

ORGANIZERS MET IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA LAST OCTOBER TO ORGANIZE NATIONAL DUNHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION



Back row, left to right: Gary Dunham, Mary Martha Wood, Patricia and Bruce Junkin, Jean and Bill Burke,
Barbara Patton, Larry Dunham, Caral Mechling Bennett, Tom Patton
Seated, left to right: Jan Dunham, Mary Wood, Bill Wood, Mary Lou Williams

Dunham family members traveled from far & wide to gather outside Washington, DC in Northern Virginia on the weekend of October 4/5, 1996, for the Organizational Meeting of the National Dunham Family Association.

After a summer of planning & organizing by Dunham family historian Bill Wood & his wife, Mary, of Stephens City, VA, & their daughter, Barbara Wood Patton, of McLean, VA, those committed family members who gathered for the weekend of fun & planning were as follows: Caral Mechling Bennett, Arlington, VA; Don Berkebile, Mercersburg, PA; Bill & Jean Burke, Watertown, NY; Frank & Connie Castro, South Windsor, CT; Gary & Jean Dunham, Sugar Land, TX; Larry & Deborah Dunham, Annandale, VA; Norm & Janet Haake, Philadelphia, PA; Bruce & Pat Junkin, Fairfax Station, VA; Tom & Barbara Patton, McLean, VA; Mary Lou Williams, Royal Oak, MI; Bill & Mary Wood, Stephens City, VA; & Mary Martha Wood, Sterling, VA.

The first meeting & reunion of the Dunham Family Association is being planned for the Washington, DC area in October of 1997.

By this time you should have in your hands detailed information on the National Dunham Family Association, which was to have been sent out in January, with membership forms. Any interested persons should contact Barbara Wood Patton, 1178 Huntover Court, McLean, VA 22102; telephone (703) 893-6420, e-mail Bpatton418@AOL.com.



Larry Dunham and Barbara Patton

CANDID SHOTS FROM MEETING



Left to right: Connie Castro, Caral Bennett, Don Berkebile, Mary Lou Williams, Larry Dunham



Left to right: Norm & Janet Haake, Gary & Jan Dunham, Patricia Junkin

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
NATIONAL DUNHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION
Key Bridge Marriott, Arlington, VA, October 4-5, 1996**



Left to right: Patricia Junkin, Jean & Bill Burke, Frank Castro



DD thanks Jean Dunn, North Liberty, IA, for sending this excellent drawing of the Dunham castle in Wayne, Kane County, Illinois. We showed a photograph of the castle in the May 1992 DD, & by January 1994 we had discovered the Dunham ancestry of its 1882 builder: Mark W. Dunham (b. 1842)(8)(Deacon John 1, John 2, John 3, Elisha 4, Elisha 5, Elisha 6, Solomon 7). Mark's daughter, Jane Dunham (1906-1994), after an earlier career as a mathematics teacher, was the founder & director of the Dunham-Hunt Museum in St. Charles, IL., which is also pictured below. Jean Dunn got these drawings directly from Miss Jane Dunham, whom she found to be a particularly charming person.





This 1961 portrait shows Gary, Sherry & Julius Dunham, children of Elbert L./Buddy Dunham (12)(Deacon John 1, Benijah 2, Edmund 3, Jonathan 4, David 5, Jonathan 6, Jonathan 7, Justus 8, James T. 9, Ira O. 10, Elbridge H. 11). The boys appear pleased to be having their picture taken, but it is clear that Sherry is not. Maybe she thought the photographer was a charlatan & a rogue. Does Sherry (now Mrs. Cole D. Stapleton of Antlers, OK, who shares this photo) recall what had so displeased her?

the 13 states. His father was an English fisherman & a relative of John Hancock. Cornelius Dunham was the last one of a family of 9 children. Margaretta Scott Miller Dunham was born in Oberlin, OH in 1807 of pure Scotch parentage. Her precedence were signers of the Declaration of Independence of the 13 states. Cornelius Dunham, Sr. & Margaretta Scott Miller met in Fulton, IL, & were married there in 1840. Both had been married before & were widow & widower. Each had children by the former marriage. The children of Cornelius Dunham, Sr. were John, Cornelius, Jr., Sophronia & Louisa. The children of Margaretta Scott Miller were James, George, Mary & Elizabeth. From Fulton, IL, they moved to Lyons. Jackson County, IA. To Cornelius Dunham & Margaretta Scott Miller were born 5 children, 3 sons & 2 girls. (to p. 5)

LATE-BREAKING EARLY INFORMATION

DD wants to call the attention of its readers to an article sent us by Dale Gaa, Greenwich, NY which appeared in THE AMERICAN GENEALOGIST, July 1996, p. 136. It was written by Robert Leigh Ward. Mr. Ward gathered evidence that the father of Deacon John Dunham (1589-1668) was likely Richard Dunham, of Langford, near Clophill, Bedford, England, who died in 1624. The article also gives some ancestry for Deacon John's 1st wife, Susanna. History now records her maiden name as KENNY, which Ward shows as having several ancient spellings, including CEYNEHOE & CAINEHOE. These spellings look to be of Welch origin.

