

Vermilya/e/ea/er's...Historically Speaking

Volume VII, No. 4 October, November, December 2002

VERMILYA/E/EA/ERS IN AVIATION



This article continues our series covering descendants involved in aviation with the story of the accidental death of Jack Donald Vermilya.



Sandra V. Todd with newspaper clippings provided by Sarah Edith Vermilya.

Jack Donald Vermilya (VFA #1433), an uncle to our VFA members Wilber A. Vermilya (#1699), Willis C. Vermilya (#1700) and Sarah Edith Vermilya (#1702), was known to family and friends as Donald, or Don. He was born on August 5, 1911 in Johnson City, New York, to Howard and Nellie Vermilya and tragically died in a sea plane accident on August 19, 1951. He was married to Alice Atherton at the time of his death.

Don flew his plane into Margaretville, New York, on at least one occasion. I found a newspaper article telling of his visit to family written in the *Catskill Mountain News* when I was doing research on my family. The town residents apparently turned out to clear the little runway so that Donald could take off after a snowstorm. It was a big event big for such a small town.

Don was killed in his seaplane when it crashed in Crystal Lake near Deposit, New York, and he drowned.

Sarah Edith Vermilya sent me the following two articles which describe the accident.

The first article appeared on Monday, August 20, 1951: "PILOT KILLED, TWO GIRLS INJURED IN DEPOSIT SEAPLANE CRASH - JOHNSON CITY MAN VICTIM IN LAKE CRASH."

A Johnson City pilot was killed and his two young girl passengers from Endwell miraculously escaped death when the seaplane in which they were riding crashed into Crystal Lake yesterday afternoon.

Dead was Jack Donald Vermilya, 40, of 1 Annabelle Road, Johnson City. Injured were Carol Hanafin, 12, lacerations of left thigh and hand, and Marlene Haycock, 13, lacerations of the head. The plane was demolished.

After emergency treatment at the scene and at Deposit, the two girls suffering from severe shock were rushed by private car to Ideal Hospital, Endicott, for further treatment. According to State Police of the Deposit substation and eyewitnesses, the pilot had been landing and taking off all afternoon from Crystal Lake, a summer community six miles northeast of Deposit in Delaware County, 2,500 feet above sea level high in the Catskills.



Jack Donald Vermilyea (#1433)

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Charles Hagstrom, 24, Binghamton, said he was the last passenger in the plane before the pilot picked up the two girls. As nearly as could be determined by the troopers and eye-witnesses, here is what happened: Mr. Vermilya picked up the two girls near a cottage at the north end of the half-mile lake. Then, because of a wind change, he taxied the yellow colored Piper Cub seaplane to the south end of the lake, and took off into the wind. Halfway across, at about 4:45 p.m., the plane rose into the air, faltered, and plummeted into the lake about 100 yards from where it originally started. It narrowly missed hitting a boat occupied by William Van Ness, 42, of Binghamton and Edward, 5, and Joan McHugh, 12, also of Binghamton.

Almost immediately, Mr. Van Ness and other boat owners rushed to the scene to rescue the passengers before the plane sank. "Evidently the pilot had loosened the girls seat straps before the crash because we got them out before the plane sank," said Mr. Van Ness, "but we couldn't get him out." Mr. Van Ness had rescued one of the girls, who, with blood covering her face, was screaming, "I can't swim, Help, my buddy's in there." The second girl, then still unidentified, was swimming away from the plane, when she was lifted into another boat. Mr. Van Ness and Wallace Yelverton, 23, Endicott, dove repeatedly into the shallow water to extricate the pilot, but, to no avail.

After 40 minutes, the plane was towed to shore and Vermilya's body was removed. Coroner L. E. Woolsey, who arrived at the scene from Hancock, gave a verdict of accidental death. However, actual cause of death, whether by force of the crash or by drowning will not be known until an autopsy is performed. Troopers and the Deposit Fire Department used a resuscitator on Mr. Vermilya for more than one hour. Civil Aeronautics officials at Elmira notified State Troopers to stand guard over the plane wreckage until a complete investigation was made. Peter Van Pelt, Deposit, vacationing at Crystal Lake, drove to nearby Silver Beach Lake to call the troopers.

Carol Hanafin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Hanafin, Endwell, and Marlene Haycock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph H. Haycock, also of Endwell, were given emergency treatment by Dr. C. M. Axtell at Deposit and then driven by Mr. Haycock to Ideal Hospital, Endicott.

The fatal crash was being investigated by State Police of Deposit substation under the command of Lt. J. W. Wheeler. This was the second plane crash in the deposit area within a month, and the first fatal one this year."

The second article, a shorter one, appeared in the newspaper on Tuesday, August 21, 1951; 2 days after the crash:

"HOSPITAL REPORTS CONDITION OF TWO GIRLS, HURT IN PLANE CRASH, 'FAIRLY GOOD.'

