

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

Volume X, No. 2

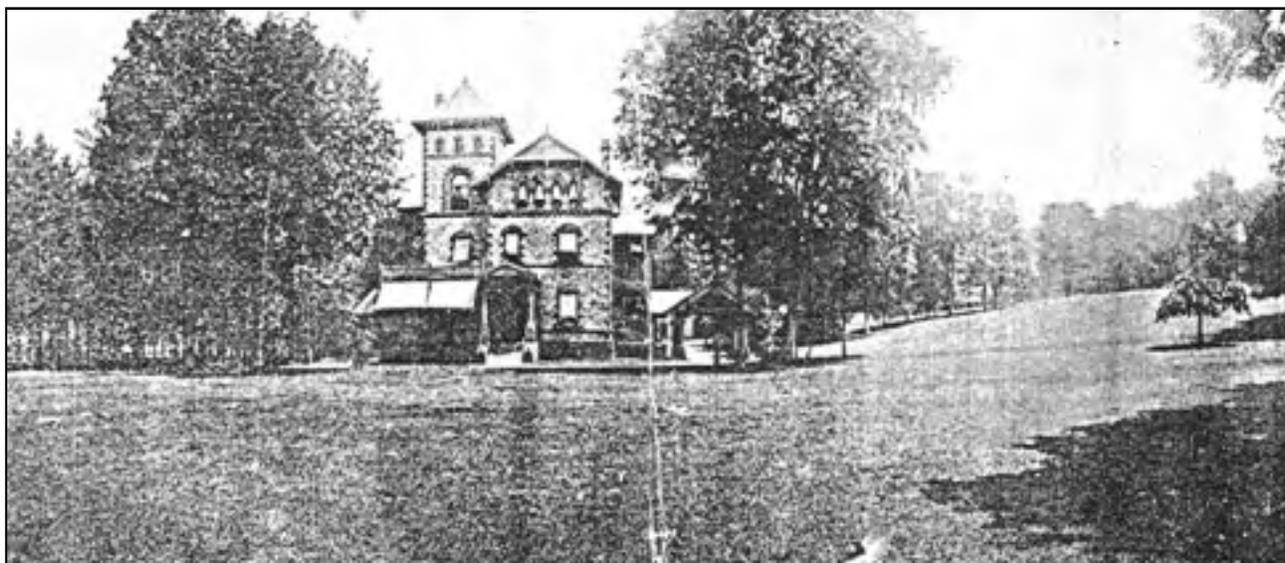
April, May, June 2005

## THE HOME OF EMILY AUGUSTA (VERMILYE) BRINCKERHOFF

By Carl P. Vermilyea

In the article in this issue covering the Vermilye Chapel, I mention Emily A. (Vermilye) Brinckerhoff as the person who had the Vermilye Chapel built in memory of her parents. Emily (VFA #533) was born on 24 March 1846 and married on 22 April 1869 at Bergen County, New Jersey, Elbert Adrian Brinckerhoff. Elbert was born 29 November 1838 at Jamaica, Queens County, New York, the son of John Nostrand and Mary Moore (Adrian) Brinckerhoff. He became Vice-President of Merchants National Bank in New York City and served as the first mayor of Englewood, New Jersey, after it was legally incorporated on 17 March 1899; the first city in Bergen County to be so designated. He died on 23 March 1913 in Englewood. Below is a picture of their home (estate) as it appeared in 1911 which was located on Palisades Avenue in Englewood. Behind the building was the carriage house which still stands today and houses the Englewood Woman's Club. I have been informed that in the updated carriage house are portraits of the Brinckerhoffs and of Elizabeth Breeze Vermilye, second President of the Club and the lady written about in our last newsletter as the "Savior of the Palisades."

In this issue:  
Vermilye Chapel  
Newly Identified  
Obituaries  
Name in the News



## **FROM THE STAFF**

by Carl P. Vermilyea

Our last newsletter was the first attempt to make distribution via email to all of you who have email. After it was put in the email format, copies were made and sent to those of you without email. Some administrative delays were encountered which resulted in the newsletter being transmitted and mailed out later than usual, but otherwise it appears that all went well. We thank you for your patience.

