



Teator Teter Tree

Fall 1996

Newsletter #8

Welcome to the Fall 1996 newsletter.

On the back of this cover page is a copy of the newspaper article I submitted to Chris McDonald who writes the Greenville section of the Catskill Daily Mail. I've heard about a dozen comments, usually from someone who is inquiring about somebody in the picture, or who is interested in genealogy.

Reunion Day turned out to be a nice weather day. Considering all the cloudy and wet days of early summer, we had a great day. Turnout was smaller than either of the past reunions, with about fifty coming out, but it still was a good time for those who came. I'm finally getting to know most faces now. (At the first reunion, it had been thirty years, if ever at all, that I had seen a few dozen of those attending.)

A horizontal family tree, stretching out the length of the pavilion, was available for updating family information. I'll try over the winter to print up each family's group sheet for you to verify the information I have. Gradually, the errors are getting cleaned up. Also, the group photos of the first two reunions were displayed, as was the scrapbooks of duplicated photos. Feel free to send updates of family pictures for placement in the Teator scrapbook.

Food was uncovered about 1 p.m., introductions of the family lines were made, and Debra took the group photo, a copy of which is enclosed. Photos of family lines were taken and can be seen at the next reunion; if you want to see them sooner, give me a call.

The playground was well used, a little baseball was played, and those sitting in the shade caught up with two years worth of stories. A thank you goes to the Town of Durham for allowing us to use the park and bathroom facilities

(although a half dozen of us cleaned up the broken glass strewn on the asphalt). By five-ish, most of us had headed home and the third Teator Reunion was history.

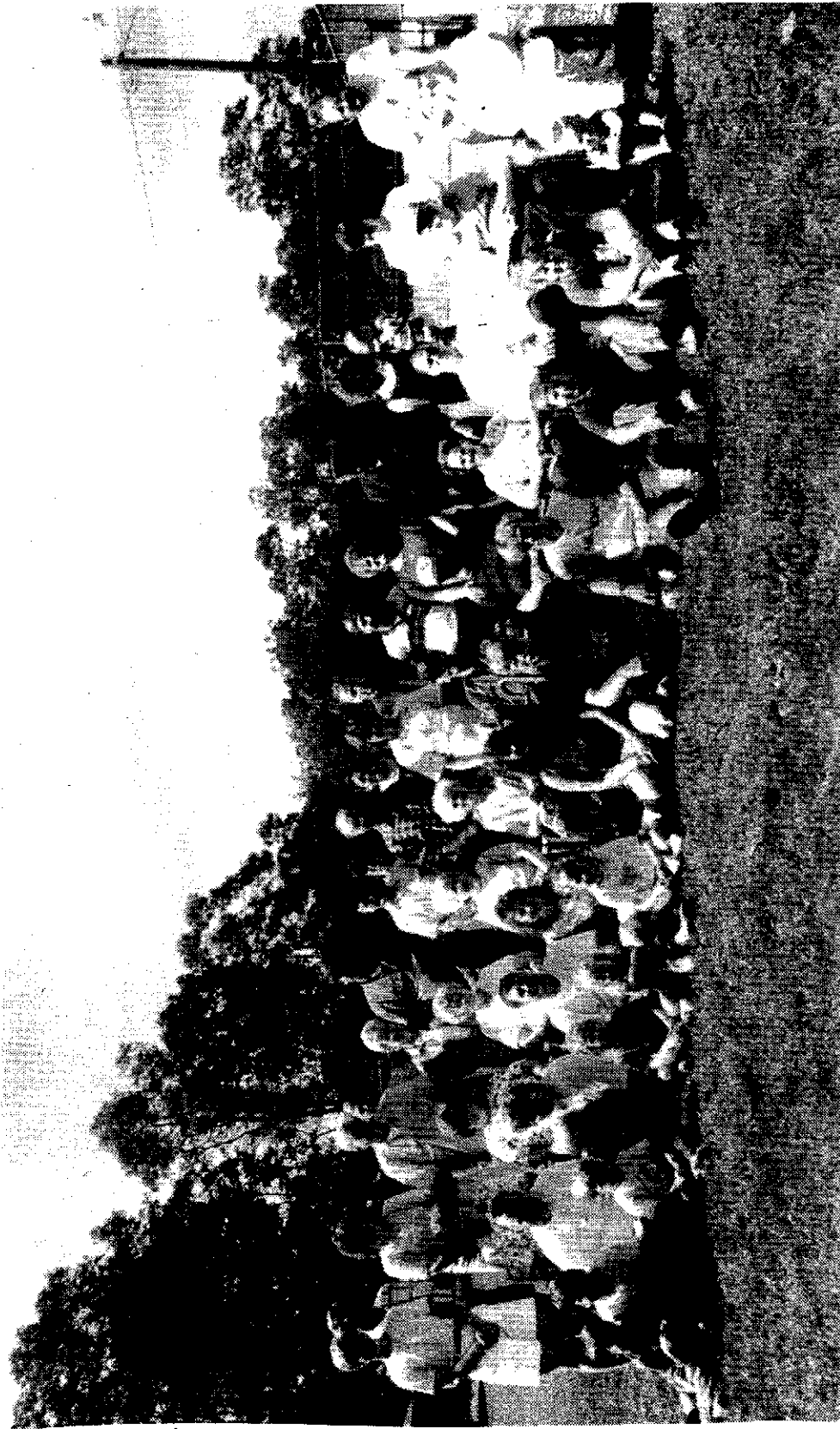
Looking ahead to 1998, unless I hear differently from you, we'll plan on the third Saturday (we've gone from Sunday to Saturday to Sunday) of July, the 18th, at the same place. However, if the Greenville park is suitable, I'll look at that as a possible site. If anyone has another idea, please let me know.

