

Teator / Teter Tree

Spring 1994

Newsletter #4

1994 TEATOR / TETER REUNION July 16, 1994

WHAT: The descendents of John and Lydia (Richmond) Teter are invited to the second reunion on the third Saturday of July at Brandow Park from about noon to late afternoon.

WHERE: Brandow Park, the same site as the first reunion, is located in the Town of Durham, Greene County.

Brandow Park has a pavilion with a dozen or so tables, a ball field, a couple basketball rims, and a playground. Bring game material and lawn games to your liking. The Catskill Creek is across the street, usually with enough water to go wading.

Travellers can take State Route 145, onto County Route 22 or Clay Hill Road, both roads leading to the Park. Route 22 is the four corners road at Durham. An alternative is to take State Route 81 to Oak Hill, turn at Miller's Auto Body or at Church, cross the bridge, and arrive at the park.

Anyone needing further directions can call (518) 634-2397.

The rain site will be the East Durham Fire House, located on Route 145 in East Durham.

FOOD: Each household should bring a covered dish (salad or main dish) to feed 4-6, and a dessert of similar serving. Families are encouraged to coordinate with others, if you choose. Any single person attending can bring chips, munchies, etc., instead. "Silverware", liquids and chairs will be the responsibility of each household. Cups and napkins will be supplied.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- * Arrive around noon, or whenever you can.
- * Food will be served probably between one to one-thirty (We tried later last time but nature got the best of us!). Plan on electric not being available.
- * Somewhere in between, or just after food, we'll do introductions of the various family lines. (Of course, most of us will be doing our own introductions long before then.)
- * Copies of genealogy reports will be available (correct any mistakes you see) and pictures of last reunion will be hanging up. Bring your pictures.
- * If anyone has anything else they'd like to share, please feel free to do so.

PHOTO: A photo archive of Teator/Teter has been created. If you can, please bring along a recent picture of you or your family that you can donate to the collection (date & ID, in pencil on back). If older pictures are available, bring them too and we'll try to duplicate them.

If you have clippings, newspaper articles, etc., that pertain some family member, please make a copy to give to these files.

If you have biographical material about an individual or family, please consider sharing that also.

RECIPES: Please bring the recipe of the food dish you're bringing, or share a favorite family recipe.

FAMILY INFO: If anything has happened since last reunion, please let me know. I'll try to put the new information into the computer, and have a printout/chart that includes the new info. If anyone would like to start writing a family sketch, the kind I include each issue, please start.

WANTED: Does anyone have a portable loudspeaker we could use for introductions? Since we can't depend on electricity being available, this loudspeaker would need an independent source.

OTHER: We want the reunion to be an enjoyable event and reminder of family. If you have questions and/or requests, feel free to call anyone from the organizing committee: (all 518 area code) Don Teator, 634-2397; Bev Fuegmann, 634-7762; Howard Teator, 622-3809; Katherine Brink, 239-6920; Alfreda Teator, 283-5290; or Ken Baldwin, 945-2697.

GENEALOGY

So, what is this weak link in our genealogy that I keep referring to?

The last newsletter had a copy of Hank Jones' work on the Dathers for the first three generations in America. Our present family line to John has been documented. It's the very middle of this gap that I've been trying to build a case for.

Let me start with the older end of the line.

Zacharias (refer to last newsletter), who is the grandson of the immigrant, appears to marry Elisabetha (Annatjen) Whalen in 1770 (I have no information on her ancestry).

They appear to have the following children:

Henrich	1771
Johannes	1773
Marcus	1775
Phillip	1776
Zacharias	1778
Catharina	1779
Sarah	1781
Friderich	1783
Ephraim	1785
Elizabeth	1787
William	1789

Yes, eleven children! I mentioned the importance of looking at the sponsors at the christening to help with determining who belongs to which family. Zach's sister Margaret is a sponsor for Henrich; sister Elisabeth is sponsor for Johannes; brother Abraham is sponsor for Marcus, and again for Catharina; and brother Johannes is sponsor for Ephraim. A look at Zach's siblings would find the same pattern. (Coincidentally, David Finger is a sponsor for Zach's daughter Elizabeth and later becomes a father-in-law of Henrich when he marries Anna Finger in the 1790's.) Given the sponsors at the various births, the names of the parents, and the dates and timing of the births, it is reasonable to construct Zachariah and Elizabeth's family as above.

