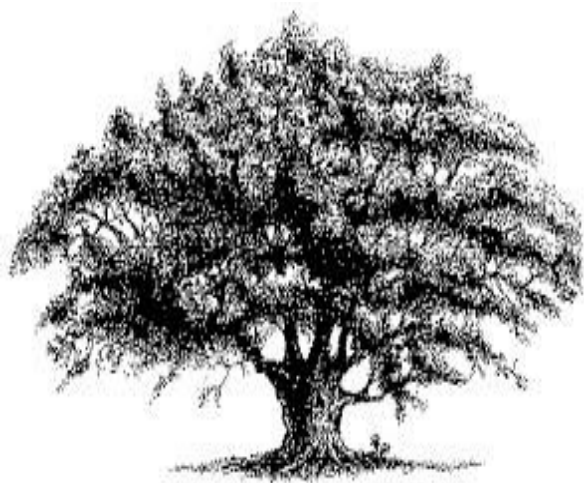


Teator - Teter Tree

Late Winter 2018

Newsletter #40



Teator - Teter Reunion— Sunday, July 15, 2018

Good day, to all Descendants of John Teter:

Even-numbered years have traditionally been Reunion years and thus I send both the invitation for the 2018 Reunion and also a regular newsletter.

Again, we will convene at Brandow Park, Oak Hill on the 3rd Sunday of July.

Food:

- Meat will be provided, probably burgers and hot dogs. (However, if anyone would like to prepare a ham, or to bring a grill, or to supply burgers & dogs, call me. Costs, if you want, will be reimbursed from the “Teator treasury.”)
- Each household should bring a salad/main dish to feed 4 or so, and also a dessert to feed 4 or so.
- Families are encouraged to coordinate. Any single person can bring chips, munchies, etc.
- “Silverware”, liquids, cups, napkins and chairs will be the responsibility of each household. Some of you bring extras, a thoughtful act that proves useful every Reunion.

Tentative Schedule:

- Arrive around 11:30—12:30, or whenever you can.
- Food will be served probably about one o’clock, but 12:45 is closer to the truth.
- We’ll do introductions of the family lines.
- Remind me to do the oldest, farthest, etc.
- Plan on electric not being available.
- I’ll bring the photo albums & family tree.
- If anyone has anything else they’d like to share, please feel free to do so.
- Deb will take the group photos again
- If I can talk you into it, bring a current photo of your family and children that can be kept in the photo album for family history’s sake. (identify on back)
- Clean-up help is much appreciated.

Remind me of any changes not noted in any past newsletter - births, marriages, deaths, changes of address, etc.

I hope to see you at the Reunion,

Don

A few other notes:

- As always, come prepared for what Mother Nature throws our way.
- Usually, the Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival is scheduled for Poultney Flats, just across the street, finishing the Sunday we are there. I think this year we meet the week before their event.
- reach me at 3979 Rt 67, Freehold, NY 12431 OR call 518-634-2397 OR email me at dteator@gmail.com
- Several of you sent a family Christmas card. I keep them all for family history records, and I enjoy reading what your family is doing and looking like! Thank you.
- If you need a change in the mailing label (move, change in family, preference, marriage, etc.), let me know.
- If there are family members who would like to join the mailing list, let me know.
- And I have started emailing the newsletter. If you want an email copy, let me know and then you can forward as you wish.

Changes, corrections

Has there been a birth, marriage, or death since last newsletter? Or one that I have missed? Or changes of address? Let me know so I can update the family tree.

Vitals**Birth:**

- Milo Aspen Green, b 25 June 2017, born at home (Westerlo), to Derek and Bekah (Richardson) Green. Proud grandparents are Phyllis (Teator) and Cliff Richardson; and Donna and Brian Green.
- Cynthia Ann Forgey, b. 20 Nov 2017, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson, NY, to David Forgery and Autumn Tillson, 7 lb, 8 oz;

Marriage:

- Jessica Marie Wilgus and Adam Gregg Binley, 16 Sep 2017, at First Baptist Church of Clover, Clover, South Carolina. Jessica is the daughter of Loretta Kudlack and Gary Wilgus.
- Trever Everett Baldwin and Tayler Lynn Warner, 15 Feb 2017, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Loudonville, NY. Proud parents: Kirsten and Vern Baldwin, and Patrick Warner and Kym (Prusky) .

Death:

- Althea Wolven Teator, 24 May 2017 (obit later)

Obit: Althea Wolven Teator

SAUGERTIES....Althea H. Teator, 87, of Blue Mt. Rd. died suddenly Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at the Columbia Memorial Hospital. Born December 6, 1929 in Saugerties she was the daughter of the late Howard and Hazel Dederick Wolven. She was employed for many years at the Catskill Game Farm.

