

Our Knox Roots in the Lake Norman Area

*A few new documents
...and some you've seen before*

*compiled by Karen Knox Fesperman
September 2022*

In this compilation, you'll find:

- An 1888 Mecklenburg County Boundary Map that also shows an overlay of the current Lake Norman footprint. You'll see where the farm of our great parents (Joe V. & Emma McConnell Knox) is located along a section of Beatties Ford Road that is now underwater.
- A copy of the Mecklenburg County land deed that ties to the oldest land transaction we can trace to our family line, purchased by Patrick Knox in 1779. The referenced previous deed books and page numbers trace the land back to the original English grant.
- A copy of the Last Will and Testament for Franklin Jefferson Knox, mayor of Davidson (1895-1900.) F.J. Knox was our great grandfather's older brother. In this will, he bequests a significant amount of land and stock to over 18 relatives...including our great grandfather (Joe) and grandfather (Ralph) among others. He was apparently an astute business man and benevolent patriarch figure of the family (he had no children of his own.)
- Older copies of news articles, a Patrick Knox family tree and narrative of how we pulled together this historic trail and sheds light on some of our ancestors.



Origin of the Knox name

From Burke's "General Armory", 1878 edition, page 573, and 1844 edition

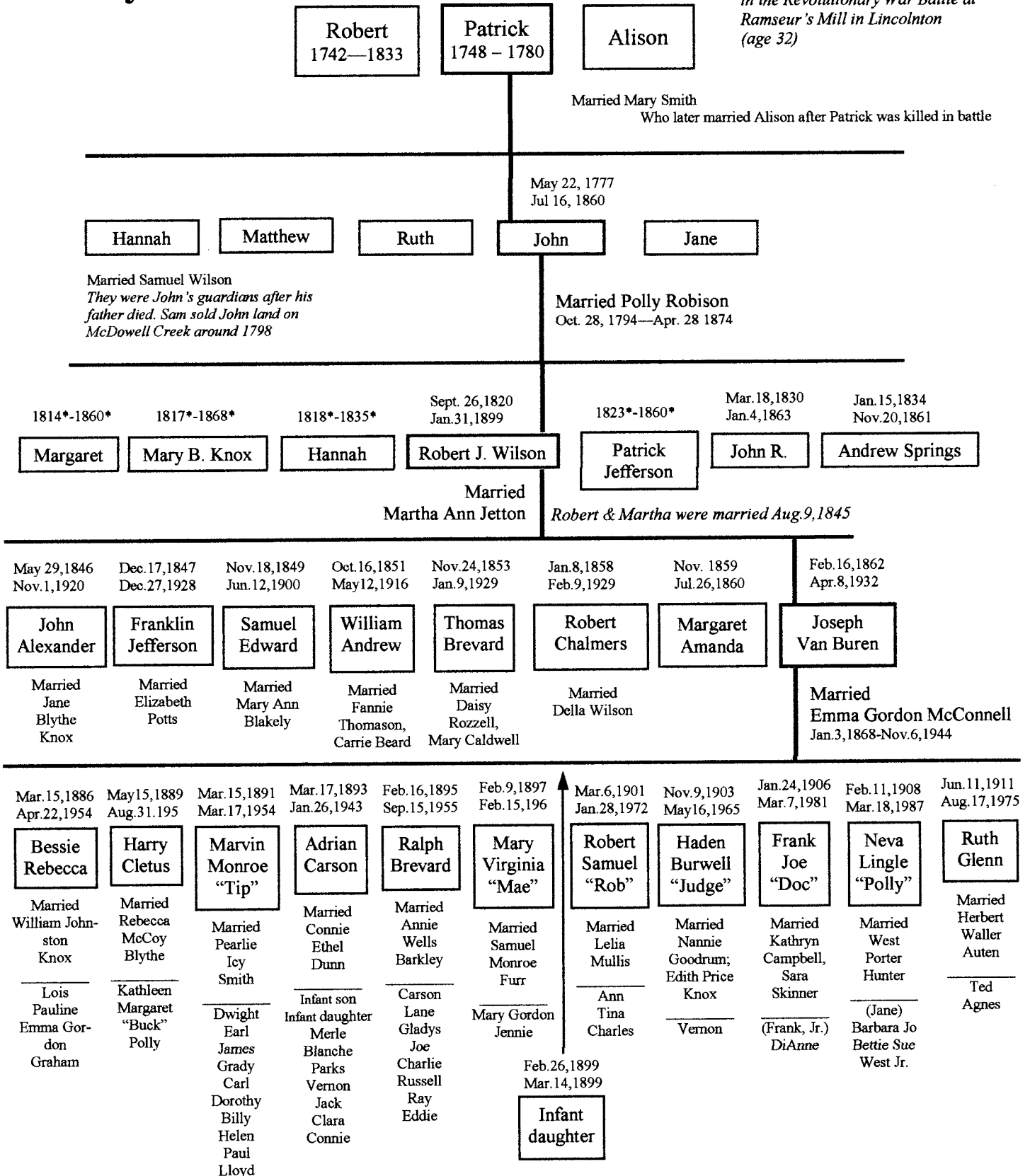
This family took its name from its estate of Knox, in Scotland. Ramfurley was the name of another family estate in Scotland, and when Thomas Knox, of the Scottish family was raised to the Peerage in Ireland in the year 1781, he was first given the title of Viscount Northland, later again raised to Earl of Ramfurley. The arms was matriculated in Scotland at a very early date and in Ireland in the year 1693. Burke states that the family was founded in the reign of Alexander Second (years 1214 to 1249) by Adam de Knocks (Adam of Knocks) son of a man named Uchtred, who obtained the estate of Knocks (now called Knox) in the Baromy of Renfrew and as was customary at that time, took that name. The same Adam de Knocks or Knox also obtained the lands of Ramfurley and Grief Castle, the latter remaining in the family until sold in the 16th century.

The Arms:

Crest: A falcon perched
Motto: Moveo et propitior (I proceed and prosper)
The shield is of red
the falcon on the shield is of gold
the arle is of silver
the falcon of the crest, and the perch, are naturally colored
the mantle and wreath are of red and gold

Patrick Knox Family Tree

- Patrick perhaps came from Ireland
- Mecklenburg County deeds show Patrick owned 423 acres near Cowans Ford
- Patrick was a Whig captain, killed in the Revolutionary War Battle at Ramseur's Mill in Lincolnton (age 32)



The Family Story of Joseph Knox

First American: Patrick Knox

In tracing backwards through generations, the earliest documented ancestor of our family is Patrick Knox. We can only speculate that he came from Ireland (Antrim) as an adult, as there were several Knoxes in the Catawba river area who hailed from Ireland. Perhaps Patrick came to the area because of relatives who had already settled here. We also speculate that his wife, Mary, perhaps also came from Ireland with him – it is unproven whether or not he was married prior to arriving in NC, or married once here. No NC marriage records have been found to state the latter.

We aren't sure when Patrick Knox arrived in America. There were many immigrants from Ireland and ships logs may reflect his trip over, though we have found none at this time. Although a number of passenger lists have survived from the colonial period through the early part of the nineteenth century, there was no uniform code or system or even requirement to document incoming passengers until after the War of 1812.

Many Irish immigrants came through mainland ports and traveled west to Pennsylvania. They then moved south down various river trails. Why exactly did Patrick Knox come to settle in the Catawba River area? In searching for information, there were indeed other Knox clans in the Mecklenburg and Lincoln county area. Our 11th president, James Knox Polk (whose mother was named Jane Knox) was born in Mecklenburg County. His Knox grandparents resided four miles northeast of Hopewell Presbyterian Church (north Mecklenburg County), in the same area where we believe Patrick Knox lived. Mecklenburg County records also show a large "Knox" family in the southern portion of Mecklenburg County, know as the Steele Creek area, from the 1700's on.

