

The “THREE OLD BOYS” – Everett Vermilyea

Everett Vermilyea and two of his fellow musicians were featured in the below August 2006 newspaper article.



The “Three Old Boys”, Arleigh Hanson, Everett Vermilyea and Earl Weiland entertain at The Meadows.

Three Old Boys show they still have what it takes!

Last Wednesday, August 2, residents and tenants of Grand Meadow Healthcare Center and The Meadows assisted living were treated to some good foot-stomping music in the chapel of the assisted living complex.

The women’s group from St. John’s Lutheran in Elkton presented the program for the seniors and introduced the “Three Old Boys”, a trio of are musicians.

The three “old boys” were Arleigh Hanson, age 86, of Austin, Everett Vermilyea, 87, of Dexter, and the eldest of the “boys”, Earl Weiland, of Austin (formerly of Dexter) who is 96 years old!

The group has been playing together about ten years, making the rounds of the

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'Three Old Boys' entertain at The Meadows

— Continued From Page 1 local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. They play once or twice a month and recently played at Wildwood Grove in LeRoy as well.

These guys don't come with any printed music as they all play by ear, but they aren't afraid to take requests.

Each song begins with Vermilyea taking the lead with his fiddle, determining in which key the song will be played. Hanson and Weiland quickly join in on piano and banjo.

Hanson has been playing the piano by ear since he was about 10 years old. He said he also plays banjo; in fact, he earned his first banjo by selling garden seeds. He sold enough to earn a prize, which was a banjo that he ordered by mail.

Hanson has held several jobs in his lifetime, including running a restaurant in Blooming Prairie and driving a gas truck, but the job he held when he retired was as a heavy equipment operator (a grader) while in Anaheim, California. In fact, he helped during the construction of the Anaheim Angels Stadium.

Vermilyea and his fiddle are not strangers to this area. In fact, he has won several local fiddling contests over the years. He has farmed, owned a hardware store, been a plumber, and for several years, was custodian at the High Forest rest stop, from which he retired at age 79. He was also mayor of Dexter.

The former mayor of Dexter has been "fiddling around" for 70 years, having bought his first violin from the Montgomery-Ward catalog in 1936. In 1946, he inherited his grandfather's fiddle, which he still uses.

At age 96, Weiland is the senior of the trio. He was taught to play the banjo by Everett Vermilyea's uncle and has been playing guitar and banjo for 85 years. He ordered his first banjo from Sears and Roebuck for \$7.

Weiland formerly played for LuVerne's Band of Owatonna, which is a rather well-known local group.

Vermilyea said those who would like to hear some of this good music can listen to the 'old fiddlers' the



The Three Old Boys, above, entertain, while the St. John's Lutheran ladies, and others (below) at The Meadows enjoy the music, during the afternoon program last Wednesday. Left to right are Arleigh Hanson, age 86, Everett Vermilyea, 87, and Earl Weiland, the "senior senior" at age 96, who plays banjo!



first Monday each month in Hayfield. Also, the Three Old Boys play for Dexter United Methodist's annual turkey supper the first Wednesday in October.

FROM THE STAFF

by Carl Vermilyea

We'll make this recurring article short for this edition.

During the past 60 days, Sandra Todd, John Todd and Tom Vermilye all have changed their email addresses. Please see the VFA page (last page herein) for their new email addresses.

We thank Veronica Vermilyea Theodorakis and Carl P. Vermilyea, Jr. for the interesting and informative articles they've submitted for this edition. We truly appreciate all the time and work that went into preparing them; and, also those from others which we published in the last (October 2006) edition. Please keep articles coming our way!!

Unfortunately, we recently received word that a serious illness in our prospective reunion sponsor's family has necessitated the cancellation of plans for a 2007 VFA reunion. Experience has shown that it takes about a year to organize a VFA reunion; thus, we have ended all planning for a reunion this year. We are looking for volunteers to sponsor/coordinate (set up) a reunion in 2008. If you are interested, please contact Carl Vermilyea or Sandra Todd.