Ideal Hospital at Endicott reported yesterday that the condition of the two girls injured Sunday in the fatal plane crash at Crystal Lake, near Deposit, are in "fairly good" condition.

Carol Hanafin, 12, suffered cuts of her left thigh and hand, and Marlene Haycock, 13, cuts on her head when the plane piloted by Jack Donald Vermilya, 40, of Johnson City, plunged into the lake. The pilot was killed. The girls were taken to Endicott for x-ray examination and treatment for severe shock. X-rays disclosed yesterday that neither had any broken bones. Both girls are residents of Endwell.

Following an autopsy yesterday, Dr. L. E. Wollsey of Hancock, Delaware County coroner, gave a verdict of accidental drowning in the death of Vermilya. The coroner said that the pilot apparently was trapped under the small seaplane when it plunged into the lake about 100 yards from where it had taken off and was unable to escape before the plane sank."

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FROM THE STAFF

by Carl Vermilyea

This month marks the 7th anniversary of the VFA. Our informal, social, genealogy club has made significant progress in its primary objective of documenting all Vermilya/e/ea/er descendants. Thanks go out to you all for your contributions toward achieving that goal and for the interest you have shown in the Association.

In addition to accumulating family data, the staff has attempted to continue to ensure that you receive interesting feedback through articles in this newsletter, updates to our Books (we thank Sandra Todd for her superb efforts in that regard – please see her article on page 9) and the development of interesting and useful web sites. The last of those, web sites, is now being reviewed and discussed by the Staff. Our aim is to optimize web site content while ensuring an appropriate degree of security and privacy for everyone. Until we are able to resolve that issue to the Board of Director's satisfaction, Sandra Todd has removed from the site she maintains some of the information and pictures she had previously displayed there. We expect to have some decisions made after the upcoming holidays.

As always, we welcome any and all suggestions from members for improving the newsletter, Book updates and web sites. If you have ideas, please pass them on to us. And, please continue to send us information covering your immediate family and other Vermilya/e/ea/ers you know or "discover." We are always looking for information (stories) and pictures for our VFA historical file and this newsletter.

Plans for the 2003 VFA reunion are coming together, albeit slowly at this point. The Inn in Gilroy, California, which we intend to use for lodging and our meeting facility, will not announce their complete room and facility rates for 2003 until January. Our coordinator, Wilma Vermilyer, wants to get the best possible deal for us; therefore, we have decided to wait until January to decide on the specific dates for the reunion. Please see the article on page 6. We will have many more details in the next newsletter.

As announced in this year's January-February-March edition of this newsletter (Vol. VII, No. 1), our VFA Secretary, Veronica Theodorakis, is maintaining a web site which indexes all back issues (all the way back to 1996) of our newsletter and contains instructions for ordering them. The site may be accessed by going to our basic VFA web page (see page 14 for the address). Although we have had only one request for back-issues, Veronica will continue the service. In December, she will add to the index the articles which appeared in this year's newsletters.

VFA membership dues for 2003 will be the same as they have been in the past. Starting on the next page, we have listed the 2002 VFA members according to their current membership expiration date. Please read the article about dues which follows the listing.

The VFA staff wishes you and yours the very best during the upcoming holiday season. And, may 2003 be a healthy and prosperous year for each of you.

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E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGE FOR SANDRA TODD

By Sandra V. Todd

After many years with AOL, John and I are changing our Internet Service Provider. We have decided to upgrade to "High Speed" and in order to do this and get the services we want, we have moved to EarthLink. My new address is

This change will not affect the Vermilyea Family Reunion web site. That address will remain:

2002 MEMBERS

Below is the list of those who were VFA members in 2002. It is arranged by **membership expiration date** (as shown in the VFA Treasurer's records).

Name	<u>Membership Expires on or before December 31, 2002:</u> Address	VFA #
Avery	Glenda G.	
Bartchy	Valery L.	
Bockstahler	Judith & E. Fredric	
Budd	Ruth E. & Merlin B.	
Burkholder	Norvell & Paula	
Bush	Richard L.	
Capshaw	Margaret	
Croley	Robert R. & Patricia T.	
Croley	Vera V. & Ralph W.	
Dunlap	Patty	
Endress	Maribeth V. & Steve	
Fernkoph	Barbara & Wayne	
Gann	Bea	
Griswold	John & Ann	
Holladay	John A.	
Jonnes	Beverly B.	
Kuebler	Harold & Dorothea V.	
Lee	Mary Jo & Gary	
MacArthur	Joanne V. & Charles	
MacNiven	Eleanor	
Maxwell	Peggy Lynn & Timothy	
McIntyre	Nancy A	
Miner	Olive M. V.	
Olsen	Elizabeth	
Quella	Susan K.	
Russell	Bon A. & Virginia	
Schottler Jr.	Kenneth B.	
Seims	Dorothy & Douglas	
Simpson	Carol V. & Gene R.	
Sobolewski	Fern	
Stanovsky	Madonna V.	
Stout	Dayl & Jennie	
Theodorakis	Veronica V. & Michael	
Todd	John R. & Sandra V.	
Todd Jr.	John R. & Sherry	
Vermilya	Clifford R. & Chris	
Vermilya	Ed & Mary	
Vermilya	Hugh C.	
Vermilya	Jay J.	
Vermilya	John B. & Ruby O.	
Vermilya	John R.	
Vermilya	Joseph C. & Helen L.	
Vermilya	Marlene	
Vermilya	Sarah E.	
Vermilya	Suzanne K.	
Vermilya	Wilber A & Rosanne M.	
Vermilya	Willis C. & Donna L.	
Vermilye	Edith L.	
Vermilyea	Carl P. & Linda R.	