What we know of Patrick Knox is largely based on accounts of the Revolutionary War battle of Ramseur's Mill (site is in Lincolnton, NC.) War accounts list Patrick Knox as a whig captain who was killed in battle at the age of 34 in 1780. He is listed on the monument erected in Lincolnton, NC that marks the mass grave for the officers killed in the battle. Summaries of the Battle of Ramseur's Mill roster Knox as a casualty of the war. His estate settlement also provides some evidence about his life.

Patrick and his wife, Mary had five children: Hannah, Matthew, Ruth, John and Jane. At the time of Patrick's death, his son John was only three years old. It appears that Patrick's widow, Mary, married his brother Alison and had more children (who were our ancestor's half-siblings.) It was perhaps because of this extended family situation that

Hannah, the oldest sister and her husband (Samuel Wilson) eventually became John's guardians.

On July 10, 1800, two Mecklenburg deeds recorded land transactions between Samuel and John—who was 23 at the time. The net of these transactions is that John exchanged land (423 acres) owned by his father Patrick Knox's estate, to which his mother held "dower interests." The land (located on the "east side of the Catawba River) was traded for land (384 acres) of equal value \$1500 located on McDowell Creek which appears to be located near the Caldwell Station area south of Cornelius.

Second Generation: John Knox

Patrick's son, John Knox married Mary B. Robison (1794-1874) on November 10, 1813 in Mecklenburg County. They had seven children, their oldest son *being our great, great grandfather Robert J. Wilson Knox (RJW)* who was born in 1820. Robert J. Wilson had three older sisters (Margaret, Mary B. Knox Smith, Hannah) and three younger brothers (John R., Patrick J. and Andrew.)

Records indicate that John Knox assumed guardianship of his half sister's seven children in 1826 (Mary Smith). We did not search census records to determine the ages of the children, but it safe to assume that this placed twelve children of various ages in his care to some capacity.

John Knox was a founding trustee at Bethel Presbyterian Church in 1829, establishing a family tradition and tie to the church as a Bethel Charter member. Some say that the land on which Bethel sits was acquired through the efforts of our Knox ancestors. Further research into the land acquisition for the Presbyterian Church has not been pursued at this time.

Third Generation and the 1800's

Robert J. Wilson Knox married Martha Ann Jetton on August 9, 1845. Several months later on March 7, 1846, Robert J. Wilson Knox purchased 126 acres from his father John, as reflected in Real Estate Conveyances for Mecklenburg County. Robert and Martha had seven sons: John, Frank, Sam William, Brevard, R.

The Family Story of Joseph Knox continued

Chalmers, and Joe. They also had a daughter who died as an infant. Our grandfather, Joseph Vandon was born in 1862.

Civil War Service

Civil War records indicate that our great great uncle, Andrew served in the 2nd Calvary (19th St. Troops) Co.B. He enlisted in Iredell County at age 26, June 18, 1861. Records indicate he died at home later that year on November 20. Our great great uncle, John R. enlisted at the age of 29, listing his occupation as "farmer." He mustered in as a private in the 37th Infantry Co.C and was promoted to sergeant in March, 1862. He died "at home" on January 4, 1863. The cause of death was not reported. There was no record of Patrick's service. Family members have indicated that Patrick moved to Alabama and is buried there. No documentation of this is around, however.

Robert J. Wilson (often referred to as R.J.W. in documents) also served late in the Civil War. In 1864, he was 44 years old, and his youngest son, Joe, was just 3 years old. He is listed as serving in McLean's Battalion Light Duty Men, also referred to as Camp Stokes Light Duty Men. The only reference to a group/battalion with a name similar to the one listed, was a NC 77th Regiment led by a "McLean." It was a "...unit of senior reserves which participated in some minor military operations near Savannah before its fall to Gen. Sherman..." Considering R.J.W. was 44, he definitely would have been a "senior reserve," but I can not confirm this connection.

Did He Get it All?

As stated in his father's will (which is included in this report), R.J.W. lived on 128 acres known then as the Blakely place (family members indicate this was near the current Bailey Road south of Cornelius). His father's death in 1860 came just prior to the Civil War. While Robert J.W. received "the Blakely place," the remainder of John's property was to go to his wife, and then on two his sons John and Andrew. Since both John and Andrew died a year or two later in the War, can we assume that Robert J. Wilson received the other portion of the family land?

Around the year 1873, real Estate Conveyances show a purchase by Robert J. Wilson Knox from Samuel Wilson for 424 acres adjacent to "Caldwell property."

Could this be in the Caldwell Station area, off Hwy 115 north of Huntersville? The transaction states that his bid of \$3,000 made him the "best and highest bidder" for the property. The description of the property site coordinates include "...N98W96 poles to a maple at the mouth of a ditch, thence N1W28 poles to a maple...." Hickory, dogwood, water oak and (dead) pine trees were other landmarks sited as coordinate markers.

Family members say Robert J. W.built the homeplace near Bethel Church around 1860. The site is currently where Bethel Church Road and Highway 73 meet in Cornelius. (Further investigation into real estate conveyances could pinpoint the exact details of the transaction – date, acreage, etc.) He lived there until he passed away in 1899 (His will is included in this report.) His wife, Martha, died later in 1904. Lois Knox Brown recalls her mother, Bess, telling of her visits with her grandmother, Martha. When she arrived, Martha would say to Bess, "Let's go to the garden to get a cabbage head," and off to the garden they would go. Family stories say that Martha died while winding a clock on the mantle.

Seven Sons

Our grandfather, the seventh son, grew up in the "homeplace" that was near Bethel Church at Hwy 73 in Cornelius, NC. (A photo is included in this report.) Ultimately, his brother, Brevard, (Great Uncle Vard) stayed in the house and raised his family there. Uncle Vard farmed and also had a corn mill east of the house. (About where Knox Road meets Hwy 73). Farmers would bring corn to be ground into meal. In his 50's, Uncle Vard married 19-year-old Mary Caldwell and had 13 children – the last being born when he was 72. (A newspaper article about him is included in this report.) Great Uncles John, Sam and Andrew lived down Highway 115, just north of Huntersville in the Caldwell Station area – what is now known as Will Knox Road, Sam Furr Road, and Knoxwood Drive. Great Uncles Charlie (Chalmers) and Frank lived in Davidson. Granddaddy Joe moved out Beatties Ford Road to (supposedly!) get closer to the water so he could go fishing...though no one recalls him ever doing so. There was a wonderful creek on the front of their property. A story Aunt Bess told was that her father predicted their would be a lake there, some 50 years before Lake Norman was created in 1963.

Almost everyone farmed, and the main crop was cotton. (Blanche Knox Parker recalls often riding the

The Family Story of Joseph Knox continued

cotton wagon to Caldwell Station where there was a cotton gin.) Some family members received awards for being top cotton producers.

Uncle Frank accumulated a great deal of wealth and willed property and money to various nephews. Some of Granddaddy Joe's children received inheritances from Uncle Frank. He was politically active, serving on Davidson's first Board of Town Commissioners in 1879. He was also mayor of Davidson (1895-1900).

Roots in Real Estate

Great Uncle Frank and Granddaddy Joe were home builders and developers of commercial property. The two of them built most of downtown Davidson south of the Village Store. Main Street Books is the oldest original building, built in 1901 by Uncle Frank. The First Union Bank building is referred to by family members as Granddaddy Joe's building. Lois recalls: During the depression, Granddaddy Joe was supervising the construction of a building on Main Street in Davidson. The job apparently took more time and resources than anticipated and that strapped the family a bit. Nevertheless, they prevailed.

In reviewing the Real Estate Conveyances for Mecklenburg County (1830-1918) there were numerous transactions (purchases) made by R.J.W., Great Uncle Frank, Granddaddy Joe and their brothers. Time did not permit us to look into every transaction, though it would be interesting to find out exactly what property was owned by our family at one time or another. There were references to "126A McDowell Creek; 103A Beaver Dam; Davidson Cotton Seed-Oil Co." and more.

