

# *Reunion Report:*

## **Alabama Gulf Coast Thames Potluck**

*by Joe and JoAnn Pecenka*

Date: Tuesday, 14 October 2003 12:34:53 -0700

On Sunday, October 12, twenty descendants and spouses of the Central Alabama John/Rutha branch of the Thames family met at the Phoenix East in Orange Beach, AL. A twenty-mile view into the Gulf from an 11th floor condo provided a backdrop for that reunion, which included representatives from Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado and Illinois.

Of those present, 18 represented the line through John and Rutha's son Charles, and two represented the line through their daughter Ella. The attendees were briefly entertained by a presentation of the group's general pedigree. While the Charles people were aware of their descendancy through Charles, they were surprised and pleased to discover ancestors two generations farther back, ties to the early Jamestown Colony, and purported ties to pre-Christian Irish and Scottish royalty.

News of the existence of the Thames List, the Thames Organization and its website was also brought to their attention. Be alert for potential registrations from the surnames Pass, Evans, Jones and Mullins as these folks may sign on for charter membership.

Needless to say, a good time was had by all, over the potluck meal, the renewal of acquaintances, the acquisition of a little more family history, and the first-time meeting of several new found cousins.

Host/Hostess: Joe & JoAnn Pecenka