

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

Volume VIII, No. 4

October, November, December 2003

THE VFA REUNION

July 31st and August 1st 2003, Gilroy, California

by Sandra Vermilyea Todd

Descendants of Johannes and Aeltje (Waldron) Vermelje gathered on July 31st and August 1st at Gilroy, California. Our hosts were Wilma and Jim Vermilyer (VFA #F-3-1-1-2).

Known as the "Garlic Capital of the World," Gilroy has many interesting places to visit. Wineries, garlic farms, the "Field of Flowers" at Goldsmith Seed Company, to name a few, and the beautiful scenery were enjoyed by all of us new to the area. And, the nearby Gilroy Premium Outlet stores provided plenty of opportunity for shopping.

Twenty-five cousins attended from seven states: New York, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Oregon, Kansas, Washington and California.

Thursday evening Wilma presented us with the nametag buttons (pin-ons) she designed and made for everyone, a unique and wonderful souvenir of the event, and several families enjoyed dinner at the nearby Chevy's Mexican Restaurant. Following the meal we traveled to the Vermilyer Ranch, Jim and Wilma's home in nearby San Jan Bautista, where we spent the rest of the evening seeing Jim's antique tractor collection, Wilma's fish ponds and bird aviary and the iron forge factory-business of their son, Dan. We all admired Dan's current project, a beautiful curved, iron, long, staircase railing. And, later, Jim Vermilya (VFA #1686-7), a professional musician, entertained us by singing many old familiar songs and playing his guitar.

On Friday morning we assembled at 9:30 A.M. in the conference room at the Forest Park Inn, our lodging facility. A number of tables held the many pictures, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia brought by family members. I had brought along my laptop computer with the family genealogy on a CD; so, we were able to make additions and corrections to our records on-the-spot. Extended family members not able to attend and who sent their best wishes by mail or e-mail were mentioned, and the date and location of our next reunion were announced.

While attendance was less than our previous reunions, we had a very enjoyable day. A raffle was held. A beautiful wrought iron candle holder made by Dan Vermilyer, a wooden plate crafted by John Todd with the reunion location and date cut in, as well as numerous regional items and gift baskets were part of the many items brought by family members for the raffle. Wilma took a group picture before we had lunch at Chevy's. After lunch, we returned to the conference room where we enjoyed exchanging family stories, family genealogy and taking pictures for the rest of the afternoon. Again, Jim Vermilya provided music for our pleasure.

Several family members expressed an interest in hosting a reunion in the future, so hopefully we will meet you at one of those events in the years to come. Joining us for the first time this year were: Dan Vermilyer, Bob and Linda Stoddard, Barbara and Wayne Fernkopf, Jim and Alice Hatch and Earl and Ruth Vermilyea.

A special thanks to Jim and Wilma who made this reunion so much fun for all of us.

(Editor's note: Thanks to some fast work by Sandra and Joanne MacArthur, we were able to get pictures taken at the Gilroy Reunion into the last edition of this newsletter before the publication deadline. Unfortunately, we didn't include the names of Dave and Susan Peterson in the listing under the group picture. We apologize to them for the omission.)

FROM THE STAFF

by Carl Vermilyea

As this is the last newsletter that will be published this year, the entire VFA Staff joins me in wishing each and every one of you, and your family, the very best during the upcoming holiday season. May your Thanksgiving be bountiful and your Christmas season a time of blessings.

The 25th of November marks the 8th "birthday" of the Vermilyea Family Association. As some of you may recall, it was in 1995 that Sandra Vermilyea Todd, Joanne Vermilya MacArthur and the late Joe Vermilye met via the Internet and agreed to set up a genealogy organization for our extended family. Over the years, a tremendous amount of research has been accomplished, and shared; and, many new family friends have been made. The VFA Staff looks forward to continuing our efforts and always seeks and welcomes your suggestions and help to make this an even more viable organization. Don't hesitate to write us with your ideas.

As most of you know by now, the next VFA Reunion will be on July 31st 2004 in Madison, Ohio. Please see page 14 – designed to whet your appetite. And, please mark your calendar. We hope to see you there.

It has been a busy few months since July, the last time I last wrote one of these columns. There have been three reunions: the VFA reunion in Gilroy, California; a Vermilyea branch reunion in Carlsbad, California; and, the Vermilyer branch reunion in Indiana. Sandra Todd and others have continued their diligent research and recording of family data. And, some of us have been out visiting and discovering places bearing the Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea or Vermilyer surname (see page 4).

Through some excellent administrative work, Sandra Todd and Joanne MacArthur were able to get some pictures of the Gilroy Reunion into the August newsletter before the deadline to get it to the printer. As you've seen at page 1, Sandra has written up more details covering that event. Although attendance was down from previous VFA reunions, those of us who were in Gilroy had a wonderful time. Socializing with both old and new family acquaintances and hearing their family stories truly make these reunions enjoyable experiences. I know that everyone who attended joins me in extending a big thanks and another round of applause to Wilma Vermilyer for her outstanding work.

From Gilroy, Sandra and her husband, John, and Linda and I made our way south to Carlsbad to be among the 61 attendees (most were descendants of Veblen P. Vermilyea) for another superb gathering of "V's." Pictures and a write up about this reunion start on page 8. We thank Gary Vermilyea for being a superb host and him and his siblings for making us feel warmly welcomed.

