

VERMILYA/E/EA/ER'S...HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

Volume V, No. 1

January February March 2000

This new section of the newsletter will discuss and highlight places named for, or historically important to, the family Vermilya/e/ea/er. Several members have scoured the countryside (oh, all right, perhaps that's a bit overblown) searching for the name on road signs, advertisements and town establishments. This is our first article, rightly about the French town which gave the family its name.

VERMEILLE (VERMELLES) FRANCE

by Sandra Vermilyea Todd

This is the first in a series on Vermilya/e/ea/er places. Carl Vermilyea and I have collected pictures and information on numerous locations in the United States and Canada that have Vermilya/e/ea/er names. It seemed fitting however to start the series with Vermelles (formerly Vermeille), France. It is believed that Jean de Vermeille and his wife Marie were French Huguenots, who being alarmed by the horrors of the St. Bartholomew massacre in 1572, fled for asylum from religious persecution to Protestant England. The year Jean migrated from France to England is unknown, however Isaac Vermeille, his son, was born in London and baptized in the Walloon Church in 1601. ~ Sandra

LOCATION: In the Artois region of France, southeast of Bethune. When searching the Internet for information on Vermelles, I found the following on a Web Page "Directions to Bernard's Grave" a memorial page for 2nd Lt. Bernard Joseph Reid who was killed in action June 28, 1916 and buried in the Vermelles British Cemetery at Vermelles. His family made a trek to visit his grave site and gave the following directions: "We traveled north on the TGV (Train Grand Vitesse, a bullet trains that goes from Paris in several directions at great speed), trusting to public transport to take us to Vermelles, where Bernard was buried. The landscape soon becomes flat and unremarkable, broken only by towering slag heaps dating from Zola's time and down which adventurous locals ski during the winter. Needless to say the place abounds in war memorials and graveyards.

Arriving in Béthune we quickly learned that there is virtually *no* public transport in Northern France and scant Government interest in the well-being of the citizens there. As in England the policy of abandoning both mines and heavy industry continues to bring painfully high levels of unemployment. Unlike England however there is the added anguish of two vicious wars having being fought out upon the territory, many towns and villages having been razed and rebuilt two or three times over.

Such painful experiences has produced a provincial populace of unparalleled generosity, some of whom went miles out of their way to ferry us about the place. Eventually, having made the mistake of getting off the bus at Noyelles-Les-Vermelles rather than Vermelles - you can understand that mistake, can't you? - we were driven to the correct place, the first relatives to have visited in some decades.

Vermelles, to quote the literature of the War Graves Commission, is a village and commune in the the minefield of the Pas-de-Calais, midway between Béthune and Lens. Enclosed by low rubble walls the cemetery is on the South-Western outskirts of the village. I have rarely stepped in a more peaceful place: it is planted with mountain ash, Irish yews, limes and other trees, and stands in flat country, among cottages and farm buildings. One can see from it the Bouvigny Ridge and Noyelles church.

Vermelles was in German hands from the middle of October to the beginning of December, 1914, when it was recaptured by the French. The cemetery was begun in August, 1915, though a few graves were

(Continued on page 8)

From the Staff:

by Carl P. Vermilyea

As I write this, folks in North Carolina (like Sandra Todd and Jim Vermilyea) are struggling through big snow storms - the first they've had since January 1998; here in Keene, New Hampshire, we had had only 2.5 inches of the white stuff before January 25th; and air travel all along the east coast has been disrupted. Makes me wonder if "Y2K" concerns should have been applied to the weather rather than computer chips.

The Staff has continued its work on the Bylaws and building a structure for the VFA. The first draft of the Bylaws is done and being reviewed. And, we are organizing a Board of Directors. In addition to the four Officers of the Association, Tom Vermilye of Olathe, Kansas, and Wilma Vermilyer of San Juan Bautista, California, have joined the Board. (Thanks Tom and Wilma for volunteering!!). With their appointment, all four branches of the family are represented on the Board and we have gained a more wide-spread geographic representation. We are now looking for volunteers to act as area representatives - especially in the more heavily Vermilya/e/ea/er populated areas of Minnesota, New York, and the northwest. If you are interested and have E-mail access, please let me know.