It's Henrich, the oldest child of Zachariah and Elizabeth, that I want to focus on. Church records from the West Copake Church in Columbia County show that a Henrich Teter (or some variation of that spelling) and an Anna Finger (Fingar, Vinger) marry in April 1791; both are from the Tachanik area (southern Columbia County, spelled Taghkanic today). They have children:

David	1791
James	1793
Johannes	1795
Zacharias	1797
Marcus	1799
Philip	1801
Mary	1803

Sponsors are Anna's parents for David, Hendrick's parents for James, a brother for Marcus, and three sisters and a brother of Anna for the other four children. There isn't much disagreement about this family. (Remember David.)

Let me change ends for a while, and work our way back from our John of (1816-1866). Who was our John Teter's father? The earliest census that shows the names of households is 1850, by which time John is already a head of household. Two newsletters ago, I recounted finding a genealogy prepared by a Mrs. Luckhurst for the Cantine line which was still in Walter Pearson's possession and it named John's father as David. Remember David? How did I prove that? An important corroborating link was the will of a Luther Teter (probated in Schoharie County - a topic for another newsletter) which names his nieces and nephews as well as his siblings still alive; brother Calvin is executor. All the names of John's children are named as newnephews and nieces in this will (Luther's death in 1878 comes a dozen years after John's). The census information for David appears as follows:

David Teter appears in the 1840 Rensselaerville census with one of the males between 60-70 (possibly Henry).

David Teater, 60, appears in the 1850 census with family, wife Catherine - age 56, and children Clarinda, Betsey, Luther, David, and Julia. (Oldest son John already has a family; Calvin is living with another area family.)

David Teter, in the 1855 NY Rensselaerville census, claims to have been born in Columbia County and has been a resident of Rensselaerville for 49 years. His wife Catherine also claims to have been born in Columbia County.

David Teter appears in the 1860 Rensselaerville census, dies in 1862 (tombstone), and is buried near his home (Cheese Hill) in the Town of Rensselaerville.

In addition, in an important piece of the puzzle, a Henry and Ann Teter have three of their children - Clarinda, Betsey, and John - baptized at the Oak Hill Reformed Church, a church that stood just inside the Albany County line and seems to have been torn down in the 1830's.

Thus, a family of David & Catherine (Hess) Teter lived on Cheese Hill with children Clarinda (1813), Betsy (1814), John (1816), Luther (c1824), Calvin (c1830), David (1834), and Julia (1839). Twenty-six years gap between Clarinda and Julia! (Two more males are possible brothers; more research needed.)

So, even though I knew I had weak evidence, I hoped and tentatively identified this David to be the David that was the son of Hendrick, and hoped to find more information to support this conclusion.

But, a major shaking of confidence struck. Soon after I reached these conclusions, I became aware of a couple articles written by a California woman claiming that a David, son of Hendrick and Anna (Finger) Teter, married an Ursula Hover, had a son Silas, and she was descended from that line. This family stayed in Columbia County. My David had been claimed and snatched away! Of course, the woman could be right, and my

evidence, although looking good, could be wrong. So, I wrote her with my information and asked for the documentation she had. It turned out that hers was as weak as mine. In fact, she had made a wilder guess than I had. Still, I felt somewhat intimidated in claiming this David. Not only did I have to find more information, but if she were wrong, who was her David? I had to try to help. And other pieces fell into place.

Census records showed that people resembling David's siblings were head of households in nearby towns - Broome, Middleburgh and Rensselaerville.

James Teter appears in the 1850 census. In the 1855 NY census, James Teter (widowed) is now in the Town of Rensselaerville also, claiming to have been born in Columbia County (age is 62).

Mackey Teter is a puzzle. He might be Marcus, or could be Zachariah. Anyway, the 1855 NY Town of Broome census claims Mackey was born in Columbia County, is age 54, and has been a resident 49 years.

Philip Teter appears in the 1850 Rensselaerville census, age 49. In 1855, Philip Teter claims to have been born in Columbia County. Again in the 1860, Philip Teter appears in Rensselaerville. He is buried in Village of Rensselaerville, dates of 1801-1878.

