



BRAWNER BULLETIN



QUARTERLY NEWS OF THE BRAWNERS AND THEIR ALLIED FAMILIES

Summer 1997

Brawners in the News

William Tyler Brawner Jr., 22, of Rock Hall, MD, a rising senior sociology major at Washington [MD] College, is actively involved in generating interest among his college classmates in environmental issues. Billy, the son of **William T. Brawner** of Washington, DC and Rock Hall, MD and **Helene Flaherty** of Colorado, is president of Washington College's Sierra Student Coalition. Billy has led students in opposing wetlands destruction in Pennsylvania, protecting an Alaskan wildlife refuge from the impact of offshore drilling and fighting a large-scale hog-farm operation. Upon graduation next year, Billy plans to pursue an environmental career with the national Sierra Club. [*Washington College Magazine, Summer 1997*].

"I WANT TO TELL YOU ..."

Well, it's not like I lost an election, became embroiled in scandal, golfed with O.J. or anything like that ... It's just that my time has come to move on. This, folks, is my final issue as editor.

I hope that one of you will choose to take over and continue the *Bulletin* (see page 8). Inasmuch as it has helped to bring some Brawners together, I believe that the *Bulletin* deserves a future.

Since the summer 1995, when I first solicited subscriptions to the *Bulletin*, we have learned a lot about the many facets of our complicated family. We have discovered enough about the Brawners, for example, to recognize these "superlatives":

Most misunderstood Brawler: Our American progenitor, **Henry Brawner** (died 1697/98), endured innumerable and unspeakable hardships in his struggle against virtually insurmountable odds to reach America, only to encounter upon arrival the inhuman conditions and unimaginable adversity and superhuman challenges of an untamed 17th century southern Maryland. Yet, the few of us who might forgive Henry for not mentioning to *somebody* (at least somebody who could *write*) where the heck he came from to get here refuse to excuse his miserly bequeath to poor daughter Mary of "one cow & sow." *Bulletin* "Preview" Issue.

Greatest coincidence: The four children of **Phillip Moore** (Theopolis Brawner descendant)

and Elizabeth Barnett were all born on July 21 in different years. Fall '96 *Bulletin*.

Most intrusive Brawler mother-in-law: **Eliza Jane Miller Brawner** of Converse, MO, whose dying request was that the upcoming wedding of her daughter, Nancy M. Brawner, to James Clark take place over her grave. Winter '97 *Bulletin*.

Most intriguing demise: **Joel Brawner** of Cartersville, GA was, per family folklore, shot in the back and killed by a Union soldier in 1866 for refusing to water the horses of the Union soldiers. His wife, **Betsy King**, is supposed to have died of a heart attack upon witnessing the shooting. Fall '95 *Bulletin*.

Most creative courtship: Kentucky's **Alexander Goldsmith Brawner**, nursed back to health from a Civil War wound by the George Morgan family in Georgia, married soon thereafter George's daughter, **Hannah C. Morgan**. Fall '95 *Bulletin*.

Most dedicated Brawler genealogist. If you were the only one to show up at the Brawner cemetery research party with a shovel, you win.

Most unlikely Bulletin. The Winter '96 *Bulletin* almost appeared in crayon on the back of a paper towel after the Greensboro blizzard of '96 concurred with a natural gas leak in my home to sideline my computer for four days. Wouldn't have fazed ol' patriarch Henry B. one bit, but it did me.

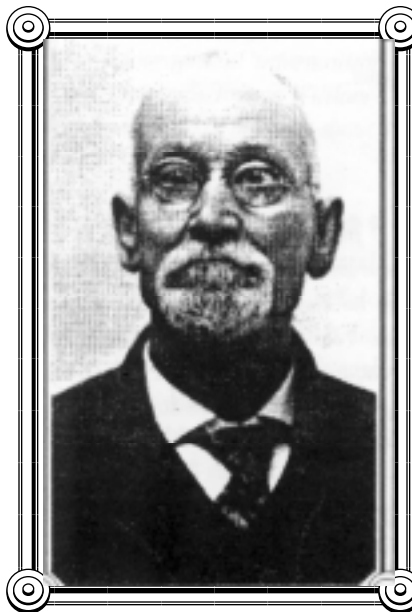
Best Bulletin typo: Say it ain't so, Tom! Typos? In a very competitive race, "sex" for "six" on page 2 of Spring '96 *Bulletin* (what was I thinkin'?) beat "one" for "won" on page 2 of the Spring '97 *Bulletin*. And my brother-in-law is recovering nicely, thank you, from the injuries he received while rushing to phone me about these blunders.

