

Volume II, Number I January, February, March 1997

We encourage your participation and your contributions to this newsletter. We are all part of one great historic family, a family which fought in all wars from the American Revolution to the present; a family which has helped to populate the nation; a family which, although rooted in Europe, can still lay claim to being ultimately "American." With all this background, there still remain (as there must) questions, even mysteries, as to origins, names, nationality. With the phrase "Many hands make light work" resounding in our ears, we ask that you share knowledge of your immediate Vermilyea family origins, stories and history with the rest of our clan.



**PLEASE NOTE:
THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER YOU WILL RECEIVE
UNLESS YOU RENEW OR HAVE RENEWED YOUR MEM-
BERSHIP IN THE VERMILYE/A FAMILY ASSOCIATION**

"Vermilye/a's ...Historically Speaking" is a newsletter publication put out by The Vermilye/a Family Association, a non-profit organization staffed by volunteers.

President:	Joe Vermilye
Record Keeper/Treasurer:	Sandra V. Todd
Newsletter Editor:	Joanne V. MacArthur

Correspondence, articles for consideration or request for membership may be sent to: Sandra V. Todd

Member ships are \$12 per calendar year, made payable to
The Vermilyea Family Association.

COW MARKS

-Submitted by Sandra Vermilyea Todd

During the summer of 1996, I had the opportunity to visit the History Room at the Roxbury Library at Roxbury, New York. While there I discovered record books for the Town of Roxbury which contained copies of old records dating back as far as 1800. I had never heard of "cow marks" before, and thought I would share with you what I found.

The background shows the entries exactly as I found them, in the foreground is a "computer clean up". In case you still have a problem reading, the first reads:

June 17, 1811. Solomon Vamelia, cattle marked with a crop off the off ear & slit in the near & a half penny the under side the same.

The second reads:

May 2nd. Edward Vermylea's cattle's mark with a crop and a half penny the under side the near ear a half penny on the off ear
_____ taken up by Isaac Birdsall.

While the year is not indicated on Edward's entry, the next entry was made on January 20th 1801, so I am assuming the May 2nd was in 1800 as that year was indicated on the previous entry.

Solomon and Edward were Brothers:

Solomon Vermilyea³, (William⁴, Abraham³, John², Johannes¹) was born November 6, 1784, in Putnam County, New York State and died June 18, 1872 in Delaware County, New York State. He married Susan Mulner, who was born May 12, 1790, and died March 27, 1855 also in Delaware County, New York State. They are buried in the Dimmick (also known as Crossroads) Cemetery, Arkville, Delaware County, New York State.

Solomon and Susan were the parents of ten children:

- (1) Levi, born September 1807, married Elizabeth Woolsey, and died October 4, 1895 at Lexington, Greene County, New York State. They had nine children;
- (2) Phebe, born in 1809, married Avery Pelham, died in Barry County, Michigan in 1893. They had four children;
- (3) Anna, who married Horace Jenkins, died aged 74 in Delaware County, New York State. They had five children;

Vermilyea

COW MARKS

Roxbury
New York



June 17 1811 } Solomon Vermilyea. Cattle marked
 with a notch off the Spear & a half penny the
 in the rear & a half penny the
 under side the same R.R.

June 17 1811 } Solomon Vermilyea. Cattle marked
 with a notch off the Spear & a half penny the
 in the rear & a half penny the
 under side the same R.R.

Group, with a half penny the under side the more ear
 a half penny on the off ear,

June 17 1811 } Solomon Vermilyea. Cattle marked
 with a notch off the Spear & a half penny the
 in the rear & a half penny the

May 2 Edward Vermilyea. Cattle, mark with a
 Group, with a half penny the under side the more ear } R.A.
 a half penny on the off ear,
 to Kenneth by John Birdwell

May 2 1811 } Edward Vermilyea. Cattle, mark with a
 Group, with a half penny the under side the more ear } R.A.
 a half penny on the off ear,
 to Kenneth by John Birdwell

In the early days of Roxbury's history, cattle were allowed to roam about in much the same fashion as in the West at a later date. The animals were recognized by notches cut in their ears, and each farmer had his individual notch which was recorded by a picture or diagram drawn by him in the town clerk's office. These recorded 'notches' were handed down and when all members of a family had died, their private method of notching could pass to another family. -- History of the Town of Roxbury

(4) Mary and (5) William (twins), were born about October 1815. William married first Mary _____, second Charity Hinkley, and died May 1872. He and Mary had five children, Solomon the oldest enlisted August 11, 1862 and served as a Private in Company E, 144th Regiment New York Infantry. William and Charity had three children. William and wife Mary are buried at the Clovesville Cemetery, Fleischmanns, New York State. I have been unable to find any information on his twin, Mary.

