

# VERMILYEA/E/EA/ER'S...HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

Volume V, No. 3

July - August - September, 2000

We have again an article concerning **Vermilyea Place Names**, this time a street in upstate New York.

## VERMILYEA PLACES

This continues our series of articles covering places named after our ancestors.

### Vermilyea Street, Pleasantville, New York.

In this issue:  
Vermilyea Place Names  
Reunion Update  
A Poet in the Family  
A Hero for Our Time  
... and more

Two of our members have provided information about Vermilyea Street in Pleasantville: Harold Kuebler (husband of Dorothea Vermilye, #571-3-1) and Carl Vermilyea (#1774).

Harold reports:

Pleasantville is a hamlet in the Westchester County town of North Castle. It is perhaps best known today as the headquarters of the Reader's Digest. In the mid-1800s it was a small agriculture community that had just been made a stop on the New York Central Harlem Railroad. It was there that Samuel Shapter (#127-1), of New York City, the son of Peter and Frances (Vermilyea) Shapter (#127), a young "distillers chemist and liquor and tobacco store owner" moved after he had married Rebecca Pierce, a young Pleasantville Quaker girl.

As Jane Shapter Sanz has noted in her book, *Paternal Ancestors of John Hobson Shapter*: "In the 1860s, Samuel became involved in a large way in real estate in Pleasantville," and, in a quote from a *Westchester County Historical Bulletin*, 1953: "The coming of Samuel Shapter to Pleasantville was to decide, to a great extent, the plan of the village." Samuel, in fact, owned most of what is today the heart of the village.

When the land was surveyed in 1870 for development, Samuel donated parcels for the building of the railroad station and the Catholic church, and, named one of the newly laid out main street's "Rebecca Street," in honor of his wife, and another "Vermilyea Street" to honor his mother's family. Regretfully, Samuel's real estate plans were not a success and he had to declare bankruptcy in 1875. "Rebecca Street" was later downgraded to its present day designation of a "Lane," when the main road into town was rerouted. "Vermilyea Street," however, still exists.

Carl Reports:

Vermilyea Street in Pleasantville is an east-west, very short (0.09 of a mile) road, located just east of the railroad tracks and two blocks south of and parallel to Bradford Street (Route 117), the main east-west thoroughfare through the center of town. To find it, take either Tompkins or Martling Avenues south from Bradford Street.



Vermilyea Street, Pleasantville

Vermilyea Street is a connector road which links a light industrial area along the railroad tracks on its west with a residential area to its east. At its west junction with Tompkins Avenue are two commercial buildings. The building on the northeast corner is an old, brick, four-story factory housing two publishing companies; the Akadine Press, Inc., publisher of the *Common Reader*, and the Higham Press. The building on the southeast corner is of recent construction and appears to be a storage warehouse for a trucking firm. From the west, Vermilyea Street runs up and crests a small hill. The only buildings on its north sided, after the factory, are three older (1940 era), modest homes. The first two are nearly identical, white, two-storied and of frame construction. The third is a brick and frame residence. There are no buildings along the south side of the Street. At its east end, Vermilyea Street terminates

at Martling Avenue along which is an attractive, well-maintained neighborhood of single family, three-story, Victorian-style, homes probably built in the 1920s and 1930s. (looking east from Tompkins Avenue)

## FROM THE STAFF :

by Carl P. Vermilyea

Does your VFA Membership expire on December 31? In this issue we have inserted a reminder (colored paper) for those whose membership will expire at the end of the year. Please renew as soon as you can. Renewing members do not have to send in a membership application; however, we've included an application with this edition so that you may pass it on to someone who might like to join.

We volunteers who manage the affairs of the VFA enjoy doing it; but, at the same time, we want to keep the administration simple and the time spent and costs to a minimum. To that end, in September the Board made two policy changes. They are:

1. The VFA has been operating under a 4-tiered dues system – one that had a different dues rate (amount) depending on the quarter of the year in which a person joined. This has proven too unwieldy. Effective January 1, 2001, we will change to a 2-tiered dues system. The dues for those who join from November 16<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup> will be \$12.00; and, for those who join from May 16<sup>th</sup> through November 15<sup>th</sup>, \$6.00. (Our goal is to have all memberships end on December 31<sup>st</sup> of a given year.)

