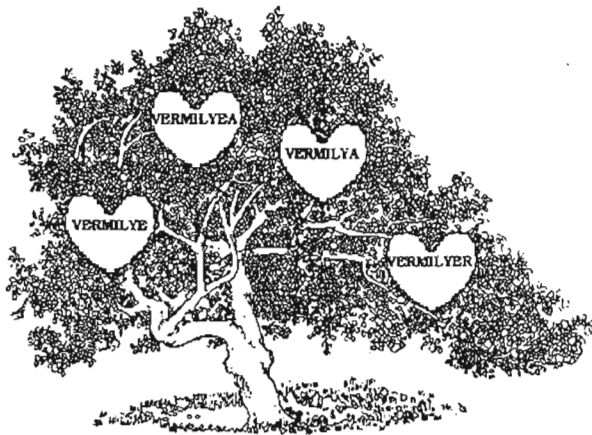

VERMILYEA FAMILY REUNION NEWSLETTER

Williamsport, Pennsylvania

June 21, 1997

According to reunion invitations displayed by John R. Vermilya of Muncy, Pennsylvania, the descendants of William and Phebe Vermilya of Delaware County, New York had at least three reunions in Erie County, Pennsylvania in 1902, 1903 and 1904. So we weren't the first Vermilyea Family Reunion to be held in Pennsylvania, in fact there were probably several others. However, when the family started arriving on Thursday evening the anticipation of meeting cousins for the first time was as exciting as it must have been back then. Thursday evening Joe Vermilye from Oregon and Dayl and Jennie Stout from Michigan arrived followed by John and I on Friday starting the procession of family arriving to enjoy the get together. We were greeted by WELCOME VERMILYEA FAMILY displayed on the hotel billboard. By Friday dinner time 13 family members enjoyed dining together as others continued to arrive through the evening. Saturday morning a large group gathered in the hotel diningroom for breakfast. The Vermilyea Family Association met at 10:00am for a get acquainted meeting. Joe Vermilye, our President, addressed some of the issues facing this growing organization. By 2:00pm when the reunion festivities began there were 59 adults and 6 children attending. Six large display tables held pictures, memorabilia and genealogical information that was enjoyed by all.



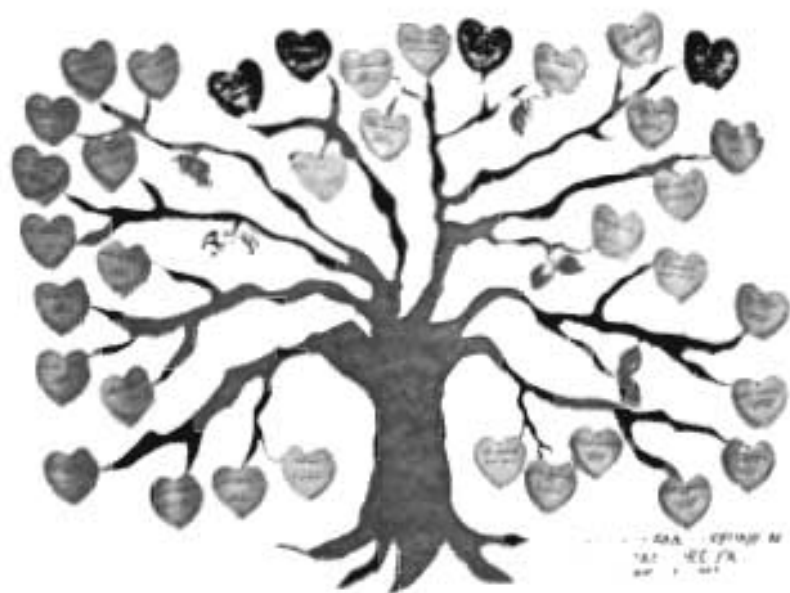
Everyone had name tags - picked from the Family Reunion Tree, and souvenir programs were given to each family. After time was spent visiting and enjoying the displays we had introductions and discussed the possibility of having another reunion in the future. It was decided to meet again next year, and several locations were discussed. We decided to consider returning to Williamsport and also check out facilities at Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. Since Wellsboro celebrates their Laurel Festival the third weekend in June it was decided that we would check for the fourth weekend there. Ed Vermilya of Canton, Pennsylvania volunteered to check hotels in Wellsboro, and Dennis Vermilya also of Canton will assist.

Many wore their red Family Reunion T-shirts that were designed special for the occasion as we assembled in front of the hotel for a group photo. The dinner buffet which included a nice selection and was deemed delicious by all was served at 6:00pm. Following dinner we were entertained by Dennis Vermilya of Canton, Pennsylvania who sang several Christian music selections as many of us joined in. The excitement ran high as we anticipated the door prize drawing. But first we had the opportunity to view family tree pictures that were colored by several of the youngsters. Gary and Michael Burkholder and Chris Griswold assisted in drawing the numbers for the door prizes. Glenda Avery won the beautiful red sweater designed and hand knit by Jennie Stout. Jennie artfully reproduced the Reunion Tree logo on the front of the sweater. Lynn Vermilyea won the tray that was made by my husband John with the filet crochet piece proclaiming the VERMILYEA FAMILY REUNION JUNE 21, 1997 that I crocheted. The collapsible heart shaped basket also made by John was won by Cheryl Vermilyea.