(6) Emmeline, no information available;

(7) Eliff, born about 1816 at Roxbury, Delaware County, New York State, married George Hoffman, had seven children, and died between 1855 and 1860;

(8) Hannah, born about 1818, married January 10, 1839 at Andes, Delaware County, New York State, Amasa S. Reynolds, died _____. They had five children;

(9) Noah D., born March 27, 1823, married first Frances Jean O'Connor. They had three children. He married second Emily Newell, they had three children. Noah died March 4, 1896. He and Emily are buried in the Old School Baptist Cemetery outside Roxbury, Delaware County, New York State;

(10) Edward, born March 10, 1830, married Mary C. Hinkley, and died May 3, 1893. They had no children. Edward and Mary are buried in the Hubbell Cemetery, Halcottville, Delaware County, New York.

While Solomon appears to have remained in Delaware County his whole life (his name appears in many public records as well as on the records of the Masonic Lodge), his brother Edward left the area around 1803. Edward was born September 1777, in New York State, (I can not verify where), married Joanna Wright and died July 17, 1818 at Salem, Washington County, Indiana. A report of the Adjutant-General of New York shows that he was an ensign in the State militia in the town of Roxbury in 1800. He moved from Delaware County to Dutchess County (New York State) in 1803, and from there to Salem, Indiana in 1818.

There are some conflicting reports as to the date they moved to Indiana since a record in the handwriting of their daughter Phebe states the first seven children were born in Delaware County, and the others were born in Dutchess County. The seventh child William was born May 31, 1807, and their last child, Joanna, is reported to have been born in 1816.

Edward and Joanna had eleven children:

(1) Phebe was born January 30, 1795, married David Burr at Salem, Indiana and died without issue February 20, 1837 at Indianapolis, Indiana;

- (2) Rachel, born August 18, 1799, died young;
- (3) Barsheba, born August 10, 1800, died August 20, 1800;
- (4) Robert Wright, born December 19, 1801, married Malvina S. Phelps, and died November 15, 1842 at Salem, Indiana, they had seven children;
- (5) John Cole, born September 11, 1803, married first Catherine Murphy. They had one child. He married second Mary Ann Carter, and had four children. Married third Mary Ann Carpenter, they had no children. He died January 1897 in Indiana at the age of 93;
- (6) Mehitabel, born May 1, 1805, married first Albert Banks, no issue; married second March 31, 1824 at Brownsville, Indiana Rev. Walter Benton. They had ten children. She died November 6, 1875;
- (7) William, born May 31, 1807, married Sarah _____, died October 26, 1835 at Hopkinsville, Christian County, Kentucky. They had one child;
- (8) Jesse, born May 18, 1809, married Maria M. Taggert, died August 11, 1846 at Abolt, Allen County, Indiana. They had five children;
- (9) Adeline, born June 2, 1811, married Alexander Worth, and had ten children;
- (10) Solomon, born March 2, 1813, married Mary Jane Wiley, died January 21, 1849, they had seven children;
- (11) Joanna, born 1816, married James Sweetser, had six children, died October 31, 1877.

Edward and Solomon had six brothers and two sisters.

- (1) Edward the oldest;
- (2) William, born April 11, 1780, married Abigail Whitney, died March 6, 1834 at Sugar Hill, New Jersey. They had six children. (William is the Great Great Great Grandfather of our Joanne Vermilya MacArthur);
- (3) Solomon.
- (4) Samuel, who was born January 8, 1793 in Putnam County, New York State, married Catherine Robinson, died April 9, 1852. They had six children. (Samuel is my Great Great Grandfather);
- (5) Elizabeth, I have not been able to learn much about her other than she married Amos Sniffen;
- (6) Jonathan, born July 20, 1795, married Margaret Petrie, died August 24, 1870 at Lapper County, Michigan. They had thirteen children who were born in Canada. Information from several sources indicate he must have left the Roxbury, Delaware County area around 180_;
- (7) Jesse, born _____, married Elizabeth Vail. They had twelve children.
- (8) John - there is a John on the 1850 Federal Census in Delaware County that would appear to be this John; however, I have not been able to verify. This record indicates he is 65 years old at that time and is married to Phebe, age 62,