2. Also effective January 1, 2001, back issues of the newsletter will not be provided unless there are truly unusual and/or exceptional circumstances. We ask everyone to please submit their dues on time so that they won't miss any issues of the newsletter.

In the pages that follow, we've included another article covering the 2001 VFA Reunion. Please spread word of the reunion to your extended family members. We've found that getting the word (alert) out early results in better attendance. In the next issue we will have even more details along with a registration form. For those with access to the Internet, please visit our Web Sites often for the latest news - about the reunion and other VFA subjects.

Joanne Vermilya MacArthur recently changed the information at her Web Site. If you have Internet access and haven't visited the Site recently, we suggest you take a look. The Site's address is on the last page of this newsletter.

LAST CALL!!! Sandra Todd is working diligently to gather information for the next edition (Book II) of "The Vermilyea Family" which will be published in time for the 2001 Reunion. Please get your updated and new information to Sandra by January 1, 2001. Sandra's address is at the last page of this newsletter.

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**As this is our last newsletter for the year, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend to each and everyone our very best wishes for a joyous holiday season and a successful, healthy year 2001.**

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## BIRTHDAYS

December 13	Jean Vermilya Cedergreen,
December 19	Sherry Robinson Todd,
December 24	Judy Bockstahler, Elisabeth Vermilye,
December 31	Lynn Vermilyea,
January 2	Helen L. Vermilya,
January 11	James Earl Vermilyer,
January 16	Carl (Chuck) P. Vermilyea, Jr.,
January 25	Gary William Burkholder, Michael Lee Burkholder,
February 6	John B. Vermilya,
February 14	Silas (Reub) Vermilyea,
February 19	George L. Vermilyer
February 24	Phyllis Vermilye Waldo,
February 28	Joe Vermilya,

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**THELMA ELIZABETH (NUNNALLY) VERMILYA(#939-3)** died August 27, 2000 at Clifton Forge, Virginia. She was born December 8, 1914 at Green Bay, Virginia. She was married to Walter Emerson Vermilya who was born at Greenville, Greene County, New York. He died November 7, 1984 at Clifton Forge. Surviving are two daughter Edith Louise Baldwin and Mary Jane Archer, one son Walter Emerson Vermilyea, Jr. and several grandchildren.

*The San Diego Union-Tribune, September 12, 2000*

**VERMILYA, ALMA JEANNE DUPONT (1490A)**

Alma, 75, passed away on 9 September, 2000 at her home in El Cajon. The older daughter of Herb and Alma Dupont, she was a native San Diegan. A graduate of Hoover High School, she also attended San Diego State College where she affiliated with Phi Sigma Nu Sorority. Treasured Wife, Mother and Grandmother, Alma is survived by her husband of 51 years, Jay J. Vermilya, Captain U.S. Navy (retired); by her daughters, Jeanne Beechel of Yorktown, VA and Susan Vermilya of El Cajon; by her son Jeffrey of Klamath Falls, OR; by her six grandchildren; and by her sister Catherine Dupont Hart of San Diego. Services will be conducted Thursday 14 September at 2:30 p.m. at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, San Diego (San Carlos). In lieu of flowers, donations in Alma's memory may be made to the San Diego Hospice or to St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church.

**JAMES JOSEPH VERMILYEA (#566-13)**, died September 30, 2000 at his home in Plainview, New York with the help of Hospice. He was born September 15, 1921 at Brooklyn, New York State. He married Lydia Latzke May 10, 1947 at Brooklyn, New York. James is survived by his wife and a daughter, our member Veronica Theodorakis. Also surviving are two sisters Theresa Beals and Genevieve Rivello and three grandsons Matthew M., Andrew J. and Thomas J. Theodorakis. He was predeceased by a daughter Catherine D. Delgado, four sisters and one brother. Burial was at the St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale, New York.

**ETHEL MARIETTA (LEVINESS) VERMILYA** (spouse of #939-2)

Edith (Vermilya) Baldwin tells us that her aunt Ethel (LeViness) Vermilya died October 1, 2000 at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina. She is the widow of Oakley Ellsworth Vermilya who was born at Greenville, New York, died October 27, 1998 at Kill Devil Hills. Burial was at Mountain View Cemetery, Clifton Forge, Virginia.