"Granddaddy Joe"

Granddaddy Joe was a very tall man, about 6'5". He married Emma Gordon McConnell in 1885. At the time, he was 23 and she was 17. Their first child, Bessie

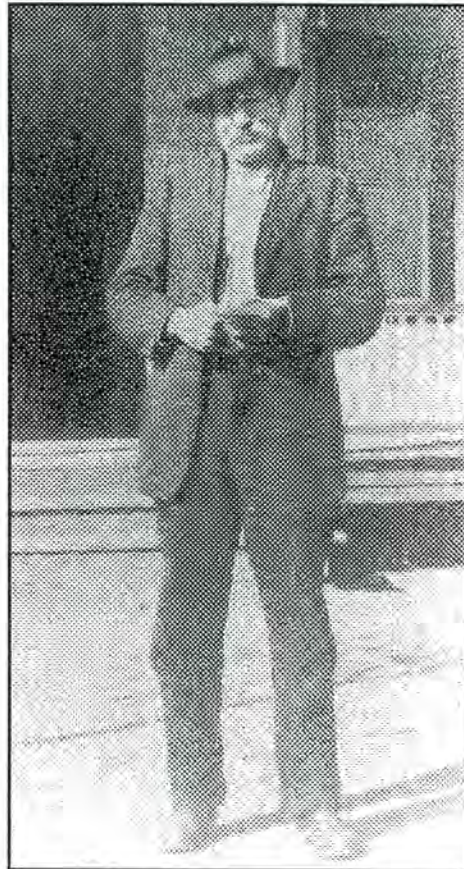
Rebecca, was born in 1886.

There was a very large barn and a saw mill on Granddaddy's farm. Because there were no trucks to haul livestock in their day, cows were "driven" down from the mountains in herds to be sold in Charlotte. They would "stop over for the night" in Granddaddy Joe's barn. There were also tenant farmers on the property.

The rooms in the house were huge (remembered as being almost 20'x40') with massive fireplaces. There was an old pump organ in the front room that had big foot pedals that "had to really be worked" in order to get any music from it. Neva (Polly) was whom you would find at the keys. Granddaddy Joe made several rocking chairs, one of which he often sat in on the front porch of the house.

Grandmama Emma

"You could smell her homemade bread when you came up that hill. I can still smell it yet!" recalls Lois. She kept 50-pound sacks of flour in her kitchen. The sacks were "recycled" and used to transport wheat to Mooresville to be ground into flour. It was said Emma could sew a shirt out of a sack in the amount of time it took to load up the wheat to go to market. An expert seamstress, she would make shirts and dresses out of flour sacks – sewing without a pattern. She crocheted and she taught Lois to braid rugs from rag scraps. "If I had any sense, I would have learned to cook like her," Lois shares. Emma would fix ham biscuits and take them out to the fields where folks were working. She never measured anything and cooked on a wood stove.



This photo of "Granddaddy Joe" was perhaps taken the same day as the homeplace photo (1918-1923). It is the only known photo of him. If you know of or have other pictures of him, please let us know!

Weekends on the Farm

Monday through Friday, typical farming chores took place: hoeing fields, picking cotton, working in the

The Family Story of Joseph Knox continued

saw mill, etc. Saturday was "market day" when crops were loaded up and taken to be sold. A freezer of ice cream would be made on Saturday to be enjoyed Saturday night. Another was cranked out on Sunday. Emma never knew who would be at the house on Sunday to visit and eat. Sometimes there would be three shifts at the dinner table. She didn't cook a great variety of food (by our standards) for the crowd. On Saturday, she would kill a chicken and brown it; make a cake. Rice and perhaps another vegetable from the garden (lettuce, greens, beans, etc.) and biscuits from scratch would finish the meal. Blanche recalls having scrappy country ham and chicken wings at the "third" table. Granddaddy Joe refused to eat on anything but a white tablecloth, even if it had to be a sheet. No oil cloth was permitted. There was always a sack of teacakes in the kitchen, available for snacking. Emma would milk the cows in the morning, and to cool the milk, she would lower the bucket into the well for the day. If there wasn't enough milk for dinner, she would milk more, then someone would be recruited to stir it, which would cool it down. Grandma Emma was known for her cooking and the way she rattled pots and pans – some said she threw them... perhaps that was because she had 30+ people over for dinner (lunch). Afterwards, the family gathered for hymn sings in the living room.

Bethel Church – A Family Tradition

According to Tina Brown, historian for Bethel Presbyterian Church, Robert J. Wilson Knox served as clerk of the Session at Bethel. (She indicates his handwriting is rather difficult to read in the church records he kept!) This was just the beginning of a long standing tradition of Knox ties to Bethel Presbyterian. It is said that our family owned the property on which the church stands. When Uncle Vard died, his children had to sign the necessary documents for the land to become property of the church. The Bethel Presbyterian Church cemetery

is filled with our ancestors. The Knox name appears frequently on headstones – those of our immediate family, as well as cousins from other branches of our extended family.



Emma Gordon McConnell Knox

From singing in the choir, to serving as elders and deacons, members of our family have held numerous roles in Bethel's church family. It's only fitting that our reunions are held there!

Their Final Days

Lois recalls when her parents, Aunt Bess and Uncle Will, went to the homeplace to be with Granddaddy Joe in his final hour. He repeated Romans 8:25 over and over. Granddaddy Joe did not have a will. The settlement of his estate is recorded at the Mecklenburg County courthouse – time did not permit us to research the document. Emma carried and read from an Old testament bible that her father carried in his coat during the Civil War. She spent her final days with Aunt Mae and Uncle Sam. Her letters (included in this report) reflect the pain of heart disease. She passed away in 1944. With 48 grandchildren, most of whom stayed in a 20-mile radius of North Mecklenburg, there is still quite a Knox influence here.

The 11 Clans

Bessie Rebecca "Bess," the oldest child, married her first cousin, William Johnston Knox. They had five children and lived along Hwy 115, just north of Sam Furr Road. Her daughter Lois is the oldest grandchild at 91 years. In 1924, Uncle Will had gone to Bethel to preach for the minister who was away, when his son Graham and nephew Carson (both 6 years old) burned down his barn.

Harry Cletus "Harry" - married Rebecca McCoy Blythe (Aunt Bec, who lived to be 97) and had a farm out what is now known as Jetton Road in Cornelius. Harry's farm,

The Family Story of Joseph Knox continued

being close to Granddaddy Joe's, put him near by to help in the saw mill, etc. They had four children. Around 1920, Harry and Bec (along with Ralph and Annie) drove their new Chevrolet to the fair. When it was time to go, they looked out onto a sea of identical cars and couldn't determine which one was theirs to drive home. Apparently, everyone had driven their new "assembly line" vehicle.

Marvin Monroe "Tip" married Pearlie Icy Smith. They lived North of Davidson off Hwy 115 in Mt. Mourne. Tip & Pearl had 10 children. A large number of Tip's descendants still live in the Mooresville and Mt. Mourne area – on Midway Lake Road, etc.

Adrian Carson "Adrian" married Connie Dunn Knox (who lived to be 104) and they had 7 children. This was after they sadly lost an infant son and infant daughter. They lived in Davidson, sharing a farm with Ralph, before moving into town. Adrian later worked at the Huntersville prison.

Ralph Brevard "Ralph" married Annie Wells Barkley when she was 17. They, along with their 8 children, lived on a farm outside of Davidson (which is now the 5th and 6th holes of River Run golf course!) Annie played the piano and organ at Bethel Church for over 40 years.

Mary Virginia "Mae" married Samuel Monroe Furr of the now heavily traveled "Sam Furr Road." Cousin Lois remembers them secretly meeting at Bess & Will's house before Sam went off to fight in World War I. They had two children.

Robert Samuel "Rob" married Lelia Mullis. They lived in Davidson and had three children. Rob and Lelia served as foster parents to numerous children. Their loving care earned them the reputation for being one of the best foster homes in the county.

Haden Burwell "Judge" was married to Nannie Goodrum, and following her death, he married Edith Price Knox. They lived in Cornelius. During World War II, gas was rationed and Judge drove many folks to Charlotte on the "Beatties Ford Road" bus. Judge and Nannie had one child.