You have all been wonderful supporters of the *Bulletin*! Onalee and Marie in Arkansas; Alice in Nebraska; Mary in Iowa; Jack in Florida; David in Tennessee; Jean in Florida; George and Norma in Illinois; Don and Betty in Ohio; Darlene in NC; Peggy, James and Patricia in Texas; Ruth in Massachusetts; Joan in Indiana ... and all the rest ... you all seem too good to be true. I hope that our paths continue to cross, and that I can meet you personally some day. Whatever the fate of the *Brawner Bulletin*, the search for the elusive "essence" of the Brawner family will continue.

Respectfully, Tom Brawner, editor.

DETERMINED BACHELOR

Pictured at right is **Thomas J. Brawner** (1840-1912), an Ohio native with strong ties to Iowa. He is the son of James (died 1840) and Rebecca [maiden name unknown] Brawner. Thomas served in the Iowa cavalry in the Civil War. He was discharged from the service for disability (atrophy of left leg) in 1865, and thereafter lived in Montana, Washington, Arizona, Tennessee, Missouri, California and Iowa, working as a laborer, mail carrier, stage driver, ambulance driver and vagabond. He never married. [*Brawner Family History, 1830-1995*, by **Mary J. Viter**, pp. 712-719; photo therein submitted by Helen Moon Corcoran].



Tennessee Family Struck By Death

Three descendants of Tennessee native **William Henry Brawner** (1886-1934) and **Isla Greer** (1890-1953) passed away recently. *Bulletin* subscriber **Hazel Lee Brawner Cummins** (born 11 May 1915) died on December 22, 1996 in Mt. Pleasant, TN. She had been suffering from kidney disease and heart problems. She was buried December 23, 1996 at Polk Memorial Gardens in Maury Co., TN. Two weeks later, on January 4, 1997, Hazel's younger brother, World War II veteran **Raymond Howell Brawner** (born 26 April 1925 in Lawrence Co., TN) died of lung, liver and bone cancer at Maury [Co., TN] Regional Hospital. He was buried at Spencer Hill Cemetery in Maury Co., TN.

This family also suffered a terrible loss when **Amy Dorene Brawner**, age 14, lost her courageous battle with cancer of the nervous system on April 7, 1997 at her home in Summertown, TN. Amy, the daughter of John Anthony Brawner and Jane Williams Brawner and granddaughter of Raymond Howell Brawner, was an eighth grader at Mt. Pleasant, TN High School, where she was captain of the junior high school cheerleaders. She was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Mt. Pleasant and worked with the American Cancer Society, devoting time to speaking with other cancer patients.. She was buried at Arlington Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant.

The extended Brawner family sends their sympathy to the survivors.

1810 VIRGINIA CENSUS INDEX

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Page</u>
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Bronaugh, William	Loudon	264

Source: Index to the 1810 Census of Virginia, compiled by Elizabeth Petty Bentley (Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1980). The names Brawner, Bronaugh, Bronough, Bronner and Browner were checked.

Note: Since the federal censuses listed only the heads of household, and not all members of the household, before 1850, the above persons each headed a separate household.

CEMETERY FOLLOW-UP

Subscriber **Joseph L. Brawner** of Texas gives us an update on the Brawners buried in Everett Chapel Pentecostal Church Cemetery in Weakley County, Tennessee since 1980 [See Spring 1997 *Bulletin*, page 3]:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Relationship*</u>
Ewing B. Brawner	1891	1985	Grandfather
Bertie F. Brawner	1894	1988	Grandmother
Walter T. Brawner	1916	1987	Father
Ralph B. Brawner	1922	1990	Uncle
Ted T. Brawner	1938	1996	Brother

*Relationship to *Bulletin* subscriber Joseph L. Brawner.

[Note: For additional cemetery listings, see page 5].

HOO-ZHAH

The Indiana University Athletics Homepage on the Internet shows Pennsylvanian **Melissa Brawner**, 20, daughter of Joe and Judy Brawner, as a middle blocker on the varsity volleyball team there. She is a kinesiology major. In high school, Melissa lettered in volleyball (team captain and player of the year), basketball, softball and track.

CONGRATULATIONS!

John Tyler Brawner, 18, of Phoenix, Maryland, son of John William and Susan Dorsch Brawner, graduated *Cum Laude* in May from The Gilman School in Baltimore, where he started on the varsity lacrosse team. Tyler, a National Merit Scholar, will attend Yale University in the fall. Tyler chose Yale over a host of other interested schools, including his father's alma mater, University of Virginia. Must be that Brawner independence ... You've done well, nephew!

HE SAID IT!

"It's foolish. I think it's ridiculous."