I think the consensus is to keep the same kind of atmosphere of an informal pot luck picnic. There is a good chance that we'll assign certain types of foods (salad, dessert, etc.) in order to try to prevent six macaroni salads but no potato salads. If someone has a good idea for that, let me know by next summer.

This issue features, as its family profile, that of Robert Armstrong, Jr. What I liked best is he volunteered, wrote all of it, and emailed it. Thanks, Bob. I'm looking for a family for the spring and if I don't get any volunteers, I will start asking during the winter. If anyone is willing, but is hesitant about the writing, I am willing to interview and/or write from notes. The previous two were done that way.

Included in this issue is a reproduction of a summer article in the Times Union about reunions, as well as a published piece from Phil Teeter with whom I have corresponded about the Teator/Teeter family on the national level. (I have kidded Debra about a national reunion, although I'm not sure she thought I was kidding.) A thank you goes to Phil for sharing his family story.

Again, feel free to send articles of pieces of information in to me, and I hope this issue keeps you thinking about family history, whether it be Teator or any other family line of yours.



TEATOR/TETER REUNION... Descendants of John Teter (1816-1866) and Lydia Richmond, was held at Brandow Park in Oak Hill on July 21, 1996. About 50 attended this 3rd biennial reunion, featuring pot luck picnic and renewing of family ties. Surnames represented included Teator, Baldwin, Armstrong, Every, Sattler, Ritter, Brink, Phillips, Richardson, Ruocco, Monette, and Ben. The oldest living descendant is Norman Teator of Durham; the youngest, born the night before the reunion, Trevor Everett Baldwin, son of Vernon

and Kirsten Baldwin of Cocksackie. John Teter was born in the Cheese Hill area of Preston Hollow and resided most of his life in Livingstonville and Franklin, with most of his descendants living within a 30-mile radius of Durham. John Teter descended from Lorentz Dather, who was one of the 2,500 Palatine immigrants who settled at West Camp, Ulster County, and at East Camp (German town), Columbia County in 1710. Descendants of Lorentz's line are clustered in the Hudson Valley with the surnames of Teator, Tator, and Dater.

Family Profile

Bob Armstrong, Jr.

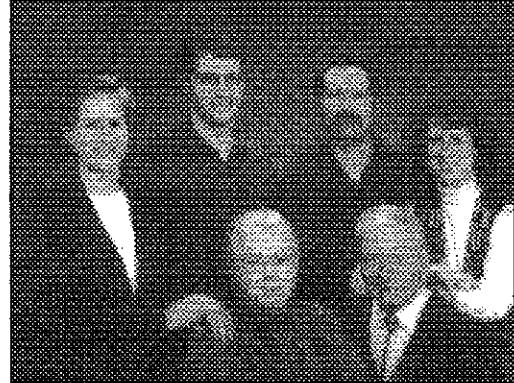
My name is Bob Armstrong, Jr. I was born July 21, 1954, the oldest child of Robert and Janet Armstrong of Cornwallville, New York. I have two sisters and a brother: Claudia, born May 7, 1956, Jennifer, born July 20, 1961, and Larry, born August 28, 1964. My father, Bob Sr., is the oldest child of Clarence and Edna Armstrong of Cornwallville, and my mother, Janet, is the third child of Norman and Evelyn Teator of Durham.

My father and mother owned a dairy farm on Sutton Road in Cornwallville, the same farm my father grew up on. My memories of the farm go back to the late fifties. It was a great place to grow up, especially for a small boy. There was a lot of work and a lot of fun, especially with the family, friends, and neighbors we had around. I consider myself lucky to have been able to enjoy that lifestyle, to have the opportunity to learn the lessons that can only be learned on a farm. That opportunity barely exists now if at all.

We had a lot of contact with all four of our grandparents. No children ever had better grandparents than we did. We adored them then and we adore their memory today. They were all warm, generous, and loving people, each with their own unique sense of humor. We always remember them with a smile, and any extended reminiscence inevitably results in laughter at some hilarious episode involving one or more of them. Three of them are gone now. My Grandfather Teator still lives at the farmhouse in Durham. He turned 87 last July, and although he doesn't get out

much anymore, he enjoys the visits of his friends and family.

Jennifer, Larry, and I live in Ohio now. I make it back to New York three or four times a year to visit. When we visit Grandpa, I always think about him living alone in that house which I remember as being so full of people.



My earliest memories start during the late 1950's. At that time, Uncle Bill Atkinson, Uncle Raymond, Aunt Shirley, and my cousin Linda Turner lived there with my grandfather and grandmother. Aunt Mary Teter also lived there off and on through the years. Uncle Howard had already married Aunt Stella and moved out.

