

Wolfensberger

Newsletter of the WOLFENSBERGER FAMILY ASSOCIATION

July 1996, Vol. 2, No. 3

FAMILY MEMBERS DEDICATE MEMORIAL STONE TO SWISS COUPLE WHO EMIGRATED TO COLONIES IN 1730 VOYAGE

5 The Daily News, Lebanon, PA, Tuesday, May 28, 1996

LOCAL

Tribute... Wolfersbergers dedicate memorial to ancestors

By JOHN FRASER
For The Daily News
SCHAFFERSTOWN — De-

... a Swiss soldier was

passengers of that ship on its
voyage across the Atlantic.
Whatever the circumstance, the

Nearly 20 descendants of John and Anna Margaretha Wolfersberger gathered at the Schaefferstown, Pa., Lutheran Cemetery on Memorial Day to pay tribute to the Swiss immigrant couple who came to America over 260 years ago to start a new life.

On the grounds of the Lutheran Church the couple helped establish, the descendants dedicated a simple granite memorial stone to the Wolfersbergers, who migrated with their young family to the rolling hills of central Pennsylvania in the summer of 1730.

The memorial stone paid tribute to the Wolfersbergers and their seven children, from whom most members of the Wolfensberger Family Association descend. Four of the children were born in the Alsace before the 1730 voyage to the New World. Three other offspring were born in Lebanon County, east of Pennsylvania's state capital, Harrisburg.

The youngest son, John Philip, born in 1739, went on to make a name for his family as a citizen-soldier. As a teenager, John Phillip joined a Pennsylvania battalion formed in the French and Indian War. He marched into western Pennsylvania to aid the relief of Fort Pitt, under attack by the French and their Indian allies.

Later in the American Revolution, the French and Indian War veteran rose to lieutenant colonel in the Continental Army, taking part in battles against the British in Long Island and elsewhere.

After the Revolution, John Philip held various public offices. His son, Frederick, continued the family tradition of public service, serving as sheriff of nearby Dauphin County in Pennsylvania in the early 19th Century.

The Wolfersbergers' memorial stone, financed by contributions from two dozen family members, was dedicated to the memory of the family in a simple graveside

The Daily News of Lebanon, Pa., gave the dedication ceremony a prominent place in its May 28 edition. A half-page story with picture of Frank and Sandra Wolfensberger, Campbelltown, told of the Wolfensberger history and the family's memorial.

ceremony on Memorial Day. It rests next to an original stone, now weathered and worn with age, placed at the grave of Anna Margaretha in 1777.

Although there is no grave stone for John, he is believed to rest next to Anna Margaretha.

Officiating at the ceremony was the Rev. Larry Bergh, pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in which the Wolfensbergers were active members until their deaths.

Following the ceremony, the family members accompanied Executive Director Larry Jones to a cemetery in nearby Campbelltown, only miles from Hershey, where the graves of some 35 other members of the family are located.

SEE PICTURES, NEXT PAGE

List of 1996 Association Memberships: Are Your Family Members On The List?

Membership of the Wolfensberger Family Association on June 14 stood at 229 family members. The current membership includes:

A-E

Ruth Dyer Adams, Julieta, ID
Helen Z Alvord, Edinburg, TX
Sarah Arbon, Mesa, AZ
David Ash, Spring, TX
Bonnie Aspenson, Okla City, OK
Verde Atkinson, Indianapolis, IN
Elizabeth Beard, Houston, TX
Lavene Bell, Bellevue, WA
Marian D Bielski, Jefferson City, MO
Lynn Bingham, Jerome, ID
Cindy Spargur Blevins, Casper, WY
Roxanne Bohman, Houston, TX
Mildred Booth, Miami, OK
Ruby Braden, Eagle Lake, TX
Katherine Bradley, Chickamauga, GA
Norma Brake, Springfield, MO
Eleanor Brasseaux, Bay City, TX
Jeffery N Brown, Mesa, AZ
Paul Brown, Warner Robins, GA
Mary Ann Campbell, Newark, DE
Mildred Cobb, Irvine, KY
Regina Coble, Pasadena, TX
Tamara Cowan, Lopez Island, WA
Billie Plumlee Cox, Cincinnati, OH
Anna Ruth Crabtree, Neosho, MO
Albert Creasy, Normal, IL
Earline Cross, Hurst, TX
Sue Davidson, Weatherford, TX
Betty Jo DeLong, Jefferson City, MO
Joe F DeLong III, Jefferson City, MO
Gregory G DeLong, Springfield, MO
Alma Durham, Irvine, KY

E-J

Mary Edwards, Irvine, KY
James Edwards, San Angelo, TX
Kenne Spargur Ellis, Oakdale, CA
Nita Fennessy, Conroe, TX
Lisa Spargur Flenry, Sunnyvale, CA
Teresa Forster, Maryville, TN
Mary Frazier, Lake Elsinore, CA
Gail Gardner, Alexandria, VA
Marval Spargur Geddes, Redding, CA
Robert Geddes, San Jose, CA
Kahlia Jo Gilliland, Geneoa, IL
Alfred Hamil, Ft. Gibson, OK
Roy Harris, Pratt, KS
Peggy W Heiderich, Menomonee, WI
Dorothy Higbee, Norman, OK
James R Hinote, Ava, MO
Cynthia Howard, Tulsa, OK