As some of you most likely noticed, some inappropriate messages were entered into the Guest Book at our primary web site during the period January through April. To preclude recurrence, we have eliminated the Guest Book from the site - we don't want to subject the VFA to receiving that kind of trash (spam) in the future. Concurrent with eliminating the Guest book, Joanne updated the site to reflect changes since it was last updated a couple of years ago. If you have internet access, please take a look at the revised site.

In this column of the last edition, I announced that John Todd had become the new VFA Treasurer. The transfer of records and assets to him from Dayl Stout went smoothly. John has provided the Board with a financial accounting of the transition, a Treasurer's Report. A copy of his report is included in this edition.

And speaking of the last issue, we thank Jim and Wilma Vermilyer very much for submitting the articles covering the South Pacific Tsunami. That was quite an adventure for their son and grandson.

During the past three months, our research has continued, albeit at a bit slower pace. It's given us time to consolidate and organize some of our VFA records. We did get some important research results from Gene Vermilyea. We thank him for his efforts, especially the work he has done to identify Henry Vermilyea (see article herein), a long-time "Unidentified."

I've mentioned this before but need to repeat it: Please send us stories and/or articles about your research findings and family history. We are always looking for more information to include in this newsletter.

## **SPEAKING OF TRAVELING**

By Carl P. Vermilyea

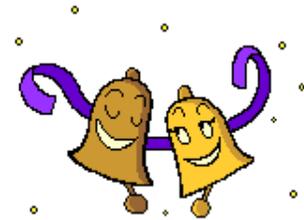
In early April my wife and I spent 4 days in New York City. While there, I checked the Manhattan Telephone Book to see how many "Vermily—" listings there were. I found only two!!

One listing was for the Vermilyea Laundrymat on Vermilyea Avenue in Harlem – a business we've known about for some time and which is named after the Avenue; not anyone in the family. The other was for Gerard "Jerry" Vermilye, who is a past VFA subscribing member, has contributed to our VFA master file and is the author of many books about movie stars (we published a listing of books he's written on page 3 of Volume VII, No 1- January, February, March 2002, this newsletter).

It's possible that there might be some "V's" living in Manhattan who have unlisted telephone numbers; but, for a city in which there were many "V" families and businesses run by our surname relatives 50 years ago, it's was a bit surprising to discover that it appears only one family is living there now.

## WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Seth R. Vermilyea (VFA #1949) and Joanne M. DiCarlo who were married in Negril, Jamaica, on October 25, 2004.



## CORRECTIONS!

1. Following are corrections to the 2005 Subscribing Member Listing which was published on pages 6 and 7 of the October, November, December 2004 newsletter:

Different (new) Addresses:

Croley, Vera and Ralph, 121 Chaho Road, Knoxville, TN 37922 (VFA #1540).  
Vermilya, Jay J., 6398 Lake Leven Drive, San Diego, CA 92119 (VFA #1490A).

2. In the article about Elizabeth B. Vermilye in our last newsletter (January, February, March 2005 edition), there was a typo which showed that the George Washington Bridge was built in 1831. Wrong. It should have read 1931.

## LOCAL REUNIONS AND GATHERINGS

We understand that some of you will be organizing or attending Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea or Vermilyer family reunions in your local area this summer. Please don't forget that we'd like to receive information about your reunion/gathering for our historical records and this newsletter. Please send us a report of your event with the names of attendees, and pictures too.



## TRAVELING THIS SUMMER?



Now that we are in the summer months, many of us are taking vacation trips. If you are among those, we ask that you check telephone books as you go from place to place for Vermilya, Vermilye, Vermilyea and Vermilyer listings. If you find any, please send a note (e-mail or regular mail) to Sandra Todd or Carl Vermilyea with the name and address of the person(s) you find. We'll add the names to the VFA master file.



Correction: This picture was included with the obituary of Glenys Olive Vermilya and should have been with the obituary of Margaret S. Vermilya. We apologize for this error.

