

Blount

Newsome

Sutton

KINDRED

Family Newsletter

Inaugural Issue - August 1997

ROOTS

The life of Matthew Blount was certainly not in vain. For it was at his funeral that conversations between the Blounts and Suttons in Newport News, Virginia led to the planning of our first family reunion. The event was held at the home of Author Sutton in 1978.

The "FamilyTree" is attached to bridge a gap in our history for all of us and future generations. Its completion is dependent upon everyone's input. So, as you review the "tree", know that your insight is welcome.

REFLECTION

Delightful. The 19th Annual BNS Family Reunion was held August 31 - September 2, 1996. Hosted by Walter Sutton, Sr. and family in Knoxville, Tennessee, the event brought in groups from as far away as Boston, Massachusetts.

Saturday, August 31, 1996

Stepping out of cars and off of buses and planes, family members arrived in the morning excited and ready for the fellowship to begin.

Following check-in, the first order of business, keeping with tradition, was the purchase of the infamous BNS Family Reunion T-shirts. Unity was in the air. Next, the weekend's agenda was shared and so, the festivities began.

On Saturday evening, reunion attendees gathered in the Cabin Lounge of our home for the weekend. Snacks were a nice compliment to laughter, sing-alongs, etc.

Searching for the younger generation? Well, you didn't have to go far. They were indulging in the amenities of the day - video games, swimming, basketball and the exercise facility.

The playfulness proved contagious as a group of BSNers were later spotted at Celebration Station, a large indoor playground for all ages!

Sunday, September 1, 1996

Following church services with Walter Sutton, Sr., the group returned to the hotel for the BNS Family Banquet which featured a delicious buffet meal. The BNS Family Reunion "history" (via Charlie Sutton) and other family highlights were shared during the meal.

Sites were determined for upcoming reunions as follows: 1997 - Washington, DC and 1998 - Boston, Massachusetts. Cousin Bill Stephenson briefed the group on plans for '97 and invited suggestions.

Cousin Carlene Roberts requested updates for the Family Directory and solicited volunteers for the production of a BNS Family Newsletter. Cousin Bill Stephenson volunteered and Cousin Melody Stephenson Reynolds (not present) obliged when asked to develop the first issue.

Following dinner, the Boston group hosted a fundraiser (BINGO) for the Scholarship Fund.

Monday, September 2, 1996

The final day of fellowship concluded with impromptu activities, meals and final farewells. As always, we parted - looking forward to coming together again in 1997.

NEWS

After earning a degree in Chemical Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Alice Renee Sutton is now employed by the Corelle Company - makers of Corelle dishes.

Destined to make her mark, Renee has had an invention patented by the company. She is the daughter of Walter Sutton, Jr. and the granddaughter of Laurena A. Sutton.

Ramadonah Miriam Salaam has completed her freshman year at Florida A&M University on an all expense paid scholarship.

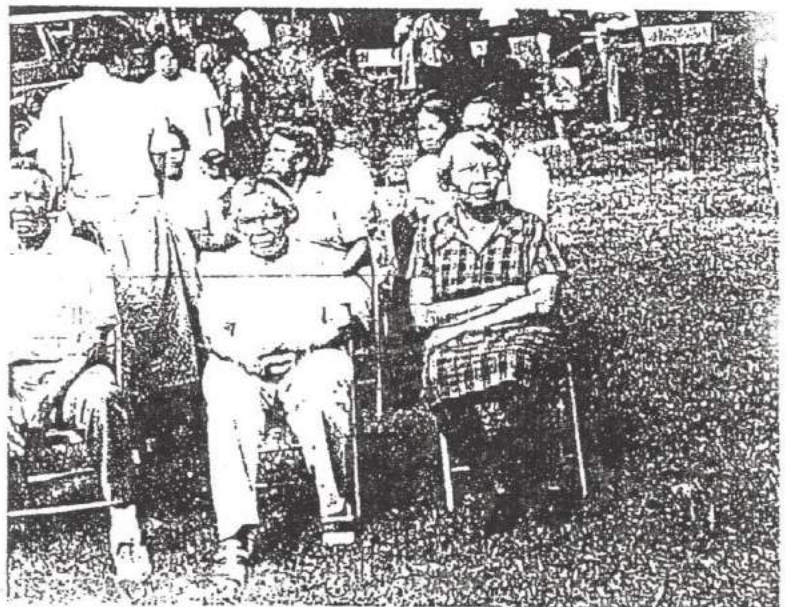
Her academic achievements can be traced back as far as elementary school. A highlight was a high school trip abroad to London, England and other European points of interest. She is the daughter of Abdul and Mary Sutton Salaam and the granddaughter of Laurena A. Sutton.

