

**The HENRICKS FAMILY HISTORY**

by

Donald G. Henricks

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## Introduction

In some ways the Henricks Family is a typical American family, with roots originating in England, Germany, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, and France. Some branches of the family arrived on the Eastern seaboard before the creation of the United States and gradually migrated westward as the country expanded in that direction.

Although we know of only two or three original Pilgrim ancestors, at least three prominent branches of the family tree, the Tuckers, Hardins and Hoyts, arrived in North America in the mid-1600's. We like to say they were on the Mayflower's "back-up boats". These families lived in the English and Dutch Colonies more than a century before the American Revolution began. Family members fought on both sides during the Revolutionary War. Later generations were personally involved in the creation of towns and counties across the U.S.

Other branches of the family, such as the Johnsons, Roeders, Horstmanns and Tates were more recent arrivals, immigrating to the U.S. during the 19th and 20th centuries to find a better life for themselves and their families.

To my knowledge, no family member was what might be called "famous". None was important enough to appear as more than a footnote in documented history. They were the common folk who formed the backdrop before which the historical drama of the U.S. unfolded. They were the quiet "extras" on the stage that gave the scenes energy and vitality.

However, by its very longevity and cumulative contributions to the creation and development of the towns, cities and counties of the U.S., The Henricks Family might be considered a unique American family, and its genealogy represents a broad study in American history.

### The HENRICKS Branch

My paternal grandfather, George Alexander Johnson, was born on May 4, 1874, in Galveston, Texas. He was the youngest of six children born to John and Elizabeth (Sommer) Johnson, about whom very little is known.

What little we know came from Harry Johnson, son of Joseph Henry Johnson, son of John Johnson. John Johnson was a seaman, born about 1822, in Schleswig-Holstein, a region between Denmark and Germany that had long been coveted by both countries. There is a birth record for a Johann Johannsen, born in 1822 in the village of Orth, on the isle of Fehmarn in Schleswig-Holstein. Johann's father was Anthon Johannsen, whose occupation was "seafarer and captain". In 1822, the area belonged to Germany and the Johannsen's probably spoke German, not Danish, and considered themselves Germans. Johann may have left home as a young man to avoid serving in the German army.

Elizabeth was born in 1833, listing her birthplace in the 1870 census as "Saxony". An Elizabeth Somers, age 17, born in Germany, appears in the Galveston census of 1850, along with four younger siblings: Frank, John, Katy and Mary Ann, but no parents are listed. She may have been raising her four siblings after losing their parents. A passenger manifest for the ship *Andacia* indicates that a Ferdinand Sommer traveled with six other "persons" from Budesheim, Germany, via Antwerp to Galveston in 1846. Were the six persons Ferdinand's wife, daughter Elizabeth, and the four other Sommer siblings?

A record exists of a marriage between Johann Jurgens and Elizabeth Sommer on October 22, 1851, in Galveston. Either this was a first marriage for Elizabeth that didn't last very long or Johann was experimenting with names before settling on John Johnson. It should also be noted that an 1866 Galveston birth record exists for a Michael Jansen, whose parents are listed as Elizabeth Sommer and John Jansen. Is John Jansen also John Johnson? We may never know the answers to these questions.

In any event, John and Elizabeth were was living together in Galveston, a thriving seaport, by the mid- 1850's. There they raised their family of two girls and four boys, as follows in order of birth: John Cornelius, Catherine Elizabeth, Peter William, Joseph Henry, Anna Catherine Hellen and George Alexander. Elizabeth was a member of St. Josephs Catholic Church, which served the German-speaking community in Galveston, and whose published records includes some of her family's births and confirmations. In these records, Elizabeth's maiden name is alternately spelled Sommer or Sommers.

According to Harry Johnson, John Johnson was the captain of a cargo ship that transported coffee from the Brazilian city of Recife to Galveston. John may have had a brother who went to Brazil and became a member of Dom Pedro II's court. He also may have had relatives living in New Orleans - William Johnson and his son, William F. Johnson. The 1880 Census tells us that William was born in Denmark in 1801, making him 21 years older than John. George kept a business card that read: *William F. Johnson, Newseller, New Orleans*. We visited the address on the business

card in the French Quarter of New Orleans and you can faintly make out the words from the business card painted on the side of the building.

Harry further stated that John disappeared about the time of his son George's birth, when his ship was lost at sea during a hurricane. It's possible that John never saw his son. George's only remembrance of his father was a silver pocketwatch, faintly engraved on the back of the case with the initials "JJ", probably presented to George by his mother.

Elizabeth endured the burden of being a widow raising six children and died of "consumption" four years later at age 45. Her will, dated in 1878, and signed with an X ("she not knowing how to write"), left her estate equally to her six children. The "estate", including a lot with improvements in Galveston and two lots in Madison, Texas, was valued at \$1160. The older children were forced to go to work. John worked on a dredge boat and Catherine, known as Kate, became a cook for the next-door neighbors and a laundress at the Galveston City Hospital.

Elizabeth's will appointed a German couple, Frederick William Henricks and his wife, Catherine, as guardians of the two youngest children: Annie, age six and George, age four. The two Johnson children were taken in and cared for by the Henricks', but never legally adopted by them. In fact, George was not told that the Henricks' were not his birth parents until he was about ten years old.

Galveston City Directories show that Captain F.W. Henricks, known as Fred, was a sand and shell contractor who owned as many as five schooners and that the Johnsons and the Henricks' had both lived at the same address, "Water Street (Ave A), between 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Sts.", since 1871.

A house had been built about 1870 by Captain Henricks, on or near the site of Galveston's most infamous residence, Jean Lafitte's original *Maison Rouge* or "Red House". *Maison Rouge* had served as the headquarters of Lafitte's commune on the eastern end of the island during the legendary pirate's stay in Galveston from 1817 through 1821. Legend has it that the pirate buried his wife in the basement of the old house and then burned it, sailing away never to return to Galveston Island.

Today, visitors to Galveston still visit a mudshell cement foundation, with unusual arches, located at 1417 Avenue A. The elaborate house that once stood on this foundation has been known to locals by several names, including "Hendricks' (Haunted) Castle" and "Noah's Ark". It was given the name "Noah's Ark" by the local Black community on account of their number that were saved in it during the hurricane of 1900. After the turn-of-the-century, it was mostly used as a boarding house, was allowed to deteriorate, and was demolished in the 1950's. It is marked by an historical monument as the site of Lafitte's *Maison Rouge*.

Catherine Henricks died in 1886 and Fred, in 1887, leaving Annie and George parentless again at ages 15 and 13. The 1888 City Directory shows Annie and George living in the house with Ferdinand Biermann, executor of the Henricks estate. At some point, Fred Henricks had found Biermann on the Galveston docks with his throat cut, took him home, nursed him back to health,



In the summer of 1900, George left Galveston, once again bound for Los Angeles. This time he was armed with several letters of recommendation. One from Cross and Otey read:

To Whom Concerned:

This is to certify that George Hendricks has worked for us one year and we have found him upright, honest and faithful.

He leaves us of his own accord and our best wishes go with him.

We recommend him highly to anyone wishing to employ a good man.

He must have intended to find work and settle in the rapidly growing community. His journal entry for August 2, 1900, sounds much more optimistic: "Am in Los Angeles on the hog."

In retrospect, George was extremely fortunate to have left Galveston when he did. For in September 1900, one month after he departed for Los Angeles, a hurricane and tidal wave ripped through Galveston. In one of the worst natural disasters in United States' history, over 6,000 people lost their lives, including George's sister, Annie.

The next journal entry in June 1901, finds George at Camp Gage in Santa Cruz, California. A receipt for dues indicates that he was a private in Co. F, 7th Regiment of the N.G.C. (National Guard of California?). George then visited the Big Trees, San Francisco, Coos Bay, Oregon, and returned to Los Angeles by boat on July 3, 1901.