Like most farm families, the Teator household got up early and worked hard. There was always plenty of work to do. Uncle Bill worked full time on the farm, Grandpa Teator worked on the farm and for the state highway department, Raymond was a state trooper, Shirley worked for Pioneer Insurance, and Linda was still in school. Grandma worked very hard cooking, cleaning, washing clothes, gardening, and all the hard work that comes with farm life and taking care of a large family. Family and friends were always stopping by. Reverend Laurence Starr, his wife Martha [Mom's cousin], and their daughters Beverly and Roberta lived

nearby and were frequent visitors. I remember Uncle Olin very well, and Uncle Vernon and Aunt Nora Baldwin. I also remember several of Mom's cousins visiting at various times through the years, Ferris, Donald, Fanning, Bradley, Barbara, Charlotte, and maybe some others I don't clearly recall.

Christmas time was always a big event at Grandpa and Grandma Teator's. No kids ever had a better Christmas. Our family and Howard's family would arrive Christmas Eve and spend the night. The house was full. I usually ended up in Uncle Bill's room with my cousins Gary and Mark. We slept the sleep of small boys waiting for Christmas Day. I don't know how Uncle Bill tolerated us. At about 4 o'clock in the morning, Grandma would call out "Merry Christmas!" This was the signal for the kids to rush into the living room. The sleepy adults would drag themselves in after us. Presents were piled high under the tree, and we would spend the next two hours passing them out and opening them. With all the people, gifts, and wrapping paper you could hardly walk through the room.

After the presents were opened and piled up, and the mess cleaned up somewhat, the ladies would begin to prepare the Christmas dinner. The men would work on whatever farm chores had to be done. My father would go home to do his own farm chores and return in time for dinner. The kids played with each other's new toys.

The dinner was always huge, and the food outstanding. My Grandmother and aunts and Linda and Mom all had their special dishes they would prepare. At its peak, there would be more than 20 people eating there. After dinner, the ladies would clean up and the men would find their way into the living room to debate hot topics and to tell jokes and to offer brotherly opinions on the state of

each other's personal business. There would be a lot of laughter and loud comments which gradually gave way to a lot of snoring. Everyone would be awakened in time to enjoy a table full of desserts, as incredible as that may sound after so large a dinner. Then, one by one, the families would pack their loot and return home. I remember a couple of years when we got snowed in on Christmas Eve and had to stay there for a few days. Once, my grandfather and my father had to drive the farm tractor to our farm to take care of our farm chores because there was no other way to get through the snow.

Things changed. Over the years, Shirley, Raymond, and Linda moved out and got married, adding new members to our family. Uncle Bill passed away in December of 1968. That was the first sad Christmas I remember. We all missed him very much. Grandma passed away in 1979, changing our Christmases and the rest of our lives forever. We will always miss her, Grandpa most of all. Most of the family, those who live close enough to make it, still go to Durham for a big dinner each Christmas. I am sure that each person who knew her thinks of her often over there on Christmas Day.

Although Grandpa Teator lives alone in the farmhouse, he has plenty of family members nearby to help him when he needs it. My Uncle Raymond and Aunt Barbara live just down the hill from the back yard. Raymond is a Deputy Sheriff and Barbara teaches school. They have two grown children, Sharon and Bill. Uncle Howard and Aunt Stella live in South Durham. Howard is retired after working for Miron, and Stella sells real estate. They have four grown children, Gary, Mark, Darren, and Jay. Aunt Shirley and Uncle Ed Ritter live in Coxsackie, where they own a farm, and my cousin Linda and her husband Chuck Ruocco

live in Greenville. Linda works at an insurance agency and Chuck is retired from being a self employed contractor. Chuck also had a professional singing career.

Mom and Dad still live in Cornwallville. They operated the farm until 1969, when they sold it. They reserved some land up the hill from the farmhouse and built a new house on it, where they live today. Dad drove a milk truck, worked at Stiefel's soap factory, drove an ambulance, and worked as a security guard before he retired. He still works part time as a security guard at Hunter Mountain. He was also involved in local politics for many years, serving through the years as justice of the peace, town supervisor, and town councilman. Dad has also enjoyed his lifelong hobby of music, playing in several dance bands over the years. Mom worked for many years for an insurance company, and retired this year. They enjoy traveling and keeping track of their grandchildren. They both continue to involve themselves in community affairs and in socializing with their friends and family.

We kids all attended Durham Central School. One of my classmates was my second cousin, Ernie Brink. His mother is Mom's cousin Katherine. We were good friends then, but I haven't seen him for a long time. I went to Cairo High School, Claudia to Greenville, Jennifer and Larry to the reorganized Cairo-Durham High School.

I served four years in the U.S. Navy Seabees after high school. I came back home with a new wife and got a 2 year degree in Civil Engineering Technology. Construction work brought me to Ohio, Louisiana, and back to Ohio again sans wife. I married again to my new wife Bonnie and we had our

daughter, Robin. Bonnie has two daughters, Susan and Cynthia, my stepdaughters. I decided to become a full time fireman and now work as a firefighter/paramedic Lieutenant on a suburban fire department. Bonnie went to nursing school and is a licensed practical nurse.

Claudia got her 2 year degree right after high school and has worked many years as a county civil servant. She married Gene Every and they have two children, Amanda and Lisa. Gene has two daughters, Michelle and Kim. He drives a concrete mixer truck. They live in Cornwallville, just down the hill from Mom and Dad.

Jennifer moved to Ohio for work after high school. She met and married Dave Murray, an electrical contractor. They have two daughters, Nicole and Jackie. Jennifer went to nursing school and is now a registered nurse. She is Director of Nursing for a nursing home, and plans to open her own adult day-care facility soon.