ROB BRAWNER, of Louisville, KY, commenting publicly on Cincinnati Reds' owner Marge Schott's controversial decision to terminate a service that provides updates on other major league baseball games on the Riverfront Stadium scoreboard.

[Source: *Nando.Net & Associated Press Article, April 12, 1996, on the Internet*]

Selected Brawner Marriages

<u>Bride</u>	<u>Groom</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
Sophie Brawner	Hoy C. Correll Jr.	18 July 1997	Hampton VA
Hannah A. Hales	Richard S. Brawner	16 June 1862	Franklin Co. KY
Mary J. Mayberry	Charles Brawner	31 October 1872	Franklin Co. KY
Harriet Brawner	Bedford Johnson	9 Dec. 1829	Elbert Co. GA

PENSACOLA INTRIGUE

In the early 1900s, Pensacola, Florida was the setting for a strange case that claimed the life of a Brawner family member. The question was whether **Frank Eugene Brawner** took his own life or was an accident victim.

Brawner died on October 14, 1914 when he was shot in the head in his place of business in Pensacola. There were no witnesses. Before his death, Frank Brawner had been president of Pensacola State Bank, which had failed. Two other businesses in which Brawner had an interest — Brawner-Riera and Pensacola Investment Co. — had also failed. These failures were apparently triggered by a real estate slump. Brawner had been criminally charged with embezzlement in connection with these failures but had been acquitted at trial. He still feared at the time of his death that he would be prosecuted for overdrafts made by Brawner-Riera on the failed bank. He also had an unsettled claim against him by his sister-in-law, **Claudia B. Brawner** (widow of Frank's deceased brother). The claim involved \$11,000 (including \$7,000 of life insurance proceeds from the death of her husband) which she had deposited with Frank's bank. Frank had paid out all of this money on checks signed "Claudia B. Brawner, per F.E. Brawner." On the morning of his death, Claudia had come to Pensacola. Mere minutes before the fatal shot, Claudia called Frank and said she would like to meet with him that day to come to "a final settlement, a final understanding" concerning her claim. Frank agree to meet with her at "noontime." At 11:30 a.m., a bullet from his own gun killed him.

On one morning after the bank failure, Frank had told witnesses before his death, he had gone to his desk "once or twice" and laid his hand on his revolver. He told another witness that "he had had so much trouble and he had been so pressed that it would have been better for him and his family if he could have got out of this trouble some time before, when he was in better shape than he was at this time in a financial way." In the days before his death, Frank had told others, including his doctor, that he was depressed.

Charles Edwin Brawner, Fan of Manassas Winters

Charles Edwin Brawner (born April 1851) of Manassas, Prince William County, Virginia, was the son of **William Brawner** (1816-1861) and **Sara E. Cockrell**. In the fall of 1866, Charles attended school at Clover Hill Farm in Manassas. That fall, Charles

"The gay season is fast approaching, which is my estimation of winter. Excuse me kind reader if you think I am wrong, but I sincerely think that winter is much more gay than Spring or Summer.

It is true that Spring always brings with it pretty flowers and mild warm days, but we cannot have any fun, no enjoyment to be had only in hard labor, for Spring always brings plenty of work with it. No, I enjoy the cold storms and blasts of winter much more. For generally, the gay dances for which we are all so fond, come off during the season of winter. And then the sport we have in hunting: what amusement do we have in spring or summer that can equal that of chasing the rabbit or fox!

What music is sweeter than that of a pack of hounds as they go yelling over the hills and valleys and ... then away we run home to relate the details of the chase and rejoice over our Victory. Then why is it, we all dread the approach of Winter so much? In Winter we have the snow which affords so much fun for the young people. They can jump into the sleigh and away they go gliding over the smooth surface mingling their gay laughter with the music of the sleigh bells.

When is the old farmer happier than in a snow storm when he knows all his stock is under shelter with plenty to eat. He lights his pipe, crosses his legs, and sits back in the arm chair to enjoy his ease and read the news.

Well my fellow writers, some of you have sung about the beauties of Spring, the pleasures of Summer, the delights of Autumn, but when you come to the real true enjoyment, give me the usually dreaded season of winter."

extoled the virtues of the winter season:

Charles Edwin Brawner had a most interesting and varied life. As an adult in Manassas, he owned and ran the Cannon House and owned the Manassas Hotel; ran a summer boarding house; was an agent for Adams Express Company for twenty years; engaged in the fertilizer and implement business; owned a mill property; served on the Manassas Town Council for many years and served two terms as Mayor of Manassas. In his later years he served in the U.S. Navy's pay department for twelve years, resigning in about 1914. In declining health, Charles retired then with his wife, **Josephine S.T. Cockrell** (born January 1851), to his farm, The Pines, about two and one-half miles south of Manassas. He and Josephine had at least four children, three daughters and a son. His date of death is not known. [Thank you to **Mary Lou Cloar**. Part of the biographical information about Charles comes from an article in an unidentified Manassas/Prince William Co., Virginia newspaper written upon Charles' retirement from the U.S. Navy in about 1914; for related story see page 3 of the Spring 1997 Bulletin].