RESEARCHING ANCESTORS IN KANSAS AND MINNESOTA

by Carl P. Vermilyea, Jr.

When my Drum & Bugle Corps, the “Frontier” of Dallas, Texas, scheduled a weekend of competition in Minnesota this past summer, I decided to make a car trip out of it and do a little genealogy research. With ancestors buried in Kansas and southeastern Minnesota, it promised to be an enlightening adventure. I wasn’t disappointed.

I left Denton the morning of August 14th with Osawatomie, Kansas, burial place of my great-great grandfather, John Knickerbocker Vermilyea, in my sights. I drove north up I-35, stopped for lunch in Oklahoma City, crossed the state line into Kansas, and picked up a free map at a tourist info center to confirm the location of my destination. Another hour or so up the road, I broke away from I-35, heading due east towards Osawatomie, which is south of Kansas City. I ended up on farm roads (which weren’t marked very well) and soon came to the realization that my free map was less than sufficient. So I got a little lost, ended up going south instead of east (at least I found a paved road), but eventually happened on Route 169, which ran north straight up to Osawatomie. Next time, I think I’ll pick up I-44 in Oklahoma City, run it east to Tulsa, and pick up 169 while still in Oklahoma.

I took the Main Street exit to Osawatomie not having any idea where the cemetery might be. Entering town, I saw a Pizza Hut on the right, a Sonic on the left, and across from the Sonic, just past the Pizza Hut, was a cemetery and a church. Could this be the one? I’m not usually this lucky...I mean, I just arrived, right? I parked in the church lot and spoke briefly to a young lady who was parking the church van. She told me that the church has no affiliation with the cemetery (named Elmdale Cemetery); apparently, it is maintained by the city. The cemetery appeared to be about 150-200 yards long and 50-75 yards wide. Checking grave by grave, it might take 30, maybe 40 minutes to cover the entire area. So, starting with the row of headstones closest to the church, I set about the task...which, as it turned out, lasted all of about two minutes; the graves of John K. Vermilyea, wife Alice, and daughter Emma are right next to the church!

I took several pictures before continuing to explore the town. It is a lovely town with a park dedicated to abolitionist John Brown, who once made Osawatomie his home. I found the library at about 5:30, but it had closed a half hour earlier. Next time, I’ll have to get there earlier; it’s a small building, but it probably has some interesting information on the town’s history. I doubled back toward Rt. 169 and had dinner at a motel diner located near the cemetery. During dinner, I decided to look for the address (115 Brown Ave.) listed on Alice’s death certificate. I actually found two homes with that address, but one was clearly older than the other, so I believe I identified the correct property. It’s just a block off Main St.

After a few pictures of the house, I left town, continuing north on 169. I found I-35 in Kansas City, continued north through Missouri and across the state line into Iowa (where I stopped at the first tourist info area for another free map). I found a hotel in Osceola and stopped for the night. It had been a good first day.

After a few doughnuts at the hotel the next morning, I continued up I-35. But outside of Des Moines, I took a detour west towards Van Meter, a small town that was the boyhood home of Bob Feller, baseball “Hall of Famer.” The museum is small but very nice, and I spent about an hour there. After purchasing a post card for a friend, I went to the local post office to mail it - but they were closed for lunch. A small town indeed! I drove back to Des Moines and continued north on I-35.

I crossed the Minnesota state line (grabbing another free map at the first info center), found I-90, and drove east. My first stop was the town of Dexter, Exit 193, and the burial place of my great-great-great grandfather, Avery Vermilya. The road from the interstate takes you right into the middle of Dexter. I stopped at the post office to ask for directions to the town cemetery (and get a stamp for my post card). Dexter is also a small town and when I explained to the lady in the post office what I was looking for, she picked up the phone and called Eris Vermilyea Bakker, who lives just one block away! Eris said she’d be glad to have a visit, if I didn’t mind the mess (she was finishing her “canning”). Once I got to her place, she called her brother, Everett Vermilyea, who came over with his wife Ann and a family bible. We had a nice visit, just talking about our extended family. Everett, incidentally, is a champion fiddle player and he and Eris, would be 2nd cousins to my grandfather Rex. Eris’ daughter Joy, who also stopped by, is my father’s third cousin, and Joy’s children, whom I didn’t get to meet but who live in southeastern Minnesota, would be my fourth cousins.