Larry served in the U.S. Navy as a nuclear technician. He served on board the aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt during the Persian Gulf War. He left the navy after 9 years and moved to Ohio. He decided to become a full time firefighter/paramedic and works for another suburban fire department. It is fun to have a brother who is a brother firefighter. [We're union.] Larry met and married Michele here in Ohio, and they have a son, Robert. Michele is studying to become a radiology technician.

Life goes on. We who live here in Ohio miss our friends and family in New York very much and wish we could visit more often. I have been unable to attend the Teator family reunions, but hope to be able to attend the next one.

Annual reunions bring generations together to learn about their heritage, and catch up on the past year.

By **MICHAEL LOPEZ**
Staff writer

Most members of the Briggs family – each year, for 86 years – have taken the exact same route through the tiny Duanesburg hamlet of Quaker Street to the old Homestead, a farmhouse of clapboard and scalloped gingerbread where so many Briggs were born, lived and died.

Here, the family, if only for a day at the annual reunion, celebrates how much and how little has changed in those decades.

Photographs, taken of different generations, show how time has glided past formal waistcoats to flowered '40s dresses to today's T-shirts and baseball caps. But that big porch is always in the background.

And there is a large crock, each year hauled onto the porch, filled with ice and big wedges of lemon.

The lemonade crock becomes the family's center.

"It never moves," said family member Elaine Erckman, her words as sure and solid as the crock's ceramic surface.

Summer is a season when some families follow the ritual of the reunion, take comfort in their history, ground themselves in a time that has scattered relatives far from the old homestead.

"It does keep the family together," said Anne Whipple, who with her husband, Robert Briggs Whipple, a descen-



THE LEMONADE CROCK on the porch of the old Briggs homestead, in the Duanesburg hamlet of Quaker Street, is a staple at the annual reunion.

dant, lives on a farm in the town of Knox, near the original homestead. "It helps to cement the bonds between the members of the family and the generations."

Families unite in big and small ways. Reunions can be covered-dish potlucks or well-organized associations with officers and newsletters updating hundreds of relatives.

Traditions are as subtle as repeating an old recipe, as Anne Whipple does when she brings Aunt Lillian Briggs' fruit salad.

They also can carry a more dramatic wallop. At a reunion last weekend, the large Vroman clan hiked Vroman's Nose, a mountain in the majestic Schoharie Valley named after the family.

The Briggs descendants lean toward smaller, more intimate gatherings.

On July 7, some 42 relatives traveled to the Sheldon Road farmhouse, the site where brothers Walter and William Briggs divided the land between them in 1828. The house was sold in 1959, halting the annual reunions until the family resurrected them in 1985. The current owners –

once a year, every Sunday after the Fourth of July – allow the Briggs the run of the porch and lawn.

Erckman is the keeper of the family history. She has tracked about 200 descendants, all traced to William Atte Brigg, who lived from 1271 to 1327 in Salle, England.

Erckman about two years ago revived a mysterious family

Please see **REUNIONS G-7**

Help

The following are reminders from past newsletters

1. Please help me with change of addresses. If you know of one, drop a line. Otherwise, mail gets returned, resulting in wasted effort and money.
2. If someone has married, died, or been born, let me know so I can update the family tree.
3. If there's a mistake on your mailing label, letting me know will let me fix it.
4. Sometimes kids move out and become a new household. Let me know if that happens so I can start sending the new household a newsletter.
5. I still can't find the following people: Lyn Shortsleeve, Bradley Teator Jr., Lori Forgery, Gayle Hallock, Sheila Hallock, and Kevin Rogers. If you know the whereabouts, drop me a line.

Thank You

A couple of you have donated money to cover some of the costs of this newsletter. Although

I am committed to continuing this labor of love, I am thankful to those of you who wish to help outfinancially. So, although this is not a plea for money, I am not above accepting money for this good cause.

Computers

For those of you who email, I can be reached at -- teator@aol.com.

Anyone with questions about computers and family history, feel free to ask.

Reach Me

Correspondence can be mailed to Don Teator, RD1, Box 147, Freehold, NY 12431, or call 518-634-2397.

Newspaper Notices

If you see notices of births, deaths, and marriages, and/or see any other clippings relating to our family, send me a copy.

REUNIONS: Marked by traditions

custom of giving a bale of hay to the parents of a new baby. This year, 1-year-old Andrew Thomas Priddle, the grandson of Elaine, 52, and Jack, 56, got a bale, albeit in miniature.

The afternoon is designated as a business meeting, when the family's scribe, this year, Anne Whipple's daughter, Deborah Whipple Degan, reads the news of the previous year.

Degan reported the birth of a baby, just before last year's reunion, the death, and subsequent remembrance, of an aunt, the marriage of a younger Briggs, an October car accident of another Briggs family.

Seeing the injured relatives at the reunion, well, was like a salve. "It was just so good to see them there and fully recovered," Elaine Erckman said.

The Lasher family reunion, though probably a bit larger, also maintains the tradition of swapping yarns and genealogical information, said Thomas W. Miller, 79, of Kingston. Miller's wife, Lois, is a descendant and he, too, can trace his heritage to the family's remote past.

The Lashers were Palatines, Germans persecuted because of their religion who sought asylum from England. Queen Anne responded by

sending them to America, where they would produce pitch and tar for the crown. But promises of land weren't honored, leaving settlers to fend for their hardscrabble existence.

Sebastian Lescher was among the settlers who came in the early 1700s.

