



WOLFENSBERGER

Newsletter of the Wolfensberger Family Association

February 2006

Vol. XII, No. 1

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Frank Wolfenbarger Elected President.



Frank Wolfenbarger Elected.....

Dear Family,

I am honored to follow in the footsteps of Larry Jones, Bob Wolfenbarger and Myrna Liddell as president of the WFA.

Prior to joining WFA, I knew little of our family history and only a little about my father (same name as me) who moved from Missouri to the Cherokee Nation - now part of the state of Oklahoma. I knew that he had homesteaded 160 acres of land in the panhandle of Oklahoma.

(cont. page 5)

The President's Letter

by Past President Myrna Liddell

Dear WFA family,

We want to welcome our new President, W. Frank Wolfenbarger, and our new Assistant Historian Charlotte Lucas. Both come to us with great interest in furthering the purposes of the Wolfensberger Family Association.

I am very grateful to both Frank and Charlotte for accepting the positions. Frank is very well qualified for the position with a great amount of experience in board/committee work. As a retired CPA, and our Financial counsel, he has served on the WFA board for many years. He has a gentle, humanitarian approach to the "process" of getting things done, and a great interest in the WFA family history, including the genealogical and archival process. We welcome him, with much appreciation.

Charlotte Lucas comes to us with a true "avid genealogist's" nature, and a notable history of accomplishments and titles to lend further credence to what she has "proven" to us, already. In addition to having been a past member of the WFA Board of Directors, she is a "Fellow in the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland", a member and past board member Tulsa Genealogical Society now on the Acquisitions Committee, a member: The National Society of Daughters of The American Revolution, United Daughters of (cont. page 4)



Wolfensberger Family Association Officers & Directors - 2006

Executive Committee

- W. Frank Wolfenbarger, President
Irving, Texas
Myrna Liddell, *Historian*
Langley, WA
Richard I. Evans, *Vice President*
Houston, TX
David E. Wolfensberger, *Secretary*
St. Louis, MO
Albert H. Creasy, *Treasurer*
Tryon, NC
Jon Rhan, Newsletter Editor
Londonderry, NH

Other Board Members

- Mickey Burluson
Temple, TX
Gretchen Doll
Grapevine, TX
Barbara J. Jackson
Norfolk, NE
Wendell J. Wolfenbarger O'Reilly
Chattanooga, TN
Robert J. Wolfenbarger
Summit, NJ
Rudolf A. Wolfensberger
Solothurn, Switzerland
Wolf Wolfensberger
Syracuse, NY
Bill Wolfenbarger
Palo Alto, CA

Honorary Life Members

- Lawrence M. Jones
Oklahoma City, OK
Heini Wolfensberger
Bauma, Switzerland

Member's Notes.....

Eloise Wolfenberger, 75, of Houston passed away Monday, January 16, 2006. She is survived by her loving husband of 58 years, Winston Wolfenberger; daughters, Virginia Wolfenberger, Susan Burkard and husband James; two grandchildren, Patrick Burkard and Nickolaus Burkard. She was loved and will be greatly missed. Visitation will be held Thursday, January 19, 2006 from 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Services will begin at 12:30 in the Chapel of Forest Park East Funeral Home. Interment to follow at Forest Park East Cemetery.

(Note: **Dr. Virginia Wolfenberger** was a member of the Wolfensberger Family Association and served of the WFA Boards for several years.)

Forest Park East, Webster,
TX
Houston Chronicle 1/17/2006

Eloise Wolfenberger of
Houston, Texas.



Robert Lynn Bingham passed on quietly, at the age of 63, early Sunday evening, after enduring a long illness of emphysema. He was a resident of Jerome, Idaho. His caring, generous nature helped others through difficult times, and he always had a big smile and healthy laugh. Although he was a private person, his family was very important to him and he to them.

[Bob is the son of Wilma Opal Wolfenbarger Bingham & Lynn Bingham, and the brother of our Past President and Historian, Myrna Bingham Liddell.]

Russell [Russ] David Van Asperen, the son of John and Donna Van Asperen passed away in his sleep, on Sunday night Feb. 19th, 2006 at his home in Rosebud, Missouri. Arrangements for burial in Battle Creek, Michigan, are being made by the family with Farley-Estes funeral home. The probable burial date is expected to be on March the 8th, 2006. Any that wish to can send flowers or attend. Russ left his daughter all files on the genealogy he had done, and she hopes to continue his research on the Wolfensbergers.