## **OBITUARIES**

### FR. HERBERT ALAN VERMILYE (NN 1982)

Fr. Herbert Alan Vermilye, age 72, died peacefully on 2/12/05 after a long illness following a stroke. He was born 7/20/32 in Cleveland, OH to Stella Sizer and Herbert Arthur Vermilye. After attending high school at Rhodes, he joined the USMC and was wounded while serving in the Korean Conflict. He later was active in the Dog 2-7 organization and the Marine Corps League, Paul Ison Detachment. He graduated from Case-Western Reserve University with a BA in Philosophy and an MA in History. In 1959 Alan graduated from Episcopal Theological Seminary, Cambridge, MA and performed the many tasks of an Episcopal Priest in the Diocese of Central New York. Beginning in Cortland at Grace Episcopal, then Syracuse at Grace Church and the Good Shepherd Among the Onondaga. Alan also served as a supply Priest throughout the Diocese, while teaching at Syracuse University College from 1979-82. During the Civil Rights Era, he marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, AL and was very active in Civil Rights in Central New York. He retired from the active Ministry in 1994 after relocating to Cape Coral in Southwest Florida.

His wife of 49 years, Barbara Postle Vermilye and his four children, Kathryn, Michael, Anne, and Stephen will sorely miss him.

A memorial service will be held Saturday 2/19/04 at 3:00 PM at St. Hilary's Episcopal Church, 5011 McGregor Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL 33901. In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to St. Hilary's Church in Fr. H.A. Vermilye's name.

Our family expresses our heartfelt thanks to the many caregivers at Lee Health Care, Hope Hospice, Coral Trace Nursing Home, and our extended family of friends.

Cremation arrangements entrusted to Horizon Funeral Home & Cremation Center.

Published February 18, 2005 by the News-Press, Ft. Myers, FL.

### CARLA J. BINNS HANSEN (NN 1865-I)

Carla Hansen, 48, of Fort Dodge, died February 9, 2005 at her home.

A Celebration of her life will be held 3:00 p.m. Saturday at First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. David Feltman officiating. Visitation will be held from 5:00- 8:00 p.m. Friday at Gunderson Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Carla is survived by her husband Jim Hansen, her children Brooke, Brea, and Brady; her mother Joyce Binns, her brother Brad Binns; and her sister Tracy Colley. She was preceded in death by her father Carl Binns.

Carla Binns was born on September 6, 1956 in Sioux City, IA. She grew up in South Sioux City, NE and graduated from South Sioux City High School in 1974. She was united in marriage to Jim Hansen in 1975

and the couple made their home in Arkansas for many years. Carla graduated from Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia, AR, with a degree in nursing. In 1997, the family moved to Fort Dodge and Carla was employed as a Registered Nurse for Webster County Home Health Services. They moved to Fresno, California, where she worked for the Cancer Institute until returning to Fort Dodge in 2003. Carla was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Card Club, Study Club, PEO Chapter MT, and Junior League. Carla dedicated her life to her children, her family and friends. Memorials may be left to Breast Cancer Research at the discretion of the family.  
Published by FDStart.com February 11, 2005.

DORIS SAWYERS BROWN (NN 1435-II)

NEWTON - Doris Brown, 99, died Feb. 7, 2005, at her home, Newton. She was born June 13, 1905, at Oskaloosa, Iowa, the daughter of Roy Allen and Gertrude Vermilya Sawyers. She worked for Boeing Air Craft Office, Wichita for several years. She belonged to Ladies of the Elks Club, Newton. On Sept. 9, 1928, she married W. Don Brown, at Newton. He died Nov. 3, 1987. Survivors include: a son, W. Donald Brown.; a sister, Ruth Hagerty; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marilyn Zielke; a brother, Robert Hall Sawyers; and a sister, Beryl Barker. Private family service and burial will be held. Broadway Colonial Funeral Home, Newton, is in charge of arrangements.  
Published February 9, 2005 in the Hutchinson News, Hutchinson, Kansas.

FREDERICA VERMILYEA TERWILLIGER (NN 1670)