Vermilyea Edwin J. & Janet
Vermilyea Jack M. & Patricia
Vermilyea Jim & Cheryl
Vermilyea Lynn D. & Nancy
Vermilyea Jr. Carl P.
Vermilyea Jr. Charles R.
Vermilyea Jr. Silas R. & Elizabeth
Vermilyer James E. & Wilma
Watson Beverly V.
Webb William P.
Wheeler Robert
Young Darla & Arthur

Cedergreen Jay A.
Vermilyea Paul H. & Marilyn
Vermilyer Lewis N.

Vermilye Dyckman W.

Perks Robert L. & Eileen A.
Peterson David V.
Vermilye Thomas M. & Cynthia
Vermilyea Dennis A & Winona
Vermilyea Samuel & Jo

Brinkmann Gloria J.

Vermilyea Frederick J. & Viola

DUES FOR 2003

Membership dues for 2003 will be the same as this year. **Dues for those residing in the United States will be \$12.00. For those who pay their dues with Canadian dollars, the 2003 dues will be \$17.20.** Please send your check or money order made payable to the Vermilyea Family Association to the Treasurer: Dayl Stout

In the past, some members have sent in money to cover more than one year of dues. The Board of Directors is currently developing plans for the years 2004 and beyond and it is possible that there may be a need to change the dues in 2004. Therefore, we ask that when you mail in your dues for 2003, you **send in only the amount to cover 2003**. See the above article which shows your membership expiration date. (If you are one of the 7 members whose membership expires on December 31st 2003 or in 2004, please do not send in dues. If you are one of the 4 members whose membership expires during 2003, please send in only a sufficient amount to complete 2003 (for these members only – dues are \$3.00 per quarter).)

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YOU ARE INVITED
To The
2003 VERMILYA/E/EA/ER FAMILY REUNION
by Wilma Vermilyer

You are invited to a special gathering and celebration of FAMILY organized by the Vermilyea Family Association (VFA). This Reunion will be in Gilroy, California, in the latter part of the summer or early fall. Gilroy is the garlic capital of the world. This is in the central part of the state, with such attractions as the Aquarium in Monterey, featuring only animals from Monterey Bay, Monterey Wharf, a small wharf still used by fisherman, shops and food, plus much wildlife such as sea lions, seals, otters, pelicans as well as underwater creatures which can be viewed from above.

Why a reunion? Bonding, networking, renewing old acquaintances or just for a good time - call it what you want. Past reunions have been a meeting ground for those acquainted and strangers, all related in some near or distant way. Whether you come just for the day or stay overnight in the area, we are sure you will find this event an interesting and enjoyable experience. Please join us - if for no other reason than to satisfy your curiosity.

The facility we expect to use for lodging is The Forrest Park Inn on Leavesley Road in Gilroy. We also plan to rent a conference rooms in the Inn so we can conveniently meet and share information with one another. It will be early January before they will set prices for 2003 and allow us to make reservations; therefore, no registration form is included with this newsletter. Anyone wanting to check out the hotel online can do so at this address:
<http://www.forestparkinn.com/>

Please keep the reunion in mind and be watching for registration forms and more information in the next newsletter, or in January at our web site.

IN MEMORY



Our sincere condolences are extended to all those who have recently lost loved ones. We have not been able to identify (tie into the family tree) some of the names which appear below. If you have information about any of the "unknowns", please notify Sandra Todd.



JAMES B. BIRCH (#1135-I): Word has been received that James B. Birch (name also shown as Birtch) of San Diego, California, died September 1, 2002. He was 93 years old and had a 35 year career in the U.S. Navy. He served as Skipper of the USS Mulberry from February 16, 1949 to November 6, 1950.

(Please see accompanying article about James on page 8).

(Picture used with permission of Bob Cooper who maintains the USS Mulberry Web Site (<http://www.geocities.com/heartland/park/9660/>.)

RICHARD K. VERMILYA (#1851): *San Diego Union-Tribune*, September 3, 2002 -----
Richard K. Vermilya, April 24, 1953-Aug. 28, 2002, 49, of Chula Vista died Wednesday. He was born in Coronado and was an auto body repairman for Ron Baker Chevrolet Isuzu. Survivors include his mother, Virginia Vermilya and a brother, Robert Victor Vermilya. No services were planned, at Mr. Vermilya's request.