After our visit, I went to the local cemetery where I found 13 Vermilyea/Vermilya’s (including the wives). After many photos, I drove back toward the interstate, but on the way past Eris’ house, spotted Eris, Joy, and Joy’s husband

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at the local firehouse, where he was cutting the grass. I stopped to tell them what I'd found before continuing east on I-90.

My next destination was the town of Quincy, which I hadn't been able to find on any map (even the lady back at the info center hadn't known where it was). Everett said it was south of Plainview, which was a good clue. After an early dinner at the "Windmill" restaurant/hotel, also located off Exit 193, I was on my way. From the interstate, I took route 10 north toward Dover, also south of Plainview. I drove through Dover, across Route 9, towards Plainview, but never saw any signs indicating a township of Quincy. It was getting late, so I started looking for a motel, but couldn't find anything in the area. I drove west on Route 14, but couldn't find a place until I was all the way back to Rochester.

Thursday morning I awoke to rain. Not good. I was planning on lots of pictures and maybe some exploring in cemeteries. But I headed back down Route 14 to the Dover/Quincy area. I took 42 north towards Plainview, then drove south down 10. It's all farms through this year; cornfields everywhere. But no sign of a town called Quincy; in fact, no sign of *anything* called Quincy, until I came across a road sign that read, "Quincy Road North East." I followed the road through the cornfields, seeing many farms, but no sign of a town center. I went south back to Dover. John K. Vermilyea, my ancestor buried in Kansas, was married in Dover, so I hoped to find a church. Sure enough, there's a Methodist Church in Dover, founded in 1876, they same year that John K. and Alice were married. No one was in the church, so I couldn't confirm anything. Dover is another small town and has no library. I drove the side streets for a while, but didn't see a cemetery. Immediately west of Dover is another small town called Eyota. No leads in Eyota; several churches but no cemeteries that I could find. They have a high school, which they share with Dover, but no public library. I remembered seeing a small cemetery on Route 42 earlier, so I went back and walked through it, in the rain, but no sign of any Vermilyea's. Were there any cemeteries further north in Plainview? I didn't have time to look.

My next objective was the Mower County Historical Center in Austin, so I got back on the interstate and drove west, stopping off at the Windmill one more time for lunch. The Historical Center is located at the county Fairgrounds in Austin. It's not a modern facility by any means (they use 3x5 index cards to track their items), but a nice librarian pulled some "ancient" newspapers off the shelf for me so I could check an obituary. After an hour or so, it was off to the county courthouse to see what their birth and death records contained. "Back in the day" they didn't create individual birth and death certificates, they simply entered births and deaths in a log book at the county office. Mower County still has its original records, but the pages have been laminated and placed in a new binder. Better yet, they have been indexed, so you can look up your ancestor alphabetically, learn the volume and page in which they are listed, then look them up in the original, chronological record. I was able to find "death entries" for Avery Vermilyea and his wife Fannie, and for a small fee, the county office "created" death certificates for both of them. I also looked for a birth record of my Great-Grandfather Earl John Vermilyea, but came up empty handed. Dinner that night was at a small restaurant across the street from the international "Spam" museum. No, I didn't bother! Afterward, I got back on I-90 and went east, stopping back at the "Windmill" for the night.

Friday's first objective was clear: downtown Rochester. My family has never been sure of the exact birth place of my great-grandfather Earl, and since there was no record of him in Austin County, I was hoping Olmsted County might have the answer. After a couple doughnuts in the lounge, I went to the front desk to check out. The lady working the desk knew Everett (remember, I was back in Dexter). I went to the Olmsted County Courthouse in Rochester first, but unlike Mower County, all records have been turned over to the County's historical center. I arrived there around 10:00 am, and what a find!