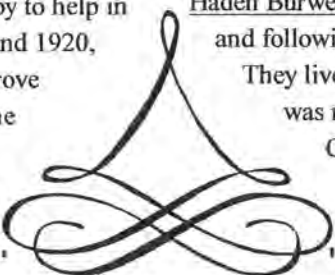
Frank Joe "Doc" married Kathryn Campbell and they lived in Huntersville. They had two children. He later married Sara Skinner. Doc was the only one to attend Davidson College.

Neva Lingle "Polly" married West Porter Hunter and they lived on Gibbon Road, just south of Huntersville. It was Polly who played the pump organ on Sunday afternoons at Granddaddy Joe's.

Ruth Glenn "Ruth" married Herbert Waller Auten. They lived on Sunset Road just north of Charlotte and had two children. Ruth was definitely the "baby" of the family. When older sister, Polly, had a request of her mother, she knew the best odds for having that request granted was to get Ruth to ask for it!

Future Generations

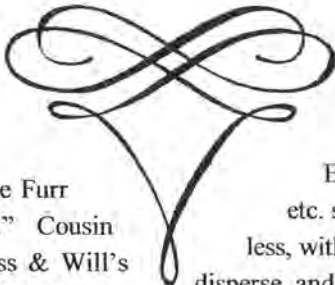
Many of Granddaddy Joe and Grandma Emma's grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc. still live in the Lake Norman area. Nevertheless, with every generation, more family members disperse and move to other corners of the world. Remaining in contact with our family roots becomes more challenging, but certainly still worth the effort. We need to work to keep our Knox Family traditions and ties alive, so that future generations can enjoy the unique experiences of family reunions – meeting strangers to whom they are related, seeing cousins, aunts, uncles and eating enormous amounts of good food!



**But if we
hope
for that
we see not,
then do we
with
patience
wait for it.**

— Romans 8:25

*Granddaddy Joe recited
this verse on his deathbed.*



An Introduction

Bigger than Imagined

Little did I know that this “little project” would turn into such an entertaining and challenging exercise in investigative reporting. My hopes were to gather together the known details of our family tree, jot them down, add a few photos, first-hand stories and comments and make copies. Once I got into it, I realized why many folks don’t ever start such project – the path of facts, faces and family members leads in so many different directions, it can seem like a daunting task to pursue.

Credit Where Credit is Due

Much of this effort was begun years ago by my aunt, **Lane Knox Yorke**. When there was no internet, library resource rooms and genealogy wasn’t “vogue”, she tracked down numerous bits of family history. From searching the graveyard at Unity Presbyterian Church where Robert Knox is buried, to requesting documents from the national archives in Washington, D.C., she gathered information and typed it up to share. She has dutifully kept track of our expansive family tree, documenting birth dates, marriages, etc. typing it in the early years “on an old typewriter – that wasn’t even electric,” she says. For more on her role in the process, read her account of “The Origin of the Knox Reunion,” in this report.

Blanche Knox Parker has also worked to keep family ties bound. Her collection of photos, newspaper clippings and memories were very helpful in compiling this report. She accompanied me to the library and was a tremendous help in proofing this document. She credits her daughter-in-law, Laura Beth Parker, for creating the infamous family tree “wheel” chart which spans 5 feet by 4 feet. It’s a fascinating site to study.

Thanks also to **Barbara Ferrell**, **Lois Knox Brown**, **Lena Knox Ferrell** and Bethel Presbyterian’s Historian **Tina Brown** who shared photos, stories and information.

Disclaimer: It ain’t finished

Genealogical research is addictive – the more you learn, the more you want to find out. While I *was* able to uncover some new facts and documents to share in this report, I learned enough to know there’s more unanswered questions out there – loose ends dangling, just waiting to be tied to someone, some thing. I have tried my best to include the numerous sources from where this information came, so that you, should you choose to investigate, can begin where I left off. My only request: please forward what *you* find on to the rest of us.

Big Families Aren’t the Norm

When I tell friends about how many relatives I have in the Knox clan, they are amazed – especially at the thought that we still get together on a regular basis. When I prepared the brochure mailing for this year’s reunion, there were 206 “households” to invite. Counting from the family tree outline, there are 374 living direct descendants and 44 deceased. (Imagine how the count grows when you include spouses!) Granddaddy Joe and Grandma Emma had 48 grandchildren – 32 are still living.

Growing up, we would make the “pilgrimage” to Bethel for the reunion. I didn’t know all those people at the covered dish lunch, but there was something special about belonging to a group – a big group – where everyone smiled and spoke to you because “you’re family!” I hope that my kids can have similar experiences – perhaps ones they won’t appreciate until they are much older, but nevertheless valuable.

Write it Down Now

We often take for granted that the stories our own parents tell us will stick in our memories, but for the sake of future generations, I encourage you to document your own personal family memories. All too often, I hear someone say, “I wish I had asked my parents/grandparents these questions, and now they are gone.” Take the time to write something down, somewhere. I also encourage you to mark your photos with names and dates (being sure to use a “photo-friendly” pen). In the numerous photos I shuffled through, several faces were unrecognized and unidentifiable.

How to Read this Report

In the “Joe Knox Story,” I have made occasional references to “great grandfathers” etc. I have chosen to write the account from the perspective of Joe and Emma’s grandchildren (even though I am a great grandchild of theirs.) Counting back through the generations, remember this, and if you are a great grandchild, great great grandchild, etc., add the appropriate “greats” to the references for your personal account.

Questions Remain

Where questions remain, (and several do) I have tried to incorporate those questions into the text, so that you may pursue your own personal investigation. Good luck!

— Karen Knox Fesperman

Tracing Our Knox Lineage: Digging Like a Detective

Realize that genealogy research works backward in time - for example, you document your father's origin and parents, etc., and then document your grandfather, then his father, and then his, so on, etc. Census records, tax records, land deeds, court documents, church cemetery, marriage and baptismal logs and last will and testaments are all used as "evidence" to prove the names and ages of their children, what someone owned, who they willed or sold it to, where they lived, etc.

When our Knox family first began its genealogical quest (in the 1950s-1960s), documents led us to believe that our earliest ancestor in America was a Robert Knox. Family members working on this project traced our lineage back to a John Knox whom could definitely be proven as our ancestor (through census records, land deeds, last wills and testaments, etc.)

To move back up the family tree one more generation, one had to determine "who were John Knox's parents?" The first hypothesis led us to a Robert & Mary Knox - who lived in the Catawba River area, had 11 children - one of whom was named John (born in 1776.) It appeared that these dates, etc. pointed to him as "our" ancestor John.

However, more recent research efforts (2009) by Knox descendent Peggy Bruckner discovered "another" John Knox from whom our family tree most likely descended. Through diligent research, she worked "up" our family tree and found Captain Patrick Knox (also in the Catawba River/north Mecklenburg County area) also had a son named John who was also born in 1777. We can only speculate, but it would seem that Robert and Patrick were brothers, and each had a son they named "John."