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The following are messages left messages at our VFA Web Site Guest Book

Name: Brian Vermilyer

From: Indiana

I am a Vermilyer and just wanted to know how my family name became thanx a lot

Name: James Vermilye

From: Detroit Michigan

Name: Diane Loeber

From: Inwood

Surfing the web. The logo is not visible. Would love to see it

*(THE LOGO HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE VFA PAGE)*

Name: David and Judy Vermilyea

From: Kirkwood, NY

We think this is great being able to look back in history and see where your family came from. Thanks

Name: Nancy Ann (Swanson) McIntyre

From: Michigan City, Indiana

Nelson Vermilyer informed us of Sandra Vermilyea Todd's trip to Indiana researching the Vermilyer family. Very excited and impressed with all of the data she has compiled. Go Sandra! *(This was actually Jim and Wilma Vermilyer that made the trip to Indiana)*

Name: Elizabeth Vermilye Titherington

From: California

My middle name is my grandmother's last name.

Name: Peter and Erin Vermilyea

From: West Springfield, MA

I think that it is great to do this again. I have never gone to a big reunion like this.

Name: Richard Vermilyer

From: Laporte, IN

My grandfathers name was Charles Edward Vermilyer he past away in Dec of 1949 in Laporte, IN

Name: Donald Vermilya Gray

From: Woodland, CA

My grandfather was Charles Enos Vermilya. He was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church in North Dakota. My genealogy has Pietro Martire Vermigli married to his first wife Catherine Dammartin of Metz in 1547. I am reviewing my family history and genealogy.

Name: Monica Showerman

From: Holt, Michigan

Home: <http://www.medievalwedding.com>

My Uncle - Roger Vermilyea - just told me about this site at a family get together today. I am the daughter of Sharon Faye Vermilyea (maiden name) Showerman (married name). I'm planning on coming to your family reunion next year!



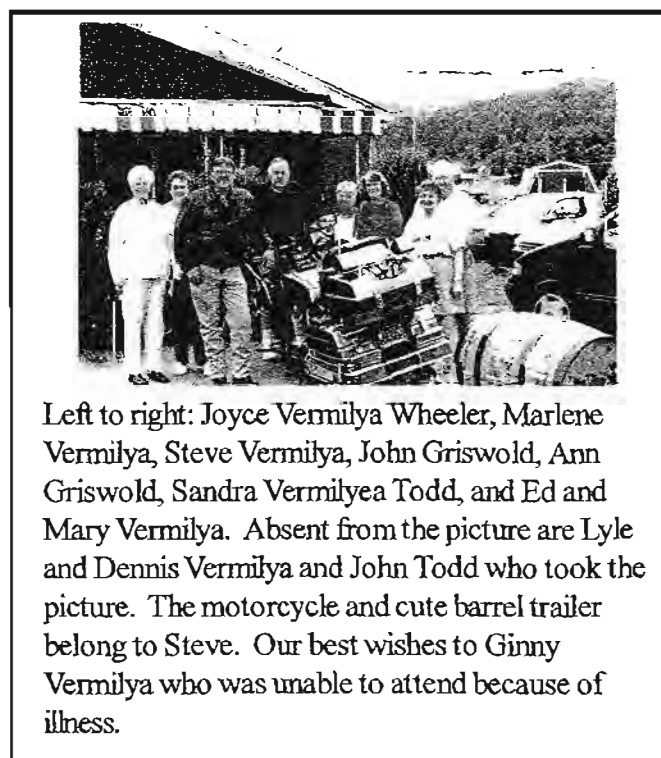
## SUMMER GATHERINGS MAKE FOR HAPPY MEMORIES

### AUGUST IN CANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

In August John and I had the pleasure of meeting with nine other family members at Our House Restaurant, in Canton, Pennsylvania. Ann and John Griswold, Marlene Vermilya, Steve Vermilya, Joyce Vermilya Wheeler, Lyle Vermilya, Dennis Vermilya and Ed and Mary Vermilya were all on hand for the lovely lunch and nice visit. We hadn't seen the Griswold's, Steve, Joyce, Lyle, or Dennis since the Wellsboro reunion. John and I spent several hours later that day at the Green Free Library in Canton doing some family research. We enjoyed a lovely evening meal and night with Ed and Mary before continuing on to New York the next day.