George must have felt it was time for him to settle down, for he soon married Anna Sophia Roeder.

*Ancestors of George Alexander Sr. HENRICKS***John JOHNSON**

b: 1822 in , Schleswig-Holstein, Denmark

m: Oct 22, 1851 in Galveston, Galveston, TX, USA

d: 1874 in at Sea

**George Alexander JOHNSON**b: May 04, 1874 in Galveston, Galveston, TX,  
USA

m: Apr 10, 1902 in Los Angeles, L.A., CA, USA

d: Sep 03, 1957 in Hollywood, L.A., CA, USA

**Elizabeth SOMMER**

b: Apr 10, 1833 in , Saxony, Germany

d: Mar 26, 1878 in Galveston, Galveston, TX, USA

### The ROEDER Branch

My paternal grandmother, Anna Sophia Roeder, traced her roots to Neckarbischofsheim, a village near the city of Heidelberg in the German state of Baden. She was born there in 1879, the daughter of Karl Ludwig Roder and his second wife, Johanna Christiana Veith.

Karl was born in 1840, the son of Johann Christian Roder and Wilhelmine Margaretha Schick of Neckarbischofsheim. Johann Christian Roder had been born there in 1806. The Schick family had roots in this small village that go back 300 years and are well documented in the *Neckarbischofsheim Evangelical Church Book*. The earliest identified ancestor was Georg Schelling, who served as the mayor of Neckarbischofsheim for 31 years, from 1635 through 1667. Church records say Georg "led the village through the years of pestilence and hunger". This might refer to the Bubonic Plague, an outbreak of which ravaged Europe during this period.

The Roder family had its roots in the nearby village of Sternenfels. Johann Heinrich Roder, the father of Johann Christian, was born there in 1780 to Leonhard Roder and Barbara Ruede. Leonhard was born in Sternenfels in 1752, the son of Gottlieb and Barbara Roder. The Roder men were "master shoemakers" in Germany, a trade that was passed from father to son.

Johann Heinrich Roder and his wife, Katharina Barbara, sailed to America in 1846, probably to join their son, Johann Karl, who had come to New Jersey in 1830 as a Baptist preacher. Katharina Barbara died in Newark and Johann Karl returned to Neckarbischofsheim in 1856, where he died two years later.

My great-grandfather Karl Roeder was married twice. His first wife was Susanna Ries, who bore him three sons: Carl, Fritz and Heinrich. It is not known what became of Susanna. Karl married Johanna Christiana Veith in Neckarbischofsheim in 1871. She was the daughter of Johann Georg Veith and Johanna Margaretha Stier of Bad Rappenau, a somewhat larger village in Baden near Neckarbischofsheim. In the German tradition, she went by her middle name, Christiana, later Americanized to Christine. It appears from the Bad Rappenau church record that Christiana bore a son, Johann Gottlieb, in 1864, before she and Karl were married. After their marriage, they added another son, Wilhelm, and two daughters, Luisa and Anna.

Like his grandfather before him, Karl decided to bring his family, now consisting of five sons and two daughters, from Baden to the U.S. They sailed from Hamburg on February 25, 1880, aboard the ship *Suevia*, and arrived in New York City on March 12. Their names - in their German forms - and ages appeared on the passenger list as follows:

Roder, Carl	40
Christine	40
Carl	15
Gottlieb	12
Fritz	9
Heinrich	7

William	5
Louise	4
Anna	7/12

When the Roders (the o in their surname had a German umlat [""] over it, and was pronounced as oe) first arrived in the U.S., they probably joined relatives in Newark, New Jersey, and changed the spelling of their name to Roeder. By 1884, they had moved to Los Angeles, almonst certainly to join Karl's uncle, Daniel Schieck. At this point our story will digress to cover Daniel Schieck, because of his importance as an early Southern California pioneer, entrepreneur and genuine character.

Johann Daniel Schick was born in Neckarbischofsheim in 1819. Church records indicate that he came to America in 1846 with the group of Roders and Schicks, settling in Newark, following Johann Karl Roder, the Baptist preacher, who had arrived there in 1830. Daniel did not stay long in New Jersey. Now spelling his name Schieck, Daniel emigrated to California in the early 1850's. Mr. Schieck's perilous journey to Los Angeles is described in the *History of Los Angeles County*:

In April, 1852, he went to Independence, Missouri, to fit himself out for the journey, leaving that place May 1, with ox teams, the train being a large one. At Sweetwater, about half way across the plains, Mr. Schiek was taken seriously ill, and as he could not ride, was left under a tree though he had paid \$100 for his passage. He offered a man his horse to take care of him. A part of the proposition was accepted. The man refused to take care of him, but did take his horse and rode off with it, leaving him alone.

After resting for a time he got stronger, and as he had some money with him, as soon as he was able to travel, he purchased another horse at a Mormon trading post, and continued his journey across the plains. Continuing to get stronger as he proceeded and having a good horse, he overtook his comrades at Hangtown, greatly to their surprise, as they never expected to see him again. He exacted an immediate settlement and they gave him a yoke of oxen.

He tried farming in Sacramento, but before long, one of his oxen died, and he wandered into the gold fields around Marysville. There he acquired rheumatism, but no gold. Looking for a better climate, Schieck traveled south into Southern California.

When he arrived in Los Angeles in 1854, the man who peddled water was about to leave and Schieck took his place. Harris Newmark, in his book, *Sixty Years in Southern California, 1853 - 1913*, describes Daniel Schieck as follows:

Dan Schieck was a water-vender. Proceeding to the zanja in a curious old cart, he would draw the water he needed, fresh every morning, and make daily deliveries at customers' houses for a couple of dollars a month.

Schieck forsook this business, however, and went into draying, making a specialty of meeting Banning's coaches and transferring the passengers to their several destinations.

He was a frugal man, and accumulated enough to buy the southwest corner of Franklin and Spring Streets. As a result, he left property of considerable value.

The little place that Schieck bought, once on the outskirts of the city ran 75 feet on what is now Spring Street and the entire length of Franklin Street. As the city expanded, the property became valuable and he became quite rich.

It was said that Mr. Schieck liked to reminisce about the early days, when he served on the first Vigilance Committee, a vigilante group, that introduced lynching to Los Angeles.

Daniel Schieck died in 1901. His obituary appeared in the Los Angeles Times under the headline: *Was the Gunga Din of Our Pueblo*. The following quotation from the obituary gives one an idea of this character:

Daniel Schieck, a quaint little old momento of the days when Los Angeles was a jerkwater Mexican town, has gone from the street forever. He lies dead in the home that he built half a century ago on the lonely outskirts of the hamlet and lived to see sucked into the heart of a city.

It was one of the first plastered houses in the pueblo. Additions and new fronts and changes have been made, but Schieck never moved from the place all through the years.

When he first moved in, Mrs. Schieck was very lonely because there would be days when not a soul passed the house. For many years the little German and his wife have been familiar figures driving about the city in their phaeton. For 25 years, since the city reached out and absorbed his suburban place, Schieck has been living on his money in placid ease.

Upon his death, it was reported in a local newspaper that Mr. Schieck's estate, consisting primarily of real estate, was valued at \$85,000, a hefty sum in 1901. In his will, he bequeathed \$2,000 to his nephew, Carl Roeder, son of his sister, Margaretha Roeder.

In 1884, Karl Roeder brought his family west to Los Angeles. Christiana joined the First German Methodist Episcopal Church, which exists to this day and still conducts its services in the German language. Daughter Louise, listed on the ship's manifest may have died, because a third daughter, also named Louise, but known as Lucy, was born in 1885. At age 15, daughter Annie also joined the First German M.E. Church.