His descendants, part of the Lasher Family Association, on Aug. 4 will meet in Columbia County's German town, a key Palatine settlement.

In between reunions, relatives furiously clip obituaries, graduation and wedding announcements, all part of Lasher family testament.

"People spread out books, get to know each other and share information," said Miller, association president.

Unlike the Briggs' reunion, with its close clutch of relatives, some family gatherings, like the that of the Lasher clan, draw people who don't even know one another.

The Vroman reunion is more like a town meeting, the bigger the better.

"We're supposed to get new people. That sort of ensures the continuation of the organization," said Harold B. Vroman, 72, who helped arrange the reunion last weekend.

The Vromans (some relatives spell the name "Vrooman,") this year pull-

ed out the stops. Church supper, chicken barbecue and, of course, hiking the Nose.

Coming to the Capital Region this year meant returning to the Vromans' start in America, Harold Vroman said. The family's association has about 350 members.

The family forefather, Adam Vrooman, was born in 1649 and emigrated from Leiden, Holland, with father, Hendrick, and siblings in 1664. The family eventually settled in Schenectady's Stockade, the Dutch settlement.

The Vroomans were to be caught in the Stockade's tragic history, when the frontier outpost was attacked in a midnight raid by French and Indians in 1690. Hendrick died. Adam lost his wife and one of his children.

Adam would remarry twice, and father 13 children, one reason why so many people can trace their lineage to the settler.

Last Sunday, about 75 of Vrooman's descendants fanned out throughout the Stockade, paying \$2 for a tour led by a local scholar.

Vroman said the activities, like the hike, are designed to keep the reunions interesting, particularly to young people living in a mobile society that seems to tear at the fabric of extended families.

Reunions might be one solution, drawing families closer, Anne Whipple said. "We're so busy and get scattered and so far away, the only time we get home is for weddings and funerals."

Whipple's daughter, though, seems to have heard the joyful noise of reunions to come. "The reunion is one of the glues that holds us together and keeps our bonds strong," she wrote in the latest family history.

"I hope that we will focus not only on our memories of the past, but on knowing each new generation that comes into the family. That is how we can keep our traditions alive."

7-27-96 A.T.U

Getting together

Here are some reunion and genealogy tips, from the activities described by local families who've planned recent reunions:

- Start a mailing list, beginning with the few people you do know. Some families delegate duties by electing officers, commissary committees and historians.
- Post a notice on the family reunion bulletin board, offered at no charge by *Yankee* magazine. Announce the reunion in local newspapers.
- Genealogy buffs use reunions to fill in gaps in the family's history. Also, during the year, scribes take note of births and deaths. Clip obituaries, wedding and graduation announcements.
- Exchange recipes to pass down from one generation to the next.

THE THAETER FAMILY OF NY - WHERE DID THEY GO?

Phillip H. Teeter, 1608 Avenida Oceana, Oceanside CA 92056

During my working life I was casually aware of the TEETER family origin, mostly as a result of conversations with my grandfather as a boy. But when I began to be really interested in this subject I, like most of us, found my sources gone. In search of a hobby when I retired, I wrote my Life Story for the benefit of my children and grandchildren. This had to include what I knew of my ancestors and their origin. I wanted to know my family back to my immigrant ancestors, but my knowledge was inadequate.

I began my search with a trip to the local public library in Carlsbad, CA, a town with a German background. The genealogical section there, strongly supported by the North San Diego County Genealogical Society, proved to be a gold mine. I knew my ancestors had lived in the area of Dutchess & Columbia Counties in New York, and I knew that my triple great grandfather John Teeter had been a Revolutionary soldier, but who were his parents? Who were his other descendants, and where did they live and work?

There proved to be a wealth of information in the library which contained many town, county and state histories, tax records, will abstracts, pension records and most importantly records of church baptisms and marriages. I soon found John's father, Hendrich(2) Teeter and his Palatine immigrant father Lorentz(1) Thaeter or Dather. For Christmas, my daughter gave me the *Family Tree Maker* program for my PC. I was on my way to my retirement hobby!

Muriel Meeker¹ and Alice Whitbeck contributed further information on the descendants of Lorentz through his only known son, Hendrich(2) Teeter. He was from the Rhinebeck² area of Dutchess Co. NY. These articles published in *The Palatine Immigrant*, Spring 1980 and the work of Henry Z Jones, jr. gave me a big boost. Jones' *Palatine Families of New York* beginning on p. 137 lists the first three generations of Teeters under the immigrant name Lorentz Dather (Hunter List #114) and identifies them as descendants of the Palatine family THAETER.

I began to find other Teeter family researchers and am particularly

¹ Meeker, Muriel T, 1980, *The Thaeter Families of New York State*, in *The Palatine Immigrant*, Vol V, No.4, Columbus, OH.

² Smith, Edward M, 1881, *Documentary History of Rhinebeck*, (A 1974 Palatine Reprint), Rhinebeck, NY, Arthur C M Kelly, Kinship

indebted to Donald B Teator of Freehold, NY for his willingness to share his ROOTs file with me. We soon found we were both descendants of Hendrich(2) Teeter. Later I found valuable additions to my tree from Clara Losee of Millerton, NY who was most helpful. Her husband was the son of Marion Teator Losee who had accumulated a great deal of data on the family before her passing. Others who contributed were Anne Cassidy of Salt Lake City whose husband was a Teeter descendant and her cousin, Jacqueline Wanegar of Sun City, AZ, another Palatine descendant in the Teeter family.