Unfortunately, no one from the VFA Staff was able to attend the Vermilyer reunion in Indiana. Thanks to VFA member Nancy McIntyre, we have a report on page 10 covering the gathering there.

After returning home from the reunions, Sandra Todd got back to her research efforts and with the assistance of her son, John Jr., has uploaded a great deal of information about past reunions and our early ancestors to her web site. If you haven't visited her site recently, I suggest you do so. There is an abundance of excellent information there for everyone. Please see pages 13 and 15 for the Internet addresses.

Also on page 15, you will notice that Veronica Vermilyea Theodorakis has resigned from our Board of Directors. "Ronnie," who has done a great deal of genealogy research for the VFA, served for the past two years as our Secretary, processed back issues of our newsletters and maintained an index of past newsletters on the Internet. We thank her for her service on behalf of the Association. I have taken over the Secretary's duties and will work with Joanne MacArthur and Dayl Stout to ensure that back issues of the newsletter are distributed when necessary and upon request. The Internet index of past newsletters has been discontinued.

Again, I have the sad task of announcing the passing of another long-time member of our Association. Frederick "Fritz" J. Vermilyea of Tillamook, Oregon, passed away on August 21st. Fritz, a Charter member of the VFA, has been a member of the Association every year since its beginning in 1995 and he and his wife, Viola, attended our 1999 VFA Reunion at Rockaway Beach, Oregon. I thoroughly enjoyed the time I spent with him, listening to his old family stories and looking at his large collection of family pictures. Our sincere condolences are extended to Viola, their children and other immediate family members.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following who have joined the VFA since the last newsletter was published.

Laurel V. & Carlos Cortes (#1360)
Linda S. & Robert Stoddard (#460-113)

Alice Vermilya (#1686)
Earl J. & Ruth E. Vermilyea (#1768)



IN MEMORY

Our sincere condolences are extended to all those who have recently lost loved ones.



(Editors note: As we go to press, we have not been able to obtain obituaries for the first three family members listed below. If you have an obituary for any of them, please forward it to Sandra V. Todd.)

ETHEL LOUISE (ATCHINSON) VERMILYEA (VFA #1025), died September 5, 2003 in South Carolina.



FREDERICK ("FRITZ") J. VERMILYEA (VFA #1522), 87, died August 21, 2003 at his home in Tillamook, Oregon.

VIOLET MAE VERMILYEA (VFA #1525), died June 11, 2003 in Oregon.

NANCY ALICE VERMILYEA (VFA #1243), 91, of Twin Falls, passed away Monday, August 25, 2003, at her home. Nancy was born February 18, 1912, in Comstock, Neb., the daughter of William and Edith Brown. While working in the shipyards in Tacoma, Wash., during WWII she met and married Samuel E. Vermilyea. Because Sam worked for the Civil Service they moved several times living in Moses Lake, Wash., Victorville, Calif., and the Tri-Cities, Wash., area. Nancy owned the Mode O Day Clothing Store in Moses Lake, Wash., for several years before selling it and going to work for the Carnation Company. She and Sam moved to Idaho in December of 1992 to be near their son and family. They spent many winters in Phoenix, Ariz. Nancy enjoyed gardening and was an avid flower person. She loved to read and work with any type of craft work. She had been a member of the Garden Club in Moses Lake and the Card Club in the Tri-Cities. Nancy is survived by her five grandchildren, Ralphie Cook, Marcella (JayDee) Yergensen, Ryan (Stephanie) Vermilyea, Meagan (Brandon) O'Connor and Justin (Tami) Cook; nine great-grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Janet Vermilyea; and several nieces and nephews in the West. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Sam in 1999; one son; one daughter; and 10 brothers and sisters. The graveside service for Nancy will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, August 29, 2003, at Sunset Memorial Park. (Obituary extracted from: *The Times-News*, Twin Falls, Idaho, <http://www.magicvalley.com/home>)

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

RUSSELL G. VERMILYA (VFA #1428), age 85, of Caro, formerly of Ovid, passed away Friday, September 12, 2003. Russell was a retired General Motors employee and farmer. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m., Tuesday, September 16, 2003, at Church of the Living Word, Ovid. Burial will take place at Windham Cemetery in New York. Mr. Vermilya was born in Lexington, New York, November 9, 1917, the son of George and Alice (Soule) Vermilya. His marriage to Eva Planck on February 16, 1941, ended with her death in 1975. He then married Viola Jolls on November 22, 1975, and she preceded him in death on January 12, 2001. He attended the First Baptist Church in Caro, loved farming and riding his Amigo. Survivors include his son, Glen (Louise) Vermilya; two daughters, Eva (Doug) Jenson and Joan (Lewis) Sayers; 17 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; on great-great-grandchild; sister, Nelda Moore; stepson Del (Carolee) Allen; stepdaughter, Judy (Virgil) Balagot. In addition to both wives, he was preceded in death by two half brothers, two half sisters and a stepdaughter, Donna Monroe. Memorial may be made to the Gideons. (Obituary from an unknown Michigan newspaper)

SHIRLEY L. VERMILYE (VFA #960A-1), 69, born October 1, 1933 in Port Angeles, WA to Arnold and Emmalind Kass, passed away on July 14, 2003 in Edmonds, WA. She is survived by her daughters, Cheryl (Greg) Richardson and Karen (Tim) Mustard; and, grandchildren Katelynn, Mathew, Nathan, Melissa, T. J. and Joe. A reception will be held at the home of Tim and Karen Mustard on Saturday, July 19 at 12:00 noon. (Obituary from: *The Herald*, Edmonds, WA, 17 July 2003.)

