

THE FAGALA FAMILY

The Fagala family was Dutch by one account, although I think they may have been Scotch Irish. They followed the same pattern of migration as did all my other Scotch lines. They landed in Pennsylvania, and were there in the Revolution. After the War, they headed down the *Great Road* to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and then further along into Tennessee. It was here in Tennessee, that Elizabeth Fagala met and married Robert Reed. Their daughter, Elizabeth Reed, married Reding Putman II in Washington County, Arkansas in 1855. This is the story of what I know about the Fagala family.

MICHAEL FAGALA

Michael is the earliest member of the family that I can find. He was possibly the original member of the family to come to America.

The name is pronounced with a hard `G' and a long `A' and many early records used the spelling *Fagley or Faglay*. Several Civil War records used the spelling of *Fagle*.

From the Goodspeed book **HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY ARKANSAS**, published in 1889, I find in the REED biographical sketch, that Elizabeth Fagala's father was from Pennsylvania and fought in the Revolution. It would be more reasonable to believe this was her grandfather and not father, based on ages. Anyway, I began my search in Pennsylvania.

The only family that sounded remotely close was found in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. In the 1800 census there were the following FAGELEY and FAGELAY families: John, Jonathan, George and Yost. John was the eldest of these four men, and probably the father. There may or may not be any connection at all. Adam Fagala later named his second son John, and it might have been in honor of his grandfather.

Michael Fagala first appears in the 1810 census of Rockingham County, Virginia under the name of *MICHAEL FAGALY*. He is listed as the only male and over the age of forty five. There are four females in the family, the oldest under forty four years of age. This is probably a family of Michael, his wife and three teenage daughters. To fit this category, Michael would have had to be born before 1765. If he fought in the Revolution, then a birth date of about 1750 is most probable. His son, Adam, was born in 1766, so perhaps a birth date of about 1748 would be a more reasonable guess at this time.

In the same census, I find a CATHERINE FADELY, age over forty five, living alone with one teen age boy. They are probably both of the same family. I would guess that two Fagala brothers headed southwest out of Pennsylvania and settled in the northern Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The 1790 and 1800 Virginia census data was destroyed by fire, so it is difficult to find out more. The brother who had married Catherine had died by 1810.

I cannot find Michael in the 1820 census, but in the 1830 reporting period he is living in Augusta County, Virginia. Augusta is the next county southwest from Rockingham in the Valley. He is shown properly under the spelling of MICHAEL FAGALA and is living in Northern Township of Augusta County. He probably died there sometime in the 1830s, as this is the last mention that I find of him. In the same year, 1830, we find his sons, Michael and Adam Fagala in Sevier

County of East Tennessee with their young and growing families.

Regretfully, this is all I know about Michael senior. According to the earlier reference, he was in the Revolution, but I cannot locate a service record at this time.

ADAM FAGALA

A great deal of the following information comes from a 1967 genealogy written by John Creswell, **CRESWELL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY**, that I found while visiting the Sevier County Library in 1987. Mary Fagala had married Sam Creswell, and a brief genealogy of one generation of the Fagalas was included in this work.

Adam Fagala was born in Pennsylvania in 1766. His wife's name was Mary Catherine Parsons. I have found no proof that her maiden name was Parsons, but one researcher has heard this passed down by older relatives as being her full name. I will go with it for the time being. Their two eldest sons were born in Pennsylvania in 1796 and 1797. The third son, Michael, was born in Virginia in Virginia in 1798. This fairly well established that the family moved to Rockingham County in the later part of 1797.

Adam Fagala lived the remainder of his life near Boyd's Creek in northwest Sevier County, Tennessee. He was both a farmer and a wagon maker by trade. He died there on June 25, 1835. Catherine, his wife, was also born in Pennsylvania in 1770 and she died on October 20, 1850. Both are buried in the Baptist Cemetery in Boyd's Creek, Tennessee.

Adam and Catherine Fagala had seven children. The following is what I know of them.

Adam Fagala, Jr.

Adam Fagala was born in Pennsylvania in 1796. He remained unmarried and died in Sevier County on September 10, 1842. He is buried in the Boyd's Creek Baptist cemetery.

John Fagala

John was also born in Pennsylvania. He was born on March 3, 1797 and died on June 15, 1874 at Trundles Cross Roads, in Sevier County. His wife was named Catherine and she was born in 1801 in Virginia and died on October 7, 1884, also at Trundles Cross Roads. In the 1850 census, it is shown that his mother, Catherine Fagala, was also living with them.

Michael Fagala

Michael was the first born in Virginia, in 1798. He was a mechanic, which probably indicated he worked on wagons and the likes. He married Nancy McCallie who was born on August 30, 1804 in Sevier County, Tennessee. Michael died on July 19, 1872, and Nancy died on December 12, 1885. Both are buried at Trundles Cross Roads, Tennessee. They had five children.

JAMES M. FAGALA was born in Sevier County on June 25, 1827. He served in the Civil

War and died on January 13, 1897.

ALBERT FAGALA was born in 1830. He married and had at least one son, Albert junior. He died at Trundles Cross Roads on August 10, 1887.

