

RFA Dispatch

Vol. 1, No. 1

December 12, 2011

*An organizational communications medium addressed to members of the
Reynolds Family Association (RFA)*

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Introduction and Purpose

At this time of year, between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, it seems particularly significant that we introduce this new RFA communications tool to our membership. This is, I believe, the first EVER attempt to reach our members by email. (Copies of this email will be sent by regular mail to those members who do not yet have email capabilities.) On behalf of the Officers and Board Members of the RFA, I would like to thank all of those who responded to the RFA letter dated September 01, 2011, and, like so many of you expressed in your responses to our letter, we are hopeful that this occasion marks the return to vitality of our long-standing and honorable association.

The purpose of this email is not to replace the RFA newsletter, *Reynolds Recollections*, but to inaugurate a more direct and current means of letting you know newsworthy items that affect our association. This represents one small step in our effort to rebuild and retool our organization. Since this is a new beginning, the purpose and direction of this email vehicle will likely change as we work our way through the rebuilding process. For the moment, though, I am delighted to be able to introduce this series.

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What's Your Opinion?

It occurred to me that we ought to have a name of some sort for this email series. I struggled through several possibilities before I landed on calling this edition the *RFA Dispatch*, a temporary title. Since this is rightly your communications medium, I thought that you should have a hand in selecting or offering a permanent title, so I am asking you let us know which one you prefer.

The prospective names that I have considered include the following:

- ☐ RFA Beacon
- ☐ RFA Bulletin
- ☐ RFA Chronicle
- ☐ RFA Dispatch
- ☐ RFA News
- ☐ RFA Reporter

or _____ (write one in)

You can cut and paste this listing into an email, placing an "X" or two beside the title you prefer, or send us a letter to express your view. We would like to hear from you.

Please send your responses to:

Reynolds Family Association
c/o Debra Reynolds Jones
22922 E Trap Pond Rd
Georgetown, DE 19947-3728
Email: Wesdebjones@aol.com

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Expenditures and RFA Dues Assessment

Ern Reynolds, RFA Corporate Secretary, coordinated the printing and distribution of the RFA letter you received in September. He has reported that 213 pieces were mailed at a total cost of \$573.23. He has been reimbursed from RFA funds for this expenditure, and, as we mentioned in the September letter, the RFA needs to recoup this expense as well as prepare for other anticipated expenses associated with rebuilding the association. We are, therefore, providing this Notification of Assessment of RFA membership dues for Calendar Year 2012.

Annual dues in the amount of \$20.00 are to be collected. These are due and payable by Monday, January 16, 2012. Please make checks payable to the RFA and send your check to the following address:

Reynolds Family Association
c/o Ern Reynolds, RFA Corporate Secretary
1324 Brunswick St SW
Roanoke, VA 24015-2229
Email: EFReynolds@verizon.net

RFA dues are assessed against those with annual memberships. Lifetime members are exempted from payment of annual membership dues. We did receive unexpected checks from two RFA members along with their responses to the September letter. We have been obliged to consider those checks as donations for which we thank the contributors. We will send a follow-up reminder on 2012 RFA Membership dues around the first of the New Year.

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RFA Membership Roster

Since the current RFA Officers and Board members are scattered all around the US, Ern Reynolds took the additional measures -- at his own volition and expense -- of electronically scanning your responses to the September RFA letter, preparing a CD with those scanned images and mailing a copy of the CD to each RFA Officer and Board member.

Our effort to reconnect to the RFA membership has largely been successful. We have, however, learned in this process that twelve of our former members have passed on. An additional fourteen of our letters were returned without forwarding addresses. Three others have chosen to resign from our association. We have received no responses from several members, and we are particularly concerned that we have not heard from many of our RFA Lifetime members.

In that we have not yet designated a Registrar, I have developed a temporary RFA Roster from the information provided in responses to the September letter in order to derive a listing of email addresses for this and subsequent editions of this email vehicle.

I have arranged email addresses from the RFA Membership roster into a number of address groups for this email by a "coding" process. This should serve to afford our association a measure of security on the Internet.

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Status of RFA Re-Organization

We want to thank those of you who indicated in your responses to the September letter a willingness to lend a hand in the work we anticipate the RFA needs to do to remain a vital organization. Since we are into the holiday season, many will be preparing to visit friends or family or for entertaining guests with the result that they might not be available to devote the time and attention needed to help resolve our organizational issues. Perhaps it is appropriate, anyway -- with the approaching New Year -- that those be dealt with after the start of the year.

We need, on a priority basis, to identify a new Registrar so that we are again in a position to recruit new members and administer the attendant records. But all of the current RFA Officers and Board members are also aware that we need to replace ourselves. Most of us are experiencing declines in capabilities to the extent that we can do little of the needed work ourselves with the result that those who can still man the oars or steer our boat are doing so but feeling vastly overwhelmed. As many of you mentioned in your responses to the recent RFA letter, we must look to and employ the vigor of those who can and of the next generation to continue this journey.

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General Comments

With the advent of an email vehicle for our communication, it is important that you notify us of any changes in your respective email addresses. Please, for the time being, send those updates to me.

We want to close this edition by wishing each and every one of you the very best possible holiday season.

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Prepared and distributed by:

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Reynolds Family Association

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