While in New York we spent an evening visiting with Ed and Janet Vermilyea.

When I arrived home I had messages from several of the Vermilyer family telling about their Reunion August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Swanson Activity Center in LaPorte, Indiana.



Left to right: Joyce Vermilya Wheeler, Marlene Vermilya, Steve Vermilya, John Griswold, Ann Griswold, Sandra Vermilyea Todd, and Ed and Mary Vermilya. Absent from the picture are Lyle and Dennis Vermilya and John Todd who took the picture. The motorcycle and cute barrel trailer belong to Steve. Our best wishes to Ginny Vermilya who was unable to attend because of illness.

**VERMILYER REUNION, LAPORTE, INDIANA**

Submitted by Lewis Vermilyer

I was building my family tree, on a 7ft. window shade with the help of my mother. We were going from house to house getting the information we needed to build the tree. Everyone was asking why we didn't have a reunion. I told them I would start one. A cousin of mine said if I would get the addresses, she would write the invitations and send them out for me. I don't know how many there were but there were a lot of them.

The first reunion, we had 275 or more. I was president for quite a few years. The older folks are passing away and the younger ones have drifted away because of lack of interest. It seems like they don't take interest till they start getting older. This year we only had 36 people, and the main interest was the talk I gave on genealogy, believe me they all perked up and listened. I give a talk every year but this year it seemed to do some good. I have missed only one time in all 45 years and that was the Sunday I moved out of my home at New Carlisle after living in it 38 years. I sold it and the people were wanting to move in. By the time we got to the park everyone had left.

This year we had a carry in dinner and the meat was furnished by the reunion. Every year we have an auction. Everybody brings a five dollar gift wrapped up. No one knows what is in the package and they are auctioned off to the highest bidder. The money goes to the reunion fund. We have games for the children and bingo for the adults. Each player donates a .50 cent gift for bingo prizes. A grand time is had by all.



**THE VERMILYEA FAMILY BOOK**



All copies of the 1998 book are now gone, if there is enough interest more can be printed in the future.

I am now concentrating on Book II. So far there are 145 pages of new material. There will also be a section listing Unidentified Families, those listed in the 1998 book that have not been identified, plus more. This time these family members will be listed with all of their descendants in the same format that was used for the identified families in the 1998 book. Currently there are 65 pages in this section.

There is still time to add new information to your family line, but time is running short. Take some time today to check out your family in the 1998 book and send me any new information that you would like added. As you get together with your family members to enjoy the holiday season remind them to do the same, we want to include everyone!! Don't forget about pictures. Please don't send me your originals, a black and white copy made on a color copy machine works fine. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. The deadline is January 1, 2001.

~Sandra



**IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!!**

Hard to believe, but we are now at the end of our fifth full year of publishing *Vermilya/e/ea'er's.... Historically Speaking!!!* Our very first issue was published in February 1996; a total of 20 issues have been mailed to our members over the past five years. We are looking forward to our sixth year - 2001. We have many

new articles planned including all the details (watch for your invitation in a 2001 issue), pictures and news about our upcoming reunion in July. Make sure you don't miss any of the exciting news for 2001. Membership is still just \$12.00 per year and it's time to mail in your renewal **NOW**. Memberships start on January 1, 2001. Mail your check to Jim today, his address is on the last page of this issue.

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## 2001 VFA REUNION

Detailed planning continues for the 2001 Vermilyea Family Association Reunion in South Deerfield, Massachusetts. Please mark your calendars for the weekend of July 13-15, 2001.

Saturday July 14<sup>th</sup> will be the primary day for the Reunion. The only events scheduled for Friday are a VFA Board meeting and the Board dinner. Only one event is scheduled for Sunday, another short Board meeting. (Board meetings are open to all who want to attend.) On Saturday, the meeting hall will be open at 9:00 AM. Between then and midnight that evening, there will be a general membership meeting, group photograph, banquet, entertainment, and plenty of socializing. Family researchers will be available to assist those who want to know more about their ancestry.

