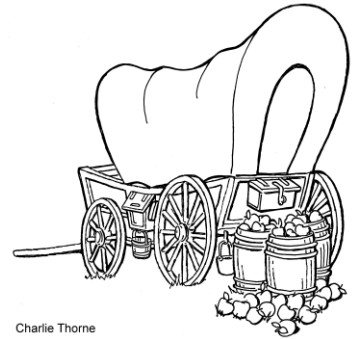


Echoes of the Shenandoah **Final Report**

Mary Ewing Gosline, (+1 410.997.3719, *Mary at Gosline dot net*)

What beautiful weather we had in Winchester, Virginia, for the Tenth Gathering of *Clan Ewing in America!* The folks who came were what made the gathering a success! Ninety-nine people attended the events including seventy-six full-time guests who came for the whole weekend. We especially missed our board members George Ewing, Bob Johnson, and Jim McMichael as well as their spouses. Ray Ewing, a member of the Stephens City Ewing family, a member of the Gathering Committee and the Mayor of Stephens City, was unable to attend because of his wife's hospitalization.¹ Both he and his wife, Mary, contributed in a variety of ways to the gathering.



Charlie Thorne



Silent Auction Items

Courtesy: Wm E. Riddle

Quite a few people arrived by Wednesday evening in advance of the research day on Thursday. Many of us checked out the ghosts at the Cork Street Tavern as we gathered for lunch or dinner. The Research Center was busy Thursday morning with Betty Ewing Whitmer setting up the archives, Ewing cousins creating displays, John Ewin arranging *Clan Ewing* merchandise for sale, and the Gathering Committee spreading out items for the Silent Auction. Jill Ewing Spittler brought her files of *Clan Ewing* members and Catherine Lovett arranged brochures of local sites in a notebook for visitors.

The Research Center was a hub of activity throughout the weekend. Some Ewing cousins enjoyed checking out the *Clan Ewing* files stored at the Cecil County Historical Society between gatherings. Others were soon showing off their new purchases including lavender women's golf shirts with the *Clan Ewing* Coat of Arms. Folks brought a variety of items to share — Robert Carbaugh's arrowhead collection from around the Stephens City Ewing Family Cemetery; Wally Ewing's collection of old photos, photo albums, and letters (see picture on the next page); Evelyn Ewing's exhibit about the *Confession of Faith* and the Stephens City Ewing Family Tree. Jeannette Ewing and Evelyn also put together a display about the efforts to preserve the Ewing Family Cemetery including the site plan for how it would be saved in the



Daniel Ewing, left, and David N. Ewing in the Research Center

Courtesy: Wm E. Riddle

¹ Mary Anna (Layman) Ewing unfortunately and sadly passed away shortly after the gathering. Her obituary appears on page 42.



Wally Ewing's Materials

Courtesy: Wm E. Riddle

by our guests and an introductory video to Frederick County, people enjoyed a dessert café of brownies and cookies provided by the Board of Directors. Baskets of freshly picked apples served as table centerpieces; the apples were available as dessert or for snacks on the tours.

After Friday morning breakfast, we visited the Handley Library. Jeannette Ewing pointed out interesting details about the architecture and Rebecca Ebert opened the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives and described the collection. Rebecca had prepared a display of items pertaining to old Frederick County during the time the first Ewings lived there. Ted York, a former history teacher and husband of Betty



Visit to the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives at the Handley Library

Courtesy: David N. Ewing



Newtown History Center

Courtesy: David N. Ewing

Ewing, narrated our drive through Winchester and down the old wagon road to Main Street in Stephens City. Byron Smith, Butch Fravel and Wayne Eldred greeted us at the Newtown History Center and led tours through the three buildings. The wagon barn, probably the most popular, contained a full-size wagon similar to what was made in Stephens City.

A beautiful Ewing Family Cemetery dedication ceremony, arranged by Evelyn Ewing, was held high on a hill overlooking the valley. With the Blue Ridge Mountains on one side and the Alleghany Mountains on the other, folks gathered around the new stones in the Ewing Family Cemetery. After a brief welcome by Bill Ewing and a prayer by Ted York, Jim Ewing introduced members of the cemetery committee. Evelyn commented on the history of the Ewing family in the Stephens City area and flowers were placed in front of the stones by descendants. Music, provided by Polly Ewing Brown, was from Timothy Seaman's CD, *Common Wealth*. Following a delicious buffet lunch, provided by the Stephens City United Methodist Women in the church's fellowship hall, the bus returned us to the Hampton Inn.