By now, Karl had changed his name to a more American-sounding, Charles, and Christiana, to Christine. He was listed in the *1886 Los Angeles City Directory* as a "fitter" employed by the Los Angeles Furniture Company. His occupation in subsequent years was listed as "lumberman", "carpenter" and "laborer". In 1890, his sons Frederick, Henry and Charles Jr. formed Roeder Brothers Plumbers and Gas Fitters.



Initially, the family resided at 1225 S. Olive, in what is now the heart of downtown Los Angeles. In 1891, they moved to 1331 S. Olive. Roeder Brothers opened a shop at 1833 S. Main St. in 1894. In 1898, Miss Annie Roeder finally rated her own listing in the Directory.

The 1917 *Los Angeles City Directory* indicated that the Roeders had become pillars of the community:

Roeder	
Chas	762 E. 10th
Chas clk	3311 Trinity
Henry office	119 1/2 S. Spring r. Glendale
Henry plumber	1343 W. 22nd
John fireman	Engine Co. 1 r. 822 E. 15th
Jos C. fireman	Engine Co. 24 r. 3300 E. 2nd
Wm J. police	6806 Hollywood Blvd

At a later date, some of the Roeder family moved to Fellows, California, near Bakersfield, and became employed in oil production.

From four undated newspaper clippings, we learn something about the Roeder Family of this era. The first bears the headline "ROEDERS WANT A FORTUNE, For Being Thrown Out of Their Carriage by a Santa Monica Car" and reads:

Charles and Christina Roeder, husband and wife, yesterday brought two suits against the Los Angeles and Pacific Railway company asking for damages in the sum of \$25,150 for each case. In the first suit damages are asked by Mr. Roeder and in the second one by his wife.

The allegations of the complaint are that they were returning from the German Methodist church on Fourth street shortly after 12:30 p.m. on January 8th in their carriage, when a car of the defendant corporation driving at a high rate of speed struck their vehicle with such force that they were violently thrown to the ground and cut and bruised. Each of the plaintiffs claims to have been obliged to expend \$150 for medical attendance and they aver that they are permanently injured. They ascribe the accident to the negligence of the company's employees.

The second clipping bears the headline "OLIVE LOT FOR \$12,500" and reads:

David H. Mc Cartney reports the sale of the lot and house at No. 1337 South Olive street for the sum of \$12,500. Charles and Christiana Roeder sell to Martin Stone. The lot is 50x120 feet in size and is improved with a five room cottage. It is thought that Mr. Stone intends to remove the latter and improve the lot with a better building which will pay more on the investment.

The third concerns John Roeder:

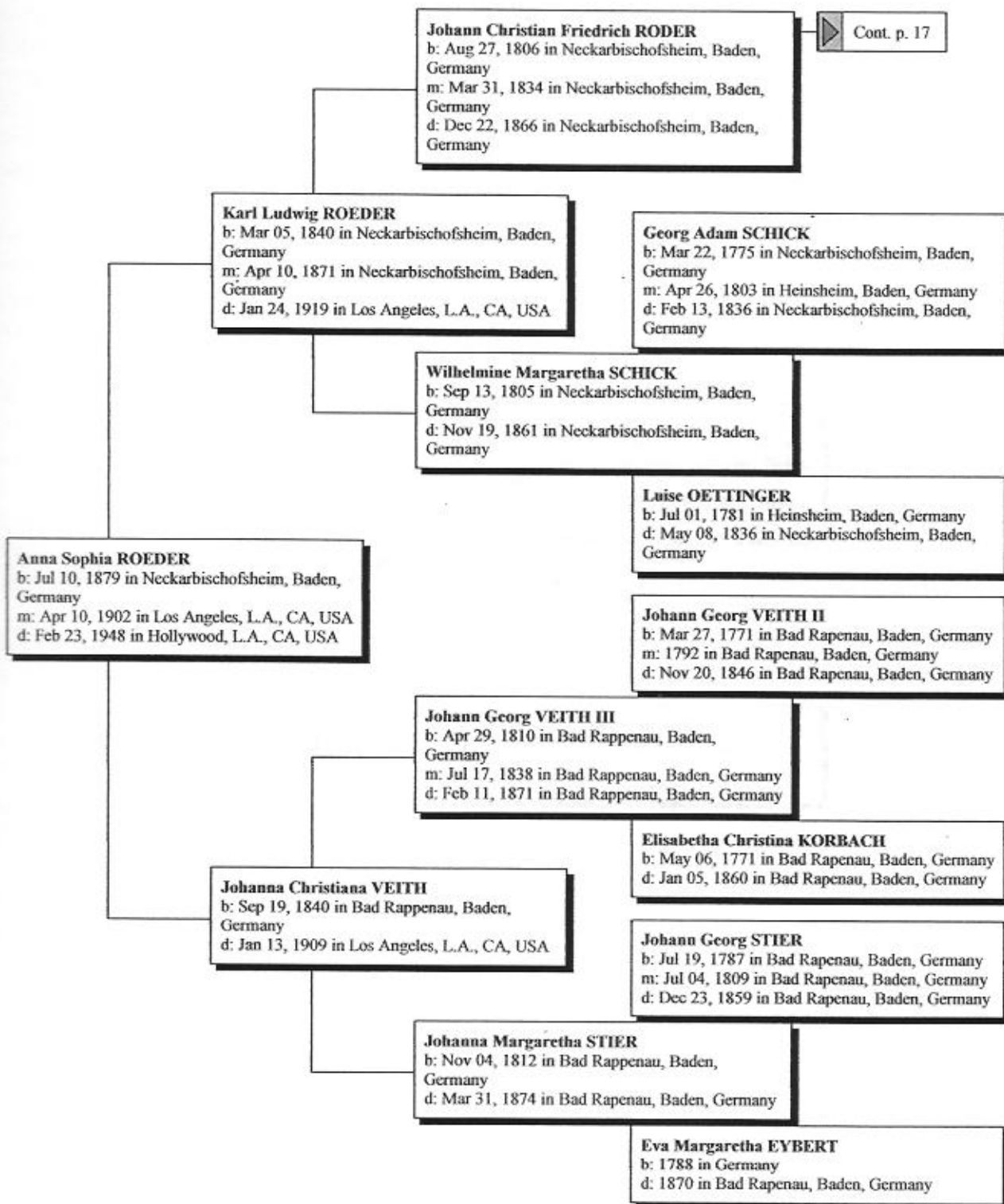
But what was probably the most heroic deed of the day was that of Captain Roeder, at the smaller fire near the brewery, which resulted from the big fire carrying cinders. Fireman Andy Springer of Chemical Engine No. 2 was standing on the roof of the cottage, when it suddenly gave way, dropping him through the building to the floor, a distance of about thirty feet. Captain Roeder was near, and grabbing hold of burning

beams, he dropped himself into the building by the side of the fallen man, and when people broke into the building to rescue them, they found the captain holding the head of Springer against his breast, while the captain's hands were quite badly burned.

The headline of the fourth clipping, which must have been appeared in 1905, reads "BIRTHDAY PARTY for CHARLES ROEDER".

Five sons of Chas. Roeder of 1229 S. Olive St. have planned to celebrate their father's 65th birthday next Saturday. Mr. Roeder is an old timer and his five sons are prominent in business and public life here. They propose to give the "old man" just such a birthday party as he used to give his "old man" some 60 years ago in the fatherland.

- Christine Roeder died in 1909, at age 69, and Charles in 1919, at age 79. Both are buried in the Inglewood Park Cemetery. They demonstrated a great deal of courage in moving their large family from Germany to America, and then crossing the continent to make their home in what was then a little-known village: Los Angeles.

