants" issued to soldiers who enlisted after December 1814

**1842**-Bounty land could be located in any public domain land. [Statutes at Large. 27<sup>th</sup> Congress. Session II. Chapter LXIX.]

**1855**-Land awarded for 14 days of service or participation in battle action. [Statutes at Large. 33<sup>rd</sup> Congress. Session II. Chapter CCVII]

**1871**-Pension or bounty land for 60 days service. Included widows if married before 1815. [Statutes at Large. 41<sup>st</sup> Congress. Session III. Chapter XLIX]

**1878**-Pension or bounty land for 14 days of services or battle action. Included all widows. [Statutes at Large. 45<sup>th</sup> Congress. Session II. Chapter 28]

Military bounty land was an option available to qualified veterans, the other option being a military pension.

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia; Military Tract of 1812

Qualifications for pensions and bounty land changed over time and the longer a veteran lived, the more likely he was to receive compensation for military service. Many men received a bounty land warrant and immediately sold it without ever setting foot on the land. Don't assume that your veteran ancestor lived on land he received as bounty land.<sup>3</sup>

Similar laws were passed for soldiers serving in the Seminole Wars in the amount of 160 acres.

It would seem that George took advantage of both earned warrants for land. Our George Varner is found to have received a land patent and land warrants for the following properties:

**Patent #6997** **Nov 14, 1835**  
"SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 12, Twp 49 North, Range 14 West" Boone Co. 40 acres purchased. *(No sales records. George may have immediately sold this piece of land)*

**Warrant #10,786** **Sept 1, 1852**  
"East half & NW quarter of the SW quarter, & NW quarter of the SE quarter of section 9, township 45, range 23" Pettis Co. For service in War of 1812. 160 acres. *(Issued in Sept 1852. Sold by George on Dec 31, 1852)*

<sup>3</sup> Pathfinder for Military Bounty Land & Pensions War of 1812; Midwest Genealogy Center, Mid-Continent Library

**Warrant #65,960                      Oct 2, 1854**

"NE quarter of the SE quarter of section 22, township 45, range 23" Pettis Co. For service in the Seminole War. 40 acres. *(Immediately sold by George to a George Pemberton)*

**Warrant #80,714                      May 10,1859**

"east half of the northwest quarter, & the northwest quarter of the north east quarter, of section 29, township 41, Range 30, in the district of lands subject to sale at Warsaw Missouri. For service in the Seminole War. 120 acres. *(Immediately sold by George to a Harvey Fellows)*

We cannot be sure if George ever actually lived on any of these pieces of property obtained by warrants and a patent. All may have been assigned or quickly sold without George actually occupying any of these properties.

For the first piece of property (Patent #6997, Nov 14, 1835, Boone Co., 40 acres) records show that George Varner did buy outright from the government this land. No county recording of either the purchase or a sale of this property can be found. The current owners of that property were kind enough to allow me to see the original land abstract. In that document George Varner is not listed as ever having owned this land. To date it remains a mystery whether in fact this first known purchase of land by George Varner was assigned to others. Such was also a common practice for patents as occurred with warrants.

George did live in Boone County during this timeframe because of other documentation that places him in the area, but none positively on this land.

The second piece of property, the first warrant assigned to George Varner (Warrant #10,786, Sept 1, 1852, Pettis Co. For service in War of 1812. 160 acres.) also shows a quick sale. George applied for this warrant in December of 1850 and states he is a resident of Pettis County. Receive the warrant in September of 1852, then he and Harriet sell the property on December 31<sup>st</sup> of that same year as validated by recorder records in Pettis County.

The third piece of land and the first warrant for Seminole War service (Warrant #65,960, Oct 2, 1854, Pettis Co. For service in the Seminole War. 40 acres) was immediately re-assigned to a George Pemberton as indicated on the warrant itself.

The fourth piece of property and the final warrant known to have been issues to George Varner (Warrant #80,714, May 10,1859, in the district of lands subject to sale at Warsaw Missouri. For service in the Seminole War. 120 acres) was also immediately re-assigned to a Harvey Fellows which also is indicated on the warrant itself.

In 1960 George, Harriet, and family is found in Miller County. Soon thereafter

he and Harriet will disappear from all records, never to be heard from again.

So we find that George may never have lived on any of the land he purchased or was awarded. If not, where did the family live? Did they rent? Sharecrop? This remains a mystery.

There is a Philip Varner nearby the Pettis County property at that time. Were they related? Did George and family live there? I have been unable to trace this Philip Varner beyond those censuses in Pettis County. All questions that remain to be studied by someone, and hopefully have answers provided by further research.

---

### FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

<http://home.kc.surewest.net/btvarner/VarnerGenealogy.htm> is the Varner Family Genealogy Website. Some of the files require a password to open. That password is: VarnerFamily. Please do not provide this password to anyone else. Send them to me so I can keep track of who might access the information. A password is required to prevent unauthorized changes to those documents.