Opal Howerton, Boise, ID
Judith Hughes, Grand Prairie, TX
Anna Maye Ingram, Grove, OK
Sara A H Jeschke, Winchester, VA
Patricia Johnson, Oak Grove, MO
Don W Johnston, Durango, CO
Karin Lee Jones, Redmond, WA
Lawrence M Jones, Okla City, OK
Ricci Jones, Edmond, OK
Gary Jones, Yukon, OK
Reynold Jones, Oklahoma City, OK

K-O

Maxie Keck, Alexandria, VA
Jeannette Kelley, Houston, TX
Robert S Kelly, Toledo, OH
Ken S Kennerly, Midland, TX
Delores V King, Granbury, TX
Ora W. Kirby, Irvine, KY
Nancy Krimminger, Seal Beach, CA
Carla Weaver Kyle, Tulsa, OK
Darlene Laughlin, Stella, MO
Shirley Ruth Layton, Neosho, MO
James G Leonard, Okla City, OK
Marilyn Leonard, Edmond, OK
Sue Lessenberry, Littleton, CO
D D Lewis, Richardson, TX
Myma Liddell, Langley, WA
Debra Lloyd, Lufkin, TX
Sue Loeb, Dunkirk, NY
Charlotte Lucas, Tulsa, OK
Lila Marston, Roseville, CA
Stacy Marie Martin, Clarkston, WA
Ivilyn Sparger Martin, Mt Airy, NC
Rebecca Mason, Port Lavaca, TX
Cynthia Ann May, Amarillo, TX
Virginia Mayes, Independence, MO
Estell Maynard, Olympia, WA
Jillie Miller, Austin, TX
Frances Moore, Houston, TX
Ida Spargur Morgan, Pensacola, FL
Patricia Nay, Cincinnati, OH
Nick Neal, Kirkland, WA
Wilma Neal, Kirkland, WA
Troy Neal, Carough, Switzerland
Richard Newman, Bixby, OK
Thelma S ODonnell, Vancouver, WA
Vernon Osborn, Magnolia, TX
Gloria Overbey, Berkshire, NY
Esther May Overby, Seattle, WA

P-Snow

Yolonda Spargur Palmer, Orlando, FL
Carlene S Phillips, Hillsboro, OH
Paul S Phillips Jr, Sturgeon Bay, WI
Todd L Powell, Springfield, MO
Nola W Provost, The Woodlands, TX
Goldie Iva Ramos, Sacramento, CA
Dr James Rand, San Antonio, TX

Barbara Rand, Fort Worth, TX
Ruby Reddick, Twin Falls, ID
Carmin Dean Reed, Bates City, MO
Mona Reigert, St Louis, MO
Jeanette Reynolds, Oak Grove, AR
George Ella Rogers, Corryton, TN
Judith D Ross, Macon, GA
Lilly Ann Ross, Macon, GA
Jean B Rowlett, Nashville, TN
Margaret E Sager, Wyncote, PA
Mirian J Sanford, Clarkston, WA
Greg Sanford, Spokane, WA
Rayenelle Sansing, Deer Park, TX
Becky Schabacker, Charlottesville, VA
Ruth Ann Schovajsa, Rosharon, TX
Barbara Snow, Miami, OK

Sparger

Maurice W Sparger, Spencer, NC
Randall Sparger Jr, Pfafftown, NC
William Sparger, Colorado Springs, CO
Marvin F Sparger, Mt Airy, NC
William A Sparger Jr, Harrisburg, NC
Dr H Merritt Sparger Jr, Salem, NC
James M Sparger, Tequesta, FL
Guy Mitchell Sparger, Mt Airy, NC
John W Sparger, Marion, VA
Joseph B Sparger, Mt Airy, NC
Collier B Sparger, Venice, FL
Capt John Sparger, Dallas, TX
Emil A Sparger, Spencer, NC

Spargur

Michael J Spargur, W St. Paul, MN
Rev. Arlie V Spargur, Painesville, OH
Earl W Spargur, Yukon, OK
James E Spargur, Waynesville, OH
Robert E Spargur, Belleville, IL
Perry M Spargur, Tucson, AZ
Mrs Harry Spargur, Shenandoah, IA
William F Spargur, Palmdale, CA
Joe Ed Spargur, Moose Lake, MN
John Henry Spargur, Powell, WY
Geraldine Spargur, Scottsdale, AZ
Jon Leighton Spargur, N Bethesda, MD
Richard K Spargur, Australia
Jim Spargur, Hill City, SD
Earl W Spargur, San Jose, CA
Kimberly Spargur, Louisville, KY
Col. Vendrell Spargur, Dayton, OH

Sprague - Winters

Tamara Sprague, Logan, UT
Marietta Stallard, Elliston, VA
Varva Steele, Kanab, UT
Shirley Sutphen, Montrose, CO
Linda Sutton, Bryan, TX
Loren W. Tabor, Denver, CO
Russell VanAsperen, Alexandria, VA
Esther Walter, Allenspark, CO



L - R; Larry JONES, Pat JOHNSON, W. Frank WOLFENBARGER, Bob WOLFENBARGER, Mary Ann CAMPBELL.