Contact Myrna Liddell for further information 360-321-4971
or myrnabl@whidbey.com

2006 Officers Elected.....

W. Frank Wolfenbarger, longtime WFA director and supporter from Irving, Texas, was elected the new President of the Wolfenbarger Family Association in the Association's annual election of officers in the Board of Director's teleconference on January 6.

He is a Certified Public Accountant who owned his own accounting firm in the Dallas area until his retirement in 2005.

Frank headed the five-member slate of officers elected to head the organization in 2006. Fellow officers include **Buzz Evans** of Houston as Vice President, **Al Creasy** of Tryon, NC as Treasurer, **David Wolfersperger** of St. Louis as Secretary, and **Myrna Liddell** of Langley, WA as Past-President and Historian.

The Association's Board of Directors also approved a 14-member slate of directors elected in November by the WFA membership to serve in 2006.

Newcomers to the board include **Charlotte Lucas** of Tulsa, OK, a former director and noted genealogist who will serve as Assistant Historian under Mrs. Liddell, and **Jon Rhan** of Londonderry, NH, who will serve as editor of *The Wolfenbarger*, the WFA newsletter.

Others confirmed as members of the Board of Directors include:

Mickey Burleson, Temple, TX

Gretchen Doll, Irving, TX

Bob Wolfenbarger, Summit, NJ

Rudolf Wolfenbarger, Solothurn, Switzerland

Wolf Wolfenbarger, Syracuse, NY

Bill Wolfenbarger, Palo Alto, CA

In other action at the January board meeting was the introduction of a motion to add a Vice President of International Relations to the WFA Board, whose purpose is to build closer ties between the U.S.-based Association and its European members.

Action on the motion is likely to take place at the next Board of Director's conference call.

Who is Frank Wolfenbarger?

by Gretchen Doll

I would like to share a little about my Father, Frank Wolfenbarger, who has been elected President of the Wolfenbarger Family Association.

Frank was born in Missouri in 1936 to William Franklin and Maude Adams Wolfenbarger. They moved from a ranch to Irving when he was 16 years old. Dad says that was the best thing that ever happened in his life up to that date – indoor plumbing, sidewalks, and groceries actually purchased from A&P rather than being gathered from the chicken house, feed pin and garden.

Frank worked his way through college as a gas station owner, refinery worker, truck driver; oilfield roughneck, deli clerk and soldier. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration at North Texas State College, now University of North Texas. Frank began practicing as a Certified Public Accountant in the international tax field – a practice that would span over 40 years.

During this time he also was the organizer and Director of American Bank and Trust in Irving, Texas. He held various directorships in organizations in the fields of manufacturing, software, insurance, banking and real estate. Later he went back to school to get a Master of Liberal Arts at Southern Methodist University. Past presidencies include Norbuck Real Estate Properties, First Irving Corporation, Mother Ocean, Inc. and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Irving, Texas.

Frank sold his practice in December of 2003 and began attending Lay Minister School. Recently he graduated from Northern Texas/ Northern Louisiana Synod Lay Minister's Academy. (cont. page 4)

Who is.....(cont from page 3)

Frank is married to Dr. Betty Gouge-Wolfenbarger. His daughter and son-in-law are Ken and Gretchen Doll and they have a daughter Julia. He also has a step-daughter Carol Blanchard-Parks and step-son Jeff Gouge.

Frank gave up extreme sports 15 years ago when while training for a triathlon. He had a bicycle wreck resulting in the installation of an artificial elbow followed a few years later by a pacemaker. Dad says as long as after market parts are available he is OK.

- Gretchen Doll

President's Letter.....(cont from page 1)

the Confederacy [helping members/potential members with their genealogy], Lee County Virginia Genealogical and Historical Society, Regular contributor to the Searcy County Arkansas Ancestor Information Exchange, Genealogist and Historian for S.H.I.R.E (Scottish History in Reenactment Entrainment) and one of the Genealogists for the Rachel Cormany Camp of the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans. As Assistant Historian she will help me, as Historian, with connecting family with family, and searching out, when possible, the "proofs" of our WFA and their maternal connections. She has proved invaluable to me / us in the past year especially, and it seemed only fitting to ask her to join us if possible.

I am grateful to a dedicated Board of

Directors, not just for this past two years, but since we began our journey as the WFA. This has been no small effort, and their input and counsel has been pertinent and invaluable. I wish to honor each of them for their efforts, as I'm sure Bob Wolfenbarger, and Larry Jones, our other Past Presidents would concur.

Thanks to each one for their support, and to all of you, for continuing to support this large Wolfensberger Family Association.

Sincerely,

Myrna B. Liddell

QUERIES.....

