

VINING FAMILY ASSOCIATION

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

ABOUT THOSE VININGS

The history of the Vining name begins with the Anglo-Saxon tribes of Britain. The name is derived from when the family resided in the settlement of Fyning of Rogate in the County of Sussex. Until quite recently, the English language lacked a definite system of spelling rules. Consequently, Anglo-Saxon surnames are characterized by a multitude of spelling variations. Changes in Anglo-Saxon surnames were influenced by the evolution of the English language, as it incorporated elements of French, Latin and other languages. Although Medieval scribes and church officials recorded names as they sounded, so it is common to find one person referred to by several different spellings of his surname, even the most literate people varied the spelling of their own names. Variations of the name Vining include Vining, Vineham, Viney, Vinny, Finning, Finnings, Vynyng, Vinning and others.

The surname Vining was first found in Winchester where Robert Fininge is generally understood to be the oldest listing of the family as recorded there (1210-1211).

Thomas Finning was listed in Suffolk in 1228 and later, the Subsidy Rolls of Sussex listed Alan Fynyng in 1332. Ralph de Vynyng was listed to the Subsidy Rolls of Sussex in 1327 and Robert Vinning was listed in Somerset in 1641. (1)

In the United States, the name Vining is the 5,428th most popular surname with an estimated 4,974 people with that name (2) in the world, it is the 61,160 most popular surname with an estimated 8,300 people with that name.

Vining, being a relatively small clan by world standards, means we can probably consider all Vinings distant cousins. To that I set up a google alert for anytime a Vining shows up on published data on the internet. Outside of deaths, most often it is published for good and/or bad reasons. Let's just concentrate on the good. Here are some notable Vinings over the past year:

- Melissa Vining was a semi-finalist for Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year for her work on raising Funds for Southland Charity Hospital.
- Ward Vining submitted the name for the Denver Football team to be named Broncos (years ago)
- Emily Vining and her twin sister, Madeline, run track for the University of Toledo. Emily won the mile in the Michigan Invitational and Madeline came in third.
- Valerie Vining was promoted to Program Director for Darret Media.
- Amy Vining was named Executive Director for the non-profit, A Kid Again.
- Petroskey's Rippin Vining was the athlete of the week (If Rippin doesn't give it away, it was for football).

About Those Vinings -

- Kendall Vining was elected President of Rice University's Student Association.
- Vanessa Vining was appointed Diversity Officer for Vaynerx.
- Clare and Mary Vining (Vining Sisters Production) released a movie on Christian World View.
- Peyton Vining, star football player for Denison University (Div. III) got a scholarship to attend the University of Illinois to play football.
- And a bit of history – George Vining was the first central Georgia casualty of World War II. He died at Pearl Harbor.

Two of those listed above are African-American Vinings. - James B. Vining

1 <https://www.your-family-history.com/surname/v/vining/>

2 <https://www.houseofnames.com/Vining-family-crest/>

3 <https://www.namecensus.com/last-names/vining-surname-popularity>

MBIT STUDENTS BUILD A MODULAR HOUSE

Robert Vining, Business Manager of the Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (MBIT), located in Jamison, Pennsylvania, announced that MBIT students have built a home – a four-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath, 2,688 square-foot, 48 feet by 28 feet modular home.

The modular house features a family room, living room, kitchen, dining room, foyer, laundry and powder room on the first floor, with four spacious bedrooms and two baths on the second floor.

Mr. Vining noted that this was the largest house built by the students thus far. This was quite a feat considering that the students had to wear masks and social distance themselves while building the house and taking turns being at the construction site.

Students from the construction trades, the heating-ventilation and air condition program, electrical program, design programs and construction carpentry program participated in the planning and construction of the home. The home will have cabinetry, lighting, plumbing and a fire suppression system already installed.

Robert Vining pointed out the advantages of purchasing a modular home:

- It is an opportunity for someone having land.
- It is a great house for a great price.
- The house comes in four units for transportation to a selected site for easy re-assembly.

Modular Home -

- The house was offered for sale on Zoom at a minimum bid of \$140,000, the price of which covered the school's cost of construction. The house will be sold to the highest bidder when the sealed bids are opened. Funds from the sale of the house will be put toward the building of next year's model, so that taxpayers do not fund the project.