With progress, sometimes there are downsides. This time the casualty is the annual reunion. There will be no VFA Reunion in 2000 (see accompanying article.) Well-organized reunions require long-range planning to identify a suitable location, make facility reservations, set an agenda and garner the early-on support and commitment of a reasonable number of folks to attend. We just weren't able to make all that happen this year. You have our assurance that there will be a reunion in 2001!

In this edition, we start a series of articles covering "Vermilya/e/ea/er Places" - places and things named for or after a member of one of our family members/branches. Our listing now contains 13: (1) Vermelles, France (the "root" of our surname, and, described in this newsletter and, thanks to Dyckman Vermilye, also covered in Volume II, Number 1); (2) Vermilyea Avenue, New York City; (3) Vermilyea Road, Halcottsville, New York; (4) Vermilyea Street, Pleasantville, New York; (5) Vermilya Park, (6) Vermilya Road and (7) Vermilya School, all in Columbiaville, Michigan; (8) Vermilya Avenue, Flint, Michigan; (9) Vermilya Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana; (10) the Vermilya-Boener House, Lawrence, Kansas (which, thanks to Tom Vermilye, was written-up in the first two newsletters published in 1998); (11) Vermilyea Road, Tillamook County, Oregon; (12) Vermilyea Road, Trenton, Ontario, Canada; and, (13) Vermilyea Lake, in central Manitoba, Canada. Of the 13, I've been to 8 of them and found the visits interesting and rewarding (especially finding the Vermilya School, unknown by any of us beforehand). This summer, my wife, Linda, and I hope to get to Trenton, Ontario. If you know of other places, or things, named after someone in our family, please let me, or Sandra Todd, know.

On a final note, we are always looking for family stories to include in this newsletter. Our extended family has migrated to all parts of the United States and Canada and had interesting adventures along the way and during their lifetimes. And, now, many family members are engaged in interesting activities and pursuits. Please send your stories to Sandra Todd - even if they are just newspaper articles. She'll copy them into the Historical files and forward them on to Joanne MacArthur for publication.

RECENT LOSSES

KATHY VERMILYEA

Tillamook Headlight-Herald, November 24, 1999.

Kathy Vermilyea was born November 7, 1969 in Tillamook to Sam and Jo Vermilyea and died November 20, 1999 at her home in Salem, at the age of 30.

Kathy grew up in Tillamook. She went to Eastern Oregon State College in LaGrande and later received her Masters Degree at Oregon State University in Agriculture Resource and Economics.

Kathy moved to Sacramento, California and worked for Northwest Economics as a research analyst for several years before moving to Salem. She was currently employed at the Oregon State Employment Division in Salem.

Kathy was a member of the Junior Holstein Association as leader/coach, the Oregon Holstein Association, the Tillamook County Farm Bureau and Capital Athletic Club Masters Swim Team.

Kathy is survived by her grandmother, Ferne Yardley of Forest Grove; her parents Jo and Sam Vermilyea of Tillamook; one brother Paul Vermilyea of Springfield; two sisters, Dian Frisch of Imbler and Karen Hopkins of Tillamook; and good friend Bernie Sander of Tillamook.

Funeral Services will be held for Kathy at 1 p.m. November 24 at the First Christian Church with Pastor David Bellows officiating. Interment will be held at Bay City IOOF Cemetery.

Those who wish may contribute to the Oregon Holstein Association at 237955 Fir Ridge Rd., Scio, Oregon 97374.

Kathy was very athletic and had injured her knee prior to her death. She died from a blood clot in the lung, which is suspected to be the result of the injury. Kathy really loved cows, her life revolved around them. She entered them in every kind of show you can imagine. This year she took Best of Show and 1st place in Herdsmanship at the Oregon State Fair.

Many of you will remember meeting Sam and Jo and Kathy's brother and sister-in-law Paul and Charlie Vermilyea at the reunion in Oregon. Kathy Vermilyea is #1792.

Navy Capt. Robert Vermilya, 74; decorated pilot served in 2 wars

By Jack Williams

UNION-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

December 7, 1999

SAN DIEGO — More than a decade after flying fighter planes off aircraft carriers in the Korean War, Robert S. Vermilya found himself on another risky mission and in another war. Piloting a helicopter for an anti-submarine squadron in Vietnam, he rescued a downed comrade under heavy enemy fire in Haiphong harbor.