Ewing Family Cemetery

Courtesy: Evelyn J. Ewing

**Trish Ridgeway**

Courtesy: David N. Ewing

Upon our return cousins were free to rest, explore Winchester, visit the Research Center and attend some talks. Afternoon presenters included Trish Ridgeway, dressed in Civil War mourning costume; David Neal Ewing leading a Y-DNA Workshop and a *Clan Ewing* History Workshop; and Polly Ewing Brown, sharing the history and photos of her Ewing family — the Dallas Connection. Wally Ewing guided us through his collection of Ewing Civil War letters; Bill Riddle led a discussion of his research surrounding the descendants of James Ewing of Inch; and Barbara McGuinness described a possible 2009 tour to Scotland and Ireland.

Friday evening dinner was held in Middletown at the Wayside Inn, where beautiful antiques fill the guest rooms and dining areas. Michael Foreman, retired Frederick County Clerk and local historian, used old photographs and postcards to guide us through the history of Winchester.

Following Saturday morning breakfast, the group traveled to the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley and the Glen Burnie Historic House and Gardens, passing orchards filled with apples. Met by docents Ted and Betty Ewing York, the group was divided with half going to the house and gardens first and half going to the museum. People were able to roam at their leisure through the beautiful gardens, complete with fish pond. A short video at the museum presented an overview of its

**Evelyn Ewing in
the Glen Burnie Dahlia Garden**

Courtesy: David N. Ewing

**Skyline County Cloggers in Action ...****... and Under Scrutiny**

Courtesy: Wm E. Riddle

collections. After switching in the mid-morning so that those who had seen the museum could tour the house, and vice versa, a buffet lunch and the gift shop were enjoyed before our return to the hotel.

Family group photos were taken Saturday evening before dinner. The picture of all the gathering's attendees appears on the next page; this photo and others may be found on the *Clan Ewing* web site (www.ClanEwing.org).

The Skyline Country Cloggers entertained us during dessert and winners of the Silent Auction were announced during their intermission. Over \$600 was raised by the Silent Auction to offset the gathering's expenses. The General Membership Meeting followed dessert. Polly Ewing Brown provided two tote bags and six notebooks for door prizes which were awarded during each dinner for categories such as the person with the most grandchildren or the person who had attended the earliest gathering. The oldest person attending was Donna Knepp, 92, of Winchester. Ann Nugent of Bellingham, Washington, had traveled the greatest distance.

It is difficult to recognize everyone who contributed time and resources to make this gathering a success. [I would like to thank committee members Catherine Lovett, John Ewin, Bill, Jeannette, Jim, Evelyn and Ray Ewing for their ideas, time, effort and support as we planned and carried out the gathering. We all appreciate Barbara McGuinness who contributed her expertise to make hotel, meal and event arrangements.](#) Mary Ewing organized lunch at the Stephens City United Methodist Church. Nancy Ewing Weller, Catherine Lovett, Frances Ewing Carbaugh, Barbara Greene, Lois White and Jackie White Laing served as greeters during registration and at dinners. Stacey Lovett Clark contacted the Skyline Country Cloggers, with whom she used to dance. Charlie Thorne, a local artist, created our logo of the Newtown wagon and bushels of apples. [Charlotte Eller wrote a wonderful article which was published in *The Winchester Star* a month before the Gathering;](#) her article is reprinted on page 7. The Stephens City Lions Club provided apple butter for our 'goodie' bags. Reports and articles were written for the *Journal* by *Clan Ewing* members and by Frederick County citizens. (A complete list of these articles begins on page 5.) We thank William E. Riddle for his editorial expertise and many helpful suggestions. Jeffrey Ewing, Beverly Ewing Dugger, Bob Gosline, Rob Gosline, and Alisa Gosline and Greg L. Mitchell provided support behind the scenes.