JAMES B. VERMILYEA SR. (VFA # Unknown): *Traverse City Eagle*, Traverse City, Michigan, June 18, 2002. James B. Vermilyea Sr., 64, of Gaylord, passed away Saturday, June 15, 2002. James was born in Toledo, Ohio, on August 4, 1937, and moved to Gaylord in 1998 from Bellaire. He was employed by A & L Iron and Metal Company in Gaylord. He was a very charitable person and a loving father. All who crossed his path will dearly miss him. James is survived by five children, Kimberly Schmidtke, Florence (Timothy) Eves, Cassandra (Chris) Gray, James Jr. (Kettah) and Brenda (Earl) Foucart; 16 grandchildren; one sister, Barbara Robinson; and his special friends, the Burrell family.

RAYMOND EDWARD VERMILYEA (#1381): Published in the *Penn Live* on August 4, 2002. Raymond Edward Vermilyea, 86, died Tuesday, at Community General Osteopathic Hospital. He was born on November 13, 1915, in Mansfield, PA and graduated from High School there. He proudly served as an artillery runner in the Army during World War II. He was retired from Olmstead Air Force Base in Middletown, and was a member of the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Clearfield, PA. Ray was a devoted husband and father. He was well liked by all who knew him and had a great love for animals. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy Vermilyea. Also surviving are two daughters, Diane Snyder and Linda Folmar; a son, Raymond Jr.; a sister, Marian Barnes; eight grandchildren; two great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. Services will be held at the family's convenience at the Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Clearfield, PA. Memorial contributions may be made to Linglestown Church of God, 5834 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112 or to the East Shore Humane Society, 7790 Grayson Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

BRIAN C. VERMILYER (VFA # - Unknown): *News Sun On Line*, Waukegan, Illinois, September 23, 2002. Brian C. Vermilyer, 15 years old, of Bristol, WI, passed away peacefully Sunday, September 22, 2002 at his home. He was born July 18, 1987 in Elmhurst, IL the son of Michael and Laura (nee Slowik) Vermilyer. Brian was a caring individual who lived life with a smile and knew when to become a comedian to make others laugh. The family lived in Lake Villa, IL, before moving to Bristol five years ago. He attended Central High School in Paddock Lake, WI, and was a member of the Chain of Lakes Community Bible Church, Antioch, IL. He loved skateboarding, iceless hockey, and playing computer games. Survivors include his parents; one brother, Brad at home; his maternal grandparents, Patricia (James) Bucchianeri and Edward (Joyce) Slowik; his paternal grandmother, Joyce Vermilyer; his great-grandmothers, Ann Mullen and Ann Swider and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Funeral services will be held at 2 PM Wednesday, September 25, 2002 at the Chain of Lakes Community Bible Church, Antioch, IL. Internment will be private in Liberty Cemetery Salem Township, WI. In lieu, contributions to the Mulliganeers Giving Kids a Second Chance, PO Box 111, Palatine, IL 60078 appreciated. (A similar obituary appeared in the Chicago Tribune on 9/23/2002.)

MARY VERMILYER (#F513): Mary Vermilyer, wife of Robert L. Vermilyer, died June 12, 2002.

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JAMES BRUCE BIRCH
(1910 – 2002)

by Sandra V. Todd with input from Bob Cooper

I've had no luck finding a complete obituary for James B. Birch (#1135-I), but I have been able to learn a little about his interesting and patriotic life from a biography and letters he wrote to Robert Cooper who maintains a web site covering the U. S. Navy ship, the USS Mulberry.

James was born James Bruce Birch in June 1910 to Elmer and Dora (Vermilya) Birch; however, in his writings to Mr. Cooper, James spells his surname Birtch. James's family was from the Delaware County, New York, area but he does not mention the town in which he was born. As a young boy he worked with his father raising Clydesdale horses. His father was killed by a horse in 1924. Times were hard, so at the age of 15, James left home and worked on a number of farms spending one long winter cutting acid wood for fifty cents a cord. He then worked with a railroad section gang along the Delaware and Northern Line in Andes, New York. At the age of 16 he was working as a locomotive fireman shoveling coal from six in the morning until six at night seven days a week. On one occasion, he was put in the position of having to take the throttle when the Engineer was unable to do so.

On May 6, 1926, he joined the U. S. Navy. Shortly after basic training, he was sent to China for duty. During his six years in China he was assigned to the ship USS Pigeon (ASR-6), which was patrolling the Yangtze River. He described it as "fantastic duty." By the time World War II started, he already had a lot of ship experience; and, being a Boatswains Mate, he had progressed up the promotion ladder quite fast. He evidently didn't spend his leisure time for naught, because he stated that he had taken Naval College Correspondent Courses for about 19 years before receiving a BA Degree. During World War II he served on several ships. In 1942, he was aboard one of the ships involved in the battle of Midway Island. In 1943, he obtained his commission. In 1944, he was assigned as the Commanding Officer of the USS Matar, a sea going tug. In 1947, he took part in the atomic bomb test at Becina Island in the South Pacific, where a bomb was dropped from the air and another was ignited from the bottom of the ocean - a distance of about 70 feet. During his 30 years of naval service he was commanding officer of five different Naval Ships, the last of which was the USS Mulberry, a net tender. He retired July 1, 1956.