Mrs. Laurena Sutton was honored in April of this year by the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority where she had served as an active member for 47 years. Her leadership skills afforded her the opportunity to hold several offices in the chapter during her tenure. The day was shared by a host of friends and family.

Earlier this year a letter arrived from Minnie Walker (Blount) regarding Mrs. Sadie Blount Doves who was born in 1888.

The remarkable thing is that the letter describes her as a woman who lives alone - cooks, cleans, etc.. We certainly applaud her independence.

Glimpses of the first BNS Family Reunion



FREDERICK SUTTON

WILLIAM MATTHEW SUTTON

WALTER SUTTON

BOB SUTTON

WILLIAM SUTTON

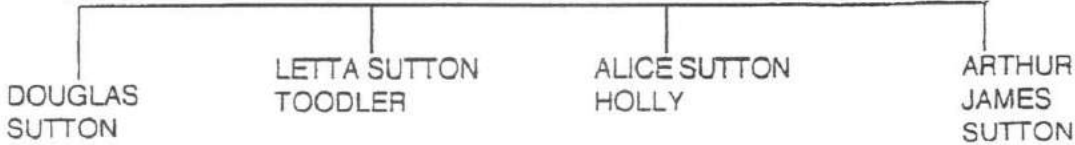
ALICE SUTTON

writeon/bnsnews1

JOSEPH SUTTON

FAMILY GENEALOGICAL TREE

PHEBE SUTTON (*FROM MERRYHILL N.C.*)



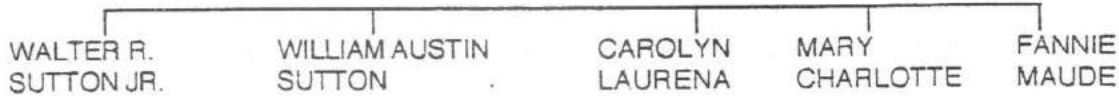
ARTHUR JAMES SUTTON *married* TINNIE MEDESSA SUTTON (*2nd wife*)