VERMILYA/VERMILYE/VERMILYEA PLACES

by Carl P. Vermilyea

In the *From The Staff* column, I mentioned that some of us had been visiting and researching "V" places this summer. In late August, Linda and I visited four places in Indiana: the Vermilya House and Vermilya Lock Site in Aboite; Vermilya Avenue in Bloomington; and, Vermilyea Pass in Ft. Wayne. But, we were not the only ones out looking and researching. Also in late August, VFA members Linda and Robert Stoddard (VFA #460-1-1-3) were traveling along Route 50 through Brownstown, Indiana, when they noticed engraved at the top of downtown building: "Wright-Vermilya, 1899" - another "V" place, previously unknown, discovered! Meanwhile, our son, Carl Jr., (VFA #1945) was in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where he found and began research on the Vermilya Court there. Then, Dayl Stout (VFA #1484- I) recently found and sent me more information about Vermilya Highway in Onaway, Michigan. The information we have garnered about all these places will be published in this or a future edition of this newsletter. On page 5, we start with Vermilya Avenue in Bloomington.

OBITUARY (Added)

by Carl Vermilyea

Normally, Joanne V. MacArthur publishes this newsletter. Due to her husband's serious illness, I prepared this edition. After taking it to the printer, word was received that Joanne's husband, Dr. Charles D. MacArthur, 58, passed away on 25 October. A memorial service was held on October 29th. Our heartfelt condolences and sympathy go out to Joanne and their children, grandchildren and other immediate family members.

Dr. Charles D. "Charlie" MacArthur, beloved husband of Joanne (Vermilya), died October 25, 2003 after an extended battle with cancer.

He was preceded in death by his father, Arthur MacArthur, and mother-in-law, Miriam



Vermilya. He is survived by Joanne, his loving wife of 36 years; daughters: Hillary (John) Senediak, and Jocelyn (Robb) Carter; mother: Dorothy MacArthur; sisters: Melanie MacArthur-Shisler and Susan (MacArthur) Joefreda; father-in-law: John Vermilya; brother-in-law: J. Michael Vermilya; granddaughters: Hailey MacArthur-Senediak and Maya Carter; and various aunts, uncles, cousins, and many loving friends.

Charlie, who had advanced degrees in both physics and mechanical engineering, was retired in June from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where he had worked for nearly 20 years in the Turbine Branch of the Aero- Propulsion Directorate. He held the positions of branch chief and principal engineer of the turbine division, and was a major contributor to aerospace research, an innovator and inventor, designer of the Turbine Research Facility, and Chairman of the K-14 International Heat Transfer Committee. Prior to 1983, Charlie was employed by University of Dayton Research Institute.

Charlie was a member of Clayton United Methodist Church; a member of professional associations, The American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the International Gas Turbine Institute; a former council member of the Village of Clayton. He was also an avid reader of non-fiction, a bird watcher, and a photographer, and a lover of good art and better music. Charlie loved to travel and took advantage of two European trips to polish his college German. Charlie was a proud descendant of General Duncan McArthur, Governor of Ohio (1830 - 1832) and illustrious campaign general during the War of 1812.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to either the Clayton United Methodist, 193 Talmadge Rd, Clayton, OH 45315, or, Hospice of Dayton, 324 Wilmington Ave, Dayton, OH 45420.

VERMILYA/E/EA/ER PLACES

EAST VERMILYA AVENUE, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

by Carl Vermilyea

On 19 August 2003, Linda and I traveled to Vermilya Avenue in Bloomington.

Directions: Take Route 37 (not Bus. Route 37) around the west side of Bloomington and exit left on to Tapp Road (easterly – toward the city). At about the 1.2 mile point, Tapp Road becomes Country Club Drive. Continue straight ahead on Country Club Drive for about another mile and take a left onto South Walnut Street (traffic light). Go north on South Walnut, cross the railroad tracks and East Vermilya Road will be on your right.

At one time, East Vermilya Avenue (aka: Vermilya Avenue), was about .3 of a mile long connecting South Walnut Street on its western end and Henderson Street on the east. For many years, the western half of the Avenue was a residential area and the eastern half was a trailer court named “Vermilya Mobile Village.” The trailer court has been razed and in August 2003, a large complex of subsidized, low income, two-story apartment buildings, named “Hoosier Court at Henderson,” was being constructed in its place. As did the trailer court, the new development has a nearly circular drive with exits onto both Vermilya Avenue and Henderson Street. From information I obtained at the Bloomington City Library, it appears that the new circular road may be renamed Melrose Avenue; and, if that happens, Vermilya Avenue will be about half its original length.

Looking easterly along East Vermilya Avenue from Walnut Street.



In 1987, the twenty or so homes along the western end of the Avenue were described in a local newspaper article as “well kept framed homes.” When we were there, I saw the neighborhood as consisting of low income, one-story, wood-framed, not well maintained homes set very close together. It appeared to be a development constructed in the 1930s.