Frederica V. Terwilliger, of the Hamlet of Wallkill, N. Y., a homemaker and former school teacher, and a lifetime resident of the area, died peacefully at home on Monday, January 31, 2005 surrounded by her family. She was 87. The daughter of the late Rufus and Mildred Mason Vermilyea, she was born November 19, 1917 in Walden, N. Y. She was a graduate of New Paltz State Teacher's College, a 65-year member of the Wallkill Reformed Church where she also served with the Willing Workers, the Wallkill Woman's Club, Arethusa Sorority Alumni and the Terwilliger Family Association. She was the widow of Fred C. Terwilliger. Survivors include her son, Jay F. Terwilliger and his wife Patricia H. Terwilliger and their children Eric J. Terwilliger and Meghan M. Terwilliger; daughter-in-law, Rose Terwilliger and her children Michelle R. Hathaway, Dana L. Terwilliger and Bryan T. Terwilliger; two great-grandchildren, Evan and Alden Hathaway; brother, Paul Vermilyea; and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by son, Terry W. Terwilliger. Visitation will be Friday, February 4, 2005 from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. at The Wallkill Funeral Home, 12 Bonaventura Ave., Wallkill. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, February 5, 2005 at Wallkill Reformed Church, 45 Bridge St., Wallkill. The Reverend Toni Macon will officiate. Burial will be in Bruynswick Rural Cemetery in Wallkill. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wallkill Reformed Church, Wallkill Public Library or Hospice of Orange. Arrangements were made by Wallkill Funeral Home. Times Herald-Record February 2, 2005; Middletown, Orange County, New York

Treasurer's Report May 2005

1/18/2005 Opened Account	\$1.00	
2/7/2005 Transfer from Dayl Stout	\$3,326.38	\$3,327.38
2/15/2005 Check Book Charge	\$9.97	\$3,317.41
2/15/2005 Misc Chg Xfer of Treas Material	\$18.95	\$3,298.46
4/21/05 BALANCE		<u>\$3,298.46</u>

**SPORTS UPDATE - JAMIE VERMILYEA**



As mentioned in a couple newsletters published last year, we have a Vermilyea in professional baseball. Jamie Vermilyea, a relief pitcher, finished up last year with the Fisher Cats, a minor league team affiliated with the Toronto Blue Jays and whose home field is in Manchester, New Hampshire. The Fisher Cats had a very successful 2004 season – they won the Eastern League Championship.

Jamie is with the team again in 2005. As of 28 April, the team is 10 and 10 - thanks to some rather weak hitting - batting averages. As for Jamie, all his pitching appearances have been in relief. He has played in 5 games, pitched 14 2/3 innings, allowed 4 runs, has an ERA of 2.45 and carries a record of no wins, no losses and one save.



**VERMEILLE CAMPING GROUNDS, SWITZERLAND**

By Carl P. Vermilyea

Having lived in Germany for 10 years, my wife and I subscribe to a couple of German periodicals just to keep abreast of European news and maintain our language proficiency. In one of the recent magazines there was an article covering vacation destinations. Much to our surprise, among the places listed was a camping area named Vermeille – the same name as our earliest known paternal forefather, Jean de Vermeille.

“Campingplatz Vermeille” is located in Zweisimmen, Switzerland, which is in the western part of that country about 35 miles due east of Lausanne and 28 miles south of Bern (as the crow flies). Open year ‘round for both RV and tent camping, it is in a scenic, serene valley. According to the article, nearby seasonal recreational activities include hiking, biking, rafting, kayaking, skiing, snowboarding, and tobogganing.

I doubt that the name of the campground or its owners (not named in anything I have yet found) have any connection to our family; however, it could be that there is a link between its name and the name of the city in France (Vermeille) from where our earliest known forefather is believed to have once lived.

For those of you with internet access, have a working knowledge of the German language (or just want to see pictures) and are curious to find out more about the campground, I suggest you type “Campingplatz Vermeille, Zweisimmen” in at your Google search engine.

---

# VERMILYA SHOWS PLANE'S SAFETY

---

FLYING WITHIN VIEW OF  
CROWD AT AIRPORT, HE DE-  
SERTS CONTROLS AND RIDES  
FUSELAGE

---

Wright Vermilya, factory representative of the Arkansas Aircraft corporation, builders of the Command-Aire planes, added a thrill to the airport dedication yesterday which couldn't help but make a good impression as to the stability of the plane which he demonstrated here.

## Deserts Controls

Flying a trim looking Command-Aire open cockpit plane he took to the skies and when still within easy view of crowds he vacated his cockpit and rode the fuselage in the rear of the cockpit with no one at the controls, the plane all the while maintaining an even keel in the air despite the strong winds.