Tenth Gathering of Clan Ewing in America Attendees

Courtesy: Greg L. Mitchell

*Mary Ewing Gosline, a member of Clan Ewing's Board of Directors since 2004 and its Chair 2004-2006, coordinated *Echoes of the Shenandoah*, the 2008 Gathering of Clan Ewing in America. A member of Clan Ewing since 1990, she has been interested in family history since 1970 and is a descendent of John Ewing of Carnashannagh and his son Samuel. In 2005, she wrote a booklet on her great-grandfather's family, Joseph Henry Ewing (1837-1925) and Ann Louisa McDonald (1841-1918), Coles County and Douglas County, Illinois. Future plans are to extend this work to include ancestors and children of Joseph and Ann. With a B.S. degree from DePauw University, she taught mathematics at the middle school, high school, and community-college levels.*

Reports Supporting the Tenth Gathering

Historical Context

- Ewing, Evelyn Jones. Colonial History of the Shenandoah Valley, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (May 2007), pp. 11-14. An introduction to the settlement of the Shenandoah Valley by William Ewing and other descendants of John Ewing of Carnashannagh.
- Ewing, Jeannette. A Short History of Stephens City, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (May 2008), pp. 16-18. Many towns were settled around the time that Stephens City received its charter in 1758 under the name of Stephensburg. Also known as Newtown and Pantops, it is located in the Shenandoah Valley just south of Winchester. This article reviews the town's early settlement and growth, with attention to several early residents who helped establish the culture and economic infrastructure of the community.
- McClure, Jean. Great Philadelphia Wagon Road, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 13, No. 3 (August 2007), pp. 15-20. A discussion of the development of the migration path from Philadelphia into and through the Shenandoah Valley, with an emphasis on the use of this migration path by descendants of John Ewing of Carnashannagh who settled the Stephens City, Frederick County, Virginia, area.
- Fravel, Linden. The Newtown Wagon, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (February 2008), pp. 13-18. This report concerns one of the most common and essential tools of early America, the *road wagon*. It complements the information about the Conestoga wagon in Jean McClure's report. Linden describes the Newtown wagon and the wagon industry in Newtown (Stephens City). He also provides information about the history of the Frederick County area up to the Civil War.
- Ridgeway, Trish. Winchester Experiences the Civil War, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (May 2008), pp. 13-15. During the Civil War, Winchester was decimated. The area saw huge numbers of soldiers occupying its buildings and consuming everything in sight. In addition, soldiers brought typhoid and other virulent diseases that spread through the local population. This article briefly discusses the resulting suffering of civilians and soldiers during this period.
- Gosline, Mary Ewing. A Brief History of Clog Dancing, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 3 (August 2008), p. 12. A brief introduction to Clog Dancing, an Appalachian percussive-dance art form. (The author thanks Stacey Lovett Clark for her help in developing this article.)
- Eller, Charlotte J. First Family Reunion in Valley: Family discovers ties to popular 'Dallas' TV show. *The Winchester Star*, August 16, 2008, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 4 (November 2008), pp. 7-9. This is a newspaper article published in advance of the 2008 Gathering which discussed the dedication for the local Ewing Cemetery and Polly Ewing Brown's presentation on the connection to the J. R. Ewing family in the 'Dallas' TV show.

Ewing Families

- Ewing, Evelyn Jones. Ewings of Shenandoah Valley, Virginia (Part 1), *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 13, No. 3 (August 2007), pp. 15-20. A genealogy of the descendants of John Ewing of Carnashannagh emphasizing the children of William Ewing, his son.
- Ewing, Evelyn Jones. Ewings of Shenandoah Valley, Virginia (Part 2), *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 13, No. 4 (November 2007), pp. 13-25. A continuation of the genealogy of the descendants of John Ewing of Carnashannagh emphasizing the children of William Ewing, his son.
- DaHarb, Darryl Dene. John Ewing, Son of William Ewing, Grandson of John Ewing of Carnashannagh, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 13, No. 4 (November 2007), pp. 26-31. A discussion of the

descendants of John Ewing, son of the William Ewing who is the emphasis of the reports by Evelyn Jones Ewing.