Mr. James Hersh of the Bloomington City Engineer’s Office has reported that plat records at the Monroe County Recorders Office show that two couples, Pavil and Mary Wilson and Joseph C. and Hazel D. Vermilya, owned the land in the 1920s where Vermilya Avenue is now located. The parcel faced South Walnut Street and abutted, to the south, the Johnson Switch-Monon Railroad. On 22 June 1927, the two couples had the land platted for a subdivision under the title “Wilson-Vermilyea 1st Addition.” Mr. Hersh also reported that, typically, when land was platted for subdivision, the owners had the right to name any roadways which were to be constructed on the property; thus, Joseph Vermilyea used his surname to designate the only street through the property.

Joseph Clyde Vermilya (VFA #1110 – ancestors, starting with his father: Wright, Solomon, Edward, William, Abraham, John, Johannes, Isaac, Jean) was born on 26 April 1872 in Brownstown, Indiana, and moved to Bloomington in 1903. The initial report of his arrival in Bloomington, published in the *Bloomington Telephone*, stated he was a doctor; however, city directories from 1913 through 1934 show he was a druggist, as does the 1920 Census report. He was married, but had no children. The last record of him in the city was 1934. There are no death or burial records for him in Bloomington.

2003 MEMBERS

Below is the list of those who were VFA members in 2003. It is arranged by **membership expiration date** as shown in the VFA Treasurer's records.

| <u>Membership Expires on December 31, 2003:</u> | | <u>VFA #</u> |
|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| <u>Name</u> | <u>Address</u> | |
| Avery | Glenda G. | |
| Balluff | Barbara R. | |
| Bartchy | Valery L. | |
| Bockstahler | Judith & E. Fredric | |
| Brinkmann | Gloria J. | |
| Burkholder | Norvell & Paula | |
| Cedergreen | Jay A. | |
| Cortes | Lauren V. & Carlos | |
| Croley | Robert R. & Patricia T. | |
| Croley | Vera V. & Ralph W. | |
| Dunlap | Patty | |
| Endress | Maribeth V. & Steve | |
| Exacoustos | Joanna R. | |
| Fernkoph | Barbara & Wayne | |
| Gann | Bea | |
| Hatch | James E. & Alice D. | |
| Hewitt | Ronald Dean | |
| 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. | |
| Perks | Robert L. & Eileen A. | |
| Peterson | David V. | |
| Quella | Susan K. | |
| Russell | Bon A. & Virginia | |
| Sarff, | Jeffrey L. & Nancy | |
| Schottler Jr. | Kenneth B. | |
| Schottler | Christy | |
| Schottler | George R. & Alice M. | |
| Simpson | Carol V. & Gene R. | |
| Stanovsky | Madonna V. | |
| Stoddard | Linda S. & Robert | |
| Stout | Dayl & Jennie | |
| Theodorakis | Veronica & Michael | |
| Todd | John R. & Sandra V. | |
| Todd Jr. | John R. & Sherry | |
| Vermilya | Alice | |
| Vermilya | Clifford R. & Chris | |
| Vermilya | Ed & Mary | |
| Vermilya | Hugh C. | |
| Vermilya | Jay J. | |
| Vermilya | John B. & Ruby O. | |
| Vermilya | Judith P. | |
| Vermilya | Wilber A & Rosanne | |

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(Continued from page 6)

Vermilya Willis C. & Donna L.
Vermilye Dyckman W.
Vermilye Thomas & Cynthia
Vermilye Gerard L.
Vermilyea Carl P. & Linda R.
Vermilyea Jr. Carl P.
Vermilyea Dennis A. & Winona
Vermilyea Earl J. & Ruth
Vermilyea Edwin J. & Janet
Vermilyea Jack M.
Vermilyea Jim & Cheryl
Vermilyea Lynn D.
Vermilyea Paul H. & Marilyn
Vermilyea Samuel & Jo
Vermilyea Jr. Silas R. & Elizabeth
Vermilyer James E. & Wilma
Vermilyer Lewis N.
Watson Beverly V.
Webb William P.

Membership Expires December 31, 2004:

Sobolewski Fern
Vermilye John W.
Vermilyea Frederick J. & Viola
Young Darla & Arthur

DUES FOR 2004

Membership dues for 2004 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 2004 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 future years and it is possible that there may be a need to change the dues in 2005; therefore, we ask that when you mail in your dues for 2004, you **send in only the amount to cover 2004**. See the above article which shows your membership expiration date. (If you are one of the 4 members whose membership expires on December 31st 2004, please do not send in dues.)

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.

VERMILYEA FAMILY REUNION
Carlsbad, California, August 1-3, 2003



Gary K. Vermilyea (VFA #1362), the oldest son and sixth child of Veblen Platte and Natalie (Anderson) Vermilyea (VFA #1031), was this year's organizer for the Vermilyea Family Reunion in Carlsbad. He and his wife, Janet, hosted this wonderful event which was attended by sixty-one guests from seven different states and Norway (Jeff Canny (VFA #1358-1), Joyce V. Stewart's (VFA #1358) son made the long journey). All but fifteen attendees were descendants, their spouses and children, of Veblen's parents, Joseph Calder and Florence (Downing) Vermilyea (VFA #662). This was the seventh reunion of Joseph's descendants since 1976 when the first was held at Dwyer, Wyoming.