I am looking for any information about the daughter of **Amanda Wolfenbarger** and **John James**. On the 1900 Estill County, Kentucky census - Enumeration District 29 - Line 51 - Dwelling 92 - Family 94 we find in the household of John James, a grandson **James W. Irvine** born in April 1896. According to the census, Amanda and John had been married 31 years and she had given birth to six children. Only three of which were still living. That puts them being married in 1868/1869.

They had two living sons, Joseph A. James who was born in March 1876 and Isaac "Ike" James born in February 1882 who was living with his Uncle **Joseph Wolfenbarger** on the 1900 census. I have not been able to find this couple on the 1870 or 1880. They may have been in Tennessee as the census (cont page 9)

Frank Wolfenbarger Elected.....

(cont. from page 1)

Larry Jones introduced me to the many facets of our family history. I was thrilled to learn that my offspring qualify for membership in both the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the Confederacy. I learned that there was even a member of our family who fought in the Texas Revolution.

My goals as your president are to serve you well, to increase membership both in the states and in Europe, and to establish a central archive for family records and memorabilia. I will have proposals concerning membership and archives at our next board meeting.

On a personal note, February was an exciting month for me. I had a birthday complete with a surprise party organized by my wife Betty and daughter Gretchen - as to my age, it is one of those that has a zero in it. Then on Saturday, I graduated from the Lutheran Lay Minister Academy. It was an impressive ceremony with a presiding Bishop and other clergy. I am very excited and looking forward to my duties as a Parish Lay Minister.

I have promised the board an email address. In the interim, if any member would like to correspond with me you may use my daughter Gretchen's email, send snail mail, or phone using the following information:

Frank Wolfenbarger
1708 Timbers Drive
Irving, TX 75061

Home: 972-259-2153

Cell: 972-754-8121

Boat: 361-729-6462

dollken2@comcast.net

Feel free to contact me with concerns or input as to how to make WFA meet your needs.

God bless you all,

Frank

HISTORIAN'S NOTE:

By Myrna Liddell

Success comes to those who work together!

Because of questions and pictures sent in to Myrna Liddell, WFA Historian, over the past 2 years, we were able to connect Bonnie Wolfenbarger with two sisters Kandie and Carol, regarding their mutual relatives: John Melton Wolfenbarger and his son John Melton/Milton Wolfenbarger Sulfridge.

Recently, Bonnie received a pension file which helped them "prove" that what Kandie believed had happened was in fact true. We hope to have more information posted on the rootsweb WFA family file soon.

email from Bonnie in 2006:
"Hi, Myrna, too long to go into now, but I have gotten it figured out. We do not know the complete "why".

John Milton Wolfenbarger, Jr. son of John and Chloey Wolfenbarger disappeared and reappeared in Oklahoma, Arkansas after (cont. page 6)

Historian's notes.....(cont. from page 5)

having taken his step father George Suffrage/Sulfridge's name, married a woman from Oklahoma, had children in Arkansas (who still live there), moved to Roseburg, Douglas Co., Oregon, lived and died there. Kandie was right, she just could not prove it, and now we know, and have it [the proof]."

Another email later: per Bonnie: "George Suffrage married Cloey Arwine Wolfenbarger on March 1, 1883 after John left her and went with Myra Shockley. This is all in John/Myra and George's pension papers, which I have also. Life gets so complicated and confusing sometimes." ... *that's an understatement..Thank you, Bonnie, Kandie, and Carol !! MBL, WFA Historian*

Send us your inquiry for the next issue of the Wolfensberger!

Anniversary Mugs Again Available

The WFA Board voted in their regular meeting last January to order another supply of the Wolfensberger Anniversary Mugs for members who wish to order them. There were a number of our members who wanted mugs after the supply was exhausted. Those who ordered too



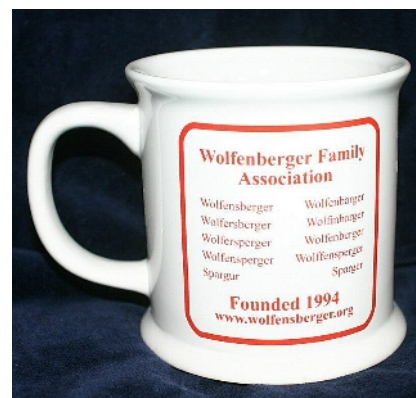
late were Nancy Axmacher (2), Chas. Duey (4), Ora Kirby (4), Myrna Liddell (2), Jon Rhan (12), Nancy Rhan (6), Joseph Spargur (2), Michael Wolfenbarger (several), Chas. Wolfensberger (2), Jerry Wolfenbarger (6). By the time you receive this newsletter, we should have the mugs on hand.