The mission resulted in a Silver Star for Capt. Vermilya, a 30-year Navy veteran who died Saturday at San Diego Naval Medical Center. He was 74. The cause of death was multiple myeloma, which he developed about a year and a half ago, said longtime friend and retired Navy Capt. Dick Bruning.

Capt. Vermilya's last tour of duty was the former naval air station in Imperial Beach, where he

was commanding officer for more than a year. He retired from active duty in 1977 and worked for many years as an independent real estate agent and broker in Chula Vista, where he had lived for three decades.

During the Korean War, Capt. Vermilya was stationed aboard the carrier Valley Forge in the Sea of Japan. A few years later, in 1957, he completed helicopter training and was assigned to squadrons at Ream Field in Imperial Beach and at North Island Naval Air Station.

During the Vietnam War, Capt. Vermilya commanded an anti-submarine squadron aboard the support carrier Kearsarge in the Tonkin Gulf. The Kearsarge earned five battle stars and a Meritorious Unit Commendation during the war and later was celebrated as a recovery ship in two Mercury orbital space flights.

After leaving the Kearsarge, Capt. Vermilya commanded the troop carriers Sandoval and Austin, based in Norfolk, Va.

Later, he was assigned command of the naval air station at Ream Field, which in 1967 included more than 5,000 civilian and military personnel. "Capt. Vermilya was there when it was decommissioned by President Nixon," Bruning recalled. After the Vietnam War, the air station at Ream Field was named the Naval Auxiliary Landing Field.

Born in Bowling Green, Ohio, Capt. Vermilya entered the Navy's V-5 aviation cadet program and received his wings in 1947. He served aboard several ships as a fighter pilot before being assigned to the Valley Forge.

During retirement, Capt. Vermilya served on the board of directors of the North Island Federal Credit Union. He was a former president and chairman of the board of the Naval Helicopter Association and served on the board of directors of the Naval Helicopter Historical Society.

An avid golfer, he played regularly at North Island Naval Air Station as a member of the North Island Sea 'n' Air Club.

He is survived by his wife, Ginny; sons, Robert of El Cajon and Richard of Chula Vista; sisters, Helen Rethmel of Alamogordo, N.M., and Ruth Budd of Decatur, Ill.; and brothers, John of Greenville, Ohio, and Tom of Bowling Green. Memorial services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday at North Island Naval Air Station.

Donations are suggested to the American Cancer Society.

Bob Vermilya attended the Reunion in Oregon. He is Joanne V. MacArthur's paternal uncle. Robert Sidney Vermilya is #1679.



NEW MEMBERS:

Barbara Fernkoph,
Patricia Murphy,



E-MAIL NEWS



For those of you who want to receive periodic "news flashes" from the VFA, please send your E-mail address to Sandra Todd at: We promise - no junk mail; only information that shouldn't be held until the next newsletter.

BIRTHDAYS

January 25 Gary William and Michael Lee Burkholder,
January 31 Valerie Barchy,
February 4 Tim Vermilye,
February 6 Lyle Vermilya,
John B. Vermilya,
February 14 Silas R. (Reub) Vermilyea, Jr.,
February 19 George L. Vermilyer (unidentified - Barnabas)
February 21 Marlene Vermilya,
March 2 Willis Vermilya,
March 21 John R. Vermilya,
March 30 Carl P. Vermilyea,
April 3 Edith Vermilya Baldwin,
April 4 Catherine Rebilas,
April 5 John R. Todd, Jr.,
Leslie P. Long,
April 8 Bon A. Russell,
April 9 Dayl Stout,
April 23 Robert L. Blue,
April 26 Beverly Bonn Jonnes,
May 8 Beverly Vermilyea Watson,
April 30 Jon Vermilye, Kelso,
May 16 Joanne Vermilya MacArthur,
May 19 Glenda G. Avery, Hampton,
May 26 Doris Smith,
May 30 Jeffrey L. Sarff,



THE VERMILYEA FAMILY

by Sandra Vermilyea Todd - 1997

All copies of "The Vermilyea Family" are gone, and there are no plans to print more at this time. I will consider keeping a list for a possible printing in the future. There must be a minimum of 25 requests to print more.