Thus, Bruckner delved through county and state records to make connections and confirm which John we descended from. Tracing the

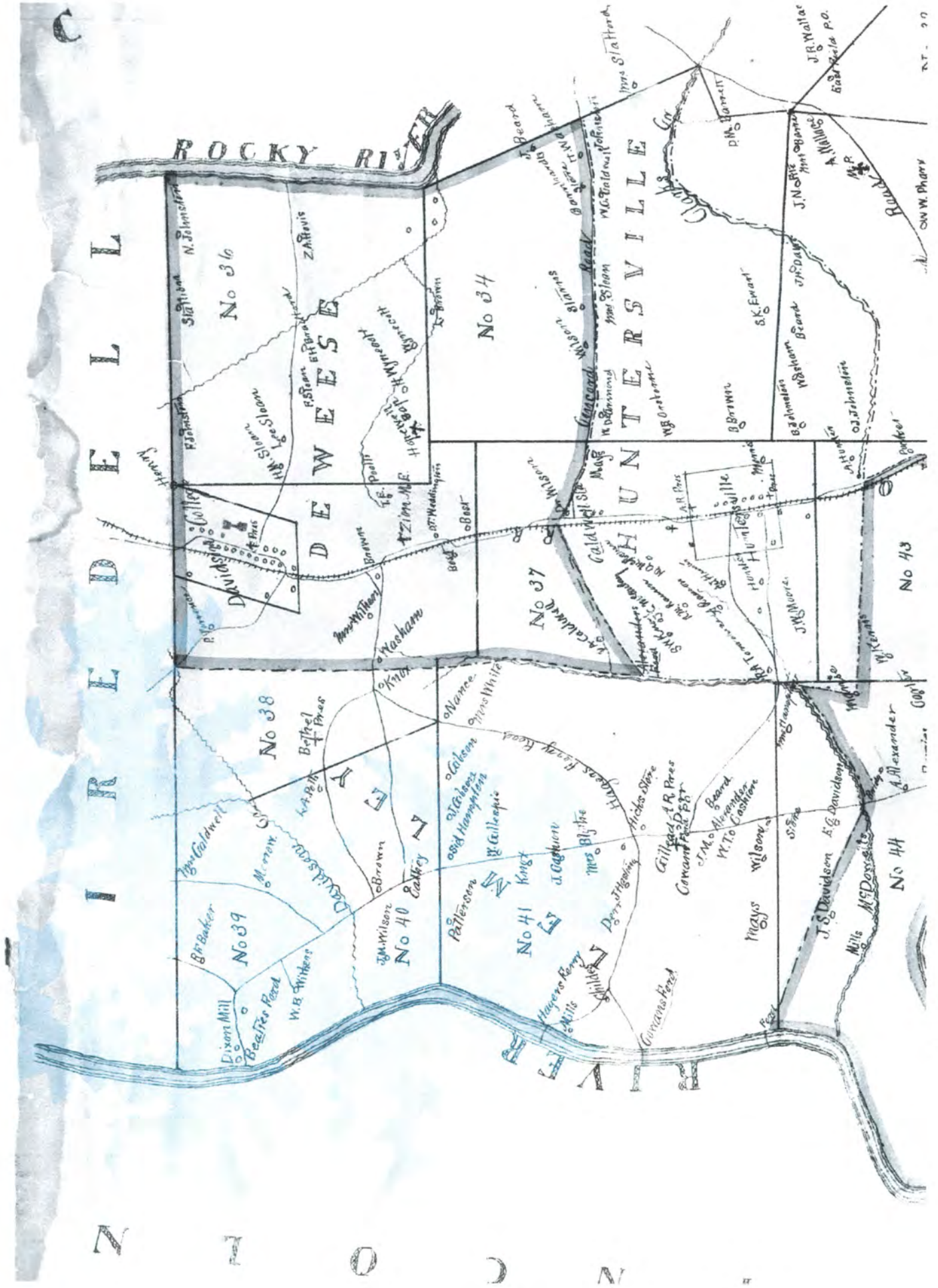
two potential "cousins" with the same name, living in the same community was no easy task. The repetitive use of first names makes it hard to define family branches — "John" could be a cousin, uncle, father, and/or son. The transfer and sale of land documented in land deeds pointed to the correct relationship, as did recorded Last Will & Testaments that mentioned family members and inheritance.

Bruckner's application for official documentation of our family lineage to Patrick Knox was approved in 2009 by the Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR), designating Patrick Knox as a "New Patriot" 229 years after his death at Ramseur's Mill. The extensive documentation that Bruckner submitted and was accepted by the DAR offers sound ground to say that we are descendants of Patrick Knox.

Moving to the next generation of our American family, records show that John (son of Patrick) had 4 siblings - Hannah, Matthew, Ruth and Jane. Hannah, the oldest, and her husband became John's guardians sometime after his father Patrick was killed in the Revolutionary War battle of Ramseur's Mill (June 18, 1780.)

It is in looking at John's destiny and future that revealed evidence that points to his father being Patrick (instead of Robert, who, as stated earlier, was potentially his uncle.) Peggy Bruckner's diligent research into tax records, land deeds, death certificates and Last Will & testaments is to be commended. Looking at how land ownership and property passed hands (via the land deed documents and wills) shed some light on relationships between generations. She also scoured church records of ceremonies, baptisms and deaths for information. Bethel, Gilead, Hopewell and Centre Presbyterian Churches were all instrumental.

**To see complete details and document links for Peggy Bruckner's research, visit:
<http://freepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~Bruckner/Knox/index.htm>**



1888 Boundary Map Mecklenburg County with Lake Norman Overlay

GRANTEE Index to Real Estate Conveyances — Mecklenburg County, N. C.

Gen. No. 1 Split Family Name Index
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Cancellation	Date of Record	GRANTEES			BOOK	PAGE	Kind of Instrument	GRANTORS	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
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	1768								
	12-15	Knox-		Mathew	1	80	Deed	Rees & Sarah Price Catawba River Anson Co	
	12-16	Do		Mathew	1	81	Do	Anson Co Do 345A	
	1770								
	July	Do et al			4	652	Do	John Farmer Do 150A	
	1772								
	10-3	Do			9	139	Do	Francis Johnston Catawba River- 150A	
	1773								
	3-13	Do		James	11	211	M D	George Cathey McDowells Cr 2 Tracts 597A	
	1779								
	9-4	Do		Patrick	6	96	Deed	Archibald Henderson Meck Co 2 Tracts 373A	
	1781								
	Oct	Do	Benjamin		11	82	Do	James & Lidiah Knox McDowells Cr 206A	
	1791								
	12-20	Do		Samuel	14	167	State Grant	State of N C and Alexander Martin #943 Catawba river 138A	
	1793								
	9-20	Do		James	14	451	Notice	James Knox et al Deer Hunting	
	1798								
	7-23	Do		John	14	282	State Grant	State of N C and Sam'l Ash #1366 Catawba River 50A	
	1800								
	9-10	Do		John	17	460	Deed	Sam'l Wilson Sr McDowells Cr 3 Tracts 428A	
	1802								
	12-1	Do		Math'w	17	63	State Grant	State of N C and J Martin #414 Catawba River 78A	
	1812								
	5-1	Do		James	19	633	Div	James Spratt(Surveyor) Lot #1 John Knox (Est) 260A	
	5-1	Do			19	633	Deed	James Spratt(Surveyor) Lot #2 Do 240A	
	6-4	Do		James	19	646	Do	James Spratt(Surveyor) John (Est)& Joseph Knox Meck Co	
	1819								
	4-14	Do		James	19	83	Do	James Bell McDowells Cr 165A	
	1823								
	7-16	Do		Sam'l	17	350	State Grant	State of N C and Alex' Martin #532 Steel Cr 100A	
	1824								
	5-4	Do		Samuel	17	360	Do	Arthur Dobbs & State of N C #35 Reedy Fork 640A	
	1827								
	4-5	Do		John	21	345	Deed	James Knox Catawba river 250A	
	1828								
	7-5	Do		John	21	467	Do	Sam'l Willson McDowells Cr 32A	
	7-5	Do		John	21	467	Do	Ephraim Jetton McDowells Cr 105A	
	7-5	Do			21	467	D T	Stephen McRum Slaves	
	Sept	Do et al		Thomas	24	539	Agmt	William Leatch Personal	
	1830								
	6-18	Do		James	21	653	Deed	Willis Miller McDowells Cr 80A	
	9-18	Do		John	22	5	Div	Wm M Neal & Jas & Jos Hartt & John(Est) Robert Wm M & Thos C Greer(Surv) Meck Co 487A	
	1831								
	10-15	Do et al		James B	22	114	D T	James Carrol Little Sugar Cr 265A	
	1832								
	4-6	Do (Knott)		Robert	22	261	D T	Wm & James Knox(Knott) Chas Mitchell and John B Conley McDowel Cr 165A Bethel Church 5A Beaver Dam Cr	
	7-3	Do et al		John Tr	22	305	Deed	(James Est) 1 Slave (Dave) & Armours Cr 183A	
	1833								
	8-16	Do et al		John	22	549	D T	James B Wilson	
	1834								
	10-21	Do		Robert	23	265	Deed	Wm & John Knox Estate Meck Co 5 1/2 A	
	10-21	Do		James B	23	265	Do	Joseph Hartt Catawba river 123A	
	1835								
	6-22	Do		John	23	433	Do	Sarah B Johnston Murrey & Sarah B Johnston & Wm L Davidson(Atty) McDowells Cr 23A	
	10-6	Do		John	23	451	Do	James B Wilson Catawba(river)Cr 183A	
	1836								
	3-24	Do		Robert	23	328	Do	James M and Andrew M Hartt School house branch Meck County	
	3-25	Do et al		Samuel	23	336	Do	Mary & Sam A Neely (Est)	
	8-16	Do et al		James B(Comr)	24	91	Do	Joseph White Joseph Whiteside Meck Co 3A plus	