---

### QUESTIONS

No questions surfaced this month. It would seem that everyone is busy

enjoying the last vestiges of summer. So I have added one myself. I do not know the answer to this question and hope that posing it will prompt others to help solve the question.

***Can it be proven that Thomas Owen is the father of Harriet Owen Varner, George Varner's wife?***

Evidence seems to point towards this conclusion but nothing is proven.

Thomas Owen is known to have associated with George Varner in Boone County.

Thomas Owen was born circa 1792, in Wilkes County, Georgia. His will was made 9, April 1861 and proved 31, May 1864, Pettis County, Missouri. He married 10, November 1810, in Oglethorpe County, to a Nancy Varner, born circa 1793, in Wilkes County, Georgia. Nancy Varner Owen, died after 1870 in Pettis County, Missouri.

Thomas Owen lived in Pettis County, Missouri, in 1840, 1850 and 1860. He had moved to Missouri sometime before 1818. His son, Glen Owen, was born circa 1818.

The similarities in first names for George and Harriet's children to the Owens along with the above evidence indicates a strong probability that Thomas is Harriet's father. This would however mean that Harriet's mother, Nancy

Varner Owen, would be at least a cousin to Harriet's husband George Varner.

Another unseemly occurrence? Who knows?

---

## NEWS

### Varner /Riggs Connection Update

Nothing really new this month on this front. As is the case with others, I have been busy over the summer with other actives and have not committed much time to furthering this investigation. As the weather cools down and winter approaches, I will begin again to pursue details of this connection.

### 2014 Newton/Varner/Riggs? Family Reunion

Update from Linda Cushman about the 2014 reunion.

Will be held Saturday, May 24, 2014 from 9am until late afternoon, at the Polk County Senior Center, 1850 W. Broadway Street, Bolivar, Missouri. Pot luck lunch at noon (contribute your own food) with paper plates, cups, forks, napkins provided.

For questions contact Linda Cushman [lindacushman45@gmail.com](mailto:lindacushman45@gmail.com)  
417-326-4387

Some folks arrive as early as around 10 am. Most others closer to lunchtime.

---

### George Varner of Missouri Direct Line DNA

Also nothing new to report on obtaining George Varner DNA candidates. As stated before, this includes any male to male direct descendants of:

John D. Varner (1854-1929)  
Glenn Varner (1852-)  
Francis Marion Varner (1847-1904)  
Samuel Philip Varner (1846-1896)  
Edward Varner (1839-1916)  
George Washington Varner (1838-)  
Thomas J. Varner(1836-)

All clues in this direction are appreciated.

---

### A George Varner Line

This month we outline a line of Elizabeth Varner, one of George's daughters. If you have additional information please let me know as I am very thin with this line.

**George<sup>4</sup> Varner** (Fredrick<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Hans<sup>1</sup>)  
b. abt. 1789 – d. abt. 1861  
Married *Harriet Owen* (b. abt. 1817 – d. abt. 1861)

**Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Varner** (George<sup>4</sup>, Fredrick<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Hans<sup>1</sup>)  
b. Nov. 1842 – d. Dec. 1929

Married 1. *James Monroe Flaughner* in 1861 (b. 1840 – d. 1875). Married 2 *James Busick* in 1877 (b. Unk-d. Unk)

Six Children from Marriage 1:

*Elmer Henry Flaughner* b. Unk

*Tim Flaughner* b. Unk

*James Monroe Flaughner Jr.* b. 1863

*Charles Patterson Flaughner* b. 1866

*Henry Madison Flaughner* b. 1879

*Lucretia Melvina Flaughner* b. 1874

One Child from Marriage 2:

*Elizabeth Busick* b. 1878

**James Monroe<sup>6</sup> Flaughner Jr.** (Flaughner ancestors unknown by author)

b. 1863 – d. 1930

Married *Mary L. Clark* (b. 1865 – d. 1944)

Six Children:

*Icie B. Flaughner* b. 1889

*William E. Flaughner* b. 1891

*Fannie Jane Flaughner* b. 1892 - Twin

*Ollie D. Flaughner* b. 1892 – Twin

*Henry Elmer Flaughner* b. 1895

*Charles Calvin Flaughner* b. 1897

**Charles Calvin<sup>7</sup> Flaughner**

b. 1897 – d. 1977

Married *Bertha Vaughan* (b. Unk – d. 1961)

Three Children:

Earl Flaughner b. 1932

Charles Junior Flaughner b. 1920

John Wesley Flaughner b. 1928

**Charles Junior<sup>8</sup> Flaughner**

b. 1920 – d. 1984

Married *Lena Etta Stark* (b. 1923-)

One Child:

*Shirley Ruth Flaughner* b. 1944

As you can see I have holes in my data on this line. If you know of facts that pertain to any of these persons please let me know so such details can be captured and corrected in future issues.

I continue to struggle with topics of interest for future issues. Please provide suggestions to help provide a wide perspective for everyone.

**Bruce Varner**