John Teter is listed in the 1825 NY Middleburgh census.

Mary Teter, of Rensselaerville, marries in 1822, John Carpenter Becker.

Zacharias does not appear anywhere in these towns, unless he is Mackey, in which case Marcus is missing, if still alive.

Thus it appears that a family resembling that of Hendrick Teter and Anna Fingar moved to the Town of Rensselaerville about 1806, while their children spread out in the nearby towns. A look at a map shows the Towns of Broome, Middleburgh, and Rensselaerville bordering each other, even though each is in a different county.

Looking up more information on Henry Teter produced the following:

Hendrick Teter and Ann Teter are sponsors for births as early as 1807 in the Oak Hill Reformed Church in Oak Hill, Greene County.

A Henry Teter appears in the 1810 census in the Town of Rensselaerville, Albany County with males: 2 under 10, 2 between 10-16, 2 between 16-26, 1 26-45, and females: 1 under 10, 1 between 26-45.

Henry Teater, in the 1820 Rensselaerville census, appears with males: 2 between 10-16, 2 between 16-26, 1 between 26-45, 1 over 45, and females: 1 between 16-26, and 1 over 45.

In 1830 (Rensselaerville), Henry Teeter appears with 1 male 50-60 and 1 female 40-50.

In the 1850 census, Henry Teter, 87?, is living with his son James, 57, in the Town of Broome, Schoharie County.

Henry won't be seen again in census information. No tombstone has been found but I would hazard a

guess that some field stone marks his final resting place, probably near Broome Center or on Cheese Hill. So here are age spreads for members of the family that could correspond to the line I believe is ours.

Another piece in the puzzle might be that David Hess, Catherine Hess Teter's father, is married to Mary Fingar, sister of Hendrick Teter's wife. (The Hess connection is a topic in another newsletter.)

Meanwhile, I found another David Tator/Teter, born in 1792, who appears to have been born in the Rensselaer County or northern Columbia County area. Evidence points that this David is the California woman's David. I still have to break the news of my theory to her (actually the theory was the result of paid genealogical searching by a respected Palatine researcher), and her "results" have been published.

Now you have it! I've confessed the weak spot, but for now it's the best guess out there. Thus the line appears to be: Johann (c1670?), immigrant Lorentz (c1690?), Henrich (c1720), Zacharias (1743), Hendrick (1770), David (1791), John (1816) and whatever your particular line is to the current day.

INVITATION RESPONSES

No need this time to return post cards to indicate whether you're coming or not.

But, if you're not, and would like to send a card or letter about what you're doing and other family information, I'll tack it to the message board at the reunion.

HEALTHY TEATOR TREE?

Last year, one query asked about genetics and genealogy. Below, and on the next page, is a reprint from Reader's Digest about this topic.

To Get Started

Make one copy of the record below for each member of your family.

These resources can help you research your family health tree:

- "Where to Write for Vital Records," a booklet available for \$1.75 from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Mail Stop SSOP, Washington, D.C. 20402-9328.

- National address and telephone directories, found in most public libraries, list names, addresses and phone numbers of hospitals and some U.S. funeral directors. When writing hospitals for old records, send your request to the health information management department and ask what information is needed to process it.

- "Genetic Counseling," a 10-page booklet on heredity, genetic counseling and testing, is available free in single copies from your local chapter of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation or by writing their national headquarters, Dept. RD, 1275 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, N.Y. 10605.

FAMILY HEALTH TREE FILE

THIS RELATIVE IS MY _____

(for example, maternal grandmother, mother, brother)

RELATIVE'S NAME _____

BIRTH DATE _____

DATE OF DEATH (if applicable) _____

CAUSE OF DEATH _____

BLOOD TYPE and Rh _____

OCCUPATION _____

DISEASES AND INFIRMITIES _____

WEIGHT	Underweight	Average	Overweight
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HABITS:	Never	Moderate	Heavy
TOBACCO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ALCOHOL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

This "Tree" Can Save Your Life

BY SUE BROWDER

SITTING at her kitchen table, 42-year-old Kathy Krause of Los Angeles was distraught. She had just learned that her youngest sister, Susan, 38, had cancers of the ovary and uterine lining. Less than two months before, their father had died of ureter and prostate cancer. And in 1972, Kathy's mother had succumbed to ovarian cancer at age 56. Kathy's mind raced. Was her whole family destined to die of cancer?