Excellent resources...everything microfilmed, indexed, etc. Lots of old maps, books on county history, etc., even some info on surrounding counties, and a helpful librarian named Marilyn. I found the appropriate roll of microfilm and located the birth entry for Earl, which lists Quincy as the place of birth. I also found the marriage entry for John Knickerbocker Vermilyea. Olmsted County does not re-create certificates like they do in Mower County, but the microfilm reader lets you print out the original pages from the county record books. There were many listings of Vermilyea/Vermilya's in these records; birth, death, and marriage. But the biggest find may have been the old farm

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map, known as a “PLAT” map, which not only showed Quincy, but also the location of Avery Vermilya’s original farm! A quick comparison of the PLAT map to a modern map showed that the roads were virtually the same. With a photocopy of the map in hand, I jumped in the car and headed back toward the Dover/Quincy area (on the way, I came across an old church with a cemetery and stopped, but there were no Vermilyea’s to be found).

Avery’s old farm was fairly easy to locate. There’s a bend in the road just south of his old property, making it easy to relate the map to what you’re actually seeing, and a farm house sits on the property, probably on or about the same site as Avery’s house must have been. After several pictures of Avery’s old farm, I took off down the road to see (now that I had a map) if I could find any trace of the old Quincy township. I’m afraid I couldn’t. The old maps show a town center with a post office, church, school, etc., but it’s all gone now. Quincy has no post office and is now considered rural Olmsted County. But it’s still pristine farm country, untouched by modern development, and existing as it must have when Avery first arrived.

I drove through Dover one last time and stopped at the post office to ask about Quincy. I gave my story and the woman at the post office (this post office was smaller than either Van Meter’s or Dexter’s) put me in touch with a member of the Dexter Church, who said she would keep an eye out for any information on John K. Vermilyea. She also called another cousin for me, Hugh Vermilya, who donated some land to the county in his hometown of Elmira, located south of Dover (on the other side of I-90), in order to start a wildlife preserve. I drove to the site of the preserve and took more pictures.

With this last little bit of business concluded, it was time to drive to St. Peter and meet up with the other members of the Drum & Bugle Corps. But since my route was to take me through Rochester, I stopped back at the Olmsted County Historical Center and gathered some information on the county history.

All in all, it was an extremely productive and enjoyable adventure. I found all the grave sites and all the documentation I was looking for, met some distant cousins, and had a great time! Osawatomie, Van Meter, Dexter, Dover, Quincy...one picturesque small town after another. Just remember this: always stop in at the post office. No telling who or what they might know.



VERMILYA/E/EA/ER PLACES

MINNESOTA

DOVER: VERMILYA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

The below pictures of the Wildlife Area were taken by Carl P. Vermilyea Jr. in August 2006. He reported that the Area is surrounded by crop and grazing land of abutting farms. The only thing which separates it from farm land is that the Area has been permitted to overgrow. The Area is a sanctuary for birds and wild animals and used as a hunting area.



Sign at Southwest corner of Area.



Close-up of sign



From the northwest corner looking southeast.



From the south border looking northeast.

The full, formal name of the Wildlife Area is the “James Irvin Vermilya’s State Wildlife Management Area.” The acreage was donated to the State of Minnesota by Hugh Clayton Vermilya (ancestors: Ervin R., James Irvin, Avery, Abram, William, Abraham, John, Johannes).

Directions to the Wildlife Area (see map, next page): From Interstate Route 90, take Exit 233 and go south toward Troy. Take your first right onto Route #36. Take your second left onto 195th Avenue SE. Continue straight through the intersection of 60th Street SE. The Wildlife Management Area will be on your left.



Vermilyea
State Wildlife
Refuge
(shaded Area)

SPRING QUOTES

“It’s spring fever.... You don’t quite know what it is you DO want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!” — *Mark Twain*

“The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.” — *Henry Van Dyke*

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE DAR? My Experiences.....

by Veronica Vermilyea Theodorakis

I recently was approved for membership into the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), an organization that most of us are familiar with but few know how to join. Many have encountered so many roadblocks when they attempted to join that they decided against getting involved. I will attempt to demystify the process for those of you who are interested in joining.