A number of family members enjoyed visiting after dinner, while others rested or spent time with their immediate families. Again on Sunday morning we gathered for breakfast in the hotel diningroom before preparing to leave for home or continue vacation travels. Many were taking last minute pictures as we bid our farewells and plans were made to share pictures, write, visit by phone or meet at other locations before we get together again in Pennsylvania in 1998.

It was a great thrill for me personally to finally get to meet so many of you that I have been in contact with over the last several years. Joe Vermilye, Joanne Vermilya MacArthur and I have been in contact by e-mail, phone and letters for over two years as we organized the Vermilyea Family Association. This was the first time that we had met in person. Many others have written me with family information, or called me on numerous occasions - I was so happy to meet you. I want you all to know that I appreciate all of the gifts, and nice comments, but most of all I enjoyed seeing you meeting a new cousin the first time, discovering a picture of your Great Grandfather, Great Grandmother or some other ancestor and relating family stories to someone else - who was REALLY interested. I came home with not only wonderful copies of pictures - thanks Dayl for providing a way to make that possible, but a warm happy FAMILY FEELING that I hope was shared by all.

Till next year.
Sandra



Above: Family members picked their name tags from the Family Reunion Tree.

Left: Sandra Vermilyea Todd, Joe Vermilye and Joanne Vermilya MacArthur meet for the first time.

VERMILYEA FAMILY REUNION
WILLIAMSPORT, PA.
JUNE 21, 1997

First Row L to R: Judy Vermilya; Celeste Vermilya; Suzanne Vermilya McFaul; Maribeth Vermilya Endress & Olivia; Mary Vermilya; Sara Alford & Chris Griswold; Joanne Vermilya MacArthur; John Todd; Gary & Michael Burkholder; Paula & Stephen Burkholder; Linda Vermilyea; Nancy Vermilyea; Lois Vermilyea McMurray; Janet Vermilyea and Margaret Vermilyea Pine.

Second Row L to R: Glenda Griswold Avery; Marlene Vermilya; Steve Endress; Ed (Frank Edgar) Vermilya; Debby Vermilya; Jenny Vermilya; Charlie MacArthur; Sandra Vermilyea Todd; Norvell Burkholder; Margaret Vermilyea; Carl (Chuck) Vermilyea; Carl Vermilyea; John McMurray; and Ed (Edwin) Vermilyea.

Third Row L to R: Dale Avery; Virginia Vermilya; John R. Vermilya; Joyce Vermilya Wheeler; Vance Vermilya; Katie Vermilya; Webb Vermilya; Faye Vermilya; Ann Griswold; Joel (Joe) Vermilye; Jean McMurray Ackerley; Debra Vermilyea Hardy and Karen McMurray.

Fourth Row L to R: Lyle Vermilya; Dennis Vermilya; David Kiessling; Helen Vermilya; Keith Vermilya; Jim Vermilyea; Bettie Vermilya; Bev Smith; Mike Alford; Scott Griswold; Linda Griswold; John Griswold; Winona & Dennis Vermilyea; Jenny & (in back) Dayl Stout; Lynn Vermilyea and James Louis Vermilya.

Present but not visible: Cheryl Vermilyea and Doris Smith.



WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW TO MAKE NEXT YEARS REUNION EVEN MORE ENJOYABLE

Many of you mentioned you liked the idea of having door prizes. In order to provide even more prizes I would like to encourage everyone to consider contributing next year. Something you crafted yourself, or if you aren't the "crafty" type how about a packet of those special flower or vegetable seeds from your garden that includes instructions and of course your name and perhaps your picture with the results. Homemade jelly, jam or pickles labeled with your name, or maybe a unique item from your part of the country. Many of you displayed some very unique family photos. A color copy can be made for about \$1.00, mounted in a frame with the names and perhaps a story about the people or picture along with your name would be a wonderful idea. Something crafted or given by another family member, not the cost is what would make it special Use your imagination - I'm sure you can come up with some great ideas.