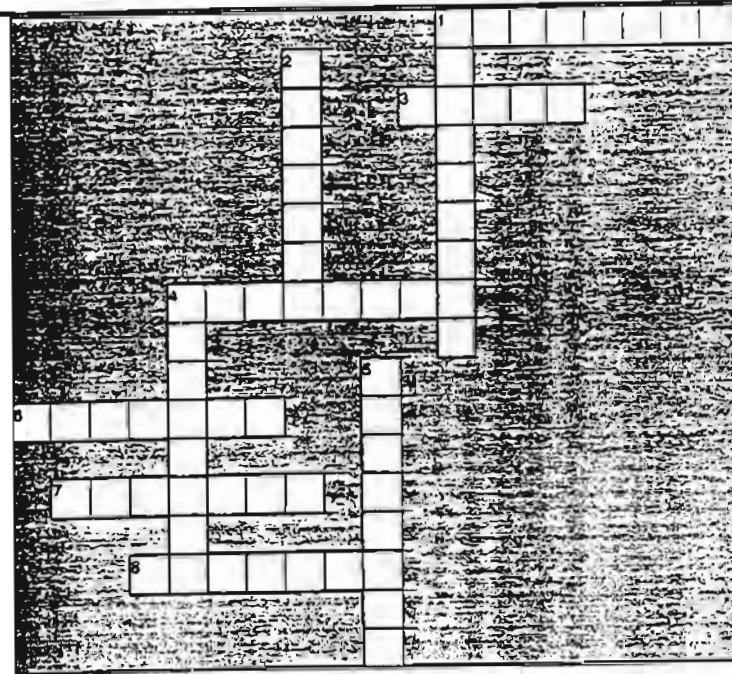
both born in New York State. John shows up on other records in the area, and appears on the Masonic records at the same time as Jonathan and Solomon; (9) Abram, born _____, married Charity Molineaux, and died about 1822 at Roxbury, Delaware County, New York State. They had eight children; (10) Mehitabel, who died young.



A Vermilyea Crossword Puzzle

(answers in next issue of VHS newsletter)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Italian form of Vermilyea
3. nick name of a Vermilyea whose birthday was Aug. 9
4. Joe of VFA spells his surname
6. first name of author of last month's article "The Vermigli Hypothesis"
7. Birthplace of Johannes (#1)
8. maiden name of Johannes's wife Aeltie

DOWN

1. Sandra of VFA spells her surname
2. Johannes (#1) had 4 male children: Isaac, Jacob, John, and ?
4. Joanne of VFA spells her surname
5. name of progenitor of our family in USA

(The following article is the continuation of Dyckman Vermilyea's explorations of the origins of the Vermilye/a name)

The Vermeille Hypothesis

[But] there was another clue in Riker's "History of Harlem," as to where our family name came from. Same page, same footnote:

We nowhere find it stated that our Vermilye's were Walloons, but think it a safe assumption for several reasons. The congregation at London of which they were members was then composed exclusively of that people. Then their Christian names favor it. (The emigrees were Jean and his wife, Marie. Children born in England were named Isaac, Rachel, Rebecca and Jean.) And one of the Walloon towns bears the name Vermeille, being in Artois, southeast of Bethune, near a lake at the source of the Papegay, which latter runs northward, entering the Lys near Armentierres.

I bought one of those wonderfully detailed Michelin maps of the Lille-Dunkirk region, including the border with Belgium, and pinned it to the wall of my living room at Woodbrooke. I used Riker's footnote as a guide in finding two towns in that area that could have been Vermeille - but whose spelling was different. One was identified as Vermelles and the other as Noyelles-les-Vermelles.

I decided to take a weekend off and go visit.

I took the Channel ferry and landed in Calais. From there I took a train into Lille, the capitol of that part of Northern France and the city identified as the major center for weaving in the 15th and 16th centuries. I spent the night in this wonderfully old European city and caught a local train the following morning that I discovered would stop at Cuinchy, a town close to Vermelles.