*Ancestors of Anna Sophia ROEDER*

## Ancestors of Anna Sophia ROEDER

### Johann Heinrich Roder

b: Feb 27, 1780 in Sternenfels, Baden, Germany  
 m: Aug 28, 1804 in Neckarbischofsheim, Baden, Germany  
 d: Jan 15, 1858 in Neckarbischofsheim, Baden, Germany

### Johann Christian Friedrich Roder

b: Aug 27, 1806 in Neckarbischofsheim, Baden, Germany  
 m: Mar 31, 1834 in Neckarbischofsheim, Baden, Germany  
 d: Dec 22, 1866 in Neckarbischofsheim, Baden, Germany

### Katharina Barbara WINTERBAUER

b: Sep 20, 1782 in Neckarbischofsheim, Baden, Germany  
 d: 1856 in Newark, New Jersey, USA

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### The HENRICKS and ROEDER Branches Unite

On April 10, 1902, George A. Henricks and Anna S. Roeder were married at the First German Methodist Episcopal Church, located at the corner of 6th and Hill Streets in Los Angeles. A newspaper clipping written in German announcing their marriage is still in the family's possession. The 1903 *L.A. City Directory* shows that they were living in the Roeder home with Anna's parents. By 1904, George was working for his brother, Joseph, as a foreman at the Paraffin Paint Company, 313 N. Los Angeles St., which manufactured roofing products.

The Henricks' purchased their first home at 1039 Crocker St. About that time George became involved in the building trade as a roofer. Photographs and postcards indicate that he traveled extensively throughout the Southwest, wherever his work took him. It is believed he may have been involved in roofing railroad terminal stations as they were constructed.

These were boom times in Los Angeles and everyone with a little money was buying real estate. George and Anna were no exceptions. In 1910, they purchased a lot in a tract known as Athens Acres for \$1000. The lot was located in the 200 block of E.127th St., between Main and San Pedro Streets in what is now South Central Los Angeles. This lot was evidently purchased as an investment since they never built on it. George held the lot for 40 years and sold it in 1950 for \$1600. In 1920, the Henricks' purchased two more lots in the Belmont Shores area of Long Beach which were also sold in 1950.

On May 25, 1916, 14 years after they were married, George and Anna had their only child, a son. He was born in Angelus Hospital and named George Alexander Junior, after his father. Anna was a somewhat domineering wife, running her household with a tight fist. However, she was a doting mother and spoiled her only child.

When George Jr. was about five years old, the Henricks' built a home on lots 24 and 25 of the Priester Tract which they had purchased about 1913. The house was located at 4728 Fountain Ave., near Vermont Ave., on the eastern border of Hollywood. Their home was on a double lot, giving them room for a small "orchard" containing fig, avocado, apricot, peach, banana and lemon trees and blackberry bushes, all of which bore fruit. They raised chickens and "turkens" (which George claimed were a cross between a turkey and a chicken) and sold the eggs. In later years it was quite an oddity to see this tiny "farm" nestled in the midst of a Hollywood urban residential community.

George Jr. attended Ramona Elementary School, Thomas Starr King Junior High, and John Marshall High School. After graduating high school in 1934, George obtained an A.A. Degree in Banking from Los Angeles Junior College in 1936. Anna and George Jr. were active members of Fountain Avenue Baptist Church, though George Sr. rarely attended. It was here that George Jr. met his future wife, Iva Tucker.



### The TUCKER Branch

As a young boy, I recall asking my mother what nationality her Tucker ancestors were. She said she didn't know, but since her parents were both from Oklahoma, they probably had Native American ancestors. As I have since learned, nothing could have been further from the truth.

Iva Fern Tucker was born January 2, 1917, in Amorita, Oklahoma, the daughter of Roy and Bertha Tucker. Although they were poor wheat farmers, the Tucker family had a proud American and prior English heritage, of which my mother was completely unaware.

The English *Harleian Manuscripts*, reports of visitations to the County of Kent in 1619-1621, identified William (Willielmus) Tucker of Thornley, Devonshire; his son, George I; and his grandson, George II. George I of Milton-next-Gravesend, must have been a man of note, as Queen Elizabeth had conveyed the manor in that place to George Tucker in 1572. George II had three sons: John, Robert and Henry.

Ephraim Tucker, in his *Genealogy of the Tucker Family*, states that in 1887, Deacon John A. Tucker traveled to England for the purpose of tracing the origins of Robert Tucker. In Milton-next-Gravesend, he visited an ancient church named St. Peter's and St. Paul's. At the rector's house, he had access to the Registry of Baptisms reaching back as far as 1558, "a ponderous volume of parchment bound in leather with brass corners". There he found the following entry: "1604 - Robert ye sonne of George Tucker Gent one of the Berghers at this font was baptised ye VII of June". He was the third son and fifth child of George Tucker.

Our American Tucker lineage can be traced from this Robert Tucker. Robert left England with his brothers, George and John, and traveled to Bermuda, where a relative, Capt. Daniel Tucker had been commissioned Governor in 1615. Sometime after, George, being the firstborn son and heir to the family estate, returned to England.

Robert and John came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1635, initially settling in Weymouth. After a short time in Weymouth, Robert moved to Gloucester. He married Elizabeth Allen and began a family that would grow to include nine children.

About 1660, Robert was one of the founding fathers of a new settlement in the Colony and may have been influential in naming the settlement "Milton", after his home town in England. Robert was a prominent inhabitant of early Milton, and must have been the first Town Clerk, since the first records of the town are in his handwriting. He represented the town as "Selectman" for ten years in the Legislature and was active in the church.

A.K. Teele, in *The History of Milton, Massachusetts, 1640 - 1887* had this to say about Robert Tucker:

(Robert Tucker) soon after settled on Brush Hill. He occupied an important and highly useful position in the town and the church during the earliest years of the settlement, and his numerous descendants have been among the most active and influential of our

citizens through the whole history of the town.

Evidently he was one of the most prosperous farmers in Milton at the time of his death in 1682 at age 78. The probate records indicate that he left a well-furnished house with considerable provisions on hand. Of the 68 resident taxpayers in Milton at this time, nine paid greater tax than Robert, while 58 paid less. He must have been well-read, since there was a surprisingly large item in his estate for books - almost one cow's worth - a fair sized library for that time.

In Hurd's *History of Norfolk County, Mass.*, the writer closed his tribute to Robert Tucker with these words: "He was held in much esteem by his neighbors, and his character and education exercised an important influence here. His handwriting indicates a gentleman familiar with the pen."

Three succeeding generations of Tucker ancestors (James I, James II, and Jeremiah) were born, married and died in Milton. Today, the Milton Cemetery is sprinkled with tombstones bearing the Tucker surname, the oldest dating back to 1717. Milton also has a "Tucker Street", leading to Brush Hill.

Jeremiah Tucker, born in 1713, married Mary Wadsworth, an ancestor of the American poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Jeremiah served in the Massachusetts Militia after Concord and before completion of the standing Army of the Revolution in 1776.

Teele went on to say about the Tucker Family in Milton:

Members of the family have graced the pulpit, the army, and the representative halls of the country. From the beginning they have filled important offices of trust in the town and in the church. Representatives of the Tucker name have held the office of deacon, making almost a continuous line from the formation of the church to the present day.

Jeremiah's son, James Tucker, was born in Milton in 1740. He married Rebekah Swift in 1763, and they took what must have been a huge step, leaving Milton for New Gloucester, Cumberland County, Maine. James served in the Army of the Revolution from March 1777 to March 1780 as a bombardier from New Gloucester.