I am working on the update of "The Vermilyea Family", which will have new information received since the 1998 printing, (please note that in the last newsletter I incorrectly stated the information collected would be since the 1999 printing). ~Sandra



CORRECTION



In re-reading page 2 of the last edition of this newsletter (Volume IV, Number 4), we can see that we may have caused confusion concerning the cost of joining the VFA and receiving the newsletter. In one section, we said the cost of a subscription is \$12.00 per year. In another section, we said that annual membership dues are \$12.00. The total cost is not \$24.00. The annual membership fee is \$12.00 which includes the newsletter subscription.

MORE FAMILIES IDENTIFIED

Over the last few months several of the families listed in the unidentified section of "The Vermilyea Family" have been identified.

Page 416, Pennsylvania, Isaac Vermilyea is #460. Several generations of this family have been added thanks to Linda Sladek and Vivian Vermilyea Sladek. Vivian is the great grand daughter of Isaac and Linda is the great great grand daughter.

Page 417, Canada, Peter Vermilyea. There is some controversy concerning this family as we have proof that the family of Peter Vermilyea #58 moved from Greene County, New York to Canada around 1800. We know that he moved when his children were of a young age. His son Peter #133 is listed in Riker's History of Harlem as being married to Margaret Schenck. I found on the 1860 Census New York State a Margaret of the right age, with children of the same names as listed in Riker's. Margaret is 71 years of age, and Peter is not listed. There is also a Peter living in Canada in the same area as the rest of family #58 who is the right age to be Peter #133. Information received by me from the Quinte Genealogical Society confirms he was born in 1791 and died in 1840 and is buried in Canada. While there are still a lot of unanswered questions concerning Peter Vermilyea #133, I am adding him as being the Peter Vermilyea who is listed in Canada. Madonna Vermilyea Stanovsky is the great great great grand daughter of Peter, and John Holladay is a great great great grandson of Peter. Additional information has been added for #132 and #137. Research is continuing on this family.

There have been several generations added to a number of the unidentified families, but there is still a missing link. Please check the list in the unidentified section and offer any suggestions or help that you can. New families have been discovered that are unidentified since this list was compiled, recently several of these have been identified.

~Sandra

This copy of a letter sent about 1903-04 is in my file, and I thought it would be of interest. I retyped it without correction. Would love to know what happened to the Register that is referred too. ~Sandra

CORRY, ERIE CO., PA 190 (This number not on my copy)

To all persons of Vermilye lineage in America:

We address this letter in the interest of the Vermilye Reunion, organized the 9th day of September, 1902, and particularly in reference to an order issued August 28, 1903, instructing the Secretary, Miss Zuella Cady, to procure the names and addresses of each living descendent of Wm. Vermilye and his wife, Phoebe Husted, and to formulate the same into a Register.

With this end and object in view we have given of our time and money unsparingly, and at this date, only a few months intervening between the issuing of this letter and the assembling of the 3rd annual Reunion, at which time we will be called upon to give an account, our work is nearly completed.

At the outset we were satisfied that the members of this great family, though scattered widely throughout America and unacquainted with each other, those who share in common the grand old name. It is to you the credit is due, and to you we doff our hats.

There are a few heads of families who have not done their share; have not become sufficiently interested to return our papers with information as requested; to these we address ourselves in the kindest spirit, asking an immediate compliance with our request. To those whom we have unfortunately missed, kindly forward us a postal card and we will mail you a set of blanks to fill and return. If you know of any married persons who are of Vermilye lineage and have not received our papers, kindly notify us by postal card, giving name and address.

Thanking you for the courtesy extended us, we are

Yours very truly,
W. H. Nantes.
Zuella Cady, Sec.

MORE CORRECTIONS

"The Vermilyea Family"
since May 1999

Page 3, Number 6: Abraham Vermilyea. Delete #'s 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Page 85, Number 332: Aribell Jane Vermilyea. Date of birth should be 1835/6.

Page 103, Number 393-I: George Vermilye Benton. Wife's name Lucy Shipp Ford. His date of death September 29, 1875.

Page 329, Number 1515: Rex Whitney Vermilyea. Add Source Code #66.