I assumed that I could walk to Vermelles from that station. I arrived on a Saturday close to mid-day. The station had long since been abandoned for passenger service, and there was no official to ask for information or directions. A few shouted requests of passing motorists at least pointed me in the direction of Vermelles. The distance was about four miles; the day was pleasant; I enjoyed the sense of oddyssey that was mine.

I turned off the main road when I thought I was close to Vermelles and walked between agricultural fields toward the church steeple that marked a village. The church was locked; the vestry next door was unoccupied. There was no police station. The town hall was closed (it was then Saturday afternoon). My French is passable, but not up to random interrogation of local passers-by for information about Vermilys in the 1500's!

I decided, reluctantly, to leave this town and walk on to Noyelles-les-Vermelles. As I retraced my steps I noticed that at least one shop was open. It was the French equivalent of a "Mom and Pop" business with Mom behind the counter. I spent some time selecting a bunch of post cards, hoping that the few customers who were there would leave the store. It was not easy to screw up my courage to start explaining my mission to anyone and I didn't want an audience. They finally cleared out and I went to the counter and began talking. The results were more than I had hoped.

The shopkeeper's husband emerged from their living quarters and was interested in my quest. He volunteered to drive me to the home of the local historian, M. Brehon, the "seigneur" of the town. M. Brehon was, unfortunately, in hospital, but his niece-by-marriage invited me inside to tell my story. Before I left, I had been loaned copies of two histories of the town, privately researched and printed in one instance by M. Brehon. The other report was prepared by a government researcher and printed at government expense.

The private history included an early reference to the fact that the spelling of the town had changed over the centuries. Vermeille, Vermelle and Vermelles are all found in the records - Vermeille being the earliest.

And Vermeille is the spelling of the "family" name of our earliest known forbear.

I believe that this is where our family comes from and how our family name came into being. I don't hesitate to tell questioners that I have a French and a Dutch background. And now I also say that I am descended from the Huguenots. But more about them later.