Mr. Vining pointed out that the blue-sided house is not completely finished, as the highest bidder will have to install their own HVAC equipment and hot water heater. They will also have to install a finished staircase, and some of the flooring. The foundations and water and septic system would also have to be secured and the transit fees paid.

Bucks County Courier Times, January 27, 2021, Peg Quann

MAINE COASTAL DELIGHTS

A walk along the Maine coast, or any New England coast, offers up an interesting variety of flora and fauna. One of nature's miracle plants found along the shore is Irish Moss, a reddish-brown seaweed, and one of many sea vegetables or wild ocean plants or marine algae. This important, versatile plant offers protection for small animals and other algae, and is a good food source for green sea urchins and a habitat for juvenile lobsters and juvenile fish. Irish moss is also a healthy addition to the human diet, although not good to eat raw. The plant is rich in minerals and trace elements, such as calcium, magnesium, iron, potassium, iodine, manganese, and chromium to name a few; and the plant has nutrient levels higher than those found in land vegetables. Many people would be surprised to know that Irish Moss is consumed on a daily basis in soups, jellies or aspic, ice cream, dog food, salad dressings, processed cheeses and other dairy products. Moss has a thickening agent, carrageenan, that is used in toothpaste, as a textile sizing, as a binder, and can be found in cosmetics as a skin softener. For an in-depth read of the life cycle of Irish Moss, refer to the text of "Living on the Edge...".

Try these delicious seaweed recipes:

Blanc-Mange or Seaweed Pudding

¼ tsp. salt

½ cup sugar

4 cups milk

1 cup Irish Moss (Irish Moss can be purchased at a local Health Food store or online).

1 tsp. Vanilla

Maine Coastal Delights -

Soak Irish Moss in water for a few minutes. Clean and drain in a colander. In a double boiler, cook the milk and Irish Moss for 20 minutes, stirring constantly. (The milk will seem a little thicker then when put on to cook, but if cooked longer, the blanc mange will be too stiff). Add salt and sugar. Cook another 5-10 minutes. Strain out seaweed and add vanilla. Chill and serve.

(Try this delicious variation: Melt 1 and ½ squares of unsweetened chocolate. Add ¼ cup of sugar and 1/3 cup boiling water. Stir until perfectly smooth, adding to milk just before removing from the stove. This can be served with sugar and cream.)

For a whole meal, prepare some dulse chowder, boiled lobsters, and blanc-mange. Pick some blueberries and buy locally baked bread and locally made beverages. These are the ingredients for a unique feast on the Maine Coast! Enjoy!

Living on the Edge a guide to tide pool animals, seaweeds and seaside plants, by Ruth Gortner Grierson, Thomas F. Vining, pages 104 and 105. - Ruth Gortner Grierson and Thomas F. Vining

ANNOUNCEMENT!

Congratulations to John Vining, VFA Website Manager, and Clare Moran, on the birth of their daughter, Nell Moran Vining, on September 5, 2022!

BRINDY

You can look for her in the garden or under the fir tree, and then she approaches slowly, a mere shadow of herself.

Soon she will find a resting place

and leave wonderful memories of her beautiful face.

Spunky and Midnight search for her in the usual corner

only to find a solitary mourner.

They know "Brindie Brins" is gone

as they, too, keep mournful vigil well into the dawn.

Rest in peace, Brindy. - Judi A. Vining

KNOW YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

James B. Vining, Member At Large, and wife, Pat.



Live: Rock Hill, SC

Hometown: Tryon, NC (Statesville, NC for Pat)

Went to college in Raleigh, NC and lived in Port St. Joe, FL for 3 years before moving to Rock Hill for 44 years. Retired out of the Paper Industry. Vining lineage came from England in late 1600s, landing in Massachusetts, then on to Johnson County North Carolina in the 1700's, the Augusta Georgia area in the early 1800s to Eufaula Alabama in late 1800s and then to Tryon North Carolina in late 1920s. We have children living in New Jersey, North Carolina, and South Carolina and siblings in North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee.