James married at San Diego, California in 1933. He and his wife enjoyed 57 years together before she died in 1990. They had two daughters.

New Member

Welcome to our new VFA member!

Madge (Vermilyer) Capshaw,

* * *

CIA
"Comments, Inquiries and Answers"



This section includes research tips, comments entered at our Web Site Guest Book, inquiries received from members and answers to questions from both members and non-members. All Guest Book entries and questions are acknowledged by Sandra Todd.

From the VFA Guest Book (if you would like to contact any of these cousins, go to the Guest Book page at our VFA web site and click on the envelope at the end of their message):

1. July 29, 2002.

What is your name? Edith Vermilya Baldwin

Where are you from?

How did you find this Web Site? Through Sandra Todd

Who is your earliest Vermilyea ancestor? Walter E. Vermilya, MD

Do you have any comments? Enjoy visiting the web site, Sandra. I think it's a shame that your posting of pictures and info should be compromised by some hacker. Have we had a security breach in the past? I would love to see it stay up and running with our family info. It's so important to me as I am sure it is to the majority of our family. Good luck with this endeavor & thank you so much for all of your hard work & perseverance.

2. August 3, 2002.

What is your name? Sandra Vermilyea Todd

Where are you from?

Do you have any comments? In response to Edith's posting --

We have never had any problem of any kind at the Reunion Web Site, and I have no reason to expect any. The questions are - Do you feel that your privacy should be protected by not showing pictures of living persons along with their names at the Site? Should I remove all pictures of living persons? Or should I add pictures, but not identify by name?

3. August 4, 2002.

What is your name? Stephen G. Vermilya

Where are you from?

How did you find this Web Site? My father (Stephen G. Vermilya)

Who is your earliest Vermilyea ancestor? Not sure

Do you have any comments? I've really enjoyed looking around the web site. I've lived all over the place, but I come from the Bradford Co., PA Vermilya's. Hello to all, and you will soon receive my application for membership! Thanks! Steve

4. September 1, 2002.

What is your name? Donald George Vermilyea

Where are you from?

How did you find this Web Site? From sister

Who is your earliest Vermilyea ancestor? George Howard Vermilyea

Do you have any comments? Look forward to hearing from any Vermilyeas. Don't know much about my background. Would like to.

(CIA continued on page 10)

Genealogy Tips:

1. Several of our ancestors were veterans of the Revolutionary War. Was one of yours? Are you interested in joining the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR or SAR, for short) or it's companion organization, the Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)? If so, we recommend that you go to their web sites. The SAR's address is: <http://www.sar.org/> and the DAR's is <http://www.dar.org/>. At those sites, you'll find complete information about the Societies and their State branches, the history and purpose of the organizations and application forms for membership.
2. If you have an ancestor who was in the Civil War as a Union soldier, there are several organizations which might interest you; for example, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. You can find their web pages on the internet by typing in their name at a "search engine" like Google.

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.

On page 15 is a VFA membership form which you may copy or tear off to either update your own information or register a new member.

VERMILYEA FAMILY BOOKS

by Sandra Todd



On September 4, 2002, I started sending E-mail notices to all members of the VFA advising that the files (PDF) for the 2002 Update were ready to send. If you did not receive a message from me (I do not have a current E-mail address for everyone), please contact me at

I have two bound copies of Book I left and several copies that are not bound. The last printing I had to order a certain number of books in order to get the printing even though I did not have enough covers. If anyone is interested in these, please get in touch with me by e-mail

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VERMILYER FAMILY REUNION, LaPorte, Indiana

by Sandra V. Todd

The Vermilyer family gathered for their 47th Annual Reunion at LaPorte, Indiana, August 25, 2002. Thirty-two family members and guests met at the First Baptist Church, Hargrove Fellowship Center, in LaPorte Sunday afternoon to share a delicious meal, fellowship and entertainment. John and Sandra (Vermilyea) Todd were introduced as special guests. Sandra spoke on the Vermilyea Family Association. All were invited to join, and attend the Reunion in California in 2003.