Place your orders with WFA Treas. Al Creasy, 500 Beau Valley Lane, Tryon, NC 28782-6697. Due to recent postal rate increases plus our under estimating the costs of shipping the last mugs, the following prices will apply:

No. Ordered	Price per Mug
1	\$11.00
2	9.00
3	8.00
4	7.24
5	7.00
6	6.85

The above prices for two or more will apply to orders shipped to the same address. Also, the spelling error in the list of names has been corrected. International shipments will be priced upon your inquiry as the shipping costs vary widely.

These are very beautiful Mugs and will make a great present for birthdays, graduation and even for next Christmas. The WFA Board is pleased to be able to make the Wolfensberger Anniversary Mug available again. ---RLE



Board Meeting Minutes - January 2006

The Board of Directors of the Wolfensberger Family Association meets by teleconference quarterly to conduct the business of the Association. At the last meeting, held January 9, 2006, the results of the election of the Board members were announced. Based on votes cast with the WFA, the following Board Members were elected to serve for the coming year:

Mickey Burlison - Temple, TX
 Al Creasy - Tryon, NC
 Gretchen Doll - Irving, TX
 Buzz Evans - Houston, TX
 Myrna Liddell - Langley, WA
 Charlotte Lucas - Tulsa, OK
 Wendell J. Wolfenbarger O'Reilly -
 Chattanooga, TN
 Jon Rhan - Londonderry, NH
 Bob Wolfenbarger - Summit, NJ
 W. Frank Wolfenbarger - Irving, TX
 Rudi Wolfensberger - Sotothurn,
 Switzerland
 Wolf Wolfensberger - Syracuse, NY
 David Wolfersberger - St. Louis, MO
 Bill Wolfenbarger - Palo Alto, CA

The Board then elected the following as officers for 2006:

President - W. Frank Wolfensberger
 Vice President - Buzz Evans
 Treasurer - Al Creasy
 Secretary - David Wolfersberger
 Historian - Myrna Liddell

Jon Rhan will serve as editor of *Wolfensberger*. Charlotte Lucas was appointed Assistant Historian.

Also at this meeting, the Board voted to add the position of Historian as an officer of the WFA. The Historian is responsible for maintaining the archival data of the WFA genealogical database and making it available to members and other interested parties. The Historian also receives additional family data and documents from members and

others, compiling this data as necessary. The Historian provides assistance to queries regarding the family history. So it is easy to see that the Historian is vital to an organization such as ours.

In addition, the Board voted to add a Vice President of International Relations. The purpose of this position is to provide a liaison between the Board and the European members of the WFA.

Any member who has any business to be considered by the Board should contact any Board member as listed elsewhere in the *Wolfensberger*.

Treasurer's Report

As the Treasurer and Membership person for WFA, I have one very unpleasant job to do each year: Drop those members who are behind in their dues.

As of the end of 2005, the total membership count of WFA was 295 members in the US and 10 members in Europe.

Included in those totals were 53 members in the US and 2 members in Europe whose dues ran out at the end of 2004. Despite encouragement in the newsletter, and a special letter written to them to get their dues current, only 13 members in the US and neither in Europe have done so. Here is a listing of those members whose dues ran out at the end of 2004, and who have been dropped from membership:



Nancy A. ALLEN; Fort Collins, CO
 Sarah ARBON; Mapleton, UT
 Betty Lou S. BAILEY; Shreveport, LA
 Karen BAXTER; Hillsboro, OR
 Lavada BONNETT; Metairie, LA
 Joyce BROWNING; Reston, VA
 Mildred W. COBB; Irvine, KY
 Karyn CROSS-SARABIA; Anderson Island, WA
 Ervin DALTON; Monroe, OH
 Leila DECKER; River Oaks, TX
 Sharon Ann HARRELL; Fort Worth, TX
 Chris S. HAY; Somerset, PA
 Phillip J. HAY; Los Alamos, NM
 Ray V. HAYES; Corryton, TN 37721
 Helen O. HESTER; Uvalde, TX
 Dr. Kevin Len JONES; Oklahoma City, OK (cont page 8)