This Indenture made the 4 Day of Sep^r in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Nine Between Archabald Henderson of the County of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina of the one part and Patrick Knox of the County and State afo^r of the other part Witnesses that for and in Consideration of the Sum of three Thousand Two hundred and fifty pounds Current money of the State to the sd Archabald Henderson in hand paid by the sd Patrick Knox and before the Signing and Delivery of these presents the Recyt whereof he doth acknowledge and therefor doth Release quit and Discharge the said Patrick Knox his heirs by these presents he the sd Archabald Henderson hath granted bargained sold aliened and Confirmed and by these presents doth grant bargain sell alien and Confirm unto the sd Patrick Knox and to his heirs and assigns forever the following tracts or parcels of Land Situate in sd County Viz one Tract beginning at a white oak on the one corner S^o 54 E 320 poles to a stake then N 45 E 160 poles to a stake then N 45 W 320 poles to a stake and then to the beginning Containing three hundred and one Acres or less the same being part of a patent granted to Patrick Elliot and conveyed by him to George Henrichs by Dec^r 14th April 1752 and conveyed by sd Henrichs to John Blackrock 28 1754 and lastly conveyed by Tho^s and Josiah Black sons and heirs of the sd John Black to the sd Archabald Henderson the 2 Day of Jan^y 1773 all Duty of Record and also a nother tract of Land Lying the above Described land beginning at a hickory and running S^o 45 W 40 Chains to an old corner white then to the old line of Hendersons line N 4 W 4 poles to a hickory then to the old line then with sd old line N 69 E 234 poles to the old original stake then S 2 E 11 Chains to a stake on the old line of a nother tract of land and then with sd line to the beginning Containing Seventy three acres of land be the same more or less being a part of a tract of land Containing 200 acres more or less granted by patent to George Henrichs

NORTH CAROLINA)

MECKLENBURG COUNTY)

I, F. J. Knox, of the aforesaid County and State, being of sound mind and disposing memory, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this my last will and testament.

FIRST: My executor hereinafter named shall give my body a decent burial and erect a suitable monument or tombstone at my grave or last resting place, suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral expenses, together with all my just debts, out of the first moneys which may come into his hands belonging to my estate.

SECOND: I give, devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth A. Knox, the house and lot, where we now reside in the Town of Davidson, together with all household and kitchen furniture therein; to her I also give Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars, face value of my North Carolina State Bonds; my (8) eight shares of stock in the Davidson Cotton Mills; my preferred stock Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars in the Mooresville Cotton Mills; all my shares of stock in the Cornelius Cotton Mills; all my shares of preferred stock in the Cascade Mills at Mooresville; also Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds; to her I also give the two story brick building on Main Street in Davidson, N.C. now occupied by M. H. Goodrum & Co. Hardware Department; all the foregoing are given in fee, with all right and privilege and power granted to my said wife to use and dispose of as she sees fit. And in order that my said wife shall have all the things useful and necessary for her comfort during the remainder of her natural life; I give and bequeath to her the use and benefit of the rents and profits of all my other real estate within the corporate limits of the Town of Davidson, N.C. and also the Fifty (50) acres of land in Deweese Township Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, known as the Hall tract---upon the death of my said wife, the property mentioned in this paragraph not disposed of in fee shall revert to my executor and be by him disposed of as hereinafter provided.

THIRD: I give, devise and bequeath to Jay Knox, and Melvin Knox, sons of my deceased brother T. B. Knox, the two houses and lots in the Town of Cornelius, known as the Mooney property on Mulberry Street; Jay to have the one now occupied by a Mr. Pless, and Melvin to have the one now occupied by a Mr. McCloud.

FOURTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my brother J. V. Knox, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds, or their value, if not owned by me on the date of my death.

FIFTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew Harry C. Knox, the 105 acre tract of land in Lemly Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, known as the Williams tract and the Gibson tract.

SIXTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my two nephews Adrain C. Knox and Ralph B. Knox, the 105 acre tract of land in Deweese Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, known as the E. C. S. acet tract, to be divided by them in equal proportion, share and share alike.

SEVENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew R. Bryce Knox, a tract of land at Caldwell Station, known as the Bethel-Ramah Manse, for description reference is hereby made to deed therefor recorded in Book 889 page 147 Register's Office for Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

EIGHTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew Will J. Knox, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds, if owned by me at the date of my death, if not, then equal value thereof from any property or the proceeds therefrom.

FIFTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew P. J. Knox, Eighty (80) acres of land in Hunterville Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, where he now lives; and I direct that the same be allotted to him as follows: Include all the buildings on the place, take the entire frontage on the A.T. & O.R.R. from the A.E. Love corner to R. Neal Knox's corner (expecting however, the tract of land devised in item seven (?) above), thence with R. Neal Knox's and the W. A. Knox line to a point to be elected by said P.J. Knox; thence in a southerly direction to John McFadden's line; thence my line to the beginning corner.

TENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew W. Moffitt Knox, twelve (12) acres of my land in Hunterville Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, adjoining his land, the beginning corner of which shall be one of the corners of the P. J. Knox tract mentioned above and runs with my line and said W. Moffitt Knox's line to one of the corners of the J. A. Knox lane; thence with my line and the J. A. Knox line S. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ W. to a corner; thence parallel with the front line hereof to P. J. Knox's line; thence to the beginning corner.

ELEVENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew R. F. Knox, Ten (10) acres of my land in Hunterville Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, along his line and the John McFadden line.

TWELVETH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew Boyce Knox, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds, and also the residue of my land in Hunterville Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, not otherwise disposed of herein. In the event I do not own the bonds herein specified, then my executor will substitute equal value thereof.

THIRTEENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to the Board of Deacons of Bethel Presbyterian Church, in Lemly Township, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and to their successors in office, as trustees for said Church, Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars, face value of my North Carolina, State Bonds, or the value thereof, if I do not own them at my death, and if I do at maturity of said Bonds, as a special fund, in perpetuity, or so long as said church exists and continues to function as a church; the income from the same to be perpetually used on the salary of the pastor, or supply of said church--- in the event the church ceases to exist or function as a church, then and in that event this bequest shall revert to the Synod of North Carolina or the Presbyterian Church, South.

FOURTEENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew R. Neal Knox, One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars, face value of my preferred stock in the Mooresville Cotton Mills.

FIFTEENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew John Wilson Knox, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds, or their value if I do not own them on the date of my death.

SIXTEENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew Frank Knox, one of the sons of my brother J. V. Knox, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds, or the value thereof, if I do not own them on the date of my death.

SEVENTEENTH: I give, devise and bequeath to my nephew M. M. Knox, Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, face value of my United States Government Bonds, and also One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars, face value of my preferred stock in the Mooresville Cotton Mills, or the value thereof if I do not own the items specified on the date of my death.

EIGHTEENTH: It is my will and I hereby authorize, direct and empower my executor to collect all moneys due me; to sell all my property not otherwise disposed of herein, either at public or private sale, to deliver the personal property to the devisees named, to convey title to purchasers of my real estate, and after taking out the cost of administration, to divide the net proceeds, in equal proportions, share and share alike among my next of kin, representatives of my next of kin to inherit by succession per stirpes and not per capita.