PLEASE CONTACT ME

with your suggestions or comments. My telephone number is (I am a MCI subscriber for those who use their free call service) It's best to call me on weekends. Those with e-mail can contact me at

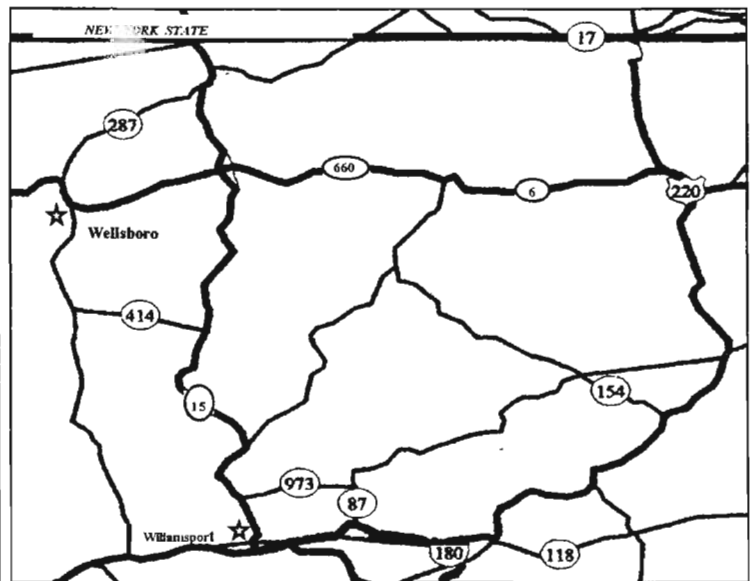
YOUR FAMILY INFORMATION IS REQUESTED

As many of you know one of the goals of the Vermilyea Family Association is to update and publish the Vermilyea Family genealogy that was published in 1904 in RIKER'S REVISED HISTORY OF HARLEM, by James Riker. This of course is a massive undertaking. I started working on this project several years ago and self published the information that I compiled as of September 1995. Since then I have researched many more lines and as a result of that book have received much more family information from you. I would like very much to publish it as a hard cover volume with pictures and documents included. Several of us discussed at the reunion what approach should be taken to achieve this. I have continued to add the information in the same format as the original book. The questions that arose from the discussions are: Where could we get it printed and what is the procedure? And of course at what cost. We are still in the very early stages of

this project, but I would like to suggest you keep in mind we are pursuing it. If you have already submitted your family information to me I would like to include it in the new book. Please contact me if you would like any changes made, or to update your family information. Please help spread the word of this project since we want to include as many families as possible.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE 1998 REUNION LOCATION

Those attending the reunion know that several volunteered to help in various ways when we decided to have another reunion next year. We discussed returning to Williamsport, and Dennis Vermilya suggested Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. Ed Vermilya and Dennis both who live in the area, volunteered to check out Wellsboro. I spoke to Ed on June 29th and so far he has contacted a hotel there that sounds good. They are able to provide the rooms. but not the banquet facilities between June and September. We do have other options available for the banquet however and Ed is checking those out. The last weekend in June seems to be the best bet at this time. There are many attractions in the area, plus some



lovely country side. We will keep you informed so you can make plans to attend.

ONE LAST THING

As John and I left the hotel on Monday morning I made positive comments to the young man at the desk about the room, banquet food, etc. He said "You have the nicest family, so many made nice comments as they were checking out yesterday, we appreciate it." On the Friday after we got home I received a personal handwritten thank you note from Sherry Reed at the hotel thanking us, and of course welcoming us back.

THOSE WHO ATTENDED

VERMILYA, Celeste
VERMILYA, Dennis
VERMILYA, Ed & Mary
VERMILYA, Helen
VERMILYA, James Lewis
VERMILYA, John R.
VERMILYA, Judy *
VERMILYA, Keith & Bettie
VERMILYA, Lyle & Ginny
VERMILYA, Marlene
VERMILYA, Vance & Debby
VERMILYA, Katie & Jenny
VERMILYA, Webb & Faye

VERMILYE, Joel L. (Joe)

VERMILYEA, Carl & Linda
VERMILYEA, Carl (Chuck)
VERMILYEA, Dennis & Winona
VERMILYEA, Ed & Janet
VERMILYEA, Jim & Cheryl
VERMILYEA, Lynn & Nancy
VERMILYEA, Margaret

ACKERLEY, Jean McMurray
ALFORD, Mike
ALFORD, Sara
AVERY, Dale & Glenda Griswold
BURKHOLDER, Norvell & Paula
BURKHOLDER, Gary, Michael & Stephen
ENDRESS, Steve & Maribeth Vermilya
ENDRESS, Olivia
GRISWOLD, John & Ann
GRISWOLD, Scott & Linda
GRISWOLD, Christopher
HARDY, Debra Vermilyea
KIESSLING, David
MACARTHUR, Charlie & Joanne Vermilya
MCFAUL, Suzanne Vermilya
MCMURRAY, John & Lois Vermilyea
MCMURRAY, Karen
PINE, Margaret Vermilyea
SMITH, Bev Vermilya & Doris
STOUT, Dayl & Jennie
TODD, John & Sandra Vermilyea
WHEELER, Joyce Vermilya

*Judy's husband Steve and daughter Sondra Vermilya were scheduled to attend but were unable to make it.