Front of Memorial Stone



Bill WOLFERSBERGER, Frank and Sandra WOLFERSBERGER, Betty WINTERS, hiding behind Betty is Dick WINTERS



Back of Memorial Stone



Grave of John Philip WOLFERSBERGER in cemetery at the Reformed Lutheran Church in Campbelltown, PA



Standing L-R, Bill WOLFERSBERGER, W Frank WOLFENBARGER, Dr. Betty WOLFENBARGER, Judy WOLFERSBERGER, Leonard CAMPBELL, Joe WOLFERSBERGER, Dick WINTERS, Frank and Sandra WOLFERSBERGER, Everett JOHNSON, Jean and Herbert ROWLETT, Rev Larry BERGH Seated; Alyce WOLFERSBERGER, Betty WINTERS, Mary Ann CAMPBELL, Pat JOHNSON, Bob WOLFENBARGER. Taking photo Larry JONES

LETTER FROM LARRY JONES TO THE MEMBERSHIP

I will always be proud to have been a part of the dedication ceremony for the memorial stone that the Wolfensberger Family Association provided for Johannes Wolfensberger and Anna Margaretha Ensminger in the Lutheran Cemetery at Schaefferstown, PA. I am sure that all of the others that attended this dedication feel the same. There were many others that expressed to me their desire to attend but were unable for various reasons. Now anyone wishing to find and see the memorial for these two ancestors can easily find and see what we have provided for our descendants for centuries to come. The photographs on the other side of this page show what to look for when you visit the cemetery. The list of contributors to this memorial are as follows: W Frank Wolfenbarger, Lawrence M. Jones, Michael Dalton Wolfenbarger, Robert Wolfensberger, Jeannette Kelley, Robert J Wolfenbarger, Vernon Osborn, Col Vendrell Spargur, Maggie Wolfinbarger, Albert H Creasy, Kenne Spargur Ellis, Marvin F Sparger, Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger, John W Sparger, Betty Jo DeLong, Col Joseph Wolfenbarger, Mona Riegert, Dr H Merritt Sparger, Gail Gardner, Frank Wolfinbarger, Mark H Wolfenbarger, Boone Wolfenbarger, Sue Davidson, Bonnie Aspenson, Shirley Sutphen, Ivylyn Martin, Ora Kirby, Elizabeth K Winters, Judith K Ross, Jack W Wolfinbarger, Bill Wolfinbarger, Jean Rowlett, Myrna Liddell, Jeri Spargur, William Whitman, Mildred Booth, Thelma O'Donnell, Marilyn Leonard, John F Wolfinbarger, Varva Steele, Virginia Mayes, Charlotte Lucas, Patricia Johnson, Ernest L Wolfenbarger and Billie Plumlee Cox. There were several contributions of less than \$10.00.

Your Wolfensberger Family Association is considering having a "Home Page" on the Internet. Your Board of Directors will be receiving information on this item soon. This "Home Page" would very short and simple. Just something to let the world know who to contact for information on our family.

The members of the WFA that have e-mail capabilities, that I have knowledge of are as follows:

Opal Howerton (a son) <72342.1355@compuserve.com>; Larry Jones lmj1s@icon.net (the 1 before the s is a # one);

Myrna Liddell rldome@whidbey.com ; Donna Long DonnaFLong@aol.com ; Charlotte Lucas rluucas@iamerica.net ;

Jean Rowlett wil87@aol.com ; William F Spargur wfspar@qnet.com ; Russell VanAsperen renik@erols.com ;

Jimmy L Wolfenbarger wolfen@aol.com . Others that have e-mail facilities should let me know so that you may be listed in the next newsletter.

Many of you have provided me with your family information and that I have placed in my computer. I have then made gedcom files with all of the family information that is in my computer at that time and sent many copies to family members. This requires two 3 1/2" diskettes. To help cover the cost of the diskettes and postage there is a \$5.00 charge for the gedcom file. Very little personal information have I received from anyone. I am planning on starting a book of our family later this year with a target date for distribution of 1998. The family information that I have received is names with dates. While these names and dates are a must, to have a book that is interesting there must be personal items for many of the entries. The personal items are where lived as a child and as an adult, what your parents did as a livelihood, where and amount of education, church membership, civic involvement, awards and recognizations along with any other item that you and others would like to see under your name in the family history. The submittal of this requested information is entirely up to you. I plan on starting with the entering of this information when received. Editing will obviously be needed on most entries. Your submittal could be from one paragraph to two pages. Please attempt to have your items to me by 30 September 1996.

Michael Dalton Wolfenbarger has just finished a family history book. This is about a 100 page book, and a fine job he did. The book covers his family and my family. He gave a copy to me and to his uncles and aunts at his family reunion in Knoxville on 22 June 1996. There were about 100 persons in attendance from Georgia, Michigan, California, Tennessee, Colorado, Oklahoma and other states.