Know Your Board Members -

Judi A. Vining, President

Direct descendant of John Vining who sailed to North America and settled in Weymouth, MA, in 1652. Ancestors remained in Weymouth until the late 1880s, then onto Brockton, MA, for the shoe and grain industries.

Born in Brockton, MA; moved with family to PA; lived in Florida, obtained a B.A. in Political Science/ Public Administration, and an A.A.S. in Legal Assistant while living and working in New Jersey. Retired from government service.

In addition to a life-long interest in genealogy, and as a co-founder of the Vining Family Association, I reach out to Vinings worldwide to inform them of the Vining Family Association Online Genealogy where they can research their ancestors and families from the 1600s to present day and submit additions and updates to the website manager.

I am also an historical interpreter at a PA museum, an elected Historian and Recording Secretary and Committee Chairs of a Chapter in the Daughters of the American Revolution; an Animal Rights Activist and a volunteer at a Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center.

Know Your Board Members -

Tammera Startin Nolen, Member At Large and Vining Family Association Co-Founder, and husband Mark.



Lives in: Georgetown, Scott County, Kentucky Hometown: Hooper, Whitman County, Washington

I was the owner operator of a very successful Equine training operation in Washington State in the 1980's. I moved my business to California in the 1990' s and handled, managed and exhibited 14 World Champion Show horses at that time. In 1998 when I was pregnant with my son, I was not allowed to ride any longer so I reinvented myself into an accountant and have been doing accounting work for the past 25 years. I am currently working for a Cultural Resource Consulting company as CFO. This is a very large company with offices in 7 States. Our company frequently moves whole cemeteries and/ or documents the graves in cemeteries. My love of genealogy made this a dream job for me. We also do research on historic sites in the US. In 2020 we did extensive research on the Ford Theatre where President Lincoln was shot. My mother is Nancy Vining Startin, she lives in LaCrosse, Whitman County, Washington. She was born in 1933 in Washington to Ned Ansel Vining, a printer, also from Washington. I have one son that lives in Georgetown, KY who was just married in October of 2022.

Know Your Board Members -

Nancy Startin Vining (b. 1933), daughter of Ned Vining – grand-daughter of Frank Vining.



Déjà vu

I walk on streets and sidewalks that once were dirt and cobbled paths. How many ancestors trod those paths, and what were they doing as they went about their daily routines towards their goals and dreams. What were their thoughts and plans?

Did they imagine a descendant would stand four centuries later where they had stood so long ago, and be interested in how they looked, thought, felt and lived?

I pass places where my grandparents and relatives once lived, and they are different places now. Wonderful times remembered with them, and I give the places a fleeting glance and smile as I travel on because I knew them and had said goodbye.

And I visit places of ancestors who I know only through stories, photographs and paintings, and I stare at their faces as though if I look long enough, they can be willed back to life to tell their story.

- Judi A. Vining

A MOMENT IN TIME

The day of the ice storm was one not to forget. The expression, "One could hear a pin drop," was never more keenly observed than on that day.

It had already snowed a couple of feet. The day continued snowy and windy, then the snow gave way to an icy rain, the weight of which weakened branches of trees, uprooted them and caused them to fall on electrical wires running through properties and along back country roads.

Gone was the hum of electricity in the home, through the wires of the refrigerator and freezer, the computer, the rumbling of the generator of the heater. Silent, also, was the buzz of street lamps, the electrical boxes on the telephone poles, the drone of traffic on distant highways, the clickety clack of the trains, and the tolling of church bells marking the hour. Even the wildlife was as still as, well, still life. The silence was overwhelming.

An eerie calm and quiet had created a frozen- in-the-moment, picture-perfect landscape, and the concept of how peaceful life must have been long ago before the noise of modernity.

- Judi A. Vining

Halloween

Wind whistles through the trees making eerie sounds, as fog permeates the atmosphere with gloom;

Witches mount their brooms and join mournful ghosts drifting in the sky;

On this night of spook and fright, children don costumes of every delight for a fun-filled evening of collecting treats for not too many tricks.

On this night of witch's brew, children's fears are few,

And as they fill their little "caldrons" with sweets, they look forward when next year they meet!

- Judi A. Vining