Among the attendees were Dean Vermilyea (VFA #1356) who came in from Wyoming representing the descendants of Forest ("Tot") and Erma (Rutherford) Vermilyea (VFA #1027). Veblen and Forest were two of the eleven children of Joseph and Florence Vermilyea. Also attending were Tony and Josephine (Anderson) Fleck; Josephine is one of the two living siblings of Natalie (Anderson) Vermilyea. And, representing the Vermilyea Family Association were John and Sandra (Vermilyea) Todd of North Carolina and Carl and Linda Vermilyea from New Hampshire.

Those attending, in alphabetical order, were (a few are missing from the above group picture):

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Jeff Canny | Jerry Gerent | Sandra V. Todd |
| Alex Clark | Kati Gerent | Aaron Vermilyea |
| Hayden Clark | Scott Gerent | Breanna Vermilyea |
| Sami Clark | Teri Canny Gerent | Brook Vermilyea |
| Viva Connel Clark | Connie Lehman | Caden Vermilyea |
| Katie Colligan | Hannah Lehman | Carl P. Vermilyea |
| Kristin Colligan | Natalie Lehman | Christian Vermilyea |
| Maddie Colligan | Holly Riley | Christian Vermilyea II |
| Diana Connel | Melissa Riley | David Vermilyea |
| Neeke Connel | Dana Schoonover | Dean Vermilyea |
| Nick Connel | Kyle Schoonover | Eugene Vermilyea |
| Carlos Cortes | Zan Schoonover | Gary Vermilyea |
| Laurel V. Cortes | Bill Stewart | Holly Vermilyea |
| Jo Fleck | Joyce V. Stewart | Janet Vermilyea |
| Tony Fleck | John Todd | (Continued on page 9) |
| Gloria V. Freeman | | |

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Kym Vermilyea
Linda R. Vermilyea
Melanie Vermilyea
Michael Vermilyea
Natalie J. Vermilyea

Nicholas Vermilyea
Nora Vermilyea
Scott Vermilyea
Susan Vermilyea
Tiffany Vermilyea
Todd Vermilyea

Victoria Vermilyea
Jake Winters
Kai Winters
Kelly Winters
Merritt Winters

Headquarters for the get-together was the site of the original (adjacent) homes of Veblen and Natalie (Anderson) Vermilyea in downtown Carlsbad. Since the family converted them into lovely vacation rentals, the site is known as "The Heart of the Village" (picture, below).

The weather all through the weekend was a near-perfect 70 degrees. The 22 children, and more than just a few adults, thoroughly enjoyed the beach which was only three blocks away.

Carlsbad is located just 35 miles north of San Diego, and large groups of Vermilyeas took advantage of attractions in and around that city. The Coaster, a train that provides inexpensive transportation (especially for seniors!) to San Diego and places in between, has a terminal located just one block from the homestead. Some of the interesting places reunion guests visited were the San Diego Zoo, Sea World, Old Town and Seaport Village (great dining and shopping at both those sites). Legoland in Carlsbad and Disneyland (50 miles north of Carlsbad) were also visited, but it was the Pacific Ocean that the kids (and adults) rushed to before and after visiting all those other places.

Our reunion banquet was held on Sunday at the San Luis Rey Officers Club on nearby Camp Pendleton Marine Base. There, we enjoyed a lovely buffet brunch, beautifully presented in a grand setting with excellent service. After the brunch, Laurel V. Cortes (VFA #1360), our family historian, entertained and educated us with the story of our family history beginning with our earliest known ancestors. Laurel's husband, Dr. Carlos Cortes, Professor Emeritus of History at U. C. Riverside, assisted Laurel with a slide show presentation.

Many photos were taken prior to our departure from the "O" Club. Some folks had to leave on Sunday, but many were unable to "tear themselves away" for a few more days.

A wonderful time was had by all.

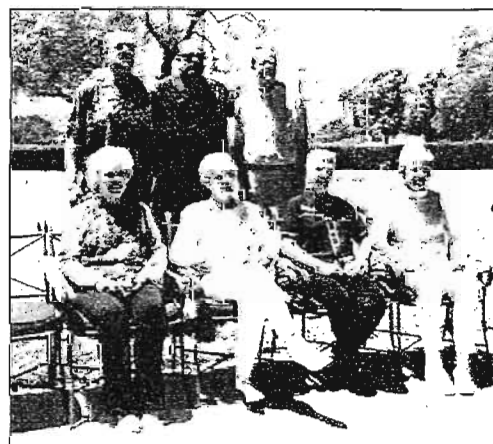


Laurel Cortes
Presenting the family's history.

Gary Vermilyea
Our Host



"The Heart of the Village," Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, CA



The children of Veblen and Josephine Vermilyea: Joseph, Gary, David, Joyce Gloria, Laurel and Natalie

VERMILYER FAMILY REUNION

August 24, 2003; First Baptist Church; Hargrave Fellowship Center

LaPorte, Indiana

by Nancy McIntyre



Twenty-eight family members attended the 48th annual Vermilyer Family Reunion.

As guests arrived, they were asked to sign the attendance sheet and to encourage other relatives to attend next year.

Lewis Vermilyer, who along with his mother organized the first Vermilyer Family Reunion back in 1955, blessed the luncheon with prayer. Those unable to attend because of illness were remembered.