Several years earlier Kathy had pulled together a family health tree. Now, studying it more carefully, she saw that cancers were everywhere. Alarmed, she and her other sisters, Peggy and Carol, visited their doctors—and were shocked by what they heard. Not only were they at high risk for colon and endometrial (uter-

ine lining) cancers, but they also had an exceptionally high risk—up to 50 percent—of developing ovarian cancer. All the doctors prescribed a mammogram, a colonoscopy, and removal of the uterus and ovaries. After consulting specialists, the three sisters took the advice.

As it turned out, Peggy was cancer-free. But Kathy had a tiny, symptomless ovarian cancer that, if left to grow undetected, could have killed her. And Carol had a small malignant tumor in her colon in the exact spot of a tumor that had killed her paternal grandfather at age 33.

As these women learned, charting your family's health tree could save your life. Doctors once thought that hereditary diseases were limited to rare maladies like hemophilia or certain birth defects. But ongoing research

indicates there is some genetic component in nearly all ailments—including heart disease, cancer (breast, ovarian and colorectal), diabetes, hypertension, Alzheimer's disease, asthma, allergies, alcoholism, ulcers and manic depression. "Each of us harbors at least 20 disease-causing genes," says Dr. Aubrey Milunsky, director of the Center for Human Genetics at Boston University. "When you compile a health history, the question to ask isn't 'Are there any genetic diseases in our family?' but 'Which ones do we have?'"

Unfortunately, many doctors pay little attention to family history during checkups. Yet, according to Dr. Henry T. Lynch, chairman of the department of preventive medicine and professor of medicine at Creighton University in Omaha, "One of the best ways to predict whether your children are susceptible to certain disorders is by looking at your health tree. Many thousands of untimely deaths could be prevented each year in the United States if people would only learn which diseases run in their families."

How much your risk increases when a parent or sibling has an ailment varies with the disease. According to a University of Utah School of Medicine study, if you're under 50 and two or more of these relatives have had coronary heart disease, your risk climbs to three to six times the normal rate. If they had the disease before age 55, your chances jump to four to 13 times the national average. Other estimates suggest that if a parent had migraines, you're up

to nine times more vulnerable; duodenal ulcers, three times more.

That's not to say if a disease runs in your family, you'll inevitably get it. Most genetic illnesses are probably "multifactorial," meaning they spring from an interaction of genes with environmental factors you may be able to control. For example, by exercising and avoiding obesity, you could mitigate a family susceptibility to adult-onset diabetes. And frequent checkups can alert you to a problem while there's time to treat it.

Here's how to investigate your medical roots:

Look through family records. "It's amazing how much information we have buried in trunks, scrapbooks and old Bibles," says Myra Vanderpool Gormley, author of *Family Diseases: Are You at Risk?* Also, photographs of your ancestors can show obesity, poor posture (possible osteoporosis) and abnormal physical traits.

Ask questions. Relatives can be a tremendous source of information. Most important is to record the health history of first-degree relatives—parents, siblings and children, who have 50 percent of their genes in common with yours. Then move on to second-degree relatives—grandparents, uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews, with whom you share 25 percent of your genes. Later you may want to add cousins and more distant ancestors. The wider and more detailed your history, the better. Ask about conditions such as obesity, infertility, and learning and speech problems, some of which

may have a genetic component.

Whenever doctors asked 30-year-old Dan Maier of Chicago whether health problems ran in his family, he said no. Then he sat down with relatives to construct a family history. Maier learned that, though his paternal grandfather had died in a car accident, he also had leukemia, and that both his maternal grandparents had had skin cancer, and the grandfather died of malignant melanoma. Now Maier knows to stay out of the sun and to watch for changes in his skin moles.

Be diplomatic. Joyce Wilcox Graff of Brookline, Mass., began asking members of her husband's family about genetic diseases after a rare hereditary disorder killed her husband and began afflicting her son. "Genetic diseases? There's no such stain on *this* family," one outraged grandmother responded. "I realized I'd have to proceed cautiously if I wanted to collect such personal information," Graff recalls. "So I began compiling a full family history. Whenever medical things came up in conversation, I would pursue them, and if people asked me about my interest in medical information, I was always honest with them."