Predeceased by her husband, Ferris in 2003, survivors include two Daughters: Katherine Ceroalo of Greenville and Glenna Ryan and her companion Daniel Kessler of Schenectady. 1 Son: Adam Teator and his

companion Karen Keator of Greenville. 3 Grandchildren: Alexandra, Cassandra and Johnny Ryan. Several Nieces and Nephews also survive. She was predeceased by a Sister, Dorothea Lee and a Son in Law, Kevin Ceroalo.

Her Funeral Procession will form Wednesday at 1:30 PM at the Seamon-Wilsey Funeral Home, Inc. Cor. of John & Lafayette Sts. Her Graveside Service will be held 2:30 PM at the Preston Hollow Cemetery. Expressions of condolence may be shared with the family SeamonWilseyFuneralHome.com

Teator Research

You might remember from last newsletter that I was asking Sylvia Hasenkopf to kick-start my Teator Family Tree update. She is done for now and I have the product of her research.

She traced the line from me back to the immigrant, direct line, much like I had done. Then, reversing directions, she listed the children of each relationship, extending one more generation of Teator names. With gobs more research still to be done, and on lines that were of somewhat lesser importance to our direct line, we called a temporary end.

More importantly, I had beseeched her to document the sources. When I started in 1985, there were no genealogy programs with useful documentation of sources. I had created or collected thousands of records/notes by the time worthwhile genealogy programs were developed. So, now I have a basic family tree with sources, a structure I can add onto.

I will be filling out the many lines of Teators that branch generations before our John Teter, a daunting task. (Calvin Teter, brother of John, is one of those lines, the very same one that Wayne, Susan, and Bonnie descend from.)

So, here are some of the highlights.

Was our Lydia Teter born Lydia Russell? And not Lydia Richmond?
One census entry is tantalizing. The 1875 US

census, Town of Broome, Schoharie Co, shows head of household Lydia Teter, 48, b. Albany Co; son Alexander, 27, farm laborer, b. Schoharie Co; son David, 22, farm laborer, b. Schoharie Co; daughter Nora, 16, b. Albany Co; son Orlando, 12, b. Schoharie Co. (see photo)

Now comes the fun. Living in the same house but in the next numbered household lives Ann Russell, age 67; son Lucas, age 26; and daughter Loretta, age 23. In the box marked "relation to head of household," Ann is designated "mother." One interpretation is that Ann Russell is the mother of our Lydia (Richmond, we think). Sylvia makes that literal interpretation. However, I have thought, and still do, that Ann is the head of her own household, on the first line of the household numbered 156. Why she is not marked Head of Household I cannot answer.

Based on all the other information I have come across, I am convinced that a Lydia Richmond married John Teter. It was a good reminder from Sylvia about what records say, the (in)fallibility of records, and the use of other records to support a conclusion.

Whatever became of Julia Teter?

Our John Teter's father is David Teter. David and wife Catherine (Hess) had children: Betsey, Clarinda, our John, Luther, Calvin, David, and Julia. I knew the whereabouts of all except Julia. Poof! She evaporated from everywhere I was looking.

I did have a slight clue in Luther Teter's will, mentioning heirs, among them nephews Charles and Albert West. It would make sense if it were a connection to Julia, perhaps a marriage, but I never could find a solid lead.

Sylvia found: Julia Ann Teter, born 1839, died 1869, married John West (1815-1870) in 1864 in Windham. John West was the son of William and Deborah (DeWitt) West. John and Julia had three children: Charles (1865-1883), Adelbert (1867-1910), and John (1868-1875). A quick look of dates will tell that the parents' death in 1869 and 1870 left three young children, to be

New York, State Census, 1875 for Lydia Teter

Household #	Dwelling		Name of every person whose usual place of abode was in the family on the 1st day of June, 1875	Age	Sex	Color	Relation to the head of the family	In what country of this state, or in what other state, or foreign country born	Now married	Now widowed	Single	Indebted, trader or serf-proprietor	
	Of what material built	Value											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1				David Teter	48	M	Head	Schoharie					
2				Lydia Teter	48	F	Wife	Schoharie					
3				John Teter	27	M	Son	Schoharie					
4				David Teter	22	M	Son	Schoharie					
5				Nora Teter	16	F	Daughter	Schoharie					
6				Orlando Teter	12	M	Son	Schoharie					
7				Ann Russell	67	F	Mother	Schoharie					
8				Lucas Russell	26	M	Son	Schoharie					
9				Loretta Russell	23	F	Daughter	Schoharie					
10				John West	27	M	Son	Schoharie					
11				Charles West	18	M	Son	Schoharie					
12				Adelbert West	16	M	Son	Schoharie					
13				John West	14	M	Son	Schoharie					
14				William West	45	M	Head	Schoharie					
15				Deborah West	45	F	Wife	Schoharie					
16				John West	27	M	Son	Schoharie					
17				Deborah West	27	F	Wife	Schoharie					

reared by others, with the two oldest living children at the time remembered in Luther's will. Adelbert's line continues into a long list of more relatives of ours. That should be a topic in a future newsletter.