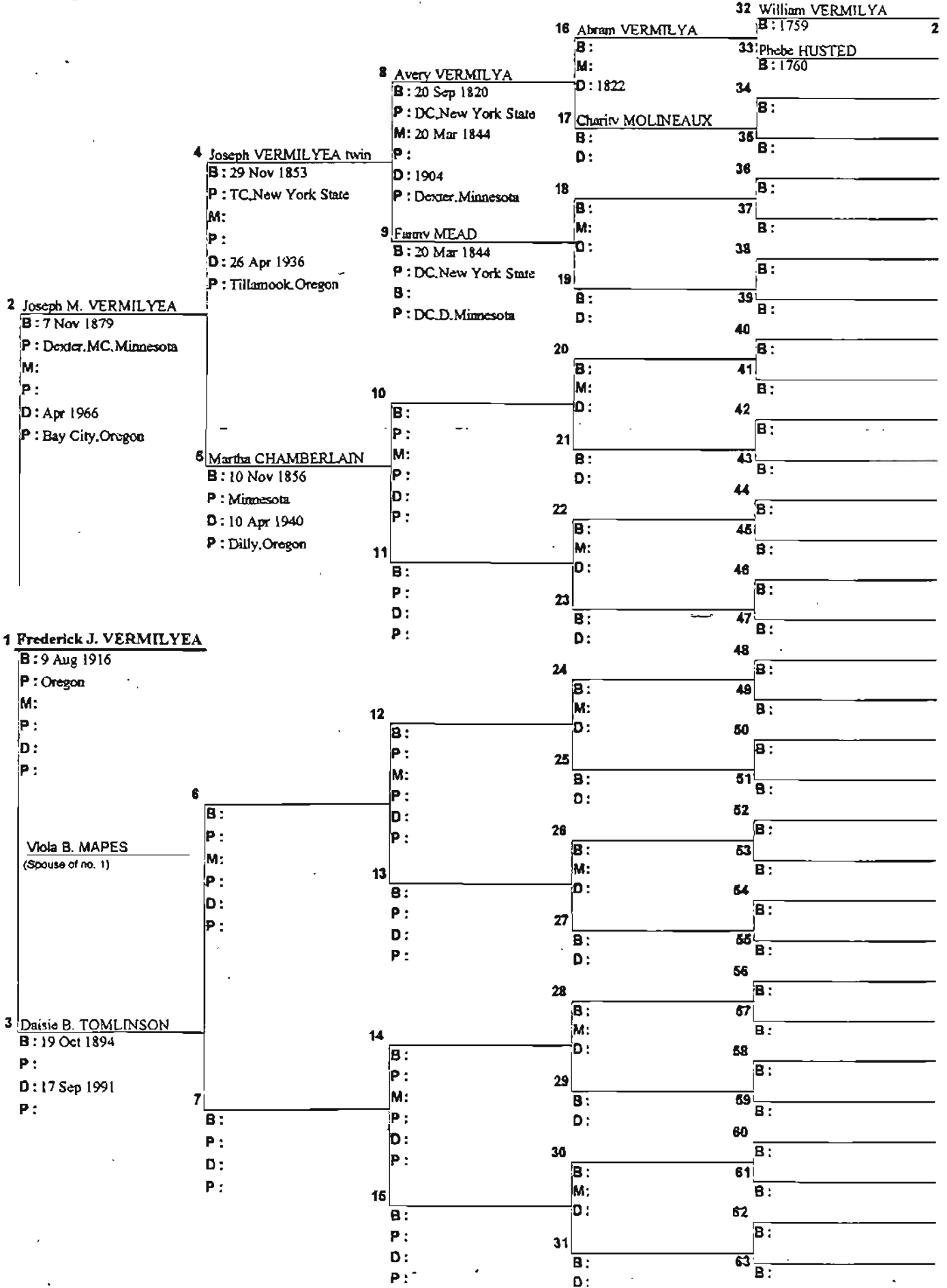
OLD ECHOES FROM A FAMILY REUNION

Around the festive board, old faces missed
Replace themselves with new ones: likeness-kissed
The sweetness of a certain curve of cheek;
The tone of voice when one is heard to speak;
The grave regard of granite-colored eyes
Repeat the portraits on the wall, surprise
The senses with a spurt of memory
That answers every questing enquiry,
As potent as the scent of a pressed rose!
How does a child reflect an aunt's repose,
Who never knew her mentor, long at rest,
But read her yellowed diary, frightened lest
The pages crumble in her smooth young hand?
A boy who knew not his ancestral land
Still bears the stamp of mountains and fjords;
The music's in his bones the primal chords.
All that we have become, we owe the old
Who went before their warmth would pierce the cold
Of this year's end and grey December day,
Where past has more than present words to say.