Births, deaths and marriages were announced, and officers were elected. David Zeitz will serve as President/Vice President, Nancy McIntyre as Secretary/Treasurer, Lori Hamlin as Chef and Lisa Adams will be in charge of Children's Games. Awards were given to the oldest man, Ronald Miller, the oldest woman, Bessie Reeder, the youngest child, Katelyn Adams and those traveling the farthest, Bob and Brenda Miller. A raffle was held and numerous door prizes were awarded. The auction and bingo games were called by David Zeitz.

A very enjoyable afternoon ended with a group photo being taken.

The 2004 Vermilyer reunion will be held Sunday, August 29, 2004. Due to increasing rental fees and declining attendance a decision was not made as to where the reunion will be held.

Those attending the reunion, in alphabetical order, were:

Danielle Adams
Katelyn Adams
Lisa Adams
Madge Capshaw
O. W. Capshaw
Delores Enoch
Jerry Hamlin
Lori Hamlin
James Henoeh
Bill McIntyre

Nancy McIntyre
Al Miller
Alex Miller
Bob Miller
Brad Miller
Brenda Miller
Patti Miller
Phyllis Miller
Ron Miller
Bessie Reeder

Carol Snyder
Pat Spahn
Florence Swanson
Ashlee Valentine
Orma VanSchoyck
Kenny Veal
Lewis Vermilyer
David Zeitz

THE NEW HARLEM LAW SUIT

by Carl P. Vermilyea with Sandra V. Todd

Henry Pennington Toler authored one of the key historical-genealogy documents covering the pre-1900 citizens of Harlem, New York. We have used the contents of his work, *The New Harlem Register - A genealogy of the descendants of the twenty-three original Patentees of the Town of New Harlem, containing proofs of birth, baptisms and marriages from the year 1630 to date*, published by the New Harlem Publishing Company, New York, in 1903, as a source to substantiate much of the information in the VFA master files covering our early ancestors and many of the branch families.

In addition to being a writer, Mr. Toler was also a lawyer and in that roll filed, circa 1900, a class-action suit on behalf of the descendants of the original land owners in New Harlem claiming the City of New York had improperly and illegally taken possession of land from the early settlers of the area. The law suit was eventually thrown out by the courts. Interestingly, Sandra Todd has recently found evidence that Mr. Toler apparently was not the first, or only one, to come up with the idea of suing the City - he was merely reviving an old idea.

A few months ago, Sandra joined the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. The Society has access to the ProQuest Historical Newspapers and makes it available to all members. In going through the ProQuest articles, Sandra found the one to the right. From it, we see that about 24 years earlier, circa 1876, a law suit like the one filed by Mr. Toler was being prepared by a counselor, T.V. Jarvis Christophers.

Sandra reports: I have been granted permission to publish in our VFA Newsletter articles from the New York Times (ProQuest Historical Newspapers) pertaining to our family. I found this one particularly interesting. Please note that copyright information (see bottom of the article) must be included with each article and the articles are not to be reproduced further. I also have found many other interesting articles covering our family which I will share in the future. The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society's web site is at: <http://www.nygbs.org/index.html>. Membership is \$60.00 a year to excess all their files.

A SERIES OF MISSTATEMENTS CORRECTED.

THOMAS E. VERMILYEA.

New York Times, 68874 Broadway, Jan 19, 1876. ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times
Pg. 4

A SERIES OF MISSTATEMENTS CORRECTED.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In your paper of Saturday was an article headed "A Heavy Claim Against the City," stating that heirs of John or Johanna Vermilye have formed an association to prosecute their claim to an immense estate on the upper part of this island valued at \$250,000,000; that Mr. Jacob D. Vermilye has been made the President of said association, and that Counselor T. V. Jarvis Christophers has been engaged as their attorney, &c. Since my return from Europe I have received numerous letters signed T. V. Jarvis Christophers urging me to attend meetings of "the Vermilye heirs," and especially to send the attorney \$5 to meet expenses, the last letter conveying the threat that if I do not respond I shall be put among the defendants, and will have to bear the costs. Other members of the family have received similar notices. My brother Jacob D. is now absent from the City, and I think it right to say that I am quite sure such use of his name is unknown and unauthorized by him; that, though the Vermilyes have owned large estates on this island and at King's Bridge and at Yonkers, yet neither he nor either of my brothers nor any of our children has any connection with said association, nor has any share in engaging Counselor Christophers in their name or behalf to prosecute any claims of the kind indicated against the City or any other parties. I am told that W. H. Vermilye, named as the Secretary of the association, is not Mr. William Henry Vermilye, (my cousin,) now or lately Cashier of the bank at Orange, N. J. This notice seems to be necessary to prevent misconception and that innocent parties may not be misled.

THOMAS E. VERMILYEA.

No. 15 West Fifty-sixth street.

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CIA

"Comments, Inquiries and Answers"

This column includes research tips, comments entered at our Web Site Guest Book and answers to questions received from both members and non-members. Sandra Todd responds to all Guest Book entries and questions.



From the VFA Guest Book:

September 23, 2003

What is your name? Ashley Vermilyer

Where are you from?

How did you find this Web Site? Surfing.

Who is your earliest Vermilyea ancestor? Janie Alline and Arnold Vermilyer.

Do you have any comments? Hoping to find relatives that can tell me about the Vermilyer past.