DID YOU KNOW?

In and near the town of Gleason in the southeast part of Weakley County, Tennessee, with which many present and past Brawners have ties, there is a road called "Brawners Levee Road." [Thank you to John Craft].

(Continued on page 8)

WILL OF EDWARD BRAWNER

[Frederick County, Maryland]

In the name of God Amen this seventh day of April 1760 I Edward Brawner of Frederick County and province of Maryland, Farmer, being verey sick and weak in body but of perfect Mind and Memory thanks be given to God therefore, calling unto mind the mortality of my bodey and known that it is apointed for all men once do die, I do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament that is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the Hands of God who gave it, and my bodey to the Earth to be buried in a decent Christian Burial at the discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this Life I give demise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form. Imprimis I give and bequeath unto my three eldest Sons, Richard, Thomas and Henry all the Land I hold which I alon [?] to be divided into three equal parts, my Son Richard is to have the first choice and Thomas the second and Henry third; I likewise allow my eldest Son Richard the benefit of all the Land I hold, until Thomas is of age; then Richard is to chose out his third part of said land and Thomas his third part and Richard is to keep the Remainder until Henry comes of age and then Henry falls into the third part and Richard is to bring up all my children until they are of age, all which time he is to find them good and sufficient victals and cloaths and for so doing I allow him to have the benefit of all their Work and of the Stock of Cattle and horses. Item 3. I give and bequeath unto my son Edward the sum of fifteen pounds to be leveyed out of my moveable estate and paid to him when he arrives at the age of twenty one. Item. I give and bequeath unto my Son William the sum of fifteen pounds to be leveyed out of said estate and paid him at the age of twenty one. I give likewise each of my Daughters one feather bed and one hefier to be given them at the age of sixteen, all my wife's body cloaths, to be equally divided betwixt my two youngest except one cotten Gown and a velvet jogee to Elizabeth. Item. I give and bequeath to my son John when he arrives at the age of twenty one ten pounds pr. year during his life time to be paid for his maintenance, by his three brothers, to-wit, Richard Thomas and Henry which is three pounds six shillings and eight pence to each. I likewise constitute make and ordain my eldest son Richard to be whole and sole executor of this my Last Will and Testament and I do utterly disallow revoke and disannual all and every other former Testaments, Wills, Legacys, Bequeaths and Executors by me in any way before named willed and bequeathed ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my Last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the day and year above written. Signed, Sealed, published, Pronounced and declared by the said Edward Brawner as his Last Will and Testament in the presence of us the Subscribers. [Signed:] Edward Brawner (Seal)

Tests: Samuel Carrick, James Patterson, William Shields.

*[Note 1: The probate was not attached to the Will, but other evidence, including the estate inventory, indicates that Edward died later in 1760, the year in which he wrote his Will. The name of Edward's wife, who is believed to have just pre-deceased him, was **Elizabeth Wheeler**. Edward is in the line of Brawners that migrated from Charles County, MD northward to Frederick Co., MD].*

[Note 2: This Will, which was apparently written shortly before the invention of the comma, has had some punctuation added to make it more readable. Otherwise, the will appears with all spelling and grammatical errors].

[Thank you to **Thelma E.Kurtz**].

ENGINEERING ACCLAIM BRINGS AWARDS, DINNER WITH DENG

North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada's **Chuck Brawner**, 67, is a prominent mining engineer whose career has spanned 43 years. He is a world-renowned expert on rockfall mitigation technique. Lately, Brawner's work has carried him around the world to consult on various of mining's environmental disasters. Most recently, he has helped mitigate two notorious mining disasters, in the Philippines and in Guyana. In each case, a mining company faced environmental disaster when it allowed mining refuse into a river or stream. In the Guyana case, deadly cyanide had also escaped. Brawner was instrumental in each case in developing a plan to stop the flow of pollutants and contain them in the future.

In 1986, Brawner won the D.C. Jackling Award in the United States for "prodigious work related to stability problems in mining, especially his work in open-pit mining and tailings dams." Recently, the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum gave its prestigious McParland Memorial Award to Brawner, recognizing outstanding performance in the minerals industry in the field of mechanical, electrical or civil engineering design, project engineering and innovation.

