

SOMERS FAMILY IN REUNION NEAR ELON LAST SUNDAY

THE SOMERS REUNION WAS HELD AT THE HOME OF MRS. R.V. MOORE ON ELON, ROUTE 2, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 1941. AROUND 500 RELATIVES AND FRIENDS JOINED TOGETHER A FEW HOURS THAT WILL LONG BE REMEMBERED BY ALL OF THEM.

THE DEVOTIONAL PROGRAM WAS OPENED BY THE PRESIDENT, MRS. GLYDEN MOORE. SHE GAVE A FEW WORDS OF WELCOME, AFTER WHICH REV. G.C. CRUTCHFIELD SANG "HOLY CITY" AND PRECIOUS MEMORIES." MRS. ERNEST ROSS READ A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE SOMERS FAMILY IN NORTH CAROLINA. THE HAW RIVER BOYS WITH MRS. ALMA TROLLINGER AT THE PIANO MADE THE PROGRAM MORE INTERESTING WITH SINGING. REV. CRUTCHFIELD GAVE A VERY INTERESTING TALK. OTHER SPEACHES ON THE PROGRAM INCLUDED CLAUD G. SOMERS OF BURLINGTON AND JOHN FAUCETTE OF DURHAM.

BUSINESS WAS DISCUSSED AND THE REUNION WILL BE HELD AT BETHELEHEM CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEAR ALTAMAHAW THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF SEPT. 1942.

MRS. GLENDEN MOORE WAS RE-ELECTED PRES. WITH IRA SOMERS AS VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. ERNEST ROSS AS SECT. TREASURE.

THE AFTERNOON PROGRAM WAS ENJOYED WITH BEAUTIFUL SINGING RENDERED BY THE HAW RIVER, WEST BURLINGTON AND GIBSONVILLE BOYS QUARTETS WITH MRS. FOGLEMAN AT THE PIANO. THE PROGRAM WAS CLOSED WITH THE CONGREGATION SINGING "GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN".

A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE SOMERS FAMILY IN NORTH CAROLINA WILL BE IN THE NEWSPAPER FOR ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED AT A LATER DATE.

MINUTES OF 1st. SOMERS-SUMMERS REUNION

1941

1941

THE FIRST SOMERS REUNION WAS HELD AT THE HOME OF MRS. R. V. MOORE, THE PROGRAM WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT, MRS. GLYDEN MOORE, WHO GAVE A FEW WORDS OF "WELCOME." THE REV. G.C. CRUTCHFIELD SANG "HOLY CITY" AND "PRECIOUS MEMORIES," AFTER WHICH HE GAVE A BRIEF TALK.

MRS. ERNEST ROSS, READ A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE SOMERS FAMILIIES IN NORTH CAROLINA, WRITTEN BY MR. J.F. SOMERS.

THE HAW RIVER AND WEST BURLINGTON QUARTET MADE THE PROGRAM MORE INTERESTING WITH BEAUTIFUL SINGING.

BUSINESS WAS DISCUSSED AND IT WAS AGREED TO HAVE THE REUNION AT BETHLEHEM CHURCH IN 1942.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS WERE ELECTED FOR 1942.

MRS. GLYDEN MOORE	PRESIDENT
MR. IRA SOMERS	VICE PRES.
MRS. ERNEST ROSS	SECT. & TRES.

A COLLECTION OF \$19.00 WAS TAKEN FOR THE EXPENSES AND WAS PAID OUT FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS. ICE, CUPS, PAPER PLATES, NAPKINS, PRINTING, AND POST CARDS.