Being a member of the Vermilyea Association I may already assume that you are interested in genealogy. Through the efforts of Sandra Todd we are able to trace our ancestors to the founding of New York as a Dutch colony, and later as an English colony. Why join an organization such as the DAR? Doesn’t it consist of “little old ladies” who sit around and have teas? Actually, this is not the case, and for me the decision to join was to verify for myself and my family that our lineage does indeed date back to the founding of America. I am not going to tell you that joining was an easy task, but I will be more than happy to assist any of you who wish to join and make your application process easier. This also applies to male descendants, as membership in the DAR fast tracks you into membership in the Sons of the American Revolution (if your relative is already proven to be a patriot by membership in the DAR, SAR will accept

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this as proof of eligibility for membership, I am currently looking to gain admission of my sons and am inquiring how to gain sponsorship of membership). Children under 18 can join the Children of the American Revolution (CAR).

First, who is eligible to join the DAR? Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a Patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. Please note the word lineal, if your ancestor's brother fought in the war and yours stayed home to tend the farm you are not eligible. Lineage is through the maternal or paternal line and you could be recognized for having more than one lineal relative who participated in the American Revolution. The DAR recognizes Patriots not only as soldiers, but also as anyone who contributed to the cause of American freedom.

Service qualification includes:

- Signers of the Declaration of Independence

- Military Service, such as participation in:

 - Army and Navy of the Continental Establishment.

 - State Navy.

 - State and Local Militia.

 - Privateers.

 - Military or Naval Service performed by French nationals in the American theater of war.

- Civil Service, under authority of Provisional or new State Governments:

 - State Officials.

 - County and Town Officials (Town Clerk, Selectman, Juror, Town Treasurer, Judge, Sheriff, Constable, Jailer, Surveyor of Highways, Justice of the Peace, etc.).

- Patriotic Service, which includes:

 - Members of the Continental Congress, State Conventions, and Assemblies.

 - Membership in committees made necessary by the War, including service on committee which furthered the cause of the Colonies from April 1774, such as Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, committees to care for soldier's families, etc.

 - Signer of Oath of Fidelity and Support, Oath of Allegiance, etc.

 - Members of the Boston Tea Party.

 - Defenders of Forts and Frontiers, and Signers of petitions addressed to and recognizing the authority of the Provisional and new State Governments.

 - Doctors, nurses, and others rendering aid to the wounded (other than their immediate families).

 - Ministers who gave patriotic sermons and encouraged patriotic activity.

 - Furnishing a substitute for military service.

 - Prisoners of war or refugees from occupying forces.

 - Prisoners on the British ship *Old Jersey* or other prison ships.

 - Service in the Spanish Troops under Galvez or the Louisiana Militia after 24 December 1776.

 - Service performed by French nationals within the colonies or in Europe in support of the American cause.

 - Those who rendered material aid, in Spanish America, by supplying cattle for Galvez's forces after 24 December 1776.

 - Those who applied in Virginia for Certificates of Rights to land for settlement and those who were entitled to and were granted preemption rights.

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Those who took the Oath of Fidelity to the Commonwealth of Virginia from October 1779 to 26 November 1783.

Those who rendered material aid such as furnishing supplies with or without remuneration, lending money to the Colonies, munitions makers, gunsmiths, etc.

To find out if your ancestor is recognized by the DAR as a Revolutionary Patriot, a request form is available online at www.dar.org by clicking on membership. You may also check on ancestors by going to your local library, which should have recent volumes of the DAR lists of already recognized patriots. This means that one of your relatives has already proven that the common ancestor was indeed a patriot and the DAR acknowledges the proof provided. For admission, all you would need is proof that you are related to the verified member and you will be eligible for membership. Perhaps if I explain my experience it will be easier for you to understand.