With all of his awards and successes, Brawner's most memorable experience may have occurred in 1982. It was then that Brawner, who travels over 100,000 air miles per year, visited China. He and three others dined with China's late leader, Deng Xiaoping. During the dinner, Brawner suggested to Deng that China could increase its mining efficiency by replacing its small machinery with the large mining machines used in the Western world. Deng answered, "I have 800 million workers to be employed, and I have to keep them employed. If we get too efficient many will be out of work, leading to revolution, and I'll be out of a job." Brawner found Deng to be a fascinating man with a sense of humor.

Brawner graduated from University of Manitoba in 1953, and did highway design work with the government before developing his expertise in the mining field. [Source: *North Shore News On-Line*, April 23, 1997, article by Ian Noble].

MORE WEAKLEY CO., TENN. CEMETERIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>
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(Blooming Grove Methodist Church Cemetery)

Arena B. Brawner	22 July 1819	28 March 1886
W.M.F. Brawner	24 Nov. 1819	4 Dec. 1892

(Old Beech Springs Church Cemetery)

Annie Ella H. Brawner	1888	1937
Sidney Clarence Brawner	1886	1971
Enochs Brawner	18 Oct. 1915	6 March 1918
Mirlie Cleo Brawner	12 Dec. 1917	15 Dec. 1917

(Good Springs Cemetery)

Teresa H. Brawner	1839	1920
George C. Brawner	1841	1907
Henry S. Brawner	1871	1900
Estelle Brawner	1876	1891

(Meridian Cemetery)

Lena May Brawner	28 May 1888	9 March 1909
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(Mt. Herman Church Cemetery)

Lillie Hatcher Brawner	1870	1942
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(Mt. Zion Cemetery)

Winnie Yvonne Brawner	1926	1948
James H. Brawner	10 Oct. 1915	8 May 1965

[Source: Weakley County Cemeteries, Vol. I & II, compiled by James Buckley Chapter, NSDAR (Sharon TN 1980)].

THE BATTLE OF BRAWNER'S FARM

John Brawner's farm in Manassas, Virginia played a key part in the Civil War's Battle of Second Bull Run in August 1862. On the afternoon of August 28, Confederate commander Stonewall Jackson ordered an attack on a Union column commanded by Union General John Pope as it marched down the Warrenton Turnpike. The ferocious fight took place on Brawner's farm and lasted until dusk. The Union was represented by the 76th New York, 56th Pennsylvania, 2nd, 6th and 7th Wisconsin and the 19th Indiana Regiments. The Confederate units included Stonewall's Brigade as well as other forces from Stonewall Jackson's Corps. "The combatants were not entrenched but rather stood virtually toe to toe and slugged it out." One northern major said his men "loaded and fired with the energy of madmen and a recklessness of death truly wonderful..." Another said, "Bullets from front and right flank, — the air full of them, whistling by our ears, scratching at our clothes, — burning our faces, — bullets seemingly everywhere."

The Battle at Brawner's Farm ended in a draw. The Battle of Second Bull Run lasted for two days after that, and the Confederate victory paved the way for the South's invasion of the North. The John Brawner farm was identified in the National Park Service's 1983 General Management Plan as the "key location" for interpreting the battle, particularly its opening phases.

A book about the battle called *Brave Men's Tears*, by Alan D. Gaff, is available for \$24.95 from Morningside, P.O. Box 1087, Dayton, Ohio 45401, telephone (800) 648-9710. The focus of the book is the 19th Indiana Regiment, known as the "Iron Brigade." [Thank you to **Emily Brawner**; the quotes and much of the information above are taken from a review of Mr. Gaff's book by Civil War News].

Cassius Clay Stivers

The Spring 1997 *Bulletin*, page 6, mentions six children of **B.F. Stivers** and **Sarah Elizabeth Brawner** of Kentucky, as listed in the Stivers family Bible. The article also mentions the likelihood of another child. Kentucky genealogist and *Bulletin* subscriber **Helen Sutherland** has "filled in the blank" for us ... and more. The missing child is **Cassius Clay Stivers** (born 22 July 1865 in Franklin Co., KY, died 17 December 1919 in Franklin Co., KY). This child is most significant, since on 30 November 1892 he married his second cousin, **Mary Abigail Brawner** (born November 1869 in Kentucky, died 20 December 1950 in Jefferson Co., KY), daughter of Kentuckian and Civil War veteran **Alexander Goldsmith Brawner** (1830-1886) and **Hannah Catherine Morgan** (1844-1929). Cassius Stivers and Mary Brawner had common great grandparents: **Edward Brawner** (born 1762) and **Agnes Clingsdale** (died 1832). Cassius and Mary had three children: **Frank M. Stivers**, born 1896 in Kentucky; **Abigail J. Stivers**, born 1900 in Kentucky; and **Benjamin F. Stivers**, born 1904 in Kentucky. Helen also tells us that Sarah Elizabeth Brawner, Cassius' mother, is the daughter of **Edward Frances Brawner** (born 1809) and **Elizabeth S. Rice**. Thank you Helen!