When will Elisha and William Teter stop bedeviling me?

My research had found these two Teters, usually in the Rensselaerville area. Elisha was born in 1826 and brother William in 1828. Their birthdates almost matched gaps in the birth order of John and his siblings but it was too tight a squeeze.

They are both buried in the Rensselaerville Cemetery, close to a Phillip Teter. Remember our John Teter's father David? Well, he, David, had a brother Phillip. Philip has one more son, Martin, in 1839, quite a gap after William.

The 1840 census suggests two young children in the right age grouping but no names are shown. By the time of the 1850 census, the first one that gives names, these two have moved on independently and so I was deprived a clue as to their parentage.

Each one married a West-surnamed woman and each had one daughter. I have traced those two lineages down to today, know a half-dozen of these people, kiddingly refer to them as cousins, but alerted them I did not have proof.

Sylvia's research finds it defensible to say Elisha, William, and Martin are the children of Phillip, and I will be able to start working more actively on those lines.

So, they have stopped bedeviling me and their descendants should be a topic for a future newsletter.

Who is John Sweet's father?

One separate task I had given Sylvia was to find the father of John Sweet. Alexander Teator married Elsie Sweet, the daughter of John E. Sweet. When I started looking for John E, I found some John Sweets, too many in fact, none of whom jumped off the page. As a last resort, we paid for a copy of John Sweet's death certificate, hoping it would name a father. And it did.

Information for the death certificate #65686 for John Ervin Sweet was given by Lillie Sweet (his daughter). Male, white, married to Oliva Sweet; Retired Farmer; name of father Richard, name of mother "not known", died Nov 19, 1922, cause of death influenza, buried at Middleburgh Cemetery.

This was enough information for Sylvia to find the following:

—Richard Sweet was born about 1804 in Albany Co, NY. He married (1) Sally J, who was born about 1812 in CT. He married (2) Catherine, born about 1825.

Children of Richard and Sally: Wealthy-1831, Sylvanus-1836, Gitty M-1837, John Ervin-1841, Juliette-1843, Salina-1847, and Leonard-1851.

Our John was born in 1841 in Middleburgh, married Olivia Rivenburgh (Rifenburg), who was born in 1845, died in 1925, and was the daughter of William and Phebe Rivenburgh.

Is there any work to do?

Yep. There is plenty left. Now that I have a start with sources, I will be utilizing my research on the different lines to flesh out the family tree of Lorentz and Jerg Dather, two of the 2500 Palatines who made it to the Hudson Valley in 1710, a topic that has been written about before, and one I keep re-telling.

Am I sharing?

Of course. Anyone who wants a copy of this research project should contact me. A few notes about use of this family tree beyond personal use can be made then. Possession of a genealogy program is needed.

And if there is anyone who wants to dig in to this endless hobby, please consider doing so. I would be pleased if anyone can advance what I have built so far.

And mortality is a factor. I have no plans on going anywhere soon but all of you know how fleeting life can be. One of my most enduring testimonies would be to know that my work is still used by any of the tens of thousands of my relatives. Amen.

Suitcases Live Another Day

A treasure trove of family documents came my way in 2009.

My mother was moving to Good Samaritan and the house she had lived in since 1953 needed cleaning out. Way, way back in one of the old boarding house bedrooms that we used mostly for storage had, well, a lot of stuff that needed cleaning out. Tucked behind a draped closet were three suitcases.

And it was the contents that revealed a major surprise for me about my father.

My father was not the most open about personal stuff although we kids heard bits and pieces of his life, a life that was difficult. Working on different farms as a kid, changing schools often, service during the Korean Conflict, the transition to an old farm on Big Woods Road, and life as a young adult were stuff we kids sorta knew about our father. And then we grew up to be old enough to experience it first hand, even if from a youngster's point of view.

The suitcases, one probably a Depression Era black and another cream-yellow from a niftier 1950s era and one a modern-ish 1970s model, held a variety of documents.

I often make a list of winter projects—a combination of local history, family history, and personal projects. One of the four topics I wrote down, finally, after eight years, was to inventory the suitcases that had been holed up on one of the shelves of a closet.

Taking up the most space were annual farm expense and income account booklets, telling a story of the financial goings-on of the family in the 1950s. Documenting his expenses were a couple thousand receipts of area businesses, with a few clumps of receipts stapled together. Woods Store, Ver Planck's, Greenville Farm Store, Clow's Gas Station are prominently noted.