I tried to contact the local chapter to gain information on admission. There is no number listed in our phone book and my local chapter is not very active in community events. I noticed that they were giving a workshop on genealogy in our library and decided to attend to ask about membership. Although the registrar (the woman who is in charge of membership at the local level) is a lovely woman, she really was not much help in telling me what I needed to do to gain admission. Whenever I met someone who was already a member and asked how they gained admission, they always seemed to be vague about the process, most claiming that their grandmother was a member and gave them membership as a gift (this may well be the case, but I encountered this answer too often to truly believe it). I came to realize that many members wish it to remain an exclusive “club,” the fewer members the more exclusive it remains. Interestingly, I discovered that in the beginning of the organization in the 1890s many ladies were taken at their word that they were related to a patriot. This was the case when I checked my file in the library of the DAR headquarters and discovered that there was only a photocopy of a letter, written by an individual to his cousin regarding information that was contained in a bible. As a result there is information regarding lineage that is incorrect in some ancestor’s files.

The first and easiest way to begin the process is to see if your ancestor is a recognized patriot by the DAR (the DAR would confirm this through your request online or you would have checked the DAR volume at the library as I did). My relative Philip Vermilyea (#51, Third Generation) is a recognized Patriot; an ancestor of Philip’s son, Nathaniel, already joined the DAR back in the 1920s. As a result all I had to prove was that I was related to Nathaniel Drake Vermilyea (#307, Fifth Generation) (Nathaniel Drake, Philip, Peter, Isaac, Johannes). One of my distant cousins had also joined claiming to be a descendant of Nathaniel’s brother Benjamin Franklin Vermilyea. Next, I had to get a copy of the approved application the relative of Philip submitted, to see where in the lineage I could “plug” myself in. As their email was on the application, I contacted Benjamin’s relative and her cousin (please note that if you intend to join the DAR, all who wish to apply have access to your lineage. I attended a conference where this was discussed, as it becomes a privacy issue. The DAR states that you sign an agreement when you join that all are able to view this information and it will, in the near future, be available online, consider not putting your email address on if this is a concern to you.) I hit the same wall as before, both the recent applicant and her cousin who joined a few years ago could not “remember” what information was needed, what they had submitted, did they accept a death certificate or did you need a birth certificate (they applied less than 5 years ago). I later discovered that much of the information that they had ‘tagged’ on to was provided by one of the early lovely ladies who joined on “her word” and their lineage is currently being questioned as a result of the information I was able to provide. No one using Benjamin Franklin Vermilyea will have an easy access to application unless this information is corrected by proof they provide (some of his children and their ancestor’s are questioned). Those of you who are related to Philip’s son Nathaniel have the easiest route, as he is one of the few Vermilyea children named in the Revolutionary War pension application. I had to send my birth certificate showing that I was James Vermilyea’s daughter. I then provided a copy (these copies need not be certified and please send copies as they are not returned) of my father’s birth certificate showing he is William

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Vermilyea's son. I included (perhaps overkill but since I had so little help I decided to show there was no question to the information I was providing) his marriage certificate along with my parent's marriage certificate. Next, I gave them William's (my grandfather) birth certificate, and his father William's death certificate listing my great grandfather's father as Nathaniel Drake (the son listed on the pension application). I also included Nathaniel's death certificate and a record of the burials in Cypress Hills Cemetery where Nathaniel Drake, his wife Jane and my great grandfather are buried. The application itself is on a disc that is "loaned" by the local chapter. It must be printed on specific paper and be checked and signed by your chapter's registrar and regent. That will be sent to the national headquarters along with a \$100 check.

As I have stated, I submitted all of this information to DAR so that anyone who is related to one of the thirteen siblings of Nathaniel Drake must prove their lineage from that point. Philip had several brothers who also fought in the revolution. They are not named specifically in the pension application so you will have to prove that they are indeed Philip's offspring and then prove the lineage from there.