VETERANS

by Carl Vermilyea

In our last newsletter, we had an article covering military veterans which asked members to send me or Sandra Todd information about any current or former veterans who had, or have, the Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea or Vermilyer surname. Since then, I've received input from only two members and, so, I ask again that, if you know of any such veterans, you take a few minutes to jot down information about them and send it to one of us. Whether they served in war or peace makes no difference - a veteran is a veteran. Information that would be helpful would include: full name; branch of service; years, or approximate years, of service; rank at discharge; unit to which assigned; where service was performed; and, if any part of the service was in a war or conflict, the name of the war.

Currently, our veterans listing contains the names of only 3 veterans from the Spanish-American War and 12 from World War I, both numbers believed to be far less than those who actually participated in those conflicts; and, 29 names for World War II. Whereas we are now concentrating on getting the names of veterans from those eras, the names of any veteran, to include those now serving, would be welcomed additions to the list.

FIRST SIX GENERATIONS NOW AT REUNION WEB SITE

by Sandra Todd

As some of you know, I have recently uploaded the first six generations of "The Vermilyea Family (Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea, Vermilyer) Descendants of Johannes Vermelje, New York, 1662-2003" to the Vermilyea Family Reunion Web Site. The PDF can be found at the link VERMILYEA BOOK. The file is up to date as of September 30, 2003.

Over the years as our research has continued, I have added many, and deleted a few, names to the first six generations; and, in doing so our previous numbering system for descendants has

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

become out of date, difficult to manage and generally unwieldy. Therefore, before uploading these six generations to the site, I changed the numbers assigned to individuals to accommodate all the changes. Consequently, this means that everyone has a new number. All information on living persons who appear in the listing within the first six generations has been "X'ed" out for privacy reasons. I do not anticipate adding further generations at this time. Please feel free to contact me by E-mail if you would like the rest of your line sent to you by PDF.

A "NEW ROUTE" TO THE REUNION WEB SITE

by Sandra Todd

Thanks to David L. Vermilyea (VFA #1364) we now have an alternate, new and easy way to remember the address for the Reunion Web Site. It is: reunion.vermilyea.org. (no www or http - just type it in as shown). When you get to the site, notice on the opening page that there is a place to click to add the site to your "favorites." This will get you back there easily. I hope you visit often. Lots of new information is available there and more will be coming. If you would like to be added to my e-mail address book so I can notify you of site updates, send me an e-mail, I will be happy to do so.

SO, HOW VERMILYA/E/EA/ER ARE YOU?

HERE'S A QUICK TABLE TO SEE

submitted by Dayl Stout

You are 100% Vermilya/e/ea/er if your father is an Vermilya
You are 50% [1/2] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your mother is a Vermilya
You are 25% [1/4] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your grandmother is a Vermilya
You are 12.5% [1/8] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your great-grandmother is a Vermilya
You are 6% [1/16] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your great-great-grandmother is a Vermilya
You are 3% [1/32] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your great-great-great-grandmother is a Vermilya
You are 2% [1/64] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your fourth-great grandmother is a Vermilya
You are 1 % [1/128] Vermilya/e/ea/er if your fifth-great grandmother is a Vermilya

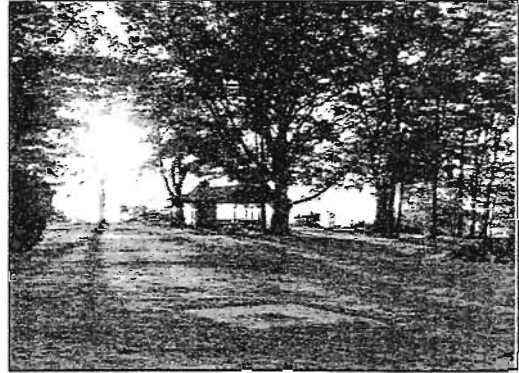
Have more than one line of Vermilya/e/ea/er lineage? If so, these percentages can be added together. If for example, both your grandmothers happen to be Vermilya/e/ea/er, you can consider yourself 50% [1/2] Vermilya/e/ea/er [1/4 + 1/4]

2004 VFA REUNION
July 31, 2004
Bill Stanton Park, Madison, Ohio
by Carl Vermilyea with Darla Young

To whet your appetite for next year's VFA reunion, we thought we should include here a few pictures of Bill Stanton Park and mention a couple of lodging facilities which might be of interest to you. On the shore of Lake Erie, Madison is a popular vacation destination and the more unique lodging places should be reserved early. We will have much more information and details about other lodging facilities and the reunion, itself, in the next newsletter – to be distributed in February.



Lake Erie from the Park



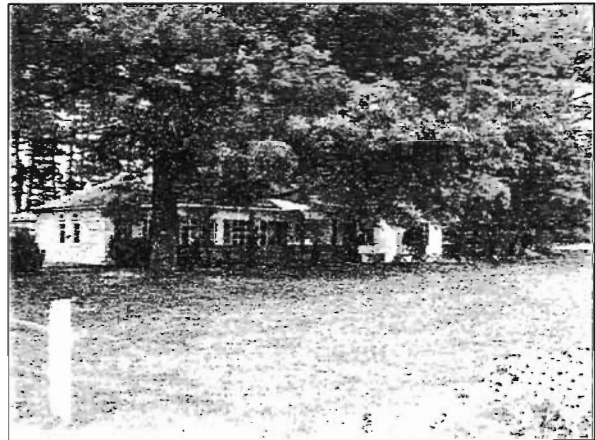
Gazebo overlooking Lake Erie

Unfortunately, our black and white printing process does not let us show you the lush green vegetation throughout the Park and the sky-blue color of Lake Erie, but we hope you will get a sense of the Park from these photos. In addition to what you see, the Park has a complete, modern playground for children and a hard-top all-purpose court for basketball and other games.