A business meeting was held and the following officers were elected: President/Vice President, Sandra Vermilyer; Secretary/Treasurer; Tracy Vermilyer; Chef; Nancy McIntyre; Children's Games, Carol Snyder; Ice Cream; Pat Spahn; Soft Drinks, William McIntyre. Minutes from the last meeting were read. It was decided to hold the 2003 Reunion at the same location next year. Births, deaths, pending marriages and illnesses were noted. Awards were won by: Bessie Reeder; oldest woman; Ronald Miller; oldest man; Katelyn Adams, youngest child; John and Sandra Vermilyea Todd traveled farthest. Door awards were won by: Elma Freeland, Madge Capshaw, Kenny Veal, Tracy Vermilyer, Bill Pegg, Sandra Vermilyer, Lewis Vermilyer, Phyllis Miller, Florence Swanson, Kenny Reeder, William McIntyre and Nancy McIntyre. Guessing games won by: Jerry Hamlin, Kenny Veal, Lisa Adams and Delores Henoch. Everyone enjoyed visiting and picture taking.



Attending were: Lewis Vermilyer, Nancy and Bill McIntyre, Florence Swanson, Carol Snyder, Lisa Adams and daughters Danielle and Katelyn Adams, Michele Minor and son Richard Minor, O. W. and Madge Capshaw, Bill, John and Arlene Pegg, Jimmy, Sandra and Tracy Vermilyer, Bessie, Vesta and Kenneth Reeder, Elma Freeland, Lori Henoch, Jerry Hamlin, Jim Henock, Delores Henock, Phyllis and Ron Miller, Kenny Veal, Pat Spahn and John and Sandra (Vermilyea) Todd.

John and I were so happy to be able to attend and meet many of the Vermilyer families that I have been in touch with over the years. It was our first trip to Indiana – well driving through a corner of it one time doesn't really count!!! We enjoyed breakfast and a very nice tour of the area in the morning, thanks to Bill and Nancy McIntyre.

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MEMORIES - DEXTER, MINNESOTA

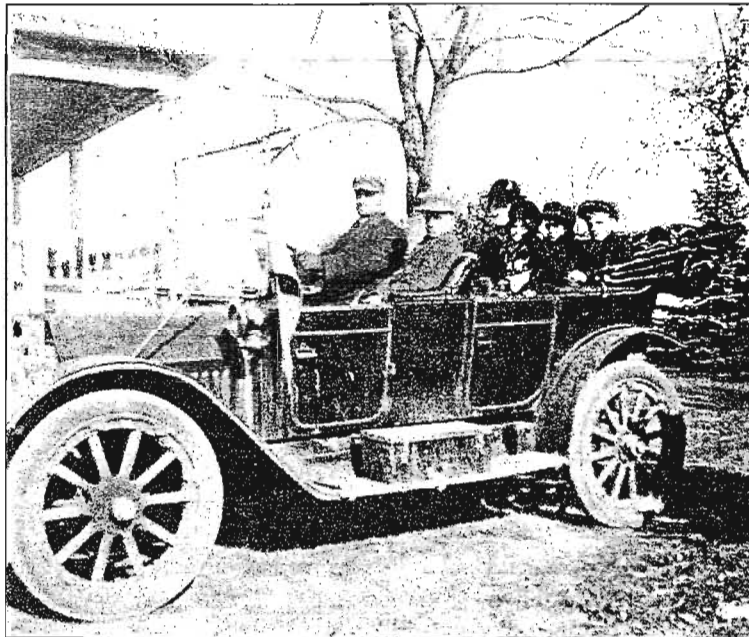
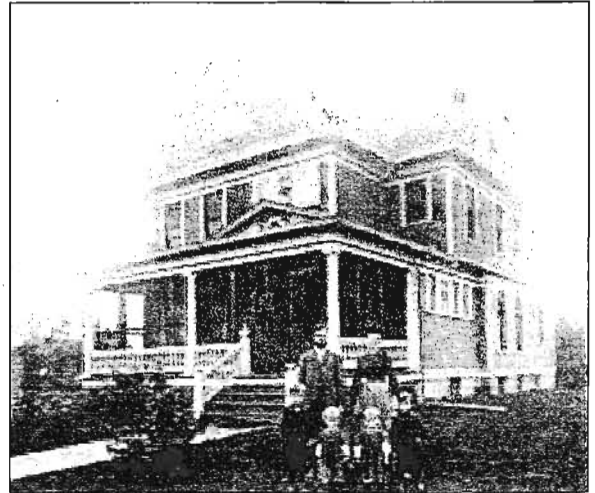
by Sandra Todd and Ken Schottler

This summer Ken Schottler (#1214-IV-2) shared with me two beautiful pictures of his Grandparents home. I enjoyed them so much I asked for a little history. The following is his response. I thought that many of you would also enjoy the pictures and the story that Ken has agreed for me to share with you. Thanks Ken!!!

Hi Sandra:

The house is my Grandparents home in Dexter, MN taken about 1906. Standing in front of it are my Grandfather, George Jacob Schottler, my Grandmother, Ida Kathleen (Vermilya) Schottler and my Uncle George Jesse by my Grandfather, my Uncle Max Elliot by my Grandmother and my Father Kenneth Boyd and his twin sister Kathryn Beryl Schottler in the front. The house is still there and has been updated with siding, different front porch treatment etc, but is still recognizable.