James' son, Eliphalet Tucker, was born in New Gloucester in 1775. In 1806 he married Sally Hanscom in Androscoggin County. By 1810, they were farming in Poland Springs, Cumberland County. By 1830, they were farming and ranching in West Peru, Oxford County. Eliphalet's son, William Tucker, born in Poland Springs in 1810, married Lydia Ludden, daughter of Captain Levi and Remember (Soule) Ludden.

Lydia Ludden had an historic pedigree. Her mother, Remember Soule was a descendent of George Soule, one of the original Pilgrims who came to Plymouth on the *Mayflower* in 1620, as a servant of Edward Winslow. Though a servant, George was one of the signers of the Mayflower Compact, the first agreement for self-government in America. George married Mary Buckett after she arrived in the Plymouth Colony and together they had nine children. George and Mary moved to Duxbury and acquired considerable property. He was a volunteer in the Pequot War, served as

a deputy for Duxbury and as a member of numerous town committees.

Lydia was also descended from another Pilgrim, Francis Cooke, who was born in England around 1583. By profession, Francis was a woolcomber. He was in Leiden, Netherlands, as early as 1603, when he married Hester Mayhieu. They were members of the Leiden Walloon Church, a congregation of French-speaking Belgians, whose beliefs were very similar to those of the English Separatists. Francis arrived in Plymouth on the *Mayflower* with his teenage son, John. Hester and two other children, Jane and Jacob, arrived on the *Anne* in 1623. Two more daughters were born in Plymouth.

Lydia's father, Levi Ludden, was descended from James Ludden, an early Planter who was well known in his time for having been the guide and personal attendant of Governor John Winthrop of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1682 as they travelled on foot from Plymouth to Weymouth. James was known to have carried Governor Winthrop across the Indian Head River on his back. James' son, Joseph Ludden, not only fought in the Revolutionary War, but was said to have been a participant in the Boston Tea Party. The Luddens were one of the founding families of West Peru in 1821. Today, the public library in West Peru, Maine, is called *The Lydia Ludden Library*.

It was William and Lydia Tucker's son, William Lyman Tucker, born in West Peru in 1850, who began the family's westward migration. I have often wondered why he chose to leave the family farm in Maine and move halfway across the U.S. to Kansas. In Sedgwick County, Kansas, he met and married Emily Rosella Pierce.

Emily was the daughter of Strother Charles Pierce and Winnifred Jane Farrand, of Morgan County, Kentucky. Strother was the son of Mordica Pierce, an original Kentuckian. Mordica was born in 1796 in Fayette County, Virginia, which had become part of Kentucky when that state was formed. Unconfirmed family lore says that Mordica was a first lieutenant in Colonel Abraham Owen's company in the Kentucky militia and served with future President Zachary Taylor in the War of 1812.

Strother's elder brother, Jonathan Pierce, had moved to Hannibal, Missouri, in 1837 and become a merchant there. It is probable that Strother and Winny, as she was known, were living with Jonathan when their daughter, Emily, was born in 1859. Hannibal is best known as the home town of the great American novelist, Samuel Clemens, also known as Mark Twain, and as the setting for his classic novel, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. The timing was such that it is possible that the Pierces might have been acquainted with the Clemens family.

William L. and Emily (known as Emma) Tucker had eight children. They moved from Sedgwick County to Burrton, Harvey County, Kansas, where their eldest son and my maternal grandfather, Roy Alton, was born in 1881.

In a letter written to her niece in 1970, Elsie Tucker Cherry, Roy's younger sister, reminisced about her family:

My Dad, your grandfather, William L. Tucker grew up in West Peru, Maine. Their farm

(my Grandfather [William Tucker] bought and raised livestock for sale) was across the Androscoggin River from West Peru. The children crossed the river on ice to go to school in winter, rode the ferry in fall and spring. The house was a typical New England two story with a long, completely enclosed and covered walk to their barns. In this was kept their firewood, clotheslines for laundry and their water supply. Grandfather later sold this farm and bought a similar location at Rumford, Maine. The old place is now a tulipfarm and a showplace for the area.

When Dad came west he first went to Pittsburgh for more schooling. His oldest brother, Oscar, was near there teaching in a prep school for boys. Their cousin, Eli Ludden, was headmaster of the school. Dad later went to Uncle Han [Hannibal Tucker] in Indianapolis, worked some in Chicago, then came to Kansas to teach and met and married Mother [Emily Pierce]. Their Kansas home was near Burrton. Uncle Oscar and Uncle Han came years later to visit. Roy was growing up then and was a really good student. He made such a favorable impression on the visitors.

Then Mother and Dad rented out their Kansas farm and moved to their farm near Fay, Oklahoma. I was 18 months old then [1894]. We moved back to our home in Kansas when I was 6½. They moved back so Virgil and I could start to school. The older boys had been walking 1½ miles to school in Oklahoma.

One nice thing I remember about our stay in Oklahoma was the dance Mother gave for Roy, who by then was a young man. I remember the lively time they had at that dance. That log cabin fairly rang with music, "calling" and dancing. Dad took care of us young ones, while Mother and Roy danced with their friends. And I think it was the next spring we returned to our home in Kansas.

That year or the year after, Uncle Han, who had lost both his own sons, wrote to Dad wanting him to send Roy to Indianapolis to live with them, work in his clothing store and learn the business. By that time Roy and your mother were married and they could not send him.

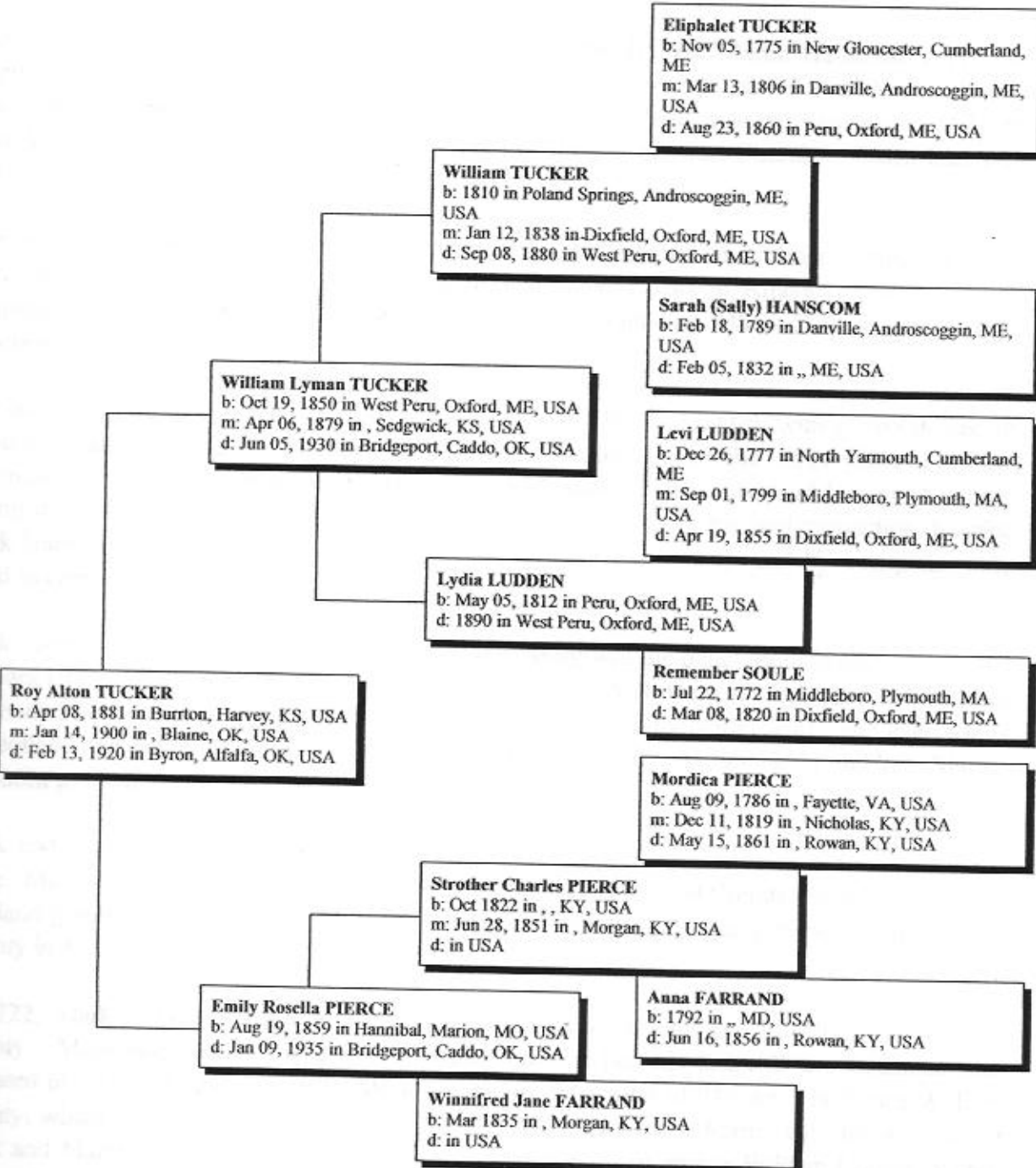
Dad had such a good family and was always telling us about them. He loved them so much and was so far away from them. Mother's family [the Pierces] was all in Kansas, so she was more fortunate until we moved to Bridgeport, Oklahoma. We felt as if we had lost everybody until we began making friends there.