EMILY C. FAGALA was born August 21, 1835 and died July 4, 1902. She married John Rose in 1853.

EASTER A. FAGALA was born April 6, 1836 and married Joseph A. Keener.

JOSEPH FAGALA was born in 1837.

Mary (Polly) Fagala

Polly was born in Virginia on November 11, 1799. On February 11, 1816, she married Samuel Evans Creswell. They had eleven children. She died on October 10, 1881 and Samuel died on September 15, 1859. This line is fully covered in the Creswell book where I obtained this information.

Their children, all with the surname of Creswell, were:

RUFUS born October 10, 1817 and died March 19, 1886. He married Mary Amner Randles on July 30, 1840.

BARCLY born December 31, 1818. He went to Georgia and no more is known about him.

KATE or **CATY** was born on July 22, 1820. She married a Whittle man and moved to Mississippi.

ANDREW born May 16, 1823 and died February 12, 1881. He remained in Trundles Cross Roads.

ADAM was born April 5, 1825. He went to California in the Gold Rush and then returned and married Eliza Williams in Sevier County. They went to Texas, then north to Oklahoma and then possibly to Oregon.

GEORGE was a shoemaker and he married a Cowden girl in Tennessee and then moved to Dallas, Texas.

DOROTHY or **DOLLY** was born November 22, 1830 and died just before her sixteenth birthday on October 12, 1845.

MARGARET was born June 30, 1838.

SAMUEL was born April 30, 1836. He joined the Union Army in the Civil War and was killed in a boat explosion on the Mississippi River during the war.

HENRY was born on April 30, 1839 and died unmarried at age twenty on November 2, 1859.

MARY MARIE was born August 12, 1840 and died at age five on November 19, 1845.

Catherine Fagala

Catherine was born in 1801 in Virginia. She was unmarried and living in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1850.

David Fagala

David Fagala was born in Virginia on December 16, 1811. He married Penelope Randles on September 4, 1837. He was an early photographer living in Newport, Tennessee. He was killed on July 26, 1866 in Dandridge, Tennessee while fighting in the Civil War. He is buried in the Old Presbyterian Cemetery in Dandridge. Penelope was born on July 26, 1819 and died on August 25, 1902.

They had the following children.

ADAM was born on June 4, 1838 and died January 30, 1915. He married Alethea Ellen Trundle on December 17, 1861.

ELIZABETH was born on January 3, 1840 and married S. D. Williams on January 5, 1861 in Sevier County, Tennessee.

BENJAMIN HARRISON was born on September 1, 1841. He married Sarah Ann Jackson. He died on July 3, 1886 in Mount Vernon, Jefferson County, Illinois. Their children were: John, Jennie, Hattie, William, Kittie, Benjamin and George. He served as a private in Company B of the 39th Georgia Infantry in the Confederate Army.

KATHERINE was born on June 10, 1843.

HOWARD was born on August 8, 1845. He was married to Julia Newman on December 23, 1869. He is listed as O. H. Fagala as serving as a corporal in the 1st Georgia Infantry, the Home Guard, during the Civil War.

AMNER was born on August 1, 1847 in Murray County, Georgia. She married John Wesley Gass on December 23, 1869 in Dandridge, Tennessee. They moved to Barber County, Kansas. They made the 'run' into the Cherokee Strip of Oklahoma in 1893. Amner died in 1894 back in Hazelton, Barber County, Kansas. John died May 1, 1926 in Driftwood, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. They had five children.

WILLIAM was born on August 19, 1849. He married Martha Elizabeth Hines on December 18, 1872. He died June 4, 1926. Martha died February 10, 1949.

ELECTA PAULETTE was born on November 4, 1851 and she married David P. Meek on January 5, 1870 in Jefferson County, Illinois. She died March 23, 1924 and is buried in Amity, Missouri.

AMANDA was born October 31, 1857. She married R. M. Taylor in Jefferson County, Illinois on December 19, 1883. She died on April 7, 1932.

REV. GEORGE WASHINGTON was born December 6, 1853 and died January 15, 1916. He was a Methodist minister and was married four times: Mattie C. Mitchell, Mary Angeline Hays, Sallie Seahorn and Julia Rimmer. He had a total of some fifteen kids by these wives; five with Mattie: Walter, Nora, Jessie Lee, Verner and Mattie Ina; two with Angie: James who died as an infant and William; none with Sally and eight with Julie: An infant who died, Myrtle, Orin Henry, Raymond, Samuel, George, Eugene Hershhal and Anna.

WILLIAM was born February 4, 1856 and died six months later on November 21, 1856.

MATTISON was born July 5, 1860 and May 8, 1865 at the age of five.

BENJAMIN was born on October 31, 1862. He married a woman named Amanda Jane. He died on August 6, 1925 and is buried in Princeton, Texas. Amanda died on August 7, 1943.

Elizabeth Fagala

Elizabeth Fagala was born May 9, 1802 in Rockingham County, Virginia. She married Robert Reed in Sevier County, Tennessee on August 19, 1824. The story of their lives was told in the **REED FAMILY HISTORY**.