For those flying in, we recommend using the Hartford CT International Airport as it is closest to South Deerfield - about 50 minutes drive away. The highway network is excellent as South Deerfield is just off Interstate Route 91 about 30 miles north of its junction with Interstate Route 90, the Mass. Pike. Amtrak also serves the region. A map of the area will be in the next newsletter.

The primary lodging facility will be the Motel 6 in South Deerfield. The cost is about \$60.00 per night (Friday and Saturday nights - other nights about \$5.00 less) for a double room (2 queens), including taxes. AARP discounts (10%) are available. We have block-booked 40 rooms for the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of July. In that number are 3 handicap-equipped rooms, 25 non-smoking rooms and the remainder can swing smoking or non-smoking. This motel has an extremely high, year-round, room occupancy rate; therefore, **the block booking is good only until June 13<sup>th</sup>**. If you do not register before that date, rooms may not be available. The motel does not charge a credit card until you actually checkout; thus, if you are unable to attend and forget to call in a cancellation, you will not be charged - it's a safety net for customers. Please make your reservations between now and June 1<sup>st</sup> so that you can get the nights and type of room you want. **To register call 1-800-466-8356 (1-800-4-MOTEL6) and tell them you want a room at South Deerfield, MA, under the Vermilyea Family Association booking (confirmation number 70034).** The Motel 6 has an excellent swimming pool, but no restaurant.

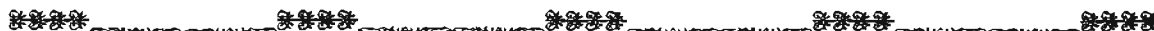
There are other lodging facilities, including a few unique, old and somewhat expensive B&B's, in the general area. We will include a list of them in the next newsletter and post them at the Internet Site that Sandra runs (see Site address at last page of this newsletter).

For RV'ers, White Birch Campground, 214 North Street, Whately, MA. is less than three miles from Motel 6 and the site of the reunion on Saturday. We have not made a block booking at the Campground. As with the Motel, it is a very popular location during the summer; therefore, we recommend making reservations early. The telephone number is 1-800-244-4941 (in winter months, call during evenings). The daily rate is \$24.00 for 2 persons for a site with water and electricity. There is a \$2.00 discount per site for senior citizens.

Other than the banquet, everyone will be on their own for meals. There are several good eateries in the area. Those who arrive on Friday are welcome to join the Board for dinner. As reservations are required, we will ask you for a commitment on the Reunion Registration Form that will be in the next newsletter. The form will also contain an offer to purchase a Reunion T-shirt and contain information about the banquet meal, including prices.

For those interested in purchasing a copy of the original and/or Book II of *The Vermilyea Family* (*Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer*), we request that you communicate directly with Sandra Todd (addresses are on the last page of this newsletter) to reserve a copy and for prices and payment instructions. She plans to bring to the reunion preordered copies for those who attend.

The next newsletter will have many more details about the reunion. Also, please visit our Internet Sites.



## A POET IN OUR MIDST



Miriam E. MacGregor Vermilya, my mother, was a loving wife, a wonderful mom, a caring teacher, a visionary artist, and a brilliant poet: these things I've always known. Now I have independent verification. After her death in January of 1999, mother's poetry group "raided" her computer, finished putting together the manuscript she had been working on, and sent said manuscript off to Texas Tech University Press, where it won the Walt McDonald First Book Award. (She had had individual poems published in magazines and collections of note, but no book published of just her own work.) In April of this year, the book, entitled "Heartwood," was published and also nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. In October, Miriam Vermilya was named Ohio Poet of the Year by the Ohio Poetry Society.

Mom has left a legacy of "the worth of words" to all who knew and loved her, as well as to all who read her musings on life and death, delivered with her tongue firmly in her cheek.

~ Submitted by Joanne Vermilya MacArthur



# A QUIET HERO

By Joanne V. MacArthur

In researching our family tree, we tend to search for the hero and try to lose the black sheep. But in looking toward the past, sometimes we lose sight of the heroes among us now.

On December 4, it will be one year since the death of my uncle, Robert Sidney Vermilya. He was "an officer and a gentleman,"\* with a ready laugh and easy joke, and with always a word of encouragement or support. As a child, and a short one at that, I remember vividly the wonderful expectation and sensation of him catching my body and swinging me up ever so high above his 6'2" frame. I also remember his calm encouragement in the wake of my mother's death.