Your father was a wonderful older brother to me.

William L. Tucker died in 1930 and Emma in 1935, both in Bridgeport, Caddo County, Oklahoma, now considered an abandoned ghost town.

It was in Fay, Dewey County, Oklahoma Territory, when he was still in his teens, that Roy met the young woman who was to become his wife, Bertha Hardin of Hope, Kansas.



*Ancestors of Roy Alton TUCKER*



### The HARDIN Branch

Bertha Hardin came from a proud pioneer family that may have been in America since the 1600's, although two theories as to the American origins of the Hardin family differ somewhat.

One account says the earliest known member of the family was Martin Hardouin, a French Huguenot born in Rouen, France, about 1660. He came to America, probably to avoid religious persecution. Records show that a Martin Hardewyn married Madeleine du Sauchoy in 1671 in New York. Their son, Marcus, was baptized in the Dutch Reformed Church at Staten Island in 1681.

The second account says that after the massacre of St. Bartholemew in Northern France in 1706, three brothers by the name of Hardin fled from their native France to America. Two settled in Virginia, the third in South Carolina, and they became the founding fathers of the Hardin clan in America.

Leaving the realm of conjecture and speculation, we are able to establish with a high degree of certainty, Mark Hardin as the "Family Patriarch" and his residences for the last 28 years of his life. Beginning in 1707, Mark purchased a 50 acre tract of land in Northumberland County, Virginia, giving in consideration 5,000 pounds of tobacco. The recording of this land transaction describe Mark Hardin's residence as Wicomico Parish, Northumberland County, and his occupation was listed as carpenter.

Mark married Mary Hogue in Virginia about 1709. Mary was the daughter of William Hoge and Barbara Hume, emigrants from Scotland to America about 1690. Both William and Barbara were descended from Scottish aristocracy. Their ancestries contain many barons, earls, and even Kings of Scotland and can be traced back multiple generations. The second of their 11 children, Martin, was born in 1716.

Mark and Mary sold that original 50 acres in 1720, taking in consideration one male "Negro" slave. Mark's residence at the time of the sale was given as Richmond County, probably on one of two land grants obtained by Mark in 1716. This part of Richmond County became King George County in 1722.

In 1722, Mark received a land grant containing 642 acres located on "Elk Run" in Stafford County. Mark was residing in Prince William County when his last will and testament was probated in 1735. At the time of his death, Mark owned a total of 942 acres in Prince William County, which was distributed among six of his children. However, Martin was the only one of Mark and Mary's sons who continued to live in that portion of Prince William County, which became Farquier County in 1759.

About 1739, Martin married Lydia Waters and they raised nine children. Martin was licensed in 1754 to keep an inn or "ordinary" in Prince William County on land he inherited from his father:

Another early ordinary was that kept by Martin Hardin on the Shenandoah Hunting

Path, or Falmouth Road, one and a half miles north of the Elk Run Church. This was a crossroads of local importance at which the road from the Elk Marsh settlement to the Court House, then of Prince William County, crossed the Falmouth Road, and at which the latter road was joined by the German path; passing from Germantown.

Martin may have been a Justice of Farquier County, as he is titled "Gent" (for gentleman justice) in a deed recorded in 1769. If this is true, then Martin held an important and honored position in the county. He was known as "Ruffled-shirt Martin" because of his courtly manners and superior education. One can picture the "Gentlemen Justices," wiggged and dressed in fine coats and waistcoats, seated on the raised bench, His Majesty's commissioners engaged in the communal dispensation of justice.

Like his father, Martin accumulated land, at one time owning 965 acres in Virginia. He purchased and moved his family to Georges Creek in the Monongahela Valley, believing it to be in Virginia. But when the colonial boundary line was redrawn, it turned out to be in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. By that time, Martin had four sons - Henry, Mark (born in 1750), John and Martin Jr.

In their new situation, the Hardin Brothers found themselves on the frontier with Indian hostilities to engage their attention. They learned early to carry and use a rifle, and, as there were no schools, hunting became their chief pursuit and delight. In *Pioneer History of Washington County, Kentucky*, Orval W. Baylor states, "Tradition says it was a familiar sight to see the Hardin boys traversing the vales, crossing the hills, or climbing the mountains in search of game, insensible of fatigue, until they became most expert in the craft".

Mark, who acquired the nickname "Horse Racer Mark", because of his love of that sport, married Mary Hunter in 1774. Filled with wanderlust, he almost immediately set out with his cousins to explore Kentucky, then a Virginia County, with the purpose of establishing land claims. In 1775, Mark became one of the first white men to traverse the territory which was to become Washington County, Kentucky. He returned home to serve as a Captain in the Pennsylvania Militia.

Mark and Mary Hardin's first child, Thomas, was born at the onset of the Revolution in 1776. It seems that Mary Hardin must have died after giving birth to a second son, John. For in 1780, Mark married Susanna Stull.

In 1778, Martin Hardin died in the Monongahala Valley and, with the exception of one daughter, the rest his offspring, along with their Hardin, Wickliffe and Waters kinfolk, decided to emigrate to Kentucky. According to Jack Hardin, Jr., in his book *History of the Hardin Family in the Settling of Kentucky*, on March 1, 1780, a group of 15 families composed entirely of Hardin kinfolk by blood and marriage, bade farewell to their homes and floated down the Monongahala on two large flatboats, bound for Kentucky. It appears that none of Martin's offspring participated in this original migration.

That may have been a blessing, since on March 20, the boats were ambushed by Indians. Of the 14 men aboard the boats, two were killed and four wounded. All of the women and children were

either killed or taken captive by the Indians. After the battle, two of the men whose wives and children were taken captive and two single men took off after the Indians, vowing not to rest until they were reunited with their families.

Their crusade took much longer than they expected and, after several months, they were joined by other Hardin men, including Horse Racer Mark and his brother, Martin. They scoured central Kentucky, searching for the captives and killing Indians. However, the Hardins were unsuccessful in locating their captured kinfolk. Eventually, some of the captives were ransomed by the English in Upper Canada and returned to the Monongahala Valley.