AIR MISHAP KILLS PROMINENT EYE SURGEON

Dr. Luther Brawner, 49, grandson of **Clifton Marmaduke Brawner** (1853-1931) and **Annie Dick Collier** (1863-1932) and son of **Audley Dick Brawner** (born 1890) and **Mary Belle Clutter**, died on February 3, 1965 in Richmond, VA in a plane crash. Dr. Brawner was born on November 18, 1915 in Texas, raised in Oklahoma and graduated from high school in Hooker, Oklahoma. He received his M.D. in 1939 from University of Oklahoma. He began an internship with Medical College of Virginia in Richmond and established his home there. Dr. Brawner became a pioneer in cornea transplants and taught his technique in many other countries at the request of the U.S. government. He also served as chairman of Old Dominion Eye Bank and Research, Inc. He became one of the best known eye surgeons in the United States. On October 7, 1939, Dr. Brawner married **Dorothy Janet Simpson** (born 15 January 1917). The couple had five children: Mary Elizabeth, Margaret Lee, Mary Kathryn, John Clifton and Sarah Ann. On February 3, 1965, Dr. Brawner took off from Richmond in his Bonanza 4-seater en route to meet daughter Margaret for lunch at Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA. Witnesses reported that the plane went straight up in the air, the engine quit and the craft plummeted nose first to the ground. Dr. Brawner had almost 25 years of flying experience. Dr. Brawner was survived by his wife and four children. [Thank you to **Thelma E. Kurtz**] [Note: Luther Brawner's line migrated from Frederick Co., MD to central Kentucky and then on to Clinton

1880 BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA CENSUS

The 1880 federal census for Bartow Co., GA shows the family of a popular Georgia ancestor:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
J.J. Brawner	Male	49	Head of Household	Farmer
Mary Brawner	Female	39	Wife	Keeps Home
Thos. J. Brawner	Male	20	Son	Laborer
David H. Brawner	Male	17	Son	Laborer
J.J. Brawner	Male	15	Son	Laborer
W.M. Brawner	Male	13	Son	Laborer
J.O. Brawner	Male	11	Son	Laborer
J. W. Brawner	Male	9	Son	
G.F. Brawner	Male	8	Son	
M.C. Brawner	Female	7	Daughter	
J.A. Brawner	Male	6	Son	
J.P. Brawner	Male	4	Son	
Chas. Brawner	Male	3	Son	
S.S. Brawner	Male	6 mo.	Son	

*Note: This is part of the family of **Jessie Johnson Brawner** (1832-1897), son of **Joel Brawner** (1798-1866) and **Elizabeth King** (1800-1866) of Elbert Co. and later Cartersville, Bartow Co., Georgia. **Jessie's** married **Mary Ann Quarles** (1842-1920) on 29 August 1858 in Bartow Co. **Jessie** and **Mary**, both Georgia natives, had a total of 16 children, only 12 of whom are mentioned here. All were born in Georgia. About half of the children ended up migrating to Texas. **Jessie** served in the Georgia infantry during the Civil War and was captured in Dallas, Georgia, about 18 miles from his home. In this census, **Thomas** is the only child listed as married. This information comes from *Brawner and Allied Families* by **Jack T. Brawner**. **Jessie** and **Mary Brawner** are **Jack's** great-grandparents.*

OHIO LAND RECORDS OF JAMES BRAWNER

Many of the Iowa Brawners trace their ancestry to **James and Rebecca Brawner**, who, after migrating from parts unknown, lived for some time in Coshocton Co., Ohio. [See photograph of their son, **Thomas**, on page 1]. **Mary J. Viter**, in her comprehensive book, *Brawner Family History, 1830-1995*, sets out four of James' land transactions in that Ohio county, which suggest that he was a man of some means. Those transactions are:

8 October 1835: James buys from John Clark 48 acres for \$175.00 [Vol. 8, page 534].

1 August 1838: James buys from William Hughes unspecified real estate in Monroe Township for \$600.00. [Vol. ?, page 495].

1 February 1839: James buys from Leonard Autt Lots 14, 15 and 19 in the Town of East Union for an unspecified sum. Vol. 13, Page 232.