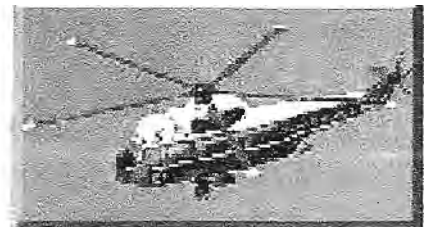
He was also a true hero, winner of the Bronze Star for "courageously leading his squadron of 21 SH-3's [helicopters] during the rescue of 16 airmen from enemy land and sea areas"† during the Vietnam War. He also received the Silver Star for a daring rescue of a downed pilot in Haiphong Harbor, while avoiding continuous crossfire and anti-aircraft barrage.

At Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum in Charleston, SC, the SH-3 Sea King [helicopter] is "proudly dedicated by The Naval Helicopter Association in honor of Vietnam War Hero Captain Robert S. Vermilya, USN."† His name will forever be featured on the cockpit of that aircraft.

In a eulogy given by his longtime friend and fellow officer, the list of qualities that were offered by his peers included "honest, humble, intelligent, understanding, loyal, sincere, strong, courageous, witty funny, heroic, modest, unselfish, capable and bright."\*

It was admiration for his big brother, my father John, that landed uncle Bob in the Navy. Dad had enlisted, and when younger brother saw the dress whites, swooning women and the flying that ensued, he headed for the recruiting center. Even a problem with his eyesight (I've heard about "blind as a bat") didn't deter him: he memorized the eye chart! It obviously didn't hamper his career.

Before the helicopters, Bob flew the F8F Bearcat, which "had a very small cockpit and it must have taken real effort for Bob to fold his height into that tiny space, but he did it and enjoyed it."\* Although he is best known for his tour with the SH-3's on the carrier Kearsarge during the Vietnam conflict, Bob also commanded the troop carriers Sandoval and Austin. One tour of duty actually took him to the Antarctic. His final tour was as commanding officer of Ream Field before its decommission in 1967. My favorite story concerns the time Bob was an officer on a ship stationed in the Persian Gulf during the '50s when



† From the plaque identifying the SH-3 Sea King dedicated in honor of Captain Robert S. Vermilya

\* From the eulogy given by Bob's good friend, Captain Alfred E. Monahan, USN (ret.)

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
*7/31/00 thru 9/30/00*



Beginning Balance .....	\$1401.04
Deposits .....	\$191.00
Withdrawals .....	\$214.28
Balance as of September 30, 2000 .....	\$1377.76

Deposit Summary

Membership .....	\$144.00
Books .....	\$47.00

Withdrawal Summary:

Newsletter .....	\$96.90
Books .....	\$83.50
Supplies .....	\$33.88
(Sandra: postage, sheet protectors, card )	

Submitted by Jim Vermilyea, Treasurer



It is certainly desirable to be well descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.

*Plutarch, 'Morals,' 100 A.D.*

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

Having difficulty in thinking of a Christmas gift for a hard-to-buy-for relative? Suggestion: A one-year membership in the Vermilyea Family Association.

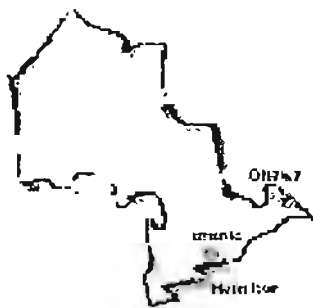
## RESEARCHING – IN CANADA

By Carl Vermilyea



For most of us, the basic sources for our lineage and early family history are books published circa 1903-1906 by James Riker, Henry Pennington Toler, Carl Horton Pierce and John Hogan Benton. To find our place in the Vermilya/e/ea/er family tree, we only have to add the names of our more recent ancestors to the names listed in those books. But, in some cases, that doesn't work and more investigation is needed.