Local Attractions and Activities

- Ewing, Jeannette. The Handley Library, Winchester, Virginia, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (May 2007), p. 15. A brief introduction to an important place attendees could visit and conduct research while attending the 2008 Gathering.
- Ebert, Rebecca. Historical and Genealogical Research in Frederick County, Virginia, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 3 (August 2008), pp. 10-11. Tips from Rebecca Ebert, Archivist at the Handley Library's Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, for those doing research regarding Winchester and Frederick County.
- York, Ted and Betty (Ewing). The Museum of the Shenandoah Valley and the Historic House and Gardens at Glen Burnie, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (February 2008), p. 12. This report provided a glimpse of the *Historic House and Gardens at Glen Burnie*, home of the founder of Winchester, Col. James Wood, and the adjacent *Museum of the Shenandoah Valley* which gives visitors many insights into the founding and evolution of this region of Virginia.
- Ewing, Evelyn Jones. Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church, Marlboro, Virginia, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (May 2008), pp. 19-21. The Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church was founded in 1736 on Cedar Creek, an important tributary of the Shenandoah River. Opequon Presbyterian Church, also founded in 1736, is situated on Opequon Creek about three miles southwest of Winchester and four miles north of Stephens City. The congregations of Cedar Creek and Opequon, two of the oldest churches in the Winchester area and only about nine miles apart, have shared pastors and enjoyed a close relationship through the years.
- Ewing, Evelyn Jones. Winchester – Home of Spirits and Ghosts, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (May 2008), p. 12. Winchester resident Mac Rutherford conducts popular evening Ghost Tours through Winchester and Mt. Hebron Cemetery. During his tours, he weaves fascinating stories about the area's ghosts and spirits. Many of these stories are included in a recent collection of quite amusing one-to-three-page write-ups. Three of the locations he includes on his tours are quite close to each other. This article provided synopses of his stories about these three locations.
- Ewing, Evelyn Jones. More Winchester Spirits and Ghosts, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 3 (August 2008), pp. 13-14. Additional synopses of Mac Rutherford's sketches of spirits and ghosts said to be in the Winchester area.
- n.a. History of the Wayside Inn, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (May 2008), p. 11. A short history of the Wayside Inn in Middletown, Virginia, which was the venue for the gathering's dinner on Friday, September 19, 2008.
- Avery, Karen. Local Area Attractions, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (February 2008), pp. 19-20. A list of attractions in the general area — Washington, D.C., to the north, the Allegheny Mountains to the west and Williamsburg on the south — attendees could visit and enjoy during extra days before and after the gathering.
- Gosline, Mary Ewing. The Blue Ridge Parkway and the Skyline Drive in the Mountains of the Shenandoah Valley, *J. Clan Ewing*, Vol. 14, No. 3 (August 2008), pp. 15-16. This report provided guidance for those planning to tour the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive, both scenic parkways through the Blue Ridge Mountains.

First Ewing Reunion in Valley: Family discovers ties to popular 'Dallas' TV show¹

Charlotte J. Eller, Special to *The Winchester Star*, August 16, 2008



Evelyn Ewing (left), Catherine Lovett and Jeanette Ewing visit the Ewing Family Cemetery in preparation for the reunion to be held in the area for the first time.
(Photos by Scott Mason)

Stephens City — The descendants of the Ewing clan, who settled in this Frederick County town more than 250 years ago, will return to their ancestral roots from far and near next month to attend the first family reunion they have held in the northern Shenandoah Valley.

This isn't the first Ewing reunion, however. It is the 10th for the family association.

Members of Clan Ewing in America, founded in 1990 by the Rev. Ellsworth Samuel Ewing, will come from as far away as California to attend the event set for Sept. 18-21, said Mary Ewing Gosline, family reunion chairwoman.

The reunion, which relives the history of one of Stephens City's oldest families, fits nicely with the town's year-long celebration of the 250th anniversary of its founding, said local historian Linden A. "Butch" Fravel Jr., who serves on the Town Council and is chairman of its Planning Commission.

"They couldn't have picked a better time to come home . . . and find their roots," he said.

Some Ewing ancestors, who emigrated from Ireland in 1729 and settled in Pennsylvania, eventually moved as far away as the southwestern United States, while others never left Stephens City, to which their ancestors moved in the mid-1730s, historians say.

William Ewing, who acquired more than 625 acres from Jost Hite and settled there, headed the Stephens City contingent. He and his descendants farmed the land for 175 years.

The Ewings of "Dallas"

One ancestor, Jock Ewing, moved to Texas after becoming tired of working in Pittsburgh's iron and steel plants and West Virginia's coal fields, according to his great-niece, Polly Ewing Brown of Harrisonburg.