In his typed manuscript³ completed in 1965 Harold C. Teater presented the descendants of our common ancestor Lorentz(1) Thaeter. Lorentz with his sister Margaret and younger brother Jorg had come to the New York Colony in 1710⁴, with Governor Hunter's party of colonists intending to settle in the Hudson River Valley. But where did these people go?

Harold's manuscript was found in the David Howe Library of Wellsville NY. It lists most of the descendants through the first five generations and many more for subsequent generations in the branch of which he is a member. Interestingly, I had known of Harold since my father had been in contact with H. C. Teater in 1946, long before his lengthy manuscript was completed.

In the course of investigating my ancestors, I have found no less than twenty five variations in the spelling of the family name in official records, often many variations in church records for successive baptisms in the same family unit. For convenience I have used the name as I know how to spell it, TEETER, except when referring to other writers whose names appear as they wrote them.

Hendrich(2) Teeter, my ancestor, had a cousin of the same generation and name who descended from Jorg Teeter, who was the immigrant younger brother of my Lorentz(1). I hold considerable detail of his descendants too, but they were not the subject of my search.

An interesting sideline of our research pertains to the home of my great great grandmother, Anna Maria "Polly" Thomas, wife of Zachariah(4) Teeter. Her father, Jacob Thomas was the First Lieutenant of H B Livingston's Dutchess Co. Company in the Fourth NY Regiment of the Continental Line Infantry in 1775. His friend and neighbor Johannes(3) Teeter, father of

³ Teater, H C, 1965, *Teater Family History*, Wellsville, NY, Published by the author. See reference 1

⁴ Filby P William, 1991 *Supplement, Passenger & Immigration Lists (PILL)*, Detroit, Gale Research Co.

Zachariah, served in that Company which marched on and conquered Montreal. Zachariah(4) later married Jacob's daughter, Polly.

About 1765 to 1775 Jacob had built the red brick house which served during the Revolution as the Thomas Tavern in Upper Red Hook at mile 106 on the Albany Post Road. This is the house where Polly then lived. It is pictured in "Landmarks of Dutchess County" prepared by the Dutchess County Planning Board in 1969 and published by the NY State Council on the Arts. The Thomas Tavern often served as a Headquarters for Generals Gates and Putnam during the Revolution. On occasion it was visited by the Commander in Chief, General Washington. My brother, William(8), currently has the conch shell which Polly and others used to call the guests to dinner.

Another portion of the Thomas family history is related by the Marquis de Chastellux in memoirs of his Revolutionary service in which he tells of his visit to the Tavern and recalls his conversations with the proprietor, Jacob Thomas during his post war wintertime travels on horseback through the State of New York at the invitation of General Washington. An English translation of a portion of his book, published in Paris, is found in Hasbrouck's *History of Dutchess County*⁵ beginning on pg. 181.

The house later came into the possession of the Reverend Kittle, pastor of the Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook and was then known as the Kittle house. It was purchased by the Losee family in 1858. Clara Losee has traced the ownership of it for me from Revolutionary times to 1945. She also gave me 1858 and 1867 plots of the Upper Red Hook area showing where a number of the families of the mid-nineteenth century lived. Her husband's cousin, Dr. Ronald Losee of Ennis, MT described for me his visit to the house just last year.

To further expand the family coverage I outline my family branch which included the move westward to Indiana in 1834 by descendants of Johannes(3) Teeter, b. 1742 to Hendrich(2). The Indiana Teeters, from whom I descend, seem to have been lost to the aforementioned Teeter genealogists.

It would appear that the family dispersal began with the expiration of the original land leases in Dutchess and Columbia Counties. The earlier of these included terms calling for their surrender after three lifetimes, or generations. This would be the equivalent of a ninety nine year lease. In any event, early in the nineteenth century the Teeter family began to disperse in the fourth generation although one third generation member, Abraham(3), had sometime after 1791 moved northwest to Schoharie Co.

All of the sons of my triple great grandfather, Johannes(3) left the Columbia county area except Zachariah(4) who died on his farm at Ancram

5 Hasbrouck, Frank, 1909, *History of Dutchess County, NY*, Poughkeepsie, S A Matthieu.

about 1818. Brothers John(4) and Henry(4) migrated first to the Cayuga Co. area and thence to Independence, NY where John(4) was a founder of the town of Whitesville and the land surveyor. James(4) and Abraham(4) moved to Schoharie where their uncle Abraham(3) was already located. Peter(4) went to Cayuga where he died.

The westward migration to Indiana began with several sons of Zachariah(4) after his death about 1818. Some apparently went to Pennsylvania and Ohio, but three brothers, one sister and Zachariah's(4) widow migrated to Northern Indiana. One of these, Henry(5) was to establish my branch of the family, which until now has never been identified widely in published sources.

The word of mouth story of my great grandfather, Henry(5) Teeter, son of Zachariah, begins with his journey on foot, with one hundred dollars in gold on his person, from New York to the Territory of Indiana near Lake Michigan.