When we've had to investigate, our researchers have found, not too surprisingly, that sometimes the authors of those books recorded information provided to them by family members without obtaining substantiating evidence. In other words, occasionally, the information was only as good as the memories, beliefs and opinions of the people the authors contacted. More often than not, the information has been found to be accurate; but, occasionally, it appears that some was mere conjecture. In attempting to validate data covering members of our Canadian branch(es), guessing seems to have been common as our researchers have not been able to align (sort out) many of the descendants of Peter Vermilyea (#58), who, in about 1803, was the first to move his family (a wife and 7 children) from New York to Canada.



In August, my wife, Linda, and I vacationed in southeastern Ontario, Canada. As there are several Vermilyea families in the area and thinking it might be a good opportunity to try to clear up some of the conflicting information we have on Peter descendants, we included in our itinerary two days for genealogy research. Before departing, I found, via the Internet, the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Center in Ameliasburgh, Prince Edward County, the

general area of our destination; and, determined that they were open on Mondays through Wednesdays during July and August (only on Mondays and Tuesdays during other months). I told Sandra Todd of my vacation plans and she put me in contact with Farley M. Vermilyea (#615-1), a descendant of Peter's, who lives in Belleville, Ontario, about 15 miles north of Ameliasburgh.

We arrived in Ameliasburgh at about 9:30 AM, Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. It is a very rural town with very few businesses – one small country store and one very small eatery (Amelia's Tea Room – relaxing, unique and in Linda's word, charming); we saw no gas station or lodging facility. (We ended up lodging in Belleville.)

As it turn out, we arrived much too early for the Research Center's 11:00 a.m. opening. Following us into the parking lot was Ray Waterhouse, one of the volunteers who would staff the Center for the day (the Center is run entirely by volunteers). Seeing our New Hampshire license plates, he graciously permitted us to enter the building with him. Inside, we met Peter Zandbergen, another volunteer. The Center is in a small, two-level, relatively new building. The main floor is devoted entirely to files of genealogy records, microfiche readers, computers and worktables. It is extremely well organized and has an amazing number of documents for its size.

Ray and Peter gave us a quick orientation and soon Linda and I were at one of the tables, each with a stack of documents before us. As luck would have it, Peter had family ties to the Faulkner family. Helen Aurilia Vermilyea (#614) married James Albert Faulkner in 1907. Peter called his father and obtained information about Helen's family that we may not have been able to obtain otherwise. He also told us about and gave us directions to Vermilyea Road in Belleville. (Vermilyea Road, Belleville, will be the subject of a "Vermilyea Places" article in a future edition of this newsletter.)

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We departed the Center about 2:30 PM for Vermilyea Road. After finding it, driving its length and stopping at points for pictures and to admire the scenery, we headed for our scheduled visit with Farley and Vera Vermilyea. Farley, age 83, and Vera, 80, are an absolutely delightful couple and superb hosts. Farley's youthful energy and enthusiasm far belie his years. With his

excellent memory and keen interest in the family's genealogy, he related story after story about his Canadian branch of the Vermilyea clan. I frantically took notes as he talked about his immediate family, his lineage and Vermilyea Road, which had been named after his ancestors' farm. We ended our day with Farley and Vera after a wonderful meal at Farley's favorite restaurant in nearby Trenton, Ontario. Linda and I were thrilled and honored to have had the opportunity to meet and spend so much time with them.

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The next morning found us back at the Research Center with another stack of documents before us. As during the previous day, the volunteer staff of the Center extended us the utmost courtesy and assistance. After taking a short lunch break, we returned to the Center and met another researcher, Al Graham, who was looking for information on Reuben Vermilyea (#311). Al's wife had ties to Reuben's wife, Catherine. I had my copy of *The Vermilyea Family* with me and we proceeded to exchange information about the family. Among other things, Al proved that Catherine's surname was McColl (not McCaul, as the sources for our book show), and that Reuben and Catherine had separated, their two sons going with Reuben to live (which solved another mystery). Linda and I continued our research until the 4:00 p.m. closing time. We then had to get on with the rest of our vacation itinerary.

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Thanks to Farley, Peter, Al, and our eight-plus hours of research at the Center, Linda and I discovered a great deal of information covering members of our Canadian branch. We were able to confirm that there is suspect information (conjecture) in the books previously used as sources for the Canadian branch(es). Even though we weren't able to resolve those conflicts, didn't have the time to get to many of the Center's documents, and found many "new" Vermilyea names that we couldn't tie into the family, we considered our efforts successful for the amount of time we had spent there.