Jock Ewing had good fortune when he moved to Texas; he struck oil and became rich. Years later, his story inspired the immensely popular television series "Dallas," which was telecast from 1978 until 1991, Brown said.

¹ Reprinted with the permission of the author and *The Winchester Star*.

She will discuss the "Dallas Ewing Oil TV Series" Sept. 20 when relatives gather at the Hampton Inn on Berryville Avenue in Winchester to learn more about their heritage.

Her talk will focus on fact vs. fiction in the TV show. "It really is based on a true story," Brown said in a telephone interview. "But as the series continued, they just kept adding to the story and making it up. A lot [that was untrue] was added and added and added."

A Richmond native, Brown learned years ago of the family's ties to the show, which was not yet on the air, from her father while they were en route to a funeral in Pittsburgh.

"We were just chit-chatting about things that we remembered about our relatives when he said, 'The funniest thing happened to me this past week.' "

Her father related how he had received a phone call from a lawyer in Dallas, asking him to sign an agreement that the family wouldn't sue for slander because an entertainment company planned to produce a story about his uncle Jock Ewing.

Brown, who had never heard of her great-uncle Jock Ewing until that time, questioned her father about him. Then he went on to tell the story of Jock Ewing's life.

When they got to the funeral, Brown and her father found that other relatives there had received similar phone calls. "We all looked at each other and said, 'Who would care? Who would give a whoop about anybody's family story?' " she said with a chuckle.

As it turned out, almost everyone in the United States, as well as many foreign countries, cared.

The story of Jock and "Miss Ellie" Ewing's family on "Dallas" became one of the most successful TV prime-time serial stories ever made, according to the MSN Movies Web site.

"My dad got all sorts of promotional things" from the producers as the result of the series, including a Ewing Monopoly game, Brown said.

She promised to reveal "the rest of the story" of the real Jock Ewing in her talk, including: "If there was a rich uncle, why are we still working? What happened to the money?"

Coming home

Besides Brown's talk, presentations about other aspects of family and local history, led by family members and local historians, also are planned for Sept. 19-20 at the inn.

"Echoes of the Shenandoah," the reunion's theme, "reflects an emphasis on the Ewing families who migrated to, settled in, and traveled through the Northern Shenandoah Valley," according to a memorandum outlining plans for the gathering.



Jeanette Ewing (left), Catherine Lovett, Evelyn Ewing, Jim Ewing, Mary Gosline, and John Ewing² are gearing up for the family reunion. Members of *Clan Ewing in America*, founded in 1990 by the Rev. Ellsworth Samuel Ewing, will come from as far away as California to attend the event set for Sept. 18-21.

² This is a typographical error. John's surname is 'Ewin' rather than 'Ewing'.



This is the crumbling grave marker of William Ewing, who acquired more than 625 acres from Jost Hite and settled in the area now known as Stephens City. He and his descendants farmed the land for 175 years.

Two members of Clan Ewing hold major posts in area local governments. Ray Ewing is Stephens City's mayor. His cousin Bill Ewing represents the Opequon District, where the town is located, on the Frederick County Board of Supervisors.

Both are excited about the event. "I couldn't be prouder that it's happening here and at this particular time," Ray Ewing said.

"Knowing that one's ancestors have lived in a community for more than 250 years really helps you to appreciate your roots," he said. "It's reassuring to look at sights in the town and know that your great-grandfather looked at this same sight."

Bill Ewing agreed: "I just think it's great that the family can gather together here in Stephens City. We're glad to see them all coming. Having lived away from the area for a while, I know how good it is to come home."

Bill Ewing's brother and sister-in-law, James and Evelyn Ewing of Emporia, encouraged the Clan Ewing to meet in the Stephens City area when the couple attended the last reunion.

Reunion activities for Sept. 19 include a bus tour of Frederick County, a visit to the Newtown History Center and Stephens City's Main Street, a dedication ceremony for the family cemetery southeast of the town, and lunch at the Stephens City United Methodist Church.

Following the afternoon presentations on family history, the group will have dinner at the Wayside Inn, where another well-known local historian, Michael Foreman, will speak.

On Sept. 20, the events include a visit to the Glen Burnie Historic House and Gardens and the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester and more family history presentations.



This is a grave marker for Joshua Ewing in the family cemetery near Stephens City. The family is related to the man who inspired the TV drama "Dallas."