By 1782, Hardin men were scattered in small bands over central Kentucky, hunting and warring with the Indians for recreation. Mark's brother, Colonel John Hardin, the acknowledged leader of the Hardin clan, decided to call a meeting of all the Hardins to gather intelligence about the best place to settle. Word went out and about 20 men assembled at "The Falls of the Ohio", the current site of Louisville. The Hardin men had a penchant for assigning colorful nicknames, as evidenced by some of the meeting attendees: *Horse Racer Mark*, *Stumpy Mark*, *Short Harry*, *Big Harry*, *Stiller Ben*, *Indian Bill*, *Little John* and *Flat Head John*. These nicknames were probably given to improve identification, since the Hardins had a penchant for reusing the same given names generation after generation.

The group decided to settle in an area in Washington County that they had discovered and named "Pleasant Run". They went en masse to that area to survey and claim their lands. Mark was the first of the family to select his land and mark its boundaries. Mark wanted to be the head of the settlement in which he lived and give it his name. He knew that his brother John preferred to move on to Pleasant Run and that the others would follow. So, with the help of the others, he cleared off a patch of ground a few yards square, planted a few hills of corn, cut logs, and built a cabin on a parcel he immodestly named "Hardin's Station" on a creek he named "Hardin's Creek".

Mark then accompanied the others to Pleasant Run and helped them build a suitable shelter to house them while each family member chose the land he would claim. Having learned a lesson from the earlier massacre, only after the cabins were built and the land secure, did the Hardin men return to the Monogahala Valley and escort their families to Kentucky in 1787. The individual Hardin families settled next to each other on a line that stretched ten miles diagonally between the present towns of Springfield and Lebanon.

As the Hardin families moved into their new cabins, they had an abundance of good land, meat, wood, water, chills and fevers. They still faced huge obstacles. They had no cow to give them milk; no sugar, tea, coffee, salt or pepper. They had no bread, nor flour from which to make it. They had no cooking vessels except frying pans and sharpened sticks to roast their meat before the fire. They had no soap, washtubs, nor irons and few clothes to wash if they had the means to wash them. There was not a horse, hog, sheep nor domestic fowl in the colony. They had no vegetables nor fruit of any kind, only seeds. The men immediately went to work sharpening their axes, clearing the land and planting the seeds.

According to Jack Hardin, Jr., the Hardins continued to have trouble with marauding Indians

being encouraged and supplied by the English in Upper Canada. Hardin men served as scouts for the U.S. Army in the 1791 campaign in which General St. Clair was ambushed and defeated by the Miamis under Little Turtle. In 1792, Colonel John Hardin was killed by Indians while serving as an envoy to negotiate a treaty with them. The Hardin clan suffered greatly from the loss of their leader. In 1794, the Hardin men, including Mark, signed on with General "Mad Anthony" Wayne to serve as scouts for the campaign that resulted in the "Battle of Fallen Timbers" and a peace treaty for the Northwest Territory.

In the 1930's, Orval W. Baylor, a Washington County historian, did considerable research and wrote a series of articles on the early pioneers for *The Springfield Sun*. These articles were reproduced in *Pioneer History of Washington County*. From this volume, we learn quite a bit about the Hardin Family and Mark in particular. For instance, Baylor wrote of Horse Racer Mark:

His knowledge of the creeks, runs, licks, and settlements was superior to that of any other man of his time, with the possible exception of Philemon Waters [Mark's uncle]. Both Hardin and Waters were frequent visitors in the homes of the early settlers in Washington County because both were of the roving type and inclined to be very much about. Whenever they heard of a new arrival in the wilderness, they made it their business to call upon him, get acquainted, and lend him any aid that might be needed.

We learn something of Mark's character from the following passage:

He was noted for this readiness to lend a helping hand in anything honorable, without regard to personal danger and consequence. If you wanted his aid, you could ask him to come and he would come; order him and he would not; try to force him and you would get a fight.

We also get an indication of Mark's stubbornness from the following description of an encounter with some surveyors:

When they were running a line that went through his land, he stopped them and told them he did not wish marked lines to be made through his land. The surveyors informed Hardin that they were properly authorized and that they did not know how he could stop them. "I told them I could, for I would shoot their compass to pieces," Hardin said. After some talk, the surveyors proceeded.

Neighbors in Washington County at that time included Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks, who were to become the parents of the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Abe's grandfather, also named Abraham, had been killed by Indians in Washington County in 1786. Thomas and Nancy Lincoln left Washington County for Hardin County (named after Mark's dead brother, John) shortly after their marriage in 1806.

Mark died in 1835. Martin Hardin Jr., the eldest surviving member of his generation, died about 1849. Allegedly, his last words were: "I am the last of the Hardin pioneers and I have never known a Hardin who was a liar, a thief or a coward." Baylor wrote of the Hardin Family, "No other family, perhaps, in the county's history, contributed more in the way of distinguished public service than did this one." In his book, *Historic Families of Kentucky*, author Thomas Marshall Green wrote of the Hardin's in 1889: "No family in Kentucky has been more noted for the intellectuality of its members nor has the state ever had a more courageous breed."



Mark's son, Thomas, born in 1776 at the outbreak of the Revolution, married Mary (Polly) Wilson, daughter of a quite remarkable man, Isaac Wilson, who deserves some mention here.

Isaac Wilson served throughout the Revolutionary War. His family had emigrated from Pennsylvania to Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee, then called the Watauga country. He was one of a gallant band of Scotch-Irish pioneers and patriots who signed the "Watauga Petition", asking North Carolina to extend her boundaries far enough to take in the Watauga country so that it could stand or fall with North Carolina in the struggle for independence.

Isaac married Katy Griner, whose family had an infamous claim to fame. In 1809 in the state of Tennessee, Katy's brother, Robert Evans Grin(d)er, was accused of murdering Meriwether Lewis, of Lewis and Clark fame. Lewis had stopped for the night at the Grinder's Inn, owned by Robert and his wife, Priscilla. The next morning, Lewis was found by Priscilla dead of gunshot wounds. Robert argued that he was away that night and was never officially charged with the murder. It was eventually ruled that Lewis committed suicide, a ruling that is still disputed by some historians.

Isaac Wilson was a man of means and demonstrated his opposition to slavery by freeing his slaves and moving to Franklin County, Indiana, then known as the Northwest Territory, about 1800. He built a block-house and fort and was appointed Captain of the militia in 1803 and Major in 1807. In 1820, he moved to present day Indianapolis and built a log cabin on State House Square, the first house of any kind built on the original town plat.

Isaac died in 1823, honored, respected and beloved for his generosity to his fellow pioneers. In his *Sketches of Prominent Citizens of 1876*, John Nowland gives this first hand account of Isaac's generosity:

This good old Samaritan came to this city in the spring of 1820... He was one of the most charitable and benevolent men I ever knew, and did as much for the poor during the first settlement of the place as any person here. His house was the place for holding religious meetings and preachings as long as he lived in town, as it was also the stopping place for preachers of all denominations.

Mr. Wilson was very kind to my father and mother, and assisted us a great deal, which will be kindly remembered by this writer as long as he lives. He presented us with a cow and calf, ours having died a few days after my father's death.

Issac Wilson's will, recorded in 1823, was the first will recorded in Marion County, Indiana.

William Hardin, the second of Thomas and Polly's 12 children, was born "near Lexington" Kentucky in 1806. About 1810, Thomas and Polly Hardin with three small sons, continued the family's steady westward migration, leaving Kentucky for Washington Township, Wayne County, Indiana. Once in Indiana, Thomas shrewdly filed land patents to obtain Federal land at a very low price. There are five land patents on file for Thomas in Indiana. In 1823, he filed three in Johnson County for a total of 240 acres. In 1834, he filed one for 80 acres in Marion County, where he was living at the time of the 1840 census. In 1846, he filed one in Dubois County for



40 acres. Thomas and Polly died and are buried in Iowa.

