

First Florida Taylor Reunion

This is a newspaper clipping of the first Florida Taylor Reunion held at Camp O'leno State Park near Lake City, Florida. It was supplied by Robert Neil Taylor, great-grandson of James. It is rich in family history.

This was the first reunion of the Florida branch that we know about. Some of the South Carolina relatives attended, so they apparently were still in touch. It appears that they had lost touch with the Tennessee relatives, however.

Taylor Reunion Well Attended

The first Taylor reunion was held on Sunday, August 31, at Camp O'Leno State Park.

The descendants of Noah Taylor, James A. Taylor, Viney Taylor Koon and Robert Taylor met at Camp O'Leno on Sunday, August 31, 1952, and organized for an annual reunion. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Fannie Taylor Hobbs, Lake City; vice president, Mrs. Sarah Clark Lake City; recording secretary, Mrs. Minnie Taylor Smith, Sebring, Fla.; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Noah Taylor, Lake City; treasurer, Mr. Kenneth Nettles, Lake City; historian, Mrs. Leola Witt, Lake City; finance chairman, Mr. Russell Taylor, Worthington Springs; recreation, Elton Taylor Sebring; Ralph Graham, Lake City, and Mrs. Irma Nettles Millikin, Live Oak.

Around two hundred relatives were present and registered during the day. Some descendants were there from Sebring, Florida, Fort Myers, Florida, West Palm Beach, Florida, Live Oak, Brookier, Worthington Springs, Alachua, Jacksonville, Fort White, Lulu, Ocala, Reddick, Fairfield, Tallahassee, Tampa, Orlando, Fla., Cottonwood, Ala. Marion, S. C., Florence S. C., Pelham, Ga.

The oldest descendant present was Mrs. Artie Taylor Lord, daughter of James A. Taylor. The youngest one present was not decided.

The Taylor reunion was planned by the family of Noah Taylor who for years have had their own family reunion at Christmas times and they wanted to know more of their family connection so they and Mrs. Fannie Hobbs met together and started working on a list and mailed out notices with happy results, as every one seemed happy of such meeting. The far-away relatives came just for the day and started homeward that afternoon after lunch and get-together was over.

The annual date for this meeting will be Sunday before Labor Day, which for another year will be on Sunday, Sept. 6, 1953, at Camp O'Leno State Park.

Also present at this reunion were a number of closely related friends to the Taylor generation.

Since starting the history of the Taylor descendants, Dr. Thaddeus Taylor has been located in Lufkin, Texas. He was located by a letter written to Mrs. Mattie Taylor Summers fifty-five years ago when he entered medical college in Memphis, Tenn. The Chamber of Commerce in Memphis, Tenn. secured his address from University of Tennessee College of Medicine and was mailed to Mrs. Fannie Hobbs in reply to her inquiry. The search for other descendants will be continued and on into Ireland where the great grandfather came from to settle in the United States.

It is hoped to have descendants from all over the United States at the next annual reunion on Sept. 6, 1953.