Using this gentle approach, Graff located hundreds of family members in the United States and Sweden, and she constructed an extensive personal family health tree on the rare genetic disorder called von Hippel-Lindau syndrome.

Gather the details. Knowing the exact type and location of a cancer

can help determine whether your relative's ailment is hereditary. If both eyes are involved in retinal blastoma, for example, it is hereditary. There is a greater likelihood that cancer is inherited if both breasts or both kidneys are affected. However, a genetic link is involved more often when several different organs are affected.

It's also important to learn the relative's age when the disease struck. Inherited ailments tend to appear sooner than noninherited ones. And if the disease hit more than one relative early in life, there could be a hereditary influence. Dr. Lynch has found that in his Lynch Syndrome "cancer families," colon cancer develops at an average age of 44, as opposed to the more typical 60 to 65, and breast cancer hits at about 42 rather than 60.

Search for clues. If a relative was blind, deaf or mentally retarded, find out why. You may be assuming Uncle Ed's blindness was hereditary when in fact it was caused by the German measles his mother caught while she was pregnant with him. You can sometimes unearth clues by asking, "Can you think of any unusual traits that run in our family?"

Dr. Jeremy Nobel, an adjunct lecturer in health policy and management at Harvard's School of Public Health, says, "The story in my family was that my grandmother's cooking was so terrible, my grandfather died in his mid-40s of indigestion. When my father died at age 47, it dawned on us that Grandpa's 'dyspepsia' was probably a heart attack

instead." Determined to avoid his father's and grandfather's fates, Nobel, age 38, exercises regularly, eats a low-fat diet and gets his cholesterol checked once a year.

Obtain written records. Family lore can be misleading. Try to back up relatives' stories with death certificates (from vital-records departments in the state capitals) and medical records (from doctors' offices and hospitals). Keep in mind that physicians and hospitals aren't required to save medical records indefinitely. If you have trouble getting existing records, ask your doctor for assistance.

Even records a few decades old may need to be reinterpreted. For example, what was called "stomach cancer" on a 1950s death certificate may really have been cancer of the colon, ovary or pancreas. When in doubt, ask your doctor.

Share your findings. Tell your physician about your family's history. Then ask how you can use the information to safeguard your health and the health of loved ones.

If you're afraid of having a baby with birth defects or anxious about a family history of adult diseases, you may want to consult a geneticist or genetic counselor. He or she can help determine your actual risks of transmitting a disease to your child

or getting one yourself, and can also provide incentives to give up unhealthy behavior. Says geneticist Ellen Knell, director of medical genetics at the Los Angeles Oncological Institute: "Being told, 'If you smoke, you're at extra risk for emphysema' is quite different from being told, 'With these genes and smoking, your risk is almost 100 percent.'"

Sometimes a family history isn't nearly as dire as it looks. "Almost every family has some cancer," Knell notes. Or it could be worse than you thought. A woman may believe that if she finds no breast cancer on her mother's side of the family, she's safe. But if her grandmother and two aunts on her father's side got breast cancer in their 40s and 50s, she may still be at high risk. Recent studies show that breast or prostate cancer among male relatives may put women at greater risk for breast cancer. (About 1000 cases of male breast cancer are diagnosed each year.)

WHATEVER FRUITS your family health tree may bear, view them as reason not for despair, but for hope. As modern medicine continues to expand our knowledge of gene-linked diseases, your family's medical history is being seen in a whole new light—not as a death sentence, but as a lifesaver.

A FAMILY SKETCH

or, known in this issue as,

**A BRIEF FAMILY HISTORY OF
THE FAMILY OF WILLIS N. TEATOR
Born April 28, 1912 @ Preston Hollow, NY
Married Freida Whitbeck on January 1, 1937
Died August 17, 1971**

**submitted by Alfreda Teator,
second born of Willis & Freida**

While this account may appear overly brief, with much data missing, it serves to illustrate the importance of "communication". By that I mean between parents and their offspring. The fact is, as children, my siblings and I were never really aware of exactly "where" we came from. Thanks to the efforts of Donald Teator, I for one can look back with regret at not having developed at least an acquaintance with at least some of our cousins (kissing or not). As a matter of fact, it was not until after I graduated from high school that I met a "cousin" for the first time. From that time on, the only time I came into contact with "family" was at a wake or funeral.