19 August 1839: James buys from Nathaniel Rush 8 acres for an unspecified sum. [Vol. 14, Page 236].

James died in 1840 in Coshocton County, without a will.

STEVE BRAWNER TO WORK FOR ARKANSAS GOVERNOR

Steve Brawner, of Malvern, Arkansas, joined the staff of Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee in June. Steve will work in the governor's policy and communications division, taking over some of the duties of former Policy Director Dan Greenberg. Steve had been managing editor of the *Benton [Arkansas] Courier* since November 1996 and before that had been editor of the *Malvern Daily Record*.

Steve is the son of **Larry Brawner** and **Mary Bob Bledsoe Brawner**, grandson of **George Brawner** and **Dorothy Aston Brawner** and great-grandson of **Luther Odis Brawner** and **Edna Pearson Brawner**. Steve as well as his parents and paternal grandparents and great-grandparents, are natives of Wynne, Arkansas. Steve's Brawner ancestors migrated from Georgia to Mississippi and, in 1910, to Arkansas. [*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, May 23, 1997; thank you to **Onalee Brawner**, who is Steve's cousin].

BRAWNERS IN THE COURTS

The Brawners have had their share of court battles. Regrettably, many of those battle have been fought, and lost, in the criminal courts. But here are a few legal skirmishes that our cousins fought in the *civil* courts.

Bussell v. A.F. Brawner et al., [Court of Appeals of Georgia, 179 S.E. 228 (1935)]. In Cobb County, Georgia, the parents of a deceased child sued **A.F. Brawner** and others in separate, “companion” cases to recover for the “negligent homicide” of their minor son while in the defendants’ custody and control at a sanitarium for treatment of patients suffering from nervous or mental diseases. The Bussells’ 19-year-old son, who suffered from temporary mental derangement as a result of “dietary deficiency,” was taken to Brawner’s sanitarium for treatment. The Bussells contended that Brawner and others at the sanitarium should have know that the minor Bussell boy was a danger to himself. During his stay at the hospital, the Bussell boy cut his own throat with a knife and died. The suit alleged that Brawner and the other defendants were negligent. This court addressed whether the Bussells claim should be dismissed at the outset on legal grounds. The father’s case for loss of services was allowed to proceed. The mother’s case for the value of her son’s life was dismissed on appeal because of a requirement that the mother be actually dependent on the child at the time of death. In fact, at the time of death, the mother was not dependent on her son because he was in the sanitarium. [Note: The defendant, A.F. Brawner, is probably physician Alfred F. Brawner (his wife was Blanche) of Smyrna, GA as shown in the Atlanta, GA City Directory in 1923. The Sanitarium in question is probably the “Dr. Brawner’s Sanitarium” in the Grant Building in Smyrna, GA , as shown in that same city directory. For a listing of “Atlanta Brawners, 1923,” see Spring 1996 Bulletin, page 8].

Brawner et al. v. Crowell et al., [Federal District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, 434 F. Supp 1119 (1977)]. **Dr. Clara Brawner** was one of the named plaintiffs in a class action to challenge the constitutionality of Tennessee’s state legislative districts. The specific challenge was against six state districts, three from which state senators were elected and three from which state representatives were elected. The districts had been changed to bring one area into which a senator was considering moving into his own district; to consolidate black and other low-income persons into one district and middle class whites into another; and to give a representative a district where he had gone to high school. The federal court declared this reapportionment unconstitutional.

Brawner v. Kaufman et al., [Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Alabama, 496 F. Supp 961 (1980)]. **Doris and Donald Brawner** of Missouri were in an automobile accident with Mr. Kaufman in Louisiana. Kaufman’s insurance policy was not sufficient to cover all of the Brawners’ damages, so the Brawners pursued their own insurer, American Family Mutual Insurance Company, under the uninsured motorist provisions of their policy. Under Missouri law, uninsured motorist provisions did not include *underinsured* and the Brawners could not make such a claim, but under Louisiana law they could. So the question reduced itself to which law applied. The court held that Louisiana law applied, and therefore declined to dismiss the case, allowing the Brawners to proceed against the Brawners’ insurance company. The final outcome of the case is unknown, but it was likely settled.

Brawner v. Pearl Assurance Co., [Federal Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, 285 F.2d 120 (1960)]. **Gertrude L. Brawner** of southern California sued her fire insurance company after some of her rental real estate was damaged in a fire. At trial, she was awarded \$7,500 in property damage and \$150 in lost rental income, but the trial judge ruled that she was not entitled to interest on either claim. Gertrude appealed, and the appeals court granted her interest on the smaller claim but denied her interest on the larger, property damage claim. Gertrude’s attorney were **William H. Brawner** and Ernest W. Pitney of Los Angeles.