The family history was passed on by my Grandfather, Edwin(6) Jordan Teeter and his grandson Edwin Teeter of Rolling Prairie, IN and is supported by reference to Indiana Federal Census Records and Indiana Vital Statistics. The story, related in person to the author, is that his father Henry(5) Teeter, at age 24 walked from New York to Indiana in 1834. He first proceeded to the area now Chicago, but returned to LaPorte Co. Indiana when he found the Chicago area to be a vast swampland unsuitable to him for farming. He and his brother Zachariah(5) as well as his sister Sarah(5) along with Polly(4) became pioneers of the State of Indiana.

When Zachariah(4) Teeter died he had left his wife, Polly with several of the younger children. By census we discover her in Cobleskie/ Cobleskill, Schoharie, NY in 1830. However, our family lore tells us she left Ancram and went to Franklin with her younger children. Unfortunately there are several Franklins in NY, one a county on the northern border. Another is in Delaware Co. and a more likely location west of Red Hook. In any event we find no record of her there, but in 1834 we find her in LaPorte Co. Indiana with her sons Henry & Zachariah Jr.⁶

The children of Zachariah(4) Jr. (for his father, Johannes) Teeter and 'Polly' Thomas who was b. 1767 were:

6 Packard, Col. Jasper, 1874, *History of LaPorte Co. and its Townships, Towns and Communities, La Porte, IN*, S E Taylor & Co. Steam Printers.

Margaret(5) Teeter b.1794 bp. 6-15-1794 @ Germ Ref. Ch.⁷ of Rhinebeck md. abt. 1820 to William H. Smith, whose further whereabouts are unknown.

Johannes(5) Teeter b. 1796 bp. 2-21-1796 @ St. John's Ref. Ch. of Upper Red Hook, NY. No further record.

Jacob(5) Teeter b.1798 bp. 9-2-1798 @ W. Copake Ref Ch md. abt. 1832 to Hannah LNU (military abbreviation - Last Name Unknown) and he, although missing from the NY Census in 1830 & 1840 was later found in Porter Co. Indiana, which borders LaPorte Co. to the west.

Abraham(5) Teeter b. 1800 bp. 9-28-1800 @ W. Copake Ref Ch md. abt. 1830 to Catherine LNU. No further record.

Michael(5) Teeter b. 1802 bp. 5-22-1803 @ W. Copake Ref Ch. md. abt.1825 to Sally Schutt. He has not been found in the Census for NY, OH or IN between 1830 and 1850.

Zachariah(5) Teeter Jr., b. 10-17-1804 bp. in 1805 @ W. Copake Ref Ch md. 1st 3-31-1836 (in La Porte Co.IN) to Frances Russell & 2nd 4-13-1840 to Martha Van Orden also in La Porte, IN.

Ruloff(5) Teeter b. 6-1-1806 bp. in 1806 @ W. Copake Ref Ch. No further record.

Hannah (5) Teeter b. 1808 bp. in 1808 @ W. Copake Ref Ch. No further record.

Hendrich(5) (Henry) Teeter b. 1810 bp. 5-11-1811 @ St. Thomas Luth. a: Churchtown, NY md. 10-27-1836 to Caroline 'Tony' Fail in La Porte Co., IN. He is the author's great grandfather.

Sarah/Sally(5) Teeter b. 10-29-1814 bp. in 1819 @ W. Copake Ref Ch Md. 1st FNU (military abbreviation - First Name Unknown) Wagner & 2nd in La Porte Co. IN to FNU Austin. No further record.

Henry's mother, Polly, age 67, may have traveled to Indiana with him, but more likely followed later in 1834 with his unmarried older brother, Zachariah(5) Jr. She lived for another twenty years with Henry on his farm in Galena Township, Section 35, La Porte Co., IN. Zachariah was established on a neighboring farm, also in section 35. On her death in 1854 a gravestone was placed in the Teeter Family Cemetery on the family farm in Rolling Prairie identifying her husband, who had died in NY, and her ten children.

Henry had taken a grant on the land in Kankakee Township, later by partition included in Galena Township Section 35 where he lived and farmed

7 Kelly, Arthur C M, 1980 & subsequent,
Baptismal Records of the (specific) church, Rhinebeck, NY,
Kinship Publishers.

prosperously for the rest of his life, sending his two older sons to college. His children, mothered by Caroline Fail, whom he married in 1836, was as follows:

Sarah(6) Teeter b. 1837 in Rolling Prairie, IN who md. Rev. Daniel Grimes b. about 1835 of New Carlisle, IN on 7-4-1861.

Philip Fail Teeter b. 1839 in Rolling Prairie, IN. He attended DePauw Univ. and was later enrolled as a Pvt. in the 48th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regt. where he was KIA in the Battle of Iuka, MS on 19 Sept. 1862.

George H. Teeter b. 4-5-1841, educated in law at the University of Michigan was an Indiana legislator and farmer. He lived and died, unmarried, farming in Rolling Prairie, Galena Township, La Porte Co. IN.

Edwin Jordan Teeter b. 1-7-1843 in Rolling Prairie, Galena Township, La Porte Co., IN. He md. Emily (Emma) A. Ocker who was b. 3-15-1853 in Butler, DeKalb Co., IN. These are the author's grand parents.

Mary A. Teeter b. 12-10-1845 in Rolling Prairie, IN d. about 1854 at age nine.

Phoebe Teeter b. 1851 in Rolling Prairie. On 12-3-1868 she md.Capt. Albert W. Dolph.

