



Rufus "Ruby" James Kornegay Family

George Kornegay was subsequently rescued by General Barnwell of South Carolina and bonded to Jacob Mueller who raised the boy to manhood. Young George Kornegay prospered through hard work and died a very wealthy planter and was among those who helped establish New Bern, NC before his death in 1773.

Seven generations later Rufus "Ruby" James Kornegay, who was born in Wayne County, NC on August 17, 1900, found his way to Virginia and eventually to Powhatan County. Following his mother's untimely death in 1917, Ruby left North Carolina and moved to Norfolk where he worked on construction projects building the Norfolk Naval Yard. Work around the water was so cold that he became a street car conductor on a line that ran from Norfolk to Virginia Beach, and then joined the Seaboard Coastline Railroad until the mid 1920's. His next promotion would have been to the position of railroad engineer, but repeated strikes by the union prompted the railroad to lay off all workers and hire new employees. Fortunately, Ruby and his brother-in-law had purchased land in Chesterfield County so he moved his family to Chesterfield and started farming before the great depression of 1929. Around 1936 he moved his family to the Genito area of Powhatan where he resided until his house burned, and then rented temporary housing on the Cartersville road before moving to Saint Francis de Sales where he was farm manager until he retired after his wife's death in 1967. Ruby died in 1992 and was buried in the Powhatan Community Cemetery.

Rufus James Kornegay and Mary Georgia (Lester) Kornegay had five children and they all attended Powhatan Schools. The children included James Quentin, Lucy Ellen, Ruby Mae, Mary Bernadette, and Billy Howard Kornegay.

Submitted by: Billy H. Kornegay, 3557 Richards Run Drive, Powhatan, VA 23139

HELEN BELL LAWS

Helen Bell Laws, the eldest child of George W. and Nannie Johnson, as well as the granddaughter of John Tyler and Ellen Bell, was born in Powhatan County on July 1, 1908. When she became a teenager, she went to New Jersey to seek employment. While living in New Jersey, she met and married Edward Laws, and they lived in Manasquan, New Jersey along the Jersey

Shore. Her nieces and nephews would look forward to spending summer vacations in their home.

Helen and Edward were also property owners in Powhatan and spent a lot of time in the County. They both loved to read and were well-versed on current events.

Helen operated a day care center in Manasquan for over twenty years. She was also active in Shiloh Baptist Church where she served as a Sunday School teacher and Clerk. She was a member of Seacoast Missionary and Baptist Association, the General Baptist Convention, and the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

She was always involved with civic and civil rights issues. She attended the historic March on Washington on August 28, 1963, and heard the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. deliver his famous "I Have A Dream" speech. Helen received the Presidential Commendation Award for Community Service from President Jimmy Carter.

Helen loved to travel and had the opportunity to visit Seoul, Korea, Japan and China. She also visited most states in the United States.



Helen Laws

After Helen retired, she spent a lot of time in Powhatan and looked forward to attending her family church, Mt. Zion Baptist Church. She never missed the Bells Family Reunion. She encouraged all youth to strive for the best education they could obtain and to be good, constructive citizens.

Edward died on September 8, 1968, and Helen died on July 11, 2005. Both are buried in the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Cemetery.

Submitted by: Florine B. Bell, 4639 Bell Road, Powhatan, VA 23139



George T. Lee, Jr., and grandson, Charles Carter Lee



George T. Lee III

THE LEE'S IN POWHATAN VIRGINIA

Charles Carter Lee came to Powhatan during the War between the States. He came to Windsor which was well known later because his younger brother, General Robert Edward Lee, had made his last camp on his return from Appomattox to Richmond. After the war, General Robert E. Lee lived in Powhatan for a few months at the cottage named Derwent.

My grandfather, George Taylor Lee, was a VMI cadet and fought in the Battle of New Market. After his marriage to Ella Marian



Lehman's shop, Old Buckingham Road, west of Macon, circa 1918

Goodrum, they moved from Johnson City, Tennessee to Powhatan County during World War 1.

My father, George Taylor Lee, Jr. married Mary Selwyn Hancock who lived in the Manakin area of Powhatan County. My father was a World War 1 veteran of the U. S. Army.

Charles Carter Lee, George Taylor Lee, and George Taylor Lee, Jr. are all buried at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Powhatan County.

I was born in Powhatan County in 1936. I served in the US Marine Corps and am a veteran of Vietnam. I have three children: Rachele Elisabeth Hamilton (1962), retired from the Navy who lives in California, Rhonda Selwyn Lee (1964), attorney, who lives in Massachusetts, and Charles Carter Lee (1968), electrical designer, who lives in Powhatan County. My three grandchildren are Ray Baggett (1982), Corbin Edward Hamilton (2003) and Sydney Victoria Lee (2004).

Submitted by: George Taylor Lee, III

ARTHUR LEHMAN FAMILY

Arthur Lehman currently lives in Amelia