On one of these trips he was followed by Charles Leurs of Minne-

Wright Vermilya #1395 (9<sup>th</sup> Generation)  
Article from the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune,  
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin  
Dated October 22, 1928

apolis, also flying a Command-Aire plane of the same model and in the same plane with Pilot Leurs was Paul Pratt, manager of the Wisconsin Valley Creamery. Mr. Pratt had his motion picture machine with him and from his seat in the plane driven by Leurs succeeded in getting a reel of pictures of the daring Vermilya doing his "stuff." Vermilya modestly told a Tribune representative that he was not trying to get his name in print as a stunt flyer but was only anxious to demonstrate the extreme stability of his plane.

## It's a Godsend!

Note--With these possibilities in an aeroplane the young man who likes to drive his automobile with one hand while he tightly embraces his lady love with the other will soon turn to the aeroplane for future courtships as he can now use both arms where in the antiquated motor car one had to be given to piloting the earth clinging machine.

---



## VERMILYEA PLACES

### THE VERMILYE MEMORIAL CHAPEL, ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

By Carl P. Vermilyea

The Vermilye Memorial Chapel is located in the First Presbyterian Church, 150 East Palisade Avenue in Englewood, New Jersey. In December 2004, my wife and I stopped by there en route to and from a Saturday family gathering not far from that city. Information has also been obtained from the Church's excellent web site.



The First Presbyterian Church, Englewood, New Jersey  
(The Church office is on the far left, the Vermilyea Chapel is next with its entrance nearly center in the picture, and the main sanctuary is on the right.)

We arrived at the Church on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Englewood was once known as “the Bedroom of Wall Street” and the stately structure of this Church exemplifies the wealth which abounded in the town in the late 1800s. Annually, the Church holds a concert performed by some of New York City's finest professional musicians. The concert was scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> and consequently, the Church's staff was extremely busy preparing for it. We were shown the Vermilye Chapel and then given permission to explore the building and grounds by ourselves. The church complex consists of the sanctuary; the Vermilye Chapel; church offices; and, numerous rooms for meetings, activities, Sunday school and a nursery. The rectory is also on the grounds.

The sanctuary was built in 1870 of large, rust colored, sandstone ashlar to form a uniquely distinguished exterior in the architectural High Victorian Gothic Revival style. The interior can best be described as a beautiful and warmly decorated, small cathedral. The floor plan is in the shape of a cross. It has ornate wood support and decorative beams; 19 stain-glassed windows of various designs, three of which are rose windows (including one at each end of the transept); a blue painted ceiling about three stories high; a polished wood floor; long wooden, cushioned pews which seat about 1000 people in the nave; and, huge organ pipes and three stained-glass windows in the simple but beautifully constructed and decorated chancel. We were so impressed that we decided to return for Sunday services.

Directions to the Church: From Interstate Route 95 in New Jersey, exit at it's junction with Route 4 (just west of the George Washington Bridge) and proceed north-west. Exit Route 4 at the junction of Route 501. Go north (right) into Englewood on Route 501 (Grand Avenue). Stay in the right lane of this busy, two lane, one-way, in-town main street, to the junction of E. Palisade Avenue (note: after E. Palisades Avenue, Grand Avenue becomes Engle Street). Take a right on E. Palisades Avenue. As you drive up the hill, the church will be on your right. Enter the first driveway in front of the church. As you past the east end of the Church, you will see the office. Continue driving around to the back of the building for parking. Enter the church at the office entrance.



Sanctuary, First Presbyterian Church, December, 2004

The Church's web site (<http://www.inglewoodpres.org/history>) includes a brief history of the town of Englewood, the Church and Vermilye Chapel. About the Chapel it states: "... In 1877-78, the Vermilye Memorial Chapel was built. Added to the east end of the 1870 building, it was the gift of Mrs. E. A. Brinkerhoff, in memory of her parents. Designed by architects Potter and Robertson, of New York, it was extensively altered in 1926; its red and white sandstone entrance tower is all that is easily recognizable of the original structure. .... *The Englewood Architectural Survey, Bergen County Office of Cultural and Historic Affairs* states: '*The 1877-78 entrance tower of the Vermilye Chapel with its bichrome, finely carved stonework and interesting composition, is the finest example of High Victorian Gothic Revival architecture in Englewood and possibly in Bergen County.*' .... In 1926, alterations and additions were made to the Vermilye Chapel to provide a gym, auditorium and classrooms to be used by the church and community for youth programs. On May 10, 1959 ...the Vermilye Chapel was converted into a small chapel to be used for weddings and youth services. At that time the membership in the First Presbyterian Church stood at over 1300."