Page 148, Number 480: Mary K. Vermilyea. Husband's name Julius O. Donald. Source Codes #10 and #62.

Page 150, Number 494: Lucy David Vermilye. Source Codes #10 and #62 show Lucy's name spelled Lucie.

Page 228, Number 901: Martha J. Vermilyea. Name is spelled Murtha. She is buried in the Hopewell Cemetery, Hopewell Junction, New York State, his burial place is unknown. Source Code #110.

Page 229, Number 905: Remove information from Source Code #32 for Mildred Vermilyea, this is really Mildred Vermilyea wife of #897, Page 228, Rufus Franklin Vermilyea. Source Code #110.

Page 280, Number 1510: Unnamed son, buried with his maternal grandfather, John Edward Arnott. Source Code #58.

Page 329, Number 1515: Rex Whitney Vermilyea. Married September 4, 1937. Winifred (correct spelling Winnifred). Source Code #58.

Page 361, Number 1945: Carl Parker Vermilyea, Jr. Born at Regensburg, Germany. Source Code #58.

Not in Index.

BURKHOLDER

Gary William, Page 267.

Norvell M., Page 267.

Michael Lee, Page 268.

Stephen Alan, Page 268.

STEWART

Billy R., Page 306.

REUNION

There will be NO "national level" VFA Reunion in 2000. Local/area reunions organized and conducted by anyone interested in having one are encouraged. We will be happy to list these events on the Reunion Web page and in the newsletter, as well as pictures and any other information. Contact Sandra with your news or pictures.

We are currently looking for someone to be the overall Reunion Coordinator for the VFA. This would involve overseeing the Reunion planning and heading up the volunteers. It appears that we will need to start planning at least one year in advance in order to secure a desirable location. Anyone interested in helping please contact Carl or any of the staff.

(Continued from page 1)

slightly earlier. During the Battle of Loos the nearby Chateau was used as a dressing station. Among the 2,124 graves are the remains of British, Irish, Canadian, French, and even German soldiers. There are also three soldiers from Bermuda and 194 unnamed graves.