NINETEENTH: I hereby constitute and appoint my nephew Adrain C. Knox, my lawful executor, without bond, to execute this my last will and testament according to law and the true intent and meaning of the same and ever part and clause thereof, hereby revoking and declaring utterly void, all other wills by me heretofore made.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, F. J. Knox, do hereunto set my hand and seal this the 10th day of January, 1928.

F. J. Knox

Seal.

F.J. Knox passed away on December 27, 1928.

Ralph Knox (his nephew & our grandfather) was born the year that F.J. Knox became mayor of Davidson (1895).

Ralph was 33 when he inherited this land in 1928. Annie was 27, and their children were ages

- Carson (10)
- Lane (8)
- Gladys (6)
- Joe (4)
- Charlie (2)

Russell was later born in 1932, Ray in 1934 and Eddie in 1937.

7 Brothers

1. John Alexander / Jane Blythe Knox
2. Franklin Jefferson / Elizabeth Potts
3. Samuel Edward / Mary Ann Blakely
4. William Andrew / F. Thomason/C. Beard
5. Thomas Brevard / D. Rozzell/M. Caldwell
6. Robert Chalmers / Della Wilson
7. Margaret Amanda (infant daughter died)
8. Joseph VanBuren / Emma McConnell

The youngest, J.V., was our great grandfather (Ralph's father)

GAZETTE

Cornelius - Davidson - Huntersville

12 are
Knox

DAVIDSON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1953

CALDWELL STATION SCHOOL — 1895 1894



Shown above are the students and teachers of the Caldwell Station School in 1895. First row (left to right): John Knox, Jim Grier, Will Osborne, Marion Washam, Moffit Knox, Violet Knox, May Knox, Ike Harrison, John Cathey, Wilson Osborne, John Osborne, Chal Knox, Eula Bost and Boyce Knox. Second row: Mack Riley, John Archer, Jim Archer, Glenn Mayes, Bess Knox, Frank Knox, Florence Osborne, Walter H. Wilson, Will Knox, John Harrison. Third row: Hattie Knox, Joe Harrison, Britie Riley, Ximena Washam, Sally Riley, Willa Cathey, Annie Osbourne, Mattie Harrison, Ruth Harrison, Sue Knox, Leoma Westmoreland, Mattie Knox and Miss Brucie De Armond.

Frontis Johnston To Conduct WBTV Show

"What Matters Most" is the title of a 12-week television series to begin on WBTV Monday at 8 p.m., co-sponsored by the Junior League of Charlotte and WBTV. The panel show will be moderated by Dr. Frontis Johnson, a member of the history department at Davidson College. Appearing with him on the first telecast will be Robert E. Long, director of Radio Free Europe, and Pete McKnight, editor of the Charlotte News. They will discuss "Freedom of Information." Well-informed persons on different subjects will be panel members during the series which runs through Dec. 21. Mrs. Gordon Kenna, co-chairman of the League's television committee, said "The programs are aimed at stressing the responsibilities of American citizens."

Panel subjects and the dates are as follows: Oct. 5, "Freedom of Information"; Oct. 12, "Freedom

MOTHER URGES DAVIDSON CITIZENS TO DONATE BLOOD IN DRIVE NEXT WEEK

To the Editors of the Gazette:
Dear Sirs:

I understand that the Red Cross Blood Bank is to be in Davidson on October 8th and 9th. May I urge the citizens of Davidson, and especially the mothers, to come out and give blood? The last two times that the Blood Bank has been here, we of the town have allowed the Davidson College boys to do practically all of the donating. This did not seem fair to me, even when we thought of most of the blood as being used for wounded men in Korea; It seems even more unfair this time, when we know that it will be used chiefly to save lives in hospitals and to fight polio.

Blood Drive

All-Night Singing Is Set for Oct. 1 At Cornelius

The first all-night singing convention to be held in this section will be Friday, Oct. 1, at the Cornelius school, at 8 p.m.

This event will be sponsored by the Cornelius Volunteer Fire Department to raise funds for the purchase of a fire house. Everyone is cordially invited to help them in this worthy cause.

Admission will be only one dollar per person, and cold drinks and light foods will be served during intermissions. The quartet singing will be the well-known mairies of Thomasville, the quartet, the Masters Gospel Trio, the Calvary and others.

Tickets are available from the Cornelius fireman and from the son at the Cathey-Hoyle Home on South Main Street.

Dr. Charles H. Gibbon To Address Davidson College Church

Dr. Charles H. Gibbon, pastor of the Promotion Department of the Board of Christian Churches of the Presbyterian Church U.S., will be guest speaker at the Davidson College Presbyterian Church on Saturday October 4, 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Gibbon, author of the study book, "The Church is a Gifted People," will be the speaker at the meeting of the Lingle Chapter of the crowd service will be held in the study of the

OCTOBER

HUNT SPECIAL

Koop Branche



The late T. B. Knox, prominent farmer of northern Mecklenburg, who was found dead in bed Sunday morning, and his family. An infant son, three weeks old, is not shown. Mr. Knox was 73 years of age.

T. B. KNOX BURIED MONDAY AT BETHEL

Succumbs at 73—Survived by Widow and 13 Children, Youngest Three Weeks Old.

The funeral of T. Brevard Knox, prominent citizen of the northern section of the county, was held Monday at 11 o'clock at Bethel Presbyterian Church, west of Cornelius, with his pastor, Rev. W. T. Smith, in charge, assisted by Rev. R. C. Clontz, former pastor, and Rev. Carl S. Miller, pastor of the Huntersville A. R. P. Church. Burial was in the Bethel graveyard.

Mr. Knox died sometime Sunday morning and it was not until he was called to breakfast about 9 o'clock and failed to respond that his family discovered he had died. He had slept in a bedroom by himself and members of

the family thought that he was merely sleeping late, since he had worked hard at his corn mill the day before and had told Mrs. Knox before retiring that he was tired, although he had not complained of feeling ill. The cause of death, said his physician, was neuralgia of the heart. He had suffered an attack last November 19, his family said.

The deceased was 73 years old on November 24. He was unusually young looking and active for his age, however, and would pass easily for a man ten years younger.

He is survived by his widow, formerly Miss Mary Caldwell, daughter of the late John S. Caldwell, who died a short time ago, and 13 children, the youngest of whom is an infant son only three weeks old and not yet named.

The children are Jay, aged 19, Melvin, Johnnie, Martha, Thomas, Catherine, Mildred, Doris, Harold, Kenneth, Clontz, Jerry and the infant son.

Mr. Knox was first married at the age of 50 to Miss Daisy Rozzelle, of upper Mecklenburg. An infant was born to them, but died shortly after its birth. He married Miss Caldwell

of 52 in September 21 years ago and his bride was 19. They have lived an unusually happy married life and both command hosts of admiring friends who are grieved at the passing of Mr. Knox.

In addition to the immediate family, the deceased is survived by three brothers, Frank and Charles Knox, of Davidson, and Joe V. Knox, of upper Gilead. Three brothers preceded him to the grave, John, Will and Sam.

Acting as pallbearers at the funeral were six nephews of Mr. Knox, Frank, Neil, Brice, Rob, Adrian and Haden Knox. Flower girls were the following nieces: Misses Neva and Ruth Knox, Sue Wilson, Mary Washam, Annie Wilson and Louise and Kate Knox.

The Knox home is a short distance west of Cornelius on the road leading to Beatty's Ford. The Knox family has always lived in the upper section of the county and is well known throughout the section. Mr. Knox was a very prosperous and substantial farmer. The deceased was a very popular citizen of the county and the wealth of beautiful floral offerings at his funeral attested the love he commanded.

Vertical handwritten text on the right margin, possibly a name or address.

J. V. Knox.

J. V. Knox, well-known Mecklenburg county farmer, died of a heart ailment at his home in Lemley township at 7 o'clock last night. He was 70 years of age.