The parents of Mrs. E. A. Brinkerhoff (Emily Augusta Vermilye) were Washington Romeyn Vermilye (#264; ancestors: William W., William, John, Isaac Corssen, Johannes, Isaac, Jean) and Elizabeth Dwight Lathrop. Elizabeth was born in 1813 and died in 1874. Washington was born in New York City on 29 September 1810 and died in Englewood on 23 December 1876. They owned a huge estate on Palisades Avenue, east of the Church. Washington and his brother, William, founded the banking house of Vermilye & Company in New York City and both men became very wealthy.

The Vermilye Chapel: The exterior of the Chapel, although architecturally slightly different than that of the sanctuary, was constructed of the same type of sandstone block and therefore is complimentary to the rest of the building. The exterior entrance to the Chapel is unique and ornate (see the description from the web site, above, and the picture, below right). It takes you into a long narrow narthex from which there are two hallways leading to the transepts of the sanctuary, a third hallway leading to the church's offices and two entrances into the Chapel itself, each of which is a large wooden, double door with a small bronze plaque on which is engraved "Vermilye Chapel." As you walk through the narthex toward the offices, don't miss the small, attractive, inner court yard which borders the south side of the Chapel.



*Entrance to Vermilye Chapel*



*Interior of Vermilye Chapel  
(Set up for post-Sunday service coffee hour.)*

In contrast to the sanctuary, the Chapel is small (about 42' by 62') and relatively plain in its décor. Although its ceiling is high, it is basically only one-story. There are 5 identical stained glass windows; 3 on its north side (to the left in the below picture) and two on the South. Also on the south side is a large plaque inscribed with a prayer and below it a small plaque engraved: "Washington Romeyn Vermilye, Died Dec. 23, 1876, Elizabeth Dwight Lathrop, wife of W. R. Vermilye, Died April 11 1874." The walls are painted white except for the area around the cancel which is paneled in dark walnut. The white ceiling is broken up by huge, dark wood beams which add a richness to the décor.



## 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 a great deal 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 plus stories, histories and information about your family, ancestors and descendants. By doing so, we'll all benefit by leaning even 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: John R. Todd,

Other Board Members:

Dayl Stout,  
Tom Vermilye, : 1 :  
Wilma Vermilyer, :

### DUES FOR 2005

Anyone who has been a VFA subscribing member and paid dues for any year from 1995 through 2004 will not be charged dues in 2005. Of those, anyone who was not a Subscribing Member in 2004 is required to submit a new membership application.

Anyone who has never been a subscribing member (will become a first-time member in 2005) must submit a membership application and pay annual dues of \$6.00 (US) or \$7.50 (Canadian).

Membership applications and dues must be sent to the Treasurer. Please make your check or money order payable to: **John R. Todd**; enter "VFA dues" on the memo line on your check and, mail it to: **Mr. John R. Todd**,

If a subscribing membership application is received by the Treasurer after February 15, 2005, the applicant will be sent all issues of the newsletter which were published in 2005 prior to their application being received.

All subscribing memberships will expire on December 31, 2005.

### 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 email. 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: Back-issues of this newsletter may be purchased by sending a check or money order, made payable to "John R. Todd" in the amount of \$3.00 (US) or \$4.30 (Canadian) for each copy and/or issue. Send your request and the check to Carl Vermilyea (see address above) who will send you a copy(ies) from the VFA's files.

### DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET?

Check our **VFA Web Page** (maintained by Joanne V. MacArthur) at: <http://members.aol.com/vfa95/vfa.htm>

The VFA's **E-mail address** (staffed by Sandra V. Todd) is: [VERMREUN@earthlink.net](mailto:VERMREUN@earthlink.net)

### OTHER WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Sandra V. Todd maintains a private, non-VFA affiliated/sponsored web site at: <http://freepages.family.rootsweb.com/~vermilyeareunion/index.html>. At this site, Sandra reports on family reunions and lists members of the early generations of the Vermilya-Vermilye-Vermilyea-Vermilyer family.