



WOLFENSBERGER

Newsletter of the Wolfensberger Family Association

August 2002

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Izora Jones Succumbs to Illnesses

WFA Memorial Featured in Swiss TV Documentary



The following letter was received from Rudi Wolfensberger of Solothurn, Switzerland which tells about a TV documentary shown on Swiss TV about returning the wolf to the Swiss countryside. The documentary included scenes of the WFA Memorial stone dedicated last year near Bauma. Also note on page 5, an article prepared by Bob Wolfenberger, WFA Pres. complete with beautiful illustrations. RLE

"Dear Cousins,

From Max I got the tape about the TV Show of 18th April 2002, entitled "Woelfe ueberleben" (wolves survive), from Andreas Moser. Thank you Max for sending me this tape and getting in contact with the author, Andreas Moser, who sent him this tape after some negotiations. We have seen the tape now and can do the following summary:

First remark in this show is the return of the wolf into Switzerland in these days after a long absence. But already in medieval times there had been wolves here; so many e.g. in 14th Century, that sometimes Zuerich had to close its city-gates, so they couldn't get into the town. Also in Zuerich-Oberland it had many wolves, so many that a mountain near Bauma has called "Wolfs-berg" or "Wolfensberg" where they obviously lived too. The authors show the

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President's Letter

by Bob Wolfenberger, WFA Pres.

While attending a family reunion in Montana, WFA founder and former Association President Larry Jones was summoned home to Oklahoma City after learning that his wife, Izora, had taken a turn for the worse. Cutting short his visit to our Montana relatives, Larry flew home to discover that Izora's condition had turned very serious. Within days, Izora died.

We were unable to attend services for Izora, but the Association sent Larry a lovely all-white floral arrangement and a young tree to plant in her

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Izora Jones



Larry's Corner

Editor's Note:

This column was copied from the Oklahoma City newspaper, THE OKLAHOMAN, of July 23rd 2002.

In Memorium

Izora O. Lawson Jones

Izora O LAWSON died July 21, 2002 after a long illness. She was born August 24, 1927 near Lexington, OK to Dow LAWSON and Nancy LAMBDIN. She is survived by her husband, Lawrence (Larry) M. JONES of Oklahoma City; son Gary JONES and wife Heather and their children, Cambria and Andrew of Phoenix, AZ; son Frank CLARY of La Vegas, NV and his children, Chase and Chana of Yukon, OK; stepson Reynold M. JONES and Tammy of Oklahoma City, Reynold's children are Dr. Kevin JONES of Oklahoma City, Victor JONES of Yukon, OK and Jeffery JONES of Oklahoma City; stepson Ricci JONES and wife Debbie and their children, Matthew, Elizabeth, and Andrew of Edmond, OK. She is also survived by four sisters and three brothers; Mary SEWELL of Orange Cove, CA; Dorothy ROBERSON of Dinuba, CA; Ina THOMPSON of Muskogee, OK; Geneva RAY of Del City, OK; Alta LAWSON of Midwest City, OK; William (Bill) B. LAWSON of Norman, OK; John LAWSON of Wayne, OK; and Marshall LAWSON of Purcell, OK. She was preceded in death by her parents, a sister Martha PETREY of Lexington, OK, and brothers Mitchell LAWSON of Lexington, OK, Green LAWSON of Midwest City, OK and Arnold LAWSON of Canoga Park, CA.

For many years, Izora was known as the "Flower Lady" at the Mayfair Nutrition Site, where she would decorate 8-10 tables with flowers every day for their luncheons. Services will be at 10:00 AM Wednesday, July 24th at Guardian West Funeral Home Chapel with interment to follow at Arlington Memory Gardens, NE 36th and Midwest Blvd.

Pres. Letter

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memory. We remembered that Larry, once a highly decorated Boy Scout leader, had organized a Scout-planted memorial tree garden in Oklahoma City. We felt that a tree planted in Izora's memory was appropriate to a man who had given so much to his city and its youth.