The picture of the car was taken in the driveway of the house which is on the other side of the house from the standing picture of the family. The picture was taken on November 3, 1913 and the car is a Chalmers six with right hand steering (no the negative is not reversed). In the front seat are my Grandfather G. J. Schottler MD, and my uncle George. In back are my Grandmother Ida Kathleen (Vermilya) Schottler, my Aunt Kathryn, my Father Kenneth and my Uncle Max.



The driveway consisted of two concrete strips, one for the left wheels and one for the right wheels, and led along the side of the house to an embossed metal garage in the back and around to the side street. There were grapevines along the driveway side of the house and I can recall many days eating grapes and using the outhouse behind the garage and then back to the grape vines again etc. My Grandfather had a large garden across the driveway from the house and enjoyed spending time working in it.

The house originally had acetylene lighting and the fixtures,

though no longer used, were still in place and the acetylene generator was still in the basement. It used carbide granules mixed with water to produce the acetylene for the lights, the same as the cars did for their headlights back then. Many of the electrical outlets were installed in the floor as it was easily accessible when the wiring was installed. My Grandmother had an electric washing machine, though the old Maytag gas washer was still in the basement, and a long flex pipe ducted the exhaust out through the foundation. My Dad used to enjoy starting it when we

were there. The house had leaded glass windows in the dining room and on the stairway in the front. There was also a back stairway and when the sun shined in there were all the colors of the rainbow on the walls, and when Mom couldn't find me she always looked by the stairway to find me looking at the beautiful colors. I couldn't always be by the stairway though as Grampa used the area for an initial consultation and examination room with his surgery upstairs from it. He was also the druggist for many years as there was no drugstore in Dexter. He kept the controlled drugs in a large safe under the front stairway. Several of the bedrooms upstairs were connected through the closets so it was a great place to play hide and seek. The bathroom was like many of the time and was installed with running water after the house had been there some time. The bath tub and toilet sat on raised platforms as there was no provision for concealing the plumbing in the walls and ceilings in those days. The kitchen sported a GE refrigerator with top mounted compressor alongside a wood cook-stove that my Grandmother used until she left the house to come live with us in Duluth. There was a hand pump that brought water from a cistern which Gramma said was best for washing her hair and there was running water at the larger kitchen sink. There was a built in flour storage and sifter that she let us play with and the dish cupboards opened from either the kitchen side or the dining room side to make it easier to put the dishes away after washing them. We would all gather there at Thanksgiving and usually my older cousins would be sent out with shotguns and 22's to get a certain number of rabbits from the surrounding fields. They always came back with enough for the meal. There were times it snowed when we were there and plowing was poor at best, so Dad and one of my Uncles would take turns driving up and down the road and driveway to make tracks and keep it open for when we had to leave for home. There weren't any snow tires and we often drove much of the way there or home slowly with chains on the tires.

Ken Schottler

Strangers in the Box

From the March 2002 edition of "Quinte Kin;" the publication of the 7th Town Historical Society and Quinte Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, Ameliasburg, Ontario, Canada. Author unknown.

Come look with me inside this box I've often seen,
At the pictures, black and white, faces proud, still, serene.
I wish I knew these people, These strangers in the box,
Their names and all their memories, are lost among my socks.
I wonder what their lives were like, how did they spend their days?
What about their special times?
I'll never know their ways.
If only someone had taken time to tell who, what, where, or when,
These faces of my heritage would come to life again.
Could this become the fate of pictures we take today?
The faces and the memories someday to be passed away?
Make time to save your stories, seize the opportunity when it knocks,
Or some day you and yours could be
THE STRANGERS IN THE BOX!!

* * *

THE VFA

The Vermilyea Family Association (Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer), or VFA for short, a not-for-profit, social club staffed by volunteers, was established on November 27, 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 to our Historian your family research findings plus stories, histories and information about your family, ancestors and descendants. 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
Historian: Sandra Vermilyea Todd

Newsletter Publisher: Joanne Vermilya MacArthur.

Treasurer: Dayl Stout,
Secretary: Veronica Vermilyea Theodorakis

Other Board Members:
Tom Vermilye,
Wilma Vermilyer

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual membership dues for all types of memberships (Individual, Family or Institutional) are \$12.00 (US) or \$17.20 (Canadian). (NOTE: Only one copy of the newsletter will be sent to the primary address of each membership.) Please make your check or money order payable to **Vermilyea Family Association, and, mail it to: Mr. Dayl Stout**. New members are requested to include a completed membership application, family chart and information to help our Historian place them in our family tree.

THIS NEWSLETTER

"Vermilya/e/ea/er's ...Historically Speaking," published on or about February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15, is the primary periodical of the Association.

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 should be sent to the Historian, Sandra V. Todd.

Articles which appear in the newsletter may be reproduced if credit is given.