Gary M. JONES; Surprise, AZ
 Reynold M. JONES; Oklahoma City, OK
 Ricci M. JONES; Edmond, OK
 Robert S. KELLY; Cedar Park, TX
 Sharon Orahood LYELL; Martin, TN
 Jeannette A. MAXEY; Kalamazoo, MI
 Estell MAYNARD; Olympia, WA
 Frances Ann MOORE; Bastrop, TX
 Wendell W. O'REILLY; East Ridge, TN
 Vernon OSBORN; Magnolia, TX
 Roslyn & Art RIDEOUT; Fallbrook, CA
 Harry E. RIEGEL; Modesto, CA
 Col. Perry M. SPARGUR; Tucson, AZ
 William F. SPARGUR, II; Palmdale, CA
 Mrs. Ione E. SPARGUR; Shenandoah,
 Sarah & Curtis SPENCER; Fort Gibson, OK
 Grace Sparger WILSON; Ft. Worth, TX
 Roger WOLFE; Uplands, CA
 Irma WOLFENBARGER; Whittier, CA
 Roy WOLFENBARGER; Fayetteville, AR
 Alyce WOLFERSBERGER; Stuart, FL
 Joseph WOLFERSBERGER, III; Jacksonville, FL
 Jack L. WOLFENBARGER; Independence, MO
 James O. WOLFENBARGER, Sr.; Fort Worth, TX
 Matthias WOLFENSBERGER; Switzerland
 Peter WOLFENSBERGER; Switzerland

If any of these folks are family members, encourage them to reinstate their membership in WFA. Or send in their dues for them. The cost to do so will be either \$18.00 (dues for 2005 and 2006), or if they prefer, \$26.00 (dues for 2005, 2006, and 2007). Send the check to me at the address shown below. We need them as members! Of course, if you know of interested people who are not currently members, encourage them to join.

Please take a moment and check your own membership status. Look at the label on this newsletter. If it says "Paid thru 2005", then your dues are now due. Your choices are: \$10.00 for 1 year, \$18.00 for 2 years, or \$26.00 for 3 years. Make your check payable to WFA, and send it to:
 Albert H. Creasy
 500 Beau Valley Lane
 Tryon, NC 28782

I don't want to have your name on the expired list this time next year! Thank you. Al Creasy, Treasurer, WFA

<u>Family Items</u>	<u>No. ordered</u>	<u>Price</u>
<u>Wolfensberger Family Flag</u>
(Price \$37.00 ea. Incl. shipping costs)		
		
<u>Wolfensberger Medallion</u>
(Price \$25.00 ea. Incl. shipping costs)		
		
These items may be ordered from WFA Treasurer Al Creasy, 500 Beau Valley Lane, Tryon, NC 28782		
		ORDER TOTAL _____

QUERIES (cont from page 4)

has the mother of James Irvine being born in Tennessee. Any information, no matter how little, will be greatly appreciated.

Charlotte Lucas - Email: wolfenbargers@yahoo.com

New Members.....

Please welcome the following new members who joined the Wolfensberger Family Association since November:

Janice Childress; Neosho, MO (Wolfinbarger)

Floyd Spargur; Stiger, OK

Kolette Johnson; Sterling, CO (Spargur)

Robert D. Wolfersberger; Fairfield, CA

Stephen Wolfenbarger; San Diego, CA

Don Spargur; Huntington Beach, CA

Dick Nicolet; Manila, UT (Wolfinbarger)

Editor's Notes

I want to personally thank Buzz Evans for giving us five years as our newsletter editor. I will try to maintain the quality that my predecessors provided in producing this wonderful source of information on our large, extended family.

I will be taking over for Buzz going forward. I appreciate any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter. Please feel free to submit articles, which we may consider, that would be of interest to our members. I hope to hear from you!!

Send anything to me at my email or snail mail address below:

Jon A. Rhan, Newsletter Editor
4 Acropolis Avenue
Londonderry, NH 03053-3242
jon_rhan@mentor.com

<u>2006 Membership Renewal</u>	
Mail to: Al Creasy, Treas.	
500 Beau Valley Lane Tryon, NC 28782	
Your name _____	
Address _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
Membership for _____ year(s)	Amt. enclosed _____



WOLFENSBERGER FAMILY
ASSOCIATION
4 Acropolis Avenue
Londonderry, NH 03053-3242

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Vol. XII No. 1

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Wolfensberger Family Association

February 2006

Officers & Directors - Year 2006

Executive Board

W. Frank Wolfenbarger
Richard L. Evans
David E Wolfensberger
Albert H. Creasy
Myrna Liddell
Jon Rhan

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Vice Pres.
Secretary
Treasurer
Past Pres. & Historian
Newsletter Editor

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trebla1@alltel.net
myrnabl@whidbey.com
jon_rhan@mentor.com

Other Board Members

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Barbara J. Jackson
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Robert J. Wolfenbarger
Rudolf A. Wolfensberger
Wolf Wolfensberger
Bill Wolfenbarger

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Honorary Life Members

Heini Wolfensberger
Lawrence M. Jones