Well, anyway, it seems that Willis and Freida, after marriage lived in Peekskill, where number one child, Norman was born. Norman later went to Chatham schools and graduated from Chatham High. He was always employed locally and in August 1958 he married Astrid Fisher, a native of Valatie where they live currently.

At this point, we will skip to the third-born of "Willis-the-rascal". Her name was Rose, and still is. She was born in Preston Hollow around or about 1940. She endured the Chatham schools and graduated. Whew! After being discharged from CHS, Rose moved in with her other sisters who had a cozy apartment in the city, and guess what? She went to work for General Mutual Insurance Company which was to become somewhat of "a home-away-from-home" for the Teator girls. Later, she joined NYS Department of Mental Hygiene. (Fortunately, they are still in business.) Rose resides in Albany, but she and her husband Roy Salisbury have a summer home on Sacandaga Lake where they spend the non-snowing months.

June was named in honor, no doubt, for the weather on her birthday, December 28, 1940. She was also born in Preston Hollow, attended Chatham schools and after graduating, moved to Albany where she went to work at the General Mutual Insurance Company. The Company was located in the old Traction Co. building across from what was then the Railroad "Union Station". It might also be mentioned that sisters Rose, Elsie and I also graduated from General Mutual Insurance Company. That fact may or may not have been an influence on the Company's decision to "pack it in", due to fiscal difficulties soon after I left. The personnel manager of the

company had a special affinity for graduates from the Chatham schools and every year after graduation, there would be an invasion of graduates from Chatham High. I secretly suspected the PM had some sort of a "relationship" with, maybe, the guidance counselor? Just a suspicion.

Well, anyway, June decides that there is more to life than Insurance so she meets this dude from the Borden company, named John Monette. Now, it so happens that about that time, June is talking to either Rose or me about the fact that we have all of these brothers and sisters and we don't have any nieces or nephews, while at the same time, John is being inspired by the Borden Company about the importance of obtaining "new customers". So, after pondering these two dilemmas, June and John decided to get married and attack these two problems. Well, attack they did! Somewhere in about 1969, they got married (good thing) and fertilized the family tree and at the same time created new "Elsie Borden" customers. Five kids - imagine - five kids - not all of sudden of course, but nevertheless they sure added to the Christmas list of the aunts and uncles. As an Aunt, I am running low on resource but love for:

Jill, the first, (sounds like a queen) of course a graduate of Albany High, lives in Selkirk, NY and performs for the Thruway Authority.

Joanne, next in line for queenship(?), also graduated from AHS, Hudson Valley CC, and Oswego State with a degree in teaching Art & Cosmetology.

John Jr. escaped from Albany High and was captured by Hudson Valley CC where he is learning the fine art of figure-juggling and legal tax-avoidance.

James, an aspiring mechanic, is still in training to perfect the first land-based supersonic trailbike.

Jay, the most recent "milk customer" is suffering the pangs of being the "last of five". He has the advantage of observing the mistakes made by his siblings. Watch out for this guy; he may be the next President (or, God forbid, Mayor).

Getting back to Willis: Elsie was the fifth child of Willis and Freida and was born in East Chatham in 1943. As her sisters and brothers, she graduated from the Chatham schools, and she even went to work at General Mutual Insurance Company, the "haven for homeless Teators". Sometime during this period, probably during a "coffee break", she met and married a chap name Bill La Bate. That was July 1, 1978, I believe. They live in Colonie, NY and have a cellar full of electric trains (no kids, just electric trains).

The sixth child of Willis and Freida was Donald, born July 6, 1948. He also graduated from Chatham and is currently employed as a NYS Security Guard, and is a resident of the Chatham area.

The lucky (?) seventh child of Will and Frieda is Pamela, born December 27, 1952. Predictably, she did the Chatham school tour. However, she never experienced the thrill of working for General Mutual, or living with her

sisters in a cozy little apartment in Albany. I guess she preferred to stay in East Chatham (close to Mom), where she lives today with husband Douglas Dunivan. Pam operates periodically a day care center and Doug works at Chatham's Plastics Plan.