For those who want to submit articles for publication: You may send manuscripts, pictures and documents to the Sandra Todd by regular or e-mail. As material cannot be returned, please do not send originals. The VFA reserves the right to publish information received in a media of its choosing.

To order prior issues of this Newsletter: For those without internet access, you may order back-issues of this newsletter by sending a check or money order, made out to "Vermilyea Family Association," in the amount of \$3.00 (US) or \$4.30 (Canadian) for each copy to the Secretary, Veronica V. Theodorakis. For those with internet access: an index of newsletters and ordering instructions are at the site listed below.

DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

Check our **VFA Web Page** (maintained by Joanne MacArthur) at:
Check our **Reunion Web Page** (maintained by Sandra Todd) at:

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

To see an **index of previous newsletters** along with ordering instructions (maintained by Veronica Theodorakis):

VERMILYEA FAMILY ASSOCIATION
(Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ Phone: (____) _____ - _____
Address: _____ E-mail: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____

If this is an application for a Family Membership, please list the names and relationships of eligible family members: _____

The name of my earliest documented Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea or Vermilyer antecedent is:

NAME: _____ BIRTH DATE: _____ DEATH DATE: _____
(Please enclose a chart, or listing, which shows your family and traces you to the person named.)

I (we) do __ do not __ (please check one) give permission to list my (our) name(s) in the Association's newsletter as a member, if and when appropriate; and, to include my (our) name(s), postal and E-mail addresses in the Association's address book which is available to all members. (NOTE: The Association's address book (mailing list) will not be released for commercial use.)

I am willing and able to help the Association by:

Doing research at:

() Libraries and/or historical societies in (Cities, States): _____

() County Courthouses in (Counties, States): _____

() State archives in (States): _____

() Writing articles and/or stories for the Association's newsletter based on my research and/or concerning my family and/or lineage. I understand that if I choose to submit such articles/stories, I will be credited as the author and my sources must be clearly stated.

I have the following interests, talents and/or skills that may assist the Association: _____

I am a member of the following family, genealogical and/or historical societies and/or associations: _____

I suggest that a membership application be sent to the following (you may use my name as a reference):

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

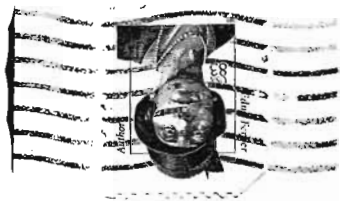
(Signature)

(Date)

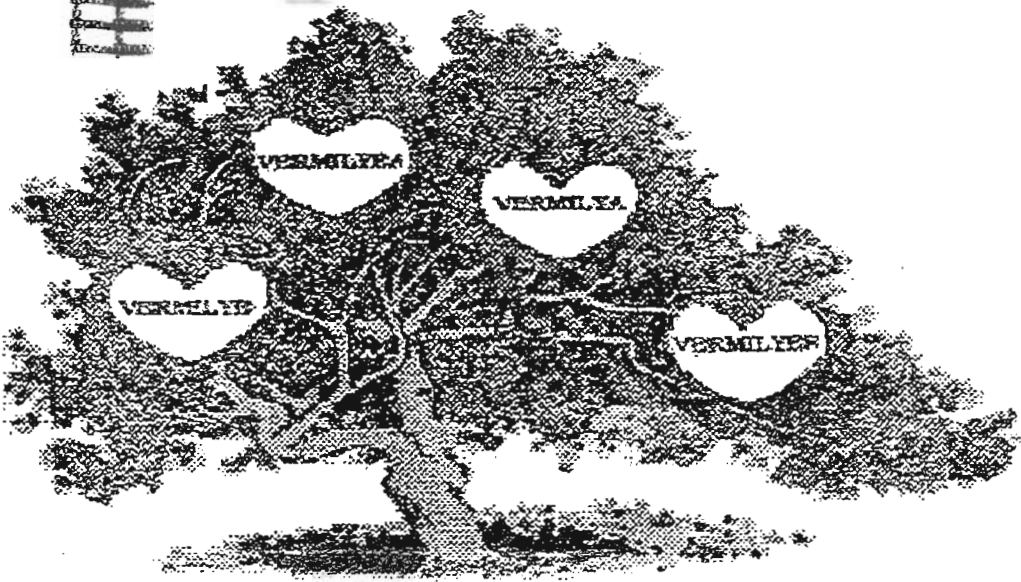
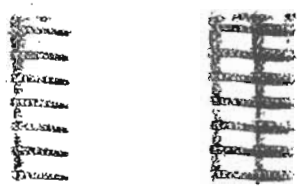
PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION WITH YOUR FAMILY CHART AND A CHECK FOR YOUR DUES (see back of this application) PAYABLE TO "VERMILYEA FAMILY ASSOCIATION," TO:
Mr. Dayl Stout, Treasurer, VFA

DON'T FORGET TO
RENEW!

MRS SANDRA V. LADD



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



VERMILYEA FAMILY ASSOCIATION

(Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer)

Founded in 1995