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Since returning home, I have consolidated all our findings and sent them to Sandra Todd for the VFA master file. She plans to include much of the information in Book II, *The Vermilyea Family* (*Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer*), which she is working on and will be published

(Continued on page 14)

next July.

So, whereas progress has been made in the research of our Canadian relatives, it is far from completed. Someday, Linda and I hope to go back to the Marilyn Adams Genealogy Research Center to continue our research and tour more of the scenic area in and around Prince Edward County, Ontario.



### A WEDDING!

Charlie and Joanne Vermilya MacArthur are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Jocelyn, to Mr. Robert Carter, October 14, 2000.



Phew!!! I'm glad that's over!!! Planning a wedding in six months isn't an easy task, but it went off beautifully, even though it was outside and the weather is tricky in October. For the joining of a park ranger and a wildlife management specialist, nature cooperated with the attendance of four squirrels, two chipmunks - and a bat!

The happy couple spent a week on St John, U.S. Virgin Is. for their honeymoon, where diving,

snorkeling and hiking activities were added to the usual beach-combing, lazing and swimming. But neither of the newlyweds was bitten by anything either in the water or on land; no one was sun-burned badly; and appropriate presents were brought back - that's the important part!



### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

To David M. (#1772-I) and Lisa Ann (Lewis) Govoni, on September 1, 2000, in Sandwich, Massachusetts, a daughter, **Ashley Morgan Govoni** (#1772-I-2).

To Russell P. and Lynne O. (Vermilyea) (#1777) Andrews, on September 14, 2000 in Portland, Oregon, a daughter, **Olivia Claire Andrews** (#1777-VI).

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*(Continued from page 9)*

the commander and staff were invited to dine with the king of an Arabian country. When they realized that "he who found the favor of the king" was offered the left eyeball of the sheep the king was eating, every one managed to keep a low profile while they ate politely and without comment. Happily, no one, including uncle Bob, was singled out as a favorite. That day, no one was a hero. ☺

## 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 (USD) for those who join from November 16th through May 15th and \$6.00 for those who join from May 16th through November 15th. 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/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 Vermilyea Todd.

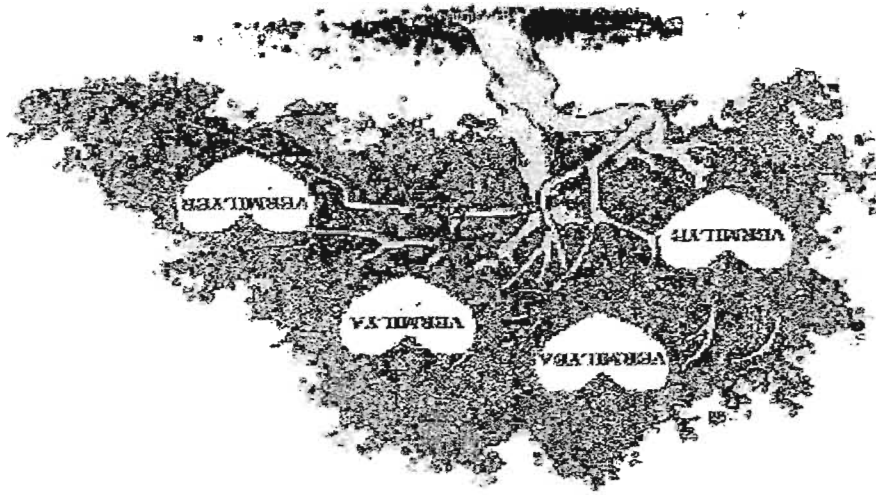
### DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

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:

### NEXT EDITION

The next edition of this newsletter will be published on or about February 15, 2001. In it we will continue our series of reports covering "Vermilya/e/ea/er Places" with an article about Vermilyea Road in Belleville, Ontario, Canada, and will provide more information about the 2001 VFA Reunion in Massachusetts.

VERMILYEA FAMILY ASSOCIATION  
(Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer)  
Founded in 1995



VERMILYA/E/EA/ER'S ...HISTORICALLY  
SPEAKING  
Joanne V. MacArthur, Publisher



**Have you paid your  
2001 membership  
dues?**