News paper Notice For --Daniel Edward Somers

Brothers and sisters------(D)= Deceased

George "Richard" Somers (D)

Boyd Wagoner Somers (D) Wife-Louise Blakely Somers

David "Calvin" Somers (D)

Virginia Somers Jones (D) Husband James Elmo Jones--(D)

Lt. Col. Joseph Clementh Somers--Wife--Juanita Jones Somers

John Donald Somers-----Wife # 1 Helen Anderson Somers

Wife # 2 Ramona Somers

Betty Somers McIntyre-----Husband Edsel H. McIntyre

Gladys Somers Lancaster-----Husband--Darrell Allen Lancaster (D)

SUMMERS FAMILY AND COAT OF ARMS

The Summers family and the Sumners family name is of English origin, with the name being of the type of surname known as an occupational name, since it derived from the work which the earliest ancestors did. In this case the earliest Summers ancestor was a local officer of the royal courts, for he served as a "summoner" who served notices on people to appear before the king's local courts to appear as a witness of perhaps in defense of themselves. That meaning indicates that the earliest people of the Summers name were of some importance in their community and were known even to the officers of the king. The English records of the later Middle Ages mentioned a certain John Summeres by the year 1172 and a bit later the name of Samuel Summirs in 1243. The difference in spelling is not of any real significance, for people who kept the records in those days were not highly educated and were not the best spellers in the world. At any rate the name had assumed its modern form of Summers when the family appeared in America before the American Revolution. The family was found in several of the colonies, with a large group of Summers families in both Virginia and North Carolina. The Virginia Tax Lists of 1783 and 1785 listed more than twelve Summers families in several counties, and the Census of 1790 for North Carolina, first census ever taken for the United States, listed twenty Summers families, scattered in such counties as Burke, Iredell, Guilford, Montgomery, Surry, Randolph, Lincoln and Rowan. The Summers coat of arms follows:

ARMS: Vert, a fesse dancette ermine.

CREST: On a globe proper winged argent, an eagle rising or.

NOTE: That brief description means that the principal color of the shield is vert (green), with a fesse (which is a horizontal band) that is dancette (meaning it has scalloped or notched edges). The fesse is of ermine (meaning that it is of white with small black figures that represent the furs or pelts of the ermine. The crest is a globe (meaning figure of the world) in proper form with figures on it representing the continents and oceans) and with the world itself flanked on either side by wings of argent (silver). Above the world is the figure of an eagle rising (meaning with wings ready for flight), the eagle being of or (gold). There is no motto, but earliest coats of arms had not motto, so this indicates the Summers design is very old. The fact that the shield is so plain, showing only the ermine fesse, also indicates antiquity. The fesse itself was the symbol of the sword belts worn by medieval knights and fighting men, and the use of the ermine color on the fesse indicates ancient service to the king, for ermine was a luxurious fur worn by royalty and nobility. The eagle was known as king of birds, and its position above or on top of the world is a symbol of authority, possibly referring to the work of the early Summers men with with the local courts. The colors of the arms also have meaning. Green is the symbol of charity, hope and sturdiness; ermine is the symbol of prudence and financial wisdom; silver is the symbol of peace, innocence and sincerity; and gold is the symbol of generosity and elevation of mind.

— LUTHER N. BYRD, ELON COLLEGE, N. C.

1940

SOMERS FAMILY IN REUNION NEAR ELON LAST SUNDAY

The Somers reunion was held at the home of Mrs. H. V. Moore on Elon route 2, Sunday, September 28. Around 500 relatives and friends joined together a few hours that will long be remembered by all of them.

The devotional program was opened by the president, Mrs. Claude Moore. She gave a few words of welcome after which Rev. C. C. Cratchfield sang "Holy City" and "Precious Memories." Mrs. Frances Ross read a brief sketch of the history of the Somers family in North Carolina. The Holy River quartet with Mrs. Ahlert played at the piano and the program more entertaining with singing.

Rev. Cratchfield gave a very interesting talk. Other speakers on the program included Claude Cratchfield of Burlington and John Rance of Durham.

Business was discussed and the reunion will be held at Bethlehem Christian church near Altamahaw the fourth Sunday of September, 1942.

Mrs. Graham Moore was re-elected president with Mrs. Somers as vice president and Mrs. Frances Ross as secretary and treasurer.

The afternoon program was enjoyed with beautiful singing rendered by the Holy River, West Burlington and Gibsonville boys quartets with Mrs. Moorman at the piano. The program was closed with the congregation singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

A brief sketch of the history of the Somers family in North Carolina will be in the newspaper for all those who are interested at a later date.

1941