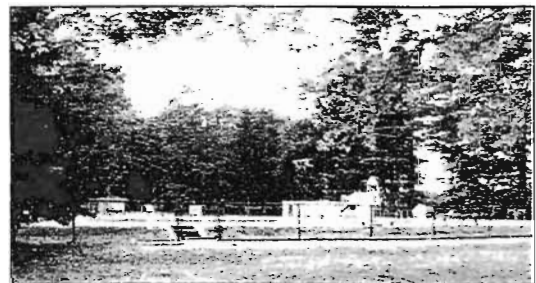
There are several lodging facilities in the area. (There's also a new motel being built; completion date set for late May.) But here, we want to mention two unique ones which could fill up fast and, thus, early reservations are recommended.

The first is a B&B, His Majesty's Tea Room. There are 5 rooms and rates run from \$95 to \$140. We suggest that you get on the Internet and type in at a search engine, like Google, www.tearoom.org. That will take you to four web sites which will give you pictures and all the information you will need to make reservations. Their telephone number is: 440-417-0220.

The second one is the Geneva State Park. Again, we recommend that you get on the Internet. The address is: <http://dnr.state.oh.us/parks/parks/geneva.htm>. This facility has cabins, an RV park, and camping sites. Prices vary widely depending on your accommodation desires/needs. It is about 10 miles from the reunion site. The telephone number is 440-466-8400.



Club House (our meeting center)



Swimming Pool

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 genealogy 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 and Secretary: Carl P. Vermilyea
Historian: Sandra Vermilyea Todd

Newsletter Publisher: Joanne Vermilya MacArthur

Treasurer: Dayl Stout
Other Board Members:
Tom Vermilye
Wilma Vermilyer

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual membership dues for all types of memberships 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 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.

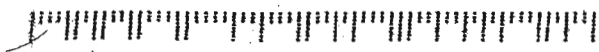
To order prior issues of this Newsletter: You may order back-issues of this newsletter by sending a check or money order, made payable to "Vermilyea Family Association," in the amount of \$3.00 (US) or \$4.30 (Canadian) for each copy to Carl Vermilyea (see address above).

DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

Check our VFA **Web Page** (maintained by Joanne V. MacArthur) at:
The VFA's **E-mail address** (staffed by Sandra V. Todd) is:

OTHER WEB SITES OF INTEREST

Sandra V. Todd maintains a private, non-VFA sponsored or affiliated web site. It can be reached by going to either: _____ or _____ At this site, Sandra reports on family reunions and lists members of the early generations of the Vermilya-Vermilye-Vermilyea-Vermilyer family.

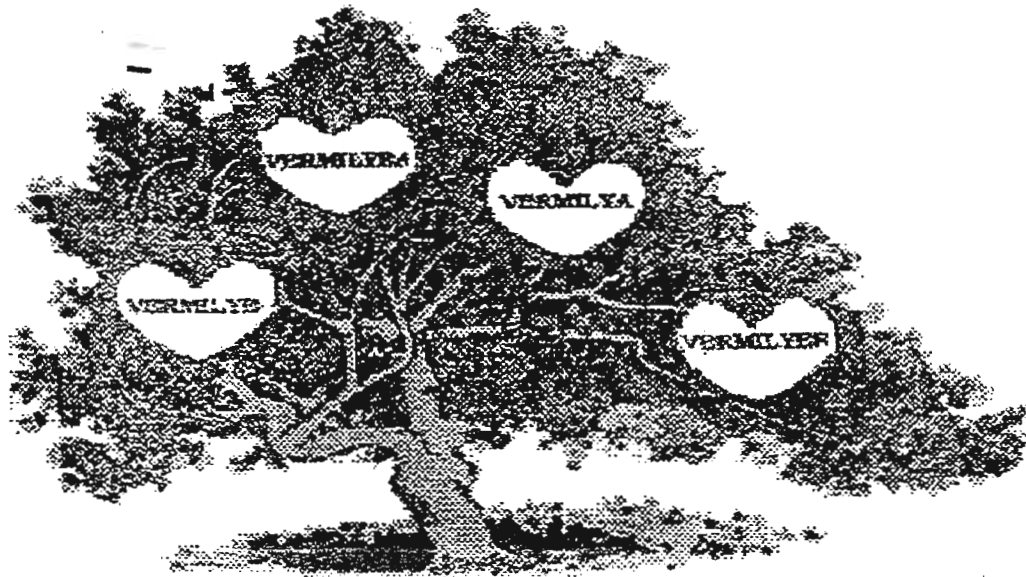
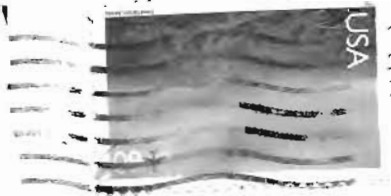


27340+3081

Don't forget to
send in your dues
for 2004!!

SANDRA + JOHN LOED

VERMILYEA/E/A/ER'S...
HISTORICALLY SPEAKING
Joanne V. MacArthur, Publisher



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