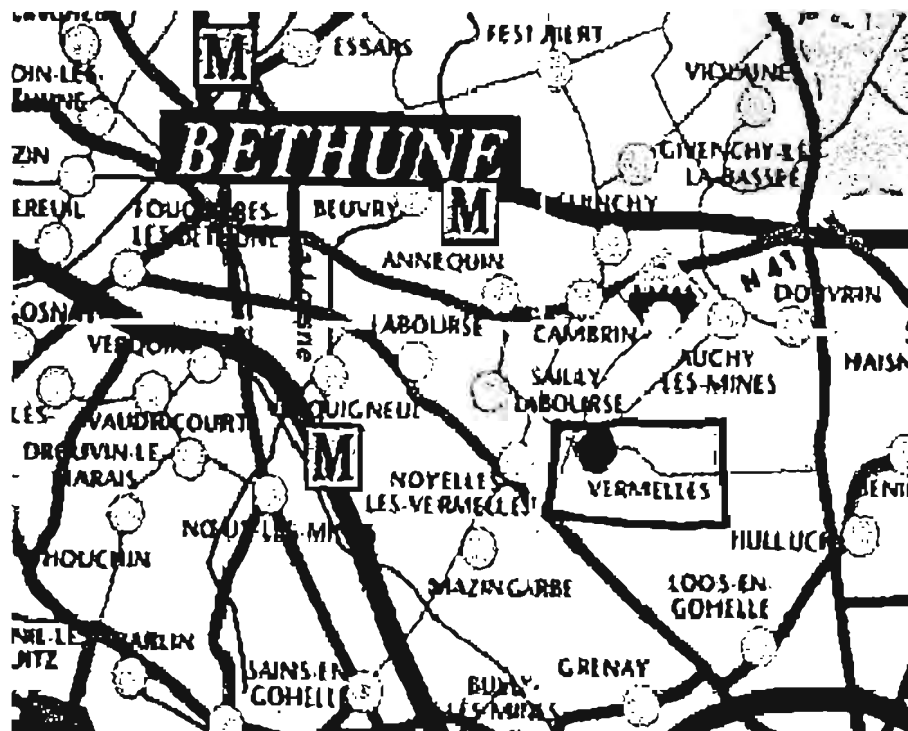
By Train

First piece of advice: rent, steal or manufacture a car if you possibly can. Going on foot is an adventure which will restore your faith in human kindness—but the fact is that the area is not adequately served by public transport. Take the TGV north to Bethune then catch the Galaxie bus (Ligne 82) outside the station. Ligne 82 goes all the way to Arras, about fifteen minutes beyond Vermelles. The bus will pass through Noyelles Les-Vermelles. Don't get off! (We did and immediately hitched a ride, in the wrong direction, to the wrong graveyard). Be sure that the driver knows you are looking for *Vermelles* which is the very next stop. In the village, which will probably be entirely deserted, ask around for the cemetery: it's two minutes walk from the bus stop.

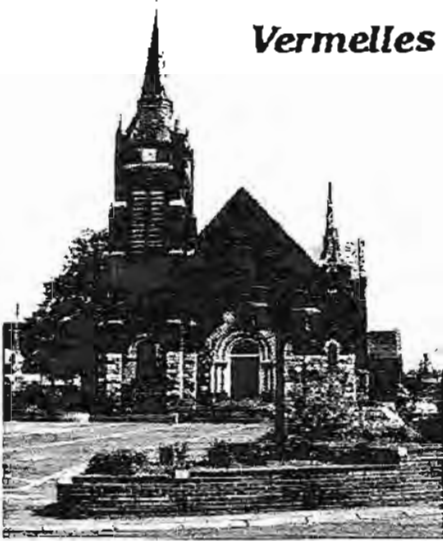
By Car

You're trying to find Vermelles, a small village midway between the major towns of Béthune and Lens. Blink and you'll miss it though: Vermelles is not much more than a T-junction. Buy a detailed map of

(Continued on page 9)



Vermelles



L'église



Vue générale aérienne

Northern France before you go anywhere.

If coming from Paris, head to Lens first and thence along the North Western *Route de Liason* to Béthune. Stop at Noyelles Les-Vermelles. Look closely for signs: Vermelles itself is five minutes away along a secondary road to the east.

Dyckman Vermilye has also related his experiences traveling to Vermelles in Volume II, Number I, January, February and March 1997 and adds "the village does look as if it had been razed and rebuilt. The one exception might be the three-storied villa that I visited to obtain copies of the history of the town. Otherwise, it is a very ordinary looking place.

I have had mixed feelings about Vermelles. My father fought in campaigns around Armentières in the First War, and was gassed there. He had a nagging cough for the rest of his life. I have wondered if he ever wandered into, through or near Vermelles without knowing what its tie was to him".

Pictures provided by Dyckman Vermilye.



Rue Nationale

TREE DESIGN COMPETITION

Back in 1995 when the VFA was founded, those who had researched our genealogy all agreed that there was no evidence that a coat-of-arms ever existed for the family. Whereas it was known that it is possible to contract with a Heraldry expert to have a coat-of-arms created, the cost was prohibitive. That led the VFA leaders to look for a simple, common, appropriate, symbol for the VFA. That symbol became the tree which you have seen on T-shirts and hats at reunions and on VFA postcards and letterhead stationery. Where did the tree design come from? It was "clip-art" down-loaded from a computer software program and modified to add the hearts containing the four spellings of the family name.

Now, there is nothing wrong with using "clip-art" and the tree we use is attractive; but, about two months ago we thought it might be more appropriate, and meaningful, if we had a tree designed by a family member - a descendant, spouse or close relative of one of our family members. We know that many of you are either talented artists or have someone in your family who is. So, we have decided to have a **tree design competition**. Anyone who has any drawing ability is welcomed to enter - open to all.

We would like the design to be a tree and to clearly show the four spellings (Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea and Vermilyer). Other than that, we only ask that the creator relinquish all rights to the design in favor of the VFA.

The deadline for mailing your "tree" to our President, Carl Vermilyea (his address is on the last page of this newsletter), is March 20, 2000. The "trees" will be judged by the Board of Directors, and, the winning design will be included in the May newsletter. Let's all have some fun with this!

TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$935.66
Deposits	\$286.50
Withdrawals	\$35.50
 Balance as of December 31, 1999	 \$1186.66

<u>Deposit Summary</u>	
Membership	\$259.00
Books	\$27.50

<u>Withdrawal Summary:</u>	
Newsletter	\$00.00
(11/99 expenses will be submitted in January)	
Books	\$35.50

~Submitted by Jim Vermilyea, Treasurer



NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the newsletter will be published on May 15, 2000. In it we will continue our series of reports covering "Vermilya/e/ea/er Places."

THE VFA

The VFA (Vermilyea Family Association), a not-for-profit organization staffed by volunteers, was founded in August 1995. We have shared information about the descendants of Johannes Vermelje (the Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea and Vermilyer lines), and thus together learned much about our small, unique, extended family. With the goals of increasing family unity, bonding and fellowship, we encourage you to submit your family research findings plus stories, histories and information about your family, ancestors and descendants to our Secretary/Historian. By doing so, we'll all learn more; and, from our consolidated records, you might just find that long-lost relative you've been wondering about for years.

BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

President: Carl P. Vermilyea,
Treasurer: C. J. ("Jim") Vermilyea,

Secretary/Historian: Sandra Vermilyea Todd,

Newsletter Publisher: Joanne Vermilya MacArthur,

Other Board Members:

Tom Vermilye,
Wilma Vermilyer,

MEMBERSHIP DUES - NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

Annual membership dues are \$12.00. For those joining after February 15th of the year, the dues are \$9.00; after May 15th, \$6.00; or, after August 15th, \$3.00. Please make your check payable to: *Vermilyea Family Association*; and, mail it and, for new members, a membership application to: *Mr. C. J. Vermilyea, VFA Treasurer*,

THIS NEWSLETTER

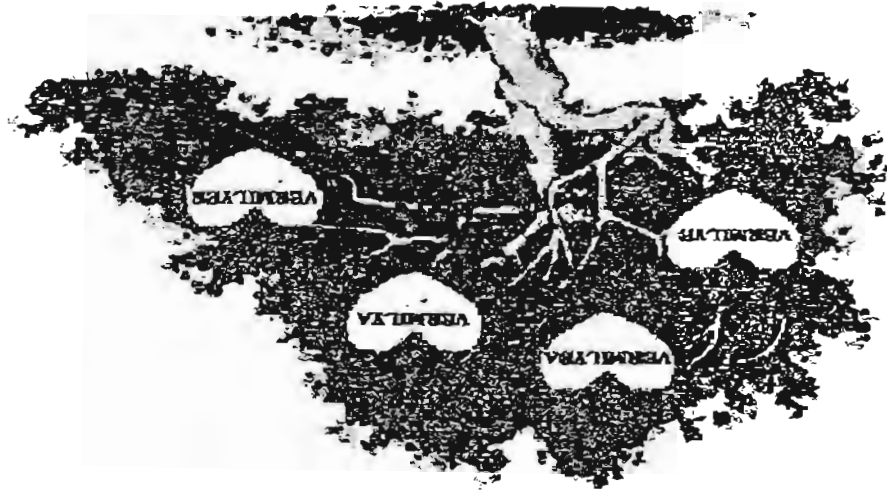
"Vermilya/e/a/ea/er's...Historically Speaking," published on February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15, is the primary periodical of the Vermilyea Family Association (Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer). **The cost of a subscription is included in the membership dues.** Comments concerning distribution may be sent to the Publisher, Joanne V. MacArthur. Comments concerning the content and articles for publication should be sent to the Secretary/Historian, Sandra Todd.

DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

Check our VFA Web Page (maintained by Joanne MacArthur) at: <http://members.aol.com/vfa95/vfa.htm>
Check our Reunion Web Page (maintained by Sandra Todd) at: <http://members.aol.com/vermreun/fampage1.htm>

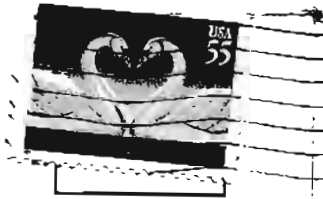
The Association's E-mail address (staffed by Sandra Todd) is:

"We Are Family"



VERMILYA FAMILY ASSOCIATION

VHS, Vol. V, No. 1



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