WILLIAM SUTTON *married* GEORGIA HOLLY SUTTON



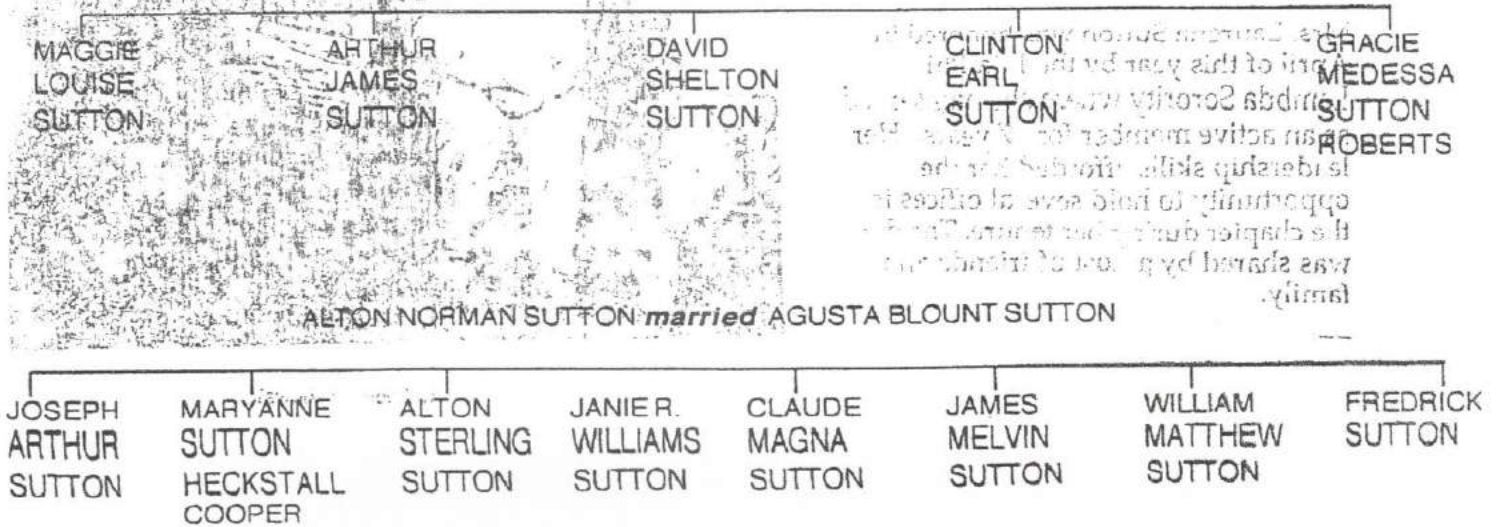
WALTER SUTTON SR. *married* LAURENA AUSTIN



MARY SUTTON CUFFIE *married* LUTHER CUFFIE

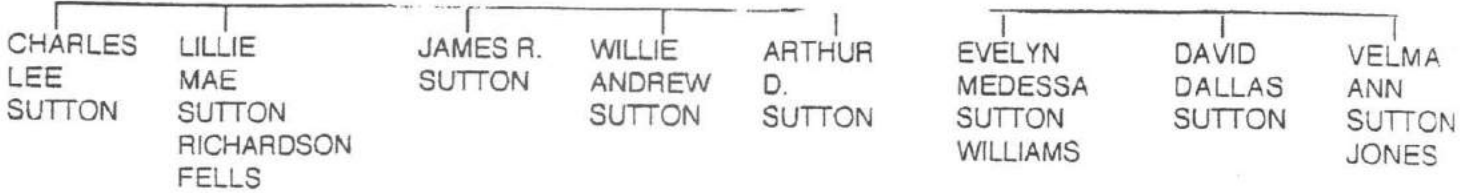


JAMES EDWARD SUTTON *married* MARGARET ELIZABETH COOPER SUTTON



FAMILY GENEALOGICAL TREE

DAVID LEE SUTTON *married* JANIE BLOUNT SUTTON



TINNIE SUTTON MORRIS SUTTON *married* DAVID MORRIS

JOE WILLIE HOLLY

LONNIE THEODORE SUTTON *married* MAGGIE LESTER SUTTON

LONNIE THEODORE SUTTON

MINNIE LEE SUTTON

MATTHEW (MACK) BLOUNT *married* ANNIE COLLINS BLOUNT

MATTHEW WILLIAM BLOUNT

SALLY ANN BLOUNT

MINNIE BLOUNT ROBINSON

EDWARD K. BLOUNT

EMMANUAL BLOUNT

MATTHEW WILLIAM BLOUNT *married* ANNIE JONES (1st wife)

WILLIAM MATTHEW BLOUNT

MATTHEW WILLIAM BLOUNT *married* ROMINE NEWSOME BLOUNT (2nd wife)

MARY AUGUST BLOUNT

ANNIE BELLE HECKSTALL

JANIE BLOUNT SUTTON

JAMES BLOUNT

LEE ALBERT BLOUNT

ESTELLA LOUISE BLOUNT FREEMAN

CHARLIE NEWSOME *married* NETTIE NEWSOME

LARRY NEWSOME

BILL STEPHENSON

MELODY NEWSOME REYNOLDS