-Jane Carpenter

Pedigree Chart

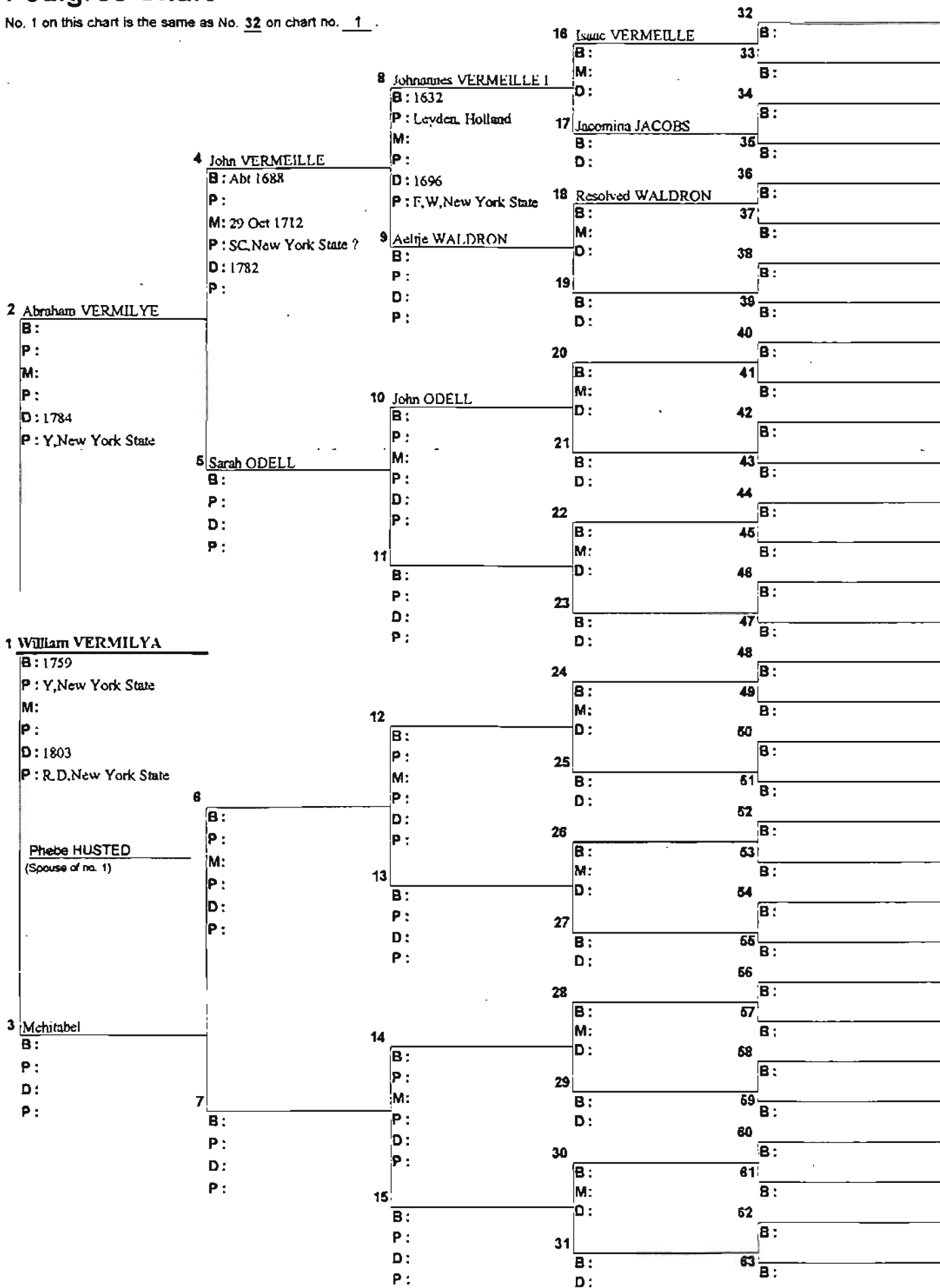
Chart no. 1



Pedigree Chart

Chart no. 2

No. 1 on this chart is the same as No. 32 on chart no. 1.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of October 30, 1996 \$138.65

DEPOSITS:

November 20, 1996 (membership) 2.00
November 25, 1996 (Renewal for 1997) 13.00
December 9, 1996 (membership)..... 12.00
December 20, 1996 (Renewal for 1997)..... 12.00
December 27, 1996 (Renewals for 1997) 24.00
December 30, 1996 (Renewal for 1997)..... 12.00

WITHDRAWALS:

December 4, 1996 (withdrawal *Joanne V. MacArthur) 25.00

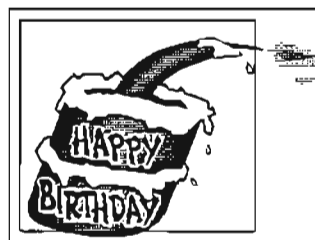
*Check to Joanne to help defray costs for postage and newsletter expenses for 1996.

BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 1, 1997 \$198.65

Sandra Vermilyea Todd

BIRTHDAYS

February 9 Tim Vermilye,
February 14 Silas R. Vermilyea, Jr.,
March 21 Dennis Vermilyea,
March 30 Carl P. Vermilyea,



Happy Birthday Cousins.

Just a reminder everyone - don't forget your sweethearts on February 14th

VALENTINES DAY.

REUNION UPDATE

Good News Folks! Everything is a go for the reunion to be held **June 21, 1997 at Williamsport, PA**. Reservations have been made, invitation list compiled, the T-shirt art work is done and with the printer - all that's needed is for you to mark your calendar. Your invitation is enclosed in this newsletter, the rest of the invitations are to be mailed about February 1st. Please share your invitation with as many family members as possible. Hope to see you and your family there!

A family reunion is a fun time; a time of reflection, renewal; a sense of belonging and self-identity, of love, caring and friendship: a joyful time. It's where healing and rejoicing can take place freely. It's "history in the making." It's everything you imagine it to be and more. It's guaranteed to be one of the highlights of the good times you'll reminisce about with your family. Equally important, you'll make lasting friendships with your own folk!

Sandra

QUOTABLE QUOTES

From writings of "The Mountaineer" the late Clarke A. Sanford — his column of October 10, 1947.

"Comparative few mountain folks can name their own ancestors for four generations but pedigrees of thoroughbred horses go back eight or nine."