This sad news is just one story in the August 2002 family newsletter. There's more. I traveled recently to historic Schaefferstown, Pennsylvania, to visit another place of beauty associated with our family. Some members may recall that in 1996 the Association erected a memorial stone in the Lutheran cemetery there to the original Wolfensbergers, John and Anna Margaretha. They and their family came to this country in 1730 from what is now the Alsace region of France. Schaefferstown is their gravesite and our heritage. If you are near this Lebanon County town, I urge you to visit the WFA's memorial to the original Wolfensbergers.

Another memorial to our forbears was recently given primetime television treatment on Swiss national television. Switzerland's parliament is considering bringing wolves back to the remaining forests of our homeland as the National Park Service did in Yellowstone. Television producers tracked down the family memorial we dedicated in 2001 on the Wolfensberg in Bauma, then sent a video crew to the former castle site to film the memorial, picnic area and plaques that mark the site. But you don't need to travel to Switzerland to learn what a significant role the Wolfensbergers played in helping to establish our homeland.

If you have a personal computer, you may want to see and hear Dr. Rudi Wolfensberger's PowerPoint CD-ROM disk that tells the story of the 2001 Bauma memorial dedication and adds a brief footnote describing our family's role in helping to build a neutral Switzerland. I thank Rudi for his history-laden presentation. Maybe you'd like your own copy of this unique presentation. RJW

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Heini Wolfensberger

TV Documentary

(cont. from page 1)

picture of the signpost in Bauma, similar to that as we have it in our show (picture made by Peter).

Then he shows our "Memorial Stone" on our castle site and the 3 plaques placed there last year. He says that here is the place of the Wolfensberger family origin and that this memorial stone marks the place where the Wolfensberger family originated. The Wolfensberger Family Association from America has built recently this memorial, and the Verke-hrsverein and the "Verein Zuercher Wanderwege" helped in

constructing the picnic-place and the hiking path. He showed also the picnic-place sitting on a wooden-bank there. I can't remember that he remarked our "memorial day" on 28th September 2001, but nevertheless the most important things for the public have been said. (For us - insider - this memorial day is also very important and not hinting on

it is almost a sin, isn't it?).

Then Andreas Moser drifted to the situation in Yellowstone Parc in America where they did a resettlement of wolf population with Canadian wolves. He showed their behavior, their life-style and their impact on nature (copyrights by an American TV), so people could compare the potential impact of wolves resettlement here in Switzerland. Conclusion of the author, Andreas Moser, wolves are not beloved and not hated, but respected by mankind and worthwhile in nature. (Comparison to living persons is allowed but not intended).

So far written down from memory by :

Rudi , Solothurn, Switzerland."

SHARE YOUR REUNION

Send us a note telling us about your reunion with a picture or two so we can let other family members share your GOOD TIMES. Send it by mail to the address on page 10 or by e-mail to: revans45@swbell.net

VISIT OUR

Web Site! <http://members.cox.net/wolfensberger>

Our mailing address is still:

Wolfensberger Family Association
6400 North Ann Arbor Terrace
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Our e-mail address is:

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SIX YEARS AGO the Wolfensberger Family Association paid tribute to its First Family, erecting a memorial in the historic St. Luke Lutheran Church cemetery in Schaefferstown, Pa.

Today the memorial stands as a tribute to Johannes and Anna Wolfensberger, who crossed the Atlantic in 1730 from what is now France's Alsace region.

Descendents of Swiss emigrants, the Wolfensbergers came to the colonies in search of life, liberty, religious freedom and pursuit of happiness.

In 1996, the WFA erected a memorial to the Wolfensberger First Family and dedicated it to the sons and daughters who followed in their footsteps.

Schaefferstown lies a few miles north of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, less than ten minutes from Lebanon.





If Switzerland Allows Wolves To Return To the Wild, Will They Return to The Wolfensberg?

SWITZERLAND'S PARLIAMENT is on the verge of a decision that could give fresh meaning to the name of our Swiss ancestral home in Bauma. Just as the National Park Service reopened Yellowstone National Park to wolves a few years ago, so may the Swiss Parliament open some of its alpine forests to these wild creatures -- again!

No need to look for wolves in the mountains surrounding Bauma any time soon. Wolves won't return. The Wolfensberg, site of a memorial to the family's descendents dedicated a year ago, is too thickly populated for wolves to roam free, as they did as long ago as the 14th Century.