The leaves number two child, me, really the only member of the family I am qualified to report on. The above information is purely hearsay but I accept it as fact.

My name is Alfreda. However, most of my friends have shortened it to Freda. I am even Alfie to a few and, at my age, I am now responding to "Excuse me, ma'am".

I was born November 14, 1938 in East Durham. At an early age, we moved to Preston Hollow, West Stockbridge and then to East Chatham where all of the family children entered the Chatham school system. We were, for the most part, a "farm family", meaning we always had a cow(s), pigs, chickens, a garden, etc., and all the chores to go along with that life. From early on, I was an expert in carrying water from the spring, loading the hay wagon, hayin', as it was known then, etc. Where was "women's lib" when my older brother got to drive the tractor and we girls got to drive the pitchforks?

At school, my most outstanding achievement was to have a perfect attendance record for seven consecutive years. During my eighth year, I acquired a "mump" (mump = one side, mumps = two sides, right?). An important part of my high school days was my relationship with Home-Ec teacher Ollie Stewart - and her family. During the school years and until her death at Vero Beach, Florida, we were very close. During my years at school, the highlights of the year were the annual Firemen's Carnival and, of course, the Chatham Fair; we lived for those events. My father, during those years, worked for the Donald Hill Feed & Coal Co., delivering all around the area. Occasionally, we hitched a ride with Dad when he went to Albany to get a load of feed or something; it was a big deal, I mean to tell you, to get to go to Albany.

Leaving "good ole CHS", I moved to Albany and, thanks to my guidance teacher, I had a job waiting at "you know where". Leaving there after three years, I helped found Apex Printing Company and as Office Manager and Principal Gopher, 28 years later I retired. During that time, I also managed to graduate from Cosmetology School and became a licensed hairdresser.

The thrill of "traveling" all the way from East Chatham to Albany must have created "sand-in-my-shoes", because over the years I have over compensated by going to Ireland twice, all over Europe twice, the Middle East once, Hawaii three times, all over USA, the Caribbean, Disney World and South Troy. My Florida home is 30 miles from the Space Center and I'm waiting for my trip to the moon. So, until NASA issues me my ticket, I'll bounce between 23 Arden Lane, Wynantskill, NY 12198, phone (518) 283-5290, and 918 Bellevue St,

Palm Bay, FL 32907, phone (407) 768-9693.

Good luck, Don Teator; the parts left out would help Danielle Steele write volumes.

- Freda

THANK YOU

A thank you goes to Alfreda Teator for her tongue-in-cheek account of her family!

I am encouraging all of you to write your own account, or at least to start making some notes, if not for this newsletter, then to pass along when someone asks. So far, the family sketches that have appeared have been done as a result of my asking. I am quite agreeable to accepting family sketches from you 20- and 30-some-things; you obviously don't have 50 or 60 or whatever number of years to draw upon, but the details of your lives are still important to capture. Anyone wanting to volunteer for the Fall 1994 issue, let me know. Otherwise, some "lucky" person will get an invitation this summer.

MORE INFORMATION?

Much of the information I have in the Teator/Teter genealogy is a listing of dates and places of birth, marriage, and death. If you're willing to contribute, I'd be glad to put into the computer pieces of information like: schools attended, degrees, hobbies, baptisms or christenings, special honors or achievements, occupations, special dates or events or places in your life, etc. Send me such information if you'd like.

RECIPES

Martha Starr's Cherry Cake - Bev Fuegmann

Ingredients

1¼ cups flour
½ cup sugar
1½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp salt
1 cup milk
2 tbl Crisco oil
1 tsp vanilla

Topping

1 can cherry pie filling
1 tsp cinnamon

Directions

Grease 8"x8" pan
Blend (cake batter) ingredients
Put cake batter in pan
Mix pie filling & cinnamon in separate bowl
Drop pie filling on top of cake by teaspoonfuls
Bake at 350° for 40-50 minutes
*Sometimes cherries stay on top, sometimes they sink!

(A thank you to Bev for sharing another family recipe. Remember to bring one or two recipes with you to the reunion, especially for the food you're bringing.)