

Presentation for Nancy Jackson's Gift

Jackson Brigade Reunion 2008

August 2, 2008

In 1921 the Jackson Clan of West Virginia, descendants of John and Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, held their first annual reunion at Jackson's Mill West Virginia. Their last recorded reunion was held in 1941, probably because of the onset of WWII.

On August 17, 1991, 35 descendants of Julia Viola Hall, great-great granddaughter of John and Elizabeth Cummins Jackson held a family reunion, organized by Nancy Jackson, at Valley Falls State Park near Fairmont, West Virginia, with special guests, Linda Meyers and Gary Weiner. At this reunion the family voted to organize the Jackson Brigade. The first elected officers were President: Nancy Jackson, Secretary: Tim Jackson and Treasurer: Mary Lois Jackson. Nancy's brother Jake Jackson was the first editor of the newsletter.

Shortly afterwards in March 1992, Nancy went to Charleston, WV and took care of the requirements for the incorporation of the Jackson Brigade.

Nancy's dedication to the Jackson Brigade is surpassed by none. At the beginning even though there were other elected officers, Nancy took care of most of the duties. During the early years she typed and printed the quarterlies and kept track of the membership and dues all while teaching nursing full time at a local college. Also, she researched the ancestry of the children of John and Elizabeth. As we grew and Linda Meyers became Editor, Nancy still took care of the printing and mailing of the quarterly. Not only did she organized the annual reunions, she even prepared and donated numerous dishes for the picnics.

In 1998 we celebrated the 250th anniversary of the arrival of John and Elizabeth to this country. This two-day event took the better part of a year to organize with Nancy at the helm. After almost all the reunions, she volunteered to give private tours to their respective places of interest to anyone who wished to stay.

I came to my first Jackson Brigade Reunion in 1997 and Nancy asked me to start the Jackson Brigade Web Site. She and Linda Meyers were the driving forces for the development of the web site. Nancy submitted loads of material (text, pictures and links) to the web site. More than I could keep up with!

After 16 years of dedication Nancy will be stepping down as our President. She will remain on the Executive Committee as our Past-President.

[Presentation of Gift] As a token of our appreciation, the Jackson Brigade would like to offer you this statue for your garden -- the birds represent John and Elizabeth Jackson and they will be watching over you!