"The effect of order within the family is to create an influence that brings order into the world."

I Ching

"..... of all the nostalgias that haunt the human heart, the greatest of them all is an everlasting longing to bring what is youngest home to what is oldest."

Laurens van der Post.

Sandra

CHAT CHAT

Since the last newsletter I have had the opportunity to converse either by phone or e-mail with several family members.

One day in November I received the following e-mail - My mother's name is Sandra VerMilyea..... Of course I couldn't resist meeting someone with the same name. I have certainly enjoyed conversing with Duane VerMilyea of Tucson, Arizona whose mother's name is Sandra VerMilyea. The capital M is not a misprint, Duane's family writes their name that way. Duane's Grandfather moved to Texas from Pennsylvania. Duane is my 4th cousin 2 generations removed.

I also enjoyed e-mail with Doreen Russell of Aurora, Colorado. Doreen's mother is a Vermilye. Doreen is my 7th cousin 2 generations removed.

Thank you cousin Faye for my father's drivers license with picture dated 1923. Its the oldest picture I have of him, and I really appreciate you sending it. Faye's father and mine are brothers.

Also had the opportunity to speak for the first time with my cousin Keith Vermilya who was visiting at Bev Smith's home when I called Thanksgiving Day. Keith and Bev are my 2nd cousins.

Had a nice call from John Griswold who is also my 2nd cousin and lives in Pennsylvania.

Glad to have the chance to speak again with Carl Vermilyea of Keene, New Hampshire. Carl was without power when I called on a snowy night in December. In a later correspondence he tells me they were also without telephone later that evening. Everything was restored by 4:00 pm the next day. And of course Dayl Stout who I enjoy conversing with on a regular basis. Dayl and I enjoy discussing our latest finds, and which approaches will make "another link to the past." Carl and Dayl are both my 4th cousins, 1 generation removed.

Joe, Joanne and I enjoyed "conversing" in a chat room on American On Line in November. It was a new experience for Joe and me. The three of us use e-mail at least once a week not only to exchange ideas and information for this newsletter, but we are also friends. Although we have never meet in person, we have been in contact with each other for two years. We were joined by Tim Vermilye, Joe's brother and our new member. Fun and a very quick hour!

Hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season. Best Wishes from us for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Sandra

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Frank and Becky Vermilyea,
Tim Vermilye,
Barbara Balluff,
Eva G. Clark,

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Ring Bone

Swellings,
Colds
Strains,
Corns,
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Spavin,

Chapped Hands,
Sore Throat,
Chilblains,
Flesh Wounds,
Sweeny,
Founder,

Contraction of the Muscles,
Inflammation of the Lungs,
Sore Feet from Walking,
Scratches or Grease,
Cracked Teats in Cows,
Burns and Scalds,

Bites of Animals, &c., &c., &c.

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The Vermilye/a Family Assoc.

This Oil of Life brochure is a replica of a real Oil of Life brochure used by S.S. Vermilya back in the 1800's. It is an example of some of the fun things the members of the Vermilye/a Family Association are sharing. Collectively we are putting together the history of the Vermilye/a Family Tree. We are not selling any present day "Oil of Life" type item. We are just coming together to share in the collective knowledge of those involved. There is a \$12.00 membership fee that helps us produce a quarterly news letter. We ask that you join and give us what ever support you can. It might be family genealogy or it might be family stories. Maybe it might be just joining and being a member. For additional information contact anyone of the following:

Joe Vermilye, Pres.

Sandra Vermilyea Todd, Treas. & record keeper ;

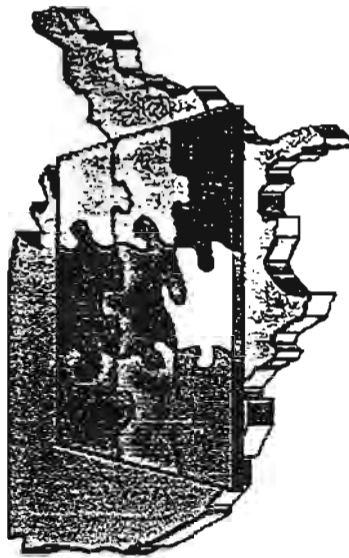
We need from you: Name _____

Address _____

City, State zip _____

I know my lineage back to: _____

Vermilye/a's...
Historically Speaking



"You are a piece of the puzzle"



\$0.55