Approved application to this organization does enable you to join other colonial based organizations. We can join Colonial Dames, as our relative was here prior to New York statehood, the Huguenot Society (although one must be invited to join this organization) and other New York based organizations. As a member, I was able to attend the weekend Genealogical Conference in Washington DC in October. I also used the DAR library while I was there; it has a huge collection of primary genealogical information. DAR is a service-minded organization and many chapters have copied burial information or early journals in their area. As a result, this information is located in one central area, filed according to sections of the country (in some instances cities as New York City or counties in states). I did not have to travel to Dutchess County to find burial information for many of the cemeteries located there. Church records were copied and they are also located in the library, many of these records go back to the early 1700s.

I would be happy to assist and sponsor anyone who is considering membership. Please email me at Mtheo1@aol.com and I will try to answer any questions you may have.

BIRTHS

Congratulations to the families of our new babies (descendants)



Daniel Curtis Vermilye

Tom and Cynthia Vermilye are pleased to announce the of their grandson who was born November 2, 2006 at Olathe, Kansas. His parents, Matthew and Stephanie welcomed the 7lb 10oz bundle of joy and named him Daniel Curtis Vermilye.



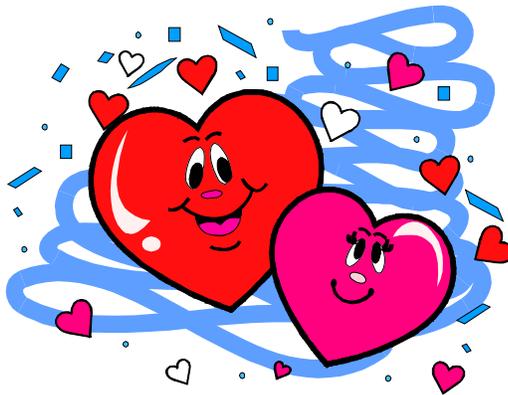
William Wesley Gierke

Also welcomed by his Great Grandpa Lynn Vermilyea, is William Wesley Gierke who was born November 27, 2006 at Winter Park, Florida. Wesley's parents are Julie Ann (Hardy) and William Nathan Gierke. His Grandparents are Debra (Vermilyea) and Walt Hardy.



Happy Valentine's Day to All!

*Valentine's Day
Is a wonderful way
To make "I love you"
Easy to say.*



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 learning 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

Wilma Vermilyer,

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2007:

The membership of every 2006 Subscribing Member (those who receive the VFA Newsletter) will be carried over automatically into 2007 and no dues will be required. Anyone who was a Subscribing Member and paid dues for any year from 1995 through 2005 will not be charged dues in 2007; but, they must send an updated membership application to the VFA Treasurer.

Anyone who has never been a Subscribing Member (will become a first-time member in 2007) must submit a membership application and pay dues for 2007 of \$6.00 (US) or \$7.50 (Canadian) to the VFA Treasurer. The same applies for gift memberships.

If a Subscribing Membership application is received by the Treasurer after February 1 of any year, the applicant will be sent all issues of the newsletter which were published in that same year prior to their application being received.

All subscribing memberships will expire on December 31st annually.

Dues and membership applications must be sent to: **Mr. John R. Todd,**

1182. Please make your check or money order payable to: **John R. Todd; and,** enter "VFA dues" on the memo line on your check.

THIS NEWSLETTER:

"Vermilya/e/ea/er's ...Historically Speaking" is published on or about February 1st, June 1st and October 1st. The cost of a subscription is included in the Subscribing 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.

Newsletter distribution will be by email whenever Members have an email address; otherwise via postal.

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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 any media of its choosing.

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Check our VFA Web Page (maintained by Joanne V. MacArthur) at: <http://www.vfafamily.com>

The VFA's E-mail address (staffed by Sandra V. Todd) is: VFAfamily@vfafamily.com

Another Web Site of Interest:

<http://www.vfafamily.com> is a private, non-VFA affiliated/sponsored web site maintained by Sandra V. Todd. At this site, Sandra reports on family reunions and lists members of the early generations of the Vermilya-Vermilye-Vermilyea-Vermilyer family.