Parliament's proposal to return wolves to the Alps recently prompted Swiss national television, which reaches millions of viewers, to look for a site to help it illustrate a TV documentary about the Parliament's proposed action.



Swiss television brought viewers to the WFA's Bauma memorial and our wolf-dominated family crest (above).

Where else but on the Wolfensberg?

A producer searching for a symbolic site associated with wolves found the Wolfensberg on a cantonal map in Bauma. Calling the community's tourism office, the *Verkehrsverein*, he was invited to bring a TV news crew to the Bauma and the Wolfensberg.

With footage depicting the Wolfensberger Family Association's memorial and neighboring countryside, the documentary aired in April throughout Switzerland. Even if Parliament approves the wolves proposal, it's unlikely to open the WFA memorial site to marauding wolfpacks.

Family Memorial CD Available

The Wolfensberger Family Association is offering members a lavishly illustrated CD-ROM Power-Point presentation that combines color photos of the dedication of the WFA's family memorial in Switzerland with a capsule history of the family's role in early Swiss history. So if you're curious about the country of the family's origin, this CD presentation will give you a colorful image of our history and our new memorial in Bauma atop the Wolfensberg. Creator of the presentation is Dr. Rudi Wolfensberger of Solothurn, Switzerland, an attorney and member of the WFA Board of Directors. Photos are by Dr. Wolfensberger and Peter Wolfensberger of Winterthur, a community in Switzerland.

All you need is a personal computer with a CD-ROM drive. It should use a Windows operating system, such as Windows 98. Your computer probably has sound and a full-color monitor. The Wolfensberger Family CD has an autorun.exe file that enables the presentation to run automatically once you place it in the CD drive. Among the highlights of the presentation are pictures of the September 28, 2001 memorial dedication in Bauma and the luncheon that followed in nearby Rapperswil, on Lake Zurich. You'll see the site where the family's castle once stood, and you'll learn about the appearance of the castle, both inside and outside. The castle no longer stands and there is dispute about whether it was made of stone or timber, but you'll see a blow-up of it which clearly shows a moat surrounding the castle and a watchtower. You'll learn about the Wolfensberger knight who built the castle in medieval times and about another who died in a battle for Swiss independence. You'll also see the WFA memorial stone erected on the site. It is inset with a diecast family crest and bronze plaques in English and German that tell the story of the family's origins. The site was shown in a recent Swiss national television documentary.

How do you obtain a CD?

If you live in the U.S., simply mail a check for \$10.00 payable to the WFA to the Association president, Bob Wolfenbarger.

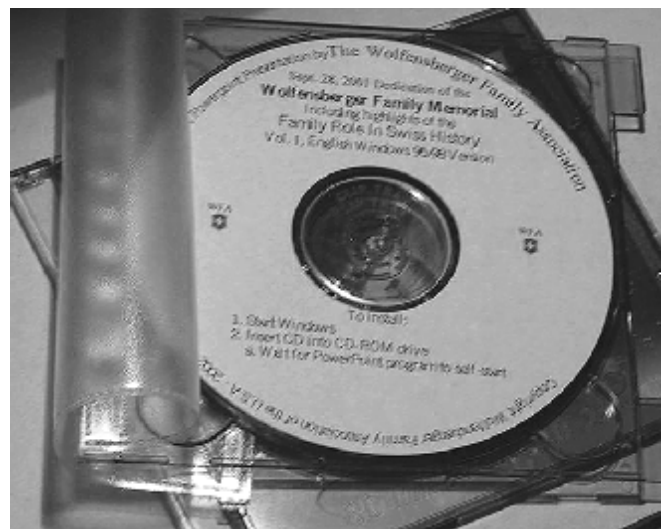
Address your order to:

Robert J. Wolfenbarger
30 Harvey Drive
Summit, N.J. 07901-1217

If you live in Europe, please send a postal check for 15 Swiss francs addressed to:

Dr. Rudi Wolfensberger
Schanzenstrasse 2,
CH 4500
Solothurn,
Switzerland

As soon as we have received all orders, Dr. Wolfensberger will ship your CD from Switzerland. It shouldn't take more than a month. Your check will be deposited in the WFA treasury. If you're not satisfied with the CD, simply request a refund and return it to Bob Wolfenbarger at the address shown above.