A SHORT HISTORY OF A DUNHAM FAMILY

(Via P. C. Alger, Derry, NH, who received it from Bill Winters, of Georgia, DD has this interesting account of Bill's Dunham ancestors. Cross-checking between our regular Dunham Index & the new Dunham Geographic Index, we discover that the Cornelius Dunham, Sr. whom Bill mentions belonged to the 6th generation in America, with this ancestral line: Deacon John 1, Jonathan 2, Jonathan 3, Cornelius 4, Shubael 5.)

"Cornelius Dunham, Sr. was born in Martha's Vineyard, MA in 1797. His parents were signers of the Declaration of Independence for

CORNELIUS DUNHAM, SR. FAMILY (from p. 4) One son died in childhood. The children were: Margaretta, Samuel, Jasper, Martha, & Zachary Taylor. In 1849 Cornelius Dunham, Sr., with his 2nd son, Cornelius, Jr., & the youngest daughter, Sophronia, with William Prentis, migrated over the uninhabited Iowa with covered wagon, drawn by oxen, to what is now Dunham's Grove, near Vail, in Crawford County, IA, bringing with them cattle & hogs. They plowed some of the virgin soil & planted corn, potatoes, & other crops providing hay for feed. They built a log cabin out of timber from the Dunham's Grove with tools they brought, namely: saw, axes, adz, hammer, auger, & draw -- having no nails, window glass, or steel hinges. They used an auger, rave & broad ax in constructing the doors from a solid, round block of wood 3 feet by 6 feet. They hewed the slab, raved from the round block, to 2 ½ x 8 ft. Having no door hinges, they made them by draw knife & auger. The hinges were of wood with auger holes, through which were fitted pin of wood. The floor latch was on the inside of the house & consisted of an upright latch holder. The latch was strung on the pin with the holder at the other end. A hole was bored through the door, & a string fastened to the latch & ejected through the auger hole to the outside of the door to lift the latch from the outside. To lock the door, the string was pulled inside. The floors were made of raved puncheons & hewed with the broad ax. During the spring of 1850 Mother Dunham & her 5 children came to the log cabin at Dunham's Grove. After a 3-year stay at Dunham's Grove, Cornelius Dunham, Sr. located at what is now known as the Pioneer Stock Farm near Dunlap, IA, in 1852. John A. Dunham, oldest son of Cornelius, Sr. occupied the Dunham's Grove cabin with his wife, Celinda Richard Dunham. During the next 10 years the western country of Iowa was surveyed, & government land was offered for sale through the Preemption Act, Mexican Soldier Act, & Swamp Land Act, & new settlers occupied it. Other members of the Dunham & Miller families came to join & occupy the western Iowa virgin soil, among whom were James & George Miller & Elizabeth Miller, finding homes in what is now Monona, Woodbury, Harrison & Crawford Counties. Cornelius Dunham, Sr., being a far-seeing & progressive man, sought to secure lands, a land office being opened at Kains Ville (now Council Bluffs), & California gold called for gold migrants. The Mormon migration from Nauvoo, IL to Salt Lake, UT, made Fort Omaha, NE, & Florence become quite a business center & market for cured meat, cheese & honey. Cornelius Dunham took advantage of that & produced hundreds of pounds of butter, cheese, honey, & cured pork & lard, exchanging it for needed supplies & money. St. Louis became a market through steam boats & westward migration. During the '60's some disappointments came to the Dunhams, among them the death of John A. & Jasper Dunham in 1854 of typhoid fever, & the elopement of Mary Jane Miller, daughter of Margaretta Dunham Miller, with a Mormon young man named Cooper, to Salt Lake, UT. Her mother, at the time of her death, did not know of her whereabouts, but later, through the marriage of one of her girls to a young pioneer from Iowa with whom the Dunhams were well acquainted, the acquaintance with the Cooper family was made known. They located in Idaho. Later one of the sons returned to Dunlap to meet some of his mother's relatives. About this time the Denver gold rush came on, & Denver, CO called for migration in a rising western market for food & supplies. Cornelius Dunham was successful in supplying large amounts at a good prices".

TO BE CONTINUED