Brawner v. Douglas County, Georgia, [Court of Appeals of Georgia, 177 S.E. 923 (1935)]. **Mary Brawner** was the widow of a man who drowned at night when he stepped off a public road into a flooded stream where a county-constructed and -maintained bridge had been washed away. Mary’s husband had crossed the bridge earlier in the day, but heavy rains and flooding washed the bridge away before he returned. The stream ran between two steep hills and fell off rapidly over shoals and rocks. The floor of the bridge had the same grayish color of the stream water. Mary claimed the county was negligent (a) in not properly constructing and maintaining the bridge so it would not wash away and (b) in not constructing handrails or sideguards on the bridge so as to make the bridge, or its absence, more apparent. The county claimed that the washing away of the bridge was an act of God and that it had no notice that the bridge had washed away in time to replace it. The court viewed the washing away of the bridge as a highly extraordinary event of which the county had no notice and which the county could not reasonably foresee and dismissed Mrs. Brawner’s claim. [Note: The name of Mary’s husband does not appear in the reported decision].

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he was depressed.

Carro A. Brawner, apparently Frank's widow, asserted that Frank's death was accidental and filed an insurance claim. The policy allowed recovery for death "by violent external and accidental means" but not for suicide. The insurance company denied coverage, claiming Frank's death was a suicide and further claiming that the policy had lapsed as a result of non-renewal. Carro then sued to recover the policy proceeds. At trial in the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Florida, the insurance company prevailed, presenting strong evidence on both its defenses. Although there was some evidence to support the claim of accidental death, the court found that those things that had made Frank depressed had continued until his death, thus supporting the suicide defense. The court also found competent evidence that Frank had expressly refused to renew the insurance policy for the period in which his death occurred. According to a witness, Frank had said he was unable to pay the \$50 renewal premium. The trial court judgment was affirmed on appeal, the court holding that Carro Brawner had no right to recovery under the policy.

Note: The details of this case are reported in Brawner v. Royal Indemnity Insurance Co., Federal Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 246 F. 637 (1917). For other cases involving the Brawners, see page 7. The case identifies Carro as a female and a relative, but does not say the exact relationship between her and Frank. In all likelihood, she was his wife, though she may have been his daughter. Your editor does not know Frank's particular place in the Brawner family tree.

SELECTED BRAWNER BUSINESSES

<u>Name of Business</u>	<u>Place of Business</u>
Brawner & Brawner Advertising	Greeley, Colorado
Braddock A. Brawner, CPA	Corinth, Mississippi
Brawner Apartment Locators	Irving, Texas
Brawner Auto Electric Salvage	Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee
Brawner Concrete Construction	Springfield, Illinois
Brawner Electric	Omaha, Nebraska
Al Brawner Excavating	Oregon City, Oregon
Brawner Greenhouse	Indianapolis, Indiana
Ken Brawner Cabinets	La Habra, California
Brawner Mental Health System	Smyrna, Georgia
Brawner Surveying Company	Jessieville, Arkansas
James D. Brawner Motorcycles	Summerville, S. Carolina
Brawner Paper Company, Inc.	Houston, Texas
Brawners Auto Sales	Frankfort, Kentucky
Brawners Scrap Yard	Helenwood, Tennessee
Brawner Appraisal Services	Upland, California
Eldridge Brawner, Insurance	Wynne, Arkansas
Brawner Insurance Services	Chicago, Illinois
John W. Brawner Contracting Co.	Phoenix, Maryland
Carlos Brawner Realty	Seguin, Texas
James Brawner Insurance Planning	Dallas, Texas
Brawner Furniture Company	Nebraska City, Nebraska
A. G. Brawner Plastering, Inc.	El Cajon, California
Brawners Park Apartments	Corpus Christi, Texas
Brawners Tires	Oklahoma City, OK

[Source: Pro CD, Inc. Business Phone Book, 1996]

EDITOR'S NOTE: If any of you would like to consider taking over the *Bulletin* or some "spin-off" of it, please let me know. I will spread the word this fall about whether the *Bulletin* or some semblance of it will continue in "new hands." I am also still collecting mailing addresses and e-mail addresses of Brawner correspondents, though the list is quite small so far. If I can develop a larger list, I will distribute it this fall. If you would like to be included on this list, just let me know. Please contact me at my home address shown in the return address portion of this newsletter.

You should also know that David E. Brawner plans a Brawner web site. If you would like to help David with his Web Page project or otherwise provide input, he can be reached at P.O. Box 295, Antioch, TN 37011 or at dbrawner@bellsouth.net.

If there is any Brawner information that you have sent to me and

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"The Brawner Family Newsletter"