And then there were the few hundred letters between my mom and her mother over the span of years they had together before Ruth Williams Murray died in 1989. I have passed them on to sister Phyllis to look over and report back, something I did not desire to take time for now.

But what got me, and got *to* me, were the letters and cards to my father that he found precious enough to save, stored in a suitcase waiting

to be discarded by the uncaring or to be made alive again. In this case, it was the latter.

So, I perused the over 200 letters and cards and started thinking to what degree I needed to know about them. Ultimately, I took each one, sorted into piles of names of the sender, and then sorted them by date. The early pieces were birthday, Christmas, and valentine cards.

And then there were the few dozen that are addressed to him, in care of the family farm he was staying at. Starting in 1942, when he was 14, up through 1950, I would watch the progression of addresses, a progression that gave new life to his stories of where he stayed—Ormsbee, Cooke, Hull, among the names I remember he talked about kindly.

There were a few from family, especially sisters Charlotte and Barbara, and his mother Glenna where she lived on Big Woods Road housekeeping the Shaw farm.

But it was the two years when he was in service, from Nov 1950 to Nov 1952, that the profusion of letters came. A handsome and strong local boy goes to war, and he was backed by several regular writers and a few more who wrote once or twice.

By far, the most prolific writer was sister Charlotte, at age 16, six years younger than her older brother. Charlotte averaged almost one a week for those two years. Sister Barbara wrote about twenty times. For me, the most heart-wrenching were the almost fifty letters from his mother. I can imagine a woman who had given up custody of her children at a young age, and still be in touch with them. Even his father Orlando wrote several times. Rounding out the range were occasional letters voicing support and keeping my father up-to-date about events back home.

I would inventory the whole pile, emailing my siblings several times with pictures and lists, capturing concrete examples of what we had heard about and had experienced.

I commented to my sibling in one email that the contents had a way of making my dad feel more real—an interesting irony.

Anyone wanting more info, contact me or come to the Greenville Local History Group meeting on August 13.

Catching up:

Recent changes in life status are usually noted in the Vitals section. However, there are those times when I am able to fill some “old” blanks that have been only recently found out. A couple have fallen my way. —I knew from Facebook that my cousin Cindy Moore (husband Wes) were proud of two grandchildren, neither of whom I had on the records. So, without going into details of date and place, the following names have been added to the tree. Daughter Kristy married Gustavo Castillo and have two children: Ivan and Lorelai. Welcome all three of you to the family tree. (Of course, you were always there; I was the one who did not know it!) —Another list to be filled in is that of Susan Teter Weaver (husband George). She (and family) have been there all the time but I had not taken the time until this past month. I will update in the next newsletter. —A piece of the tree I have lost track of is the Barbara Hallock (husband Bill) family. Twenty-five years has passed since I updated and I suspect there are some additions I do not have. If anyone has an idea to explore let me know. —And then there are a couple big new additions, a topic for the Teator Research section of this newsletter.

Photos:

—Bring/send/email a reprint of a picture of your family that could be donated to the Teator archives. A current photo of your household would be especially welcome. (Pencil in date and/or ID on back.) If you have older pictures, please consider loaning them for Deb to duplicate. Or, scan them and email them to me. —If you have biographical material about an individual or family, please consider sharing that also. —Several of you sent me a Christmas card update, often with a photo. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and piece of Teator family history.

Emails

I would like to email the Teator newsletters instead of mailing them. If you have an email address and want to try, email me your address. Thanks a bunch.

For some of you, one email per family is enough but I would be happy to email every single person. And as “children” grow up to have their own household, I would like to catch up with that too. Whatever help you can give would be appreciated.

These are the people for whom I have an email address, and I will be testing it with this issue. If you can add to my list, thank you. (Those not on the list, I will mail a paper copy but if you can replace that with email, thank you.)

Bob Armstrong
 Vern & Kirsten Baldwin
 Sky Ben
 Emiliana Brink
 Peggy Brink
 Kristy Moore Castillo
 Claudia Every
 Sharon Hayner
 Loretta Kudlack
 Nancy & Bob Lynk
 Lisa MacNeill
 Cindy Moore
 Karin and Steven Page
 Alicia Palmer
 Andrew Philips
 Cindy Philips
 David Philips
 Chod Radick
 Herman Reinhard
 Phyllis Richardson
 Glenna Ryan
 Amanda Stegner
 Alfreda Teator
 Bill Teator
 Gary Teator
 Lynne Teator
 Marjorie Teator
 Nate Teator
 Peggy Sue Teator
 Ron Teator
 David Teator
 Don Teator
 Wayne & Charlene Teter
 Susan Weaver