Rudi has sent us this photo of the FAMILY MEMORIAL CD.

A Sentimental Journey

During the summer of 1936, Edgar A. Maness and his family took a motor trip from Childress, Texas, where he was the Minister of the Methodist Church, to Mt. Airy, Surry County, North Carolina where he was born. Edgar was the son of Rev. William A. and Cornelia (Evans) Maness. Cornelia was the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Sparger) Evans, who brought their large family (23 children and grandchildren) to Fannin Co. Texas in 1885. At the time of the move, Cornelia was a widow, her husband having died some months before and Edgar, her oldest child was 9 years old. Mary Sparger was the daughter of John W. and Sarah (Lyon) Sparger and the granddaughter of John W Sparger who changed his name from John Wolfersperger. Several of Mary's brothers had settled in Fannin County before the Civil War and several of her sons had already moved to Fannin County, Texas, which no doubt, encouraged them to make the move.

Such a motor trip from west Texas to Mt. Airy NC was quite a trip in 1936, but Edgar wanted to take his family back to North Carolina to show them where he was born and lived before coming to Texas. Their oldest daughter, Cornelia, named for her grandmother, had her first camera and recorded this trip with numerous photos of the places they visited. Join us now as we arrive at the Surry County line after several days travel from Texas over all kinds of roads. With not an Interstate Highway to be found on the gasoline company maps, not a Holiday Inn to be seen, and not a McDonalds for a Big Mac and fries, this was truly quite a journey for this family during the middle of the Great Depression. They marvelled at the beautiful country of western North Carolina as they neared Surry County and the town of Mt. Airy they had heard so much about from their parents and grandparents.

As they neared Mt. Airy, at a place called Fancy Gap, they stopped the car and Cornelia took a picture of her mother, Maud, and father, Edgar, standing beside the road on a very steep hill as shown in the photo at right.

Continuing on into Surry County, they soon found the old Evans homeplace. It had been remodelled since Tom and Mary Evans left it some 51 years before. Again, Cornelia photographed her mother and father and younger sister Mary Sue on the front porch of the old Evans homeplace. Then she turned and took a picture of the beautiful countryside scene viewed from the porch. They then set off to explore the old homeplace.

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Sentimental Journey (cont. from page 7)

Edgar showed his daughters one of the apple trees he helped his grandfather, Tom Evans, set out many years before when he was just a lad of seven or eight years of age.

The girls soon found the old well used by the Evans family and marvelled at the wonderful taste of the cold water they drew from the deep well.

They found the old smokehouse and Edgar explained to his daughters what this structure was used for in the long ago days.

Cornelia's camera captured these moments on film as the family explored the old homeplace of Tom and Mary (Sparger) Evans.

They soon returned to the car and set out to find

Uncle Frank Sparger's home. It was not far away and they greeted Uncle Frank, who was a little taken aback by these strangers from Texas. But he posed beside his homeplace for a picture snapped by his "cousin".

Uncle Frank was Benjamin Franklin Sparger, son of Murlin and Bethania Sparger. Uncle Frank was Mary Sparger's nephew, who was born just a year before Tom and Mary were married at his father Murlin's home. Uncle Frank showed the family the homeplace of Murlin Sparger where Mary and her mother lived after her father died. Cornelia snapped a picture of this lovely old homeplace where her grandmother had lived so many years ago.



After returning to Texas from this sentimental journey back in time, Cornelia Maness shared her photographs with her Aunt Kate (Mary Kathrine Evans) who was a daughter of Mary Sparger Evans.

Perhaps some of those attending the Sparger family Reunion in Galaxy, VA this summer will recall some of these places the Maness family visited some 65 years ago. RLE

DEMONS... by Richard Evans, Editor

Cont. from the May issue of the WFA Newsletter

When I arrived at the service desk, the clerk summoned a service rep and he immediately set up my computer on a demo desk in the waiting room to demonstrate to me what I was doing to cause this trouble. When he turned the computer on, the horrible blue screen reappeared as it had at home. Over and over again, the service rep rebooted the machine.