Funeral rites will be conducted Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at Bethel Presbyterian church near Cornelius, with the pastor, Rev. W. H. Johnson, conducting.

Mr. Knox was the son of the late Robert and Martha Knox and had farmed in the Lemley section for more than 40 years. He became seriously ill about four months ago and had remained in bed since.

Surviving, in addition to the widow, Mrs. Emma McConnell Knox, are seven sons and four daughters. They are H. C., R. B., Robert, Haden, Frank and A. C. Knox, all of Mecklenburg county, and M. M. Knox of Iredell county, and Mrs. W. J. Knox, Mrs. S. M. Furr, Mrs. W. P. Hunter and Mrs. Herbert Auten, all of this county.

APRIL 9, 1932

MRS. JOE KNOX DIES SUDDENLY

Rites to Be at Bethel Presbyterian Church at 3 O'Clock
Wednesday Afternoon.

Mrs. Joe W. Knox, 76, prominent resident of the upper part of Mecklenburg county, died suddenly at 7 o'clock last night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Sam Furr, with whom she was living, in the Gilead community. She had been ill several months.

Funeral services are scheduled for 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at Bethel Presbyterian church, near Cornelius, led by the pastor, Rev. Silas Ewart, assisted by Rev. W. H. Johnson, Rev. J. W. Grier, and Rev. M. B. Pierce. Interment will be in Bethel church cemetery. Pallbearers will be Carson Knox, Dwight Knox, and Earle Knox, grandsons of Mrs. Knox, and Lewis McConnell, Flake McConnell, and Tom McConnell, nephews.

Surviving Mrs. Knox are the following children: Marvin M. Knox of Route 1, Mooresville; Harry G. Knox, Ralph B. Knox, Robert B. Knox, and Hayden B. Knox, all of Davidson; Frank J. Knox and Mrs. W. J. Knox, both of Huntersville; Mrs. Sam Furr of the Gilead community; Mrs. West P. Hunter and Mrs. Herbert W. Auten, both of Charlotte. She also leaves 43 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. Eight grandsons are serving in the armed forces.

NOVEMBER 7, 1944

Ralph Knox

EMBER 22, 1955

Leading County Farmer Dies

DAVIDSON — Ralph B. Knox, 60, of Rt. 2, Davidson, prominent Mecklenburg County farmer, died unexpectedly about 6 a. m. today following a heart attack.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete early this afternoon.

Mr. Knox was born in Mecklenburg County. He was a director of the Cornelius Rural Electrification Administration, a director of the Mecklenburg County Farm Bureau, and a former county committeeman of the Agricultural Stabilization Committee.

He was also an elder of Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Knox is survived by his wife; five sons, R. Carson Knox of Davidson, Charles E. Knox of Charlotte, assistant solicitor of the 14th Judicial District, Joe Knox of Mooresville, Russell and Edward Knox of the home, and L. Ray Knox, with the U. S. Army stationed at Okinawa; two daughters, Mrs. Felix Yorke of Rock Hill, S. C., and Mrs. F. Earle Heath of Charlotte; three sisters, Mrs. Sam Furr of Huntersville, Mrs. W. P. Hunter and Mrs. H. W. Auten, both of Charlotte; and three brothers, Robert and Hayden Knox of Davidson and Frank Knox of Huntersville.

THE
V.
O.

OBITUARIES

Ralph B. Knox

Funeral services for Ralph B. Knox, 60, of Rt. 2, Davidson, were held at 3 p.m. Friday at Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Knox died unexpectedly at 6 a.m. last Thursday after a heart attack.

A native of Mecklenburg County he was a prominent farmer and was a director of the Cornelius Rural Electrification Administration, director of the Mecklenburg County Farm Bureau and a former county committeeman of the Agricultural Stabilization Committee. He was a member of Bethel Presbyterian Church where he was an elder. He was a member of the Davidson School board for several years.

Burial was in the Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Rev. J. E. Wayland officiated.

Survivors included Mr. Knox's wife; six sons, R. Carson Knox of Davidson, Joe Knox of Mooresville, Russell and Edward Knox of the home, L. Ray Knox with the United States Army at Okinawa, Charles E. Knox, of Charlotte; two daughters, Mrs. Felix Yorke of Rock Hill, S. C., and Mrs. Earle Heath of Charlotte; three sisters, Mrs. Sam Furr of Huntersville, Mrs. W. P. Hunter and Mrs. H. W. Auten of Charlotte; and three brothers, Robert and Hayden Knox of Davidson, and Frank Knox of Huntersville.

Knox Funeral Will Be Today

DAVIDSON, Sept. 15 — Funeral services for Ralph B. Knox, 60, of Rt. 2 will be held at 3 p.m. Friday at Bethel Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Knox, father of Charles E. Knox of Charlotte, assistant solicitor of the 14th Judicial District, died unexpectedly at 6 a.m. today after a heart attack.

A native of Mecklenburg County he was a prominent farmer and was a director of the Cornelius Rural Electrification Administration, director of the Mecklenburg County Farm Bureau and a former county committeeman of the Agricultural Stabilization Committee. He was a member of Bethel Presbyterian Church where he was an elder. He was a member of the local school board for several years.

Burial will be in the Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Rev. J. E. Wayland will officiate. The body is at Cavin Funeral Home, Mooresville.

Other survivors include Mr. Knox's wife; five sons, R. Carson Knox of Davidson, Joe Knox of Mooresville, Russell and Edward Knox of the home and L. Ray Knox with the United States Army at Okinawa; two daughters, Mrs. Felix Yorke of Rock Hill, S. C., and Mrs. F. Earle Heath of Charlotte; three sisters, Mrs. Sam Furr of Huntersville, Mrs. W. P. Hunter and Mrs. H. W. Auten of Charlotte; and three brothers, Robert and Hayden Knox of Davidson and Frank Knox of Huntersville.

Annie Knox, Mother Of 3 Mayors, Dies At 86

By LISA PULLEN
Staff Writer

She raised three mayors, the chairman of the state ABC Commission and a family known all over north Mecklenburg County.

But what brought fame to Annie Knox were her cakes and pies.

Light and moist coconut cake. Chocolate pie so rich and smooth that people begged for her recipe. Few ever got it.

Mrs. Knox died Monday, July 25, 1988, at The Oaks nursing home in Huntersville, 6 miles from where she was born. She was 86.

"Nobody could make a chocolate pie like she could," said son Eddie Knox, former mayor of Charlotte.



Mrs. Knox

"Annie Ralph" Knox, her husband's name added to distinguish her from all the other Annies at Bethel Presbyterian Church, mothered eight children on a farm outside Davidson where she and her husband, Ralph, grew cotton, wheat and vegetables.

She helped pick cotton, canned food for the winter and made sure her children were at church every Sunday morning.

"My dad was a person who liked people and when he would come home for lunch, Mother never knew whether he was bringing two or six," said another son, Russell Knox. "But give her 15 minutes and she could whip up a meal for everybody."

She played the piano at Bethel Church for 50 years. When the church got a pipe organ, she learned to play that, too.

In her later years, even when she had Alzheimer's disease, she still could remember all the words to "Amazing Grace."

Son Russell became mayor of Davidson.

Another, Joe, is mayor of Mooresville. Eddie, a candidate for governor in 1984, was a two-term mayor of Charlotte. Son Charlie is former chairman of the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission. Another son, Ray Knox, is an executive at Westinghouse Steam Turbine Plant. Daughter Lane Yorke is former news editor for the Winthrop College alumni magazine and Gladys Heath, another daughter, is a former accountant for Wrenn Handling Inc.

Mrs. Knox's funeral is at 2 p.m. today at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Davidson. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

In addition to her children, survivors are a brother, Van Buren Barkley of Huntersville; sister, Mrs. Christine McNeely of Charlotte; 27 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to the Bethel Presbyterian Church choir fund, Route 1, Davidson, N.C. 28036.

Almond, Raymer & McConnell Funeral Home of Huntersville is in charge.