Rosa Belle Teeter b. 1853 in Rolling Prairie md. 1-14-1878 to Noah W. Garman. Their children were:

Harry O. Garman b. 1880, eldest Commodore W. Garman
Phoebe Garman Cleveland Garman
and lastly, Georgianna Garman

The children of my grandfather, Edwin(6) Jordan Teeter, were:

Philip(7) Henry Teeter b. 1877 in Rolling Prairie. He md. Katherine Holman abt. 1878 in La Porte Co. Their children were:

Ruth Teeter b. 5-4-1903 in Rolling Prairie. She was graduated from Ohio Wesleyan and later md. Glen Rice b. abt. 1906 in La Porte Co. She d. 1980 in Rolling Prairie.

Edwin Teeter b. 7-7-1905 in Rolling Prairie. He md. Vivian Howell b. 11-23-1915 of Wanatah, La Porte, Co. on 2-26-1937. He d. 11-24-1990 in Rolling Prairie and she died in Mattawan, MI in 1994.

Hattie Belle Teeter b. 7-15-1888 in Rolling Prairie. She was a graduate of DePauw and d. unmarried 5-19-1969 in La Porte, IN after a career in banking and commerce.

Emma Leah Teeter b. 3-19-1891 in Rolling Prairie, a graduate of DePauw. She d. unmarried 7-11-1961 in LaPorte, IN after a career in teaching and business.

Thomas(7) Anderson Hendricks Teeter b. 12-12-1886 in Rolling Prairie. He first md. Katherine Monell Hitchcock b. 1879 in Utica, NY on 9-15-1915. She died in Minneapolis, MN in Feb.1932. He was a Civil Engineer graduated from Purdue University who followed a career in College level

education mostly at the University of Minnesota where he was Dean and Director of the Summer Sessions of the University. He retired in 1954 having acted *inter alia* as Acting Dean of the Institute of Technology. He d. 1955. They had two sons including the author:

Robert(8) T. Teeter b. 11-9-1916 Portland, OR who md. Edith LaVelle Kidder in 1943. He is retired after serving as Chief Patent Counsel of the Aluminum Co. of America.

Phillip(8) H. Teeter, the author, b. 5-31-1919 Corvallis, OR, who md. Anita Swendseen at Grace Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN on October 5, 1946. A Mechanical Engineer he followed a twenty year career as a Naval Officer with Administrative work in the Aerospace field.

Thomas(7) married again in Minneapolis, MN in June 1933 to Pauline Frances Hargrave. She d. October 1992, their children are:

William(8) Hargrave Teeter b. 6-25-1935 in Minneapolis. He md. Donna Trovaaten of St Paul, MN in June 1957 at St Anthony Park Lutheran Church and follows a career as an Investment Counseling Executive.

Pauline Anne Teeter b. 3-28-1940 in Minneapolis. She md. at the Hope Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on 6-7-1961, the Rev. C. Harry Forse an Evangelical Lutheran Minister and later Financial Management Executive in Minnesota.

(The author received his B.A. from La Salle College in 1971 and M.A. from William & Mary in 1972. He is currently an analyst with the Social Security administration at Mid-Atlantic Region, Philadelphia. He descends from Godfrey Remer, who arrived in Philadelphia before 1754. He is pursuing research on European origins of the Remer family and German immigrant shipyard workers of 18th century Philadelphia.)

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GERMAN LANGUAGE CHANGES

Ministers from the 16 German *Länder* (states) reached a decision last December to make certain changes in the German language. Strict rules for the use of commas are to be reduced from 52 to 9. The baroque double-s (ß) becomes an ordinary "ss" when preceded by a short vowel, as in the commonplace *class*. Otherwise, it stays as-is. There are new rules for verb separation - i.e. *sitzen/bleiben* (to remain/sitting) becomes *sitzen/bleiben*. All nouns continue to be capitalized, and adjectives standing for nouns will also be capitalized. (Clipping from *The Economist*, Dec. 9, 1995, sent to us by Gene Reynolds.)

Farewell

Noticeable in her absence at the reunion was Bev Fuegmann. Although I have had the fortune of having a core of a half dozen of you to help out with decisions, it was Bev I probably called most, especially for the park facilities. And of course, a talk meant catching up on family news, past stories, and so on.

The last newsletter featured Bev and her family, and she spoke proudly of her life and family while ignoring the pain and difficulty of the operations and rehabilitation she was undergoing. That struggle ended July 30, 1996.

With her passing, Bev leaves behind memories and experiences I am glad to have shared, and we extend our sympathy to her family. Her obituary is reproduced to the right.

Shirley (Beverly)

Fuegmann

EAST DURHAM — Shirley (Beverly) Fuegmann, age 52, wife of O. Richard Fuegmann of East Durham, NY, passed away at St. Peter's Hospital on July 30, 1996. She was born on August 7, 1943, daughter of Rev. Laurence and Martha Teator Starr. "Beverly" was a member of the East Durham Vol. Fire Co. Ladies Aux. and the Daughters of the American Revolution. For a number of years she operated Reynolds Store in East Durham, NY.

Services will be at the convenience of the family. Cremation was at the Albany Rural Cemetery. Those who desire may contribute in her memory to the East Durham Vol. Fire Co. Ladies Aux.

Surviving are her husband, O. Richard Fuegmann; two sons, Mark Reynolds of Bethlehem, NY and Hayden Reynolds of Boston, MA; a grandson, Jared Reynolds and a sister, Mrs. Charles (Roberta) Soderblom of Durham, NY.

Arrangements are by the Cunningham Funeral Home of Greenville, NY.