After several reboots, the service rep solemnly advised the only solution was to do a RESTORE on my machine which would restore the computer to its original condition when I took it from the store. He explained this would erase my hard drive and I would lose everything. I asked him what my options were and he was not reassuring. With tears almost springing forth, I told him to do what he had to do to fix my machine. I could almost hear the demons laughing as I left the service shop.

Later that day I returned to the service desk, picked up my computer, assured it was in excellent health, took it home and plugged it in. All that was on the hard drive was the Windows software. I had lost everything. But, I could still play FREECELL and Solitaire. Taking a deep breath, I clicked on the FREECELL icon and an error message opened announcing that a "Wizard" (really, a Demon) had detected a new keyboard. I knew it was the same keyboard I had had from the start with this machine. This was when I decided to return the demon possessed machine to the store and ask for a refund.

I boxed up the whole thing (demons and all) and made the trek across town to the store. The security lady met me at the door and said I could not bring the box into the store, but that it should be taken to the service shop next door. I said I would leave the box in my truck as I wanted to speak to the manager. I was escorted to the office where I explained my dilemma. She assured me the service dept. was the place to take the machine and accompanied me there with the box of demon possessed electronics.

When the service rep came out, he shook my hand as we had become close friends by this time. He assured me he had to examine the machine again. I told him he had examined the machine several times in recent weeks. But he insisted it had to be done again and took the box and said he would call me at home when he was done. I told him I was not going home but would be seated in the waiting room eating a lunch I had brought with me until he finished his examination. He disappeared behind the counter and through a doorway with my computer on a cart.

After an hour, he reappeared to tell me he had examined my computer chip by chip and found it in excellent health. As we talked an assistant was connecting my computer up in the demo booth in the waiting room. When he had it connected to all the necessary cables, the service rep asked me to join him in the booth where he would demonstrate the unblemished operation of the computer. He turned on the machine and as it began to whirr and groan, I knew the demons were stirring again. When the Windows desktop appeared, he turned to me saying "See, there is nothing wrong with this machine."

As he talked I was watching the monitor over his shoulder and noted the first error message window open stating the "Wizard" had detected a new keyboard. When the service rep turned to look at the monitor his face clouded slightly, but he recovered and said that this occasionally happened when a machine was first connected up. He grabbed the mouse and began to click on icons and explained to me what he was doing. I did not understand at all what he said. In a few moments the error window disappeared and the bare desktop was again present.

As he turned to assure me that all was well, another error message window appeared for another "Wizard" stating something else needed attention. The service rep's face really clouded up as he grabbed the mouse and began to furiously click on buttons and icons, all the while explaining

DEMONS..... (cont. fom page 9)

In a moment, this error window also closed and the service rep relaxed explaining it was just a momentary glitch. But then the another "Wizard", not to be outdone, reappeared and said the keyboard had disappeared and would have to be reinstalled. I threw up my hands and told the service rep that the demons had control of the machine. and returned to my chair in the waiting room to finish an apple I was eating.

The service rep clicked the mouse a few more times as his assistant looked on and then slowly they began to disconnect my machine. They carried the parts back through the door behind the counter. I sat down in the waiting area to see what would happen next. In a few minutes the cashier was summoned and he disappeared through the door behind the counter. When he returned, he motioned me to come to his station and asked for my receipt for the original purchase. With a few deft strokes and a swipe of my credit card, the printer produced a refund which I quickly signed.

As he was completing this transaction, I asked "You don't have an exorcist on staff here, do you?" He looked up with a puzzled look and asked, "What's that?" "Oh, just another kind of technician," I replied.

I thanked the clerk as he handed me the credit and quickly fled out the door and hurried to my truck. I wanted to leave the store, relieved that the computer demons were no longer my problem.

"The Happy End of a Horrible Tale"

SOMETHING SPECIAL

Every now and then it takes a true military mind to come up with a classic quote!

In a recent interview, General Norman Schwartzkopf was asked if he thought there was room for forgiveness toward the people who have harboured and abetted the terrorists who perpetrated the 9/11 attacks on America.

His answer:

"I believe that forgiving them is God's function. Our job is simply to arrange the meeting"



Wolfensberger

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