In Wayne County in 1828, William Hardin married Prudence Walker, daughter of George Walker of Irish stock via Knox County, Tennessee. Their eldest son, Thomas Brown Lee Hardin, was born here in 1829.

William led his family to Dover (soon to be renamed New London), Henry County, Iowa, in 1839. Like his father did in Indiana, William filed three land patents in Henry County for a total of 320 acres in 1841. William later acknowledged that there were still many Indians in the vicinity of New London when he arrived. He was one of four members of the Methodist congregation that built the first church in New London. Each of the four was responsible for constructing one side of the log building, leaving one to wonder who built the roof. Both school and church services were held in this building. William and Prudence lived the remainder of their lives in New London, where they raised four children.

Thomas Brown Lee Hardin, or TBL as he was known, was the consummate western pioneer. At various times in his life he was a "49er", a Yankee soldier, a "sod buster", and a county judge. He grew to manhood on his father's Iowa farm. There he met Minerva Ann Luster, originally from Southern Illinois. Minerva's death certificate gives her father's name only as "Luster" and her mother's as Polly King. When she was ten years old, Minerva's father died, and she was sent to live with her uncle in New London. Her guardian there was Jonathan J. King, who had once owned the land on which most of New London is situated. Jonathan King was probably the brother of Minerva's mother, Polly. TBL and Minerva married in 1849. Seven children were born to this union, four sons and three daughters. Three of the children died in infancy.

In 1850, 21-year-old TBL braved the perils of the plains, traveling to California in a prairie schooner drawn by a team of oxen. The 1850 census shows him in El Dorado County, the heart of gold country, probably in the pursuit of riches. His luck must not have been good, since three years later he returned to Iowa and built a house on his father's farm, remaining there until 1857, when he relocated to a farm in Linn County, Missouri, which was to be his home for more than half a century until his death.

During the Civil War, TBL enlisted in Company I of the 42nd Missouri Volunteer Infantry, U.S.A., serving as a 2nd Lieutenant from September 23, 1864, until March 22, 1865. During this time frame, the 42nd Missouri was initially assigned to guard duty of the line of the Northern Missouri and Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad. In November 1864, the 42nd moved from St. Louis, through Paducah, Kentucky, to Tullahoma, Tennessee, where they operated against guerrillas in southern Tennessee and Northern Alabama. They saw action at Corn's Farm in Franklin County, Tennessee, in February, 1865. Company I mustered out on March 22, 1865.

In 1870, TBL was appointed Presiding Justice of Linn County. He was one of the very few justices of the peace in either Linn or neighboring Chariton County before whom marriage vows could be taken. This fact led many couples from Chariton County to cross the county line and be married on the prairie near where the town of Marceline now stands. He was also one of the first road commissioners and among the first promoters of the public school system in Linn county.

Mineva, a life long member of the Methodist Church, kept "open house" for the ministry until the county was settled. When night overtook a circuit-riding minister on the prairie, he directed his horse to the Hardin home, knowing that there he would find a welcome and accommodations for both him and his horse.

TBL and Minerva Hardin died in 1915, within weeks of each other. Both are buried in Elmwood Cemetery. His obituary appeared in the *Marceline Journal-Mirror* on May 21, 1915:

Another pioneer settler has been called to the reward of a life well spent. Thomas Brown Lee Hardin died at his farm home 3 1/2 miles north of town, at 5 o'clock, last Friday morning. He had been in failing health for some time. He was 86 years, 11 months, and 4 days old. The combined ages of himself, his father, and his grandfather would reach back to the year 1662. His father lived to the ripe old age of 81, his grandfather died in his 86th year.

Mr. Hardin was a man of fine impulses, a kind neighbor and a good citizen. He was a member of the Methodist church for 67 years and a Mason for 50 years. He is survived by his widow, two years his junior, two sons G.W. Hardin and J.L. Hardin, a sister Mrs. Wm. Lee of Glendale, California, eight grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.

George Washington Hardin, son of TBL and Minerva Hardin, was born October 21, 1853, in New London, Iowa. When he was four years old, he traveled with his parents to Missouri, settling near Bucklin in Linn County. A short time later, they moved just north of Marceline, a town created when engineers from the Atcheson, Topeka and Santa Fe drew a straight line from Chicago to Kansas City along which to build their railroad. Towns were created along that line at regular intervals so that locomotives could take on water, fuel and fresh crews. Marceline was one of those towns, and later gained some reknown as the boyhood home of Walt Disney. There George spent his childhood and early manhood, and there he met Magdalin Bessey.

Lydia Magdalin Bessey, who was called by her middle name, was the daughter of Salem F. Bessey and Abigail May of Ontario, Canada. Their Bessey ancestors had left the newly formed United States for Canada in 1784 as a direct result of the outcome of the Revolutionary War. Jacob Bessey and Nicholas Smith, Magdalin's grandfathers, were loyal to the British Crown and joined the Royal Standard in Butler's Rangers, a militia unit organized by Colonel Butler of New York Province. The function of these Rangers was to range far and wide on scouting expeditions, harass the enemy, destroy the rebel food supply, collect Loyalists unable to escape and to drive cattle and horses back to Fort Niagara from all the rebel farms.

At the conclusion of the War, the Besseys either elected, or were forced, to move to Canada due to the confiscation of their farms in New York State. Jacob Bessey and Nicholas Smith petitioned for land in what is today, the Niagara Peninsula. Both obtained adjoining land grants at what was called the "Ten Mile Creek", which later became known as the village of Homer in the Grantham Township, and ultimately part of the present day city of St. Catherines, Ontario.

These Loyalist families are highly revered in Canada and all descendants are entitled to affix the

the letters "U.E." to their names, alluding to their great principle, The Unity of the Empire. One Smith ancestor, William May, U.E., was eulogized upon his death in 1827 as follows:

He was one of those tried loyal subjects who would never take up arms against his Lawful Sovereign. He escaped from the clutches of the Rebels, leaving family, estate and all behind, and joined the British Standard at Fort Niagara in 1778, serving until the peace in '83.

In 1868, perhaps drawn by the promise of cheap farm land, Salem and Abigail Bessey migrated from Ontario to Linn County, Missouri. They brought with them their six children, the eldest of whom was Magdalin, and Abigail's father, William May. Abigail's mother, Lydia Garner May, had died in Ontario when Abigail was a child and William had remarried. Salem died in 1872, and Abigail married John A. Forrest in 1873.

George W. Hardin and Magdalin Bessey were married in 1876, in Linn County, Missouri. Two years later, they moved to Hope, Dickenson County, Kansas, where in 1882, their fourth of six children and my maternal grandmother, Bertha, was born. One of the other families to arrive in Hope about this time were the Eisenhowers. David, the father of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, owned a general store there in 1885. By 1898, the Hardins were farming near Fay, Dewey County, in the Oklahoma Territory. In 1910, the Hardins were living in Ellis County, Oklahoma, and George employed as a medicine wagon salesman.

About 1911, George and Magdalin returned to their old home near Marceline to care for his aged parents, TBL and Minerva Hardin. With the exception of about two years spent with their children in Oklahoma and Nebraska, George and Magdalin spent the remainder of their lives at the old homestead in Marceline.

Magdalin Hardin died in April, 1931. George died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident the following in August. He was eulogized as follows in his obituary:

George W. Hardin, 77 years old, a resident of Linn County [Missouri] about 74 years and well known throughout this section of the state, died last Sunday, August 16, 1931, in St. Joseph as the result of injuries suffered in a car crash on U.S. Highway 36. Mr. Hardin was returning to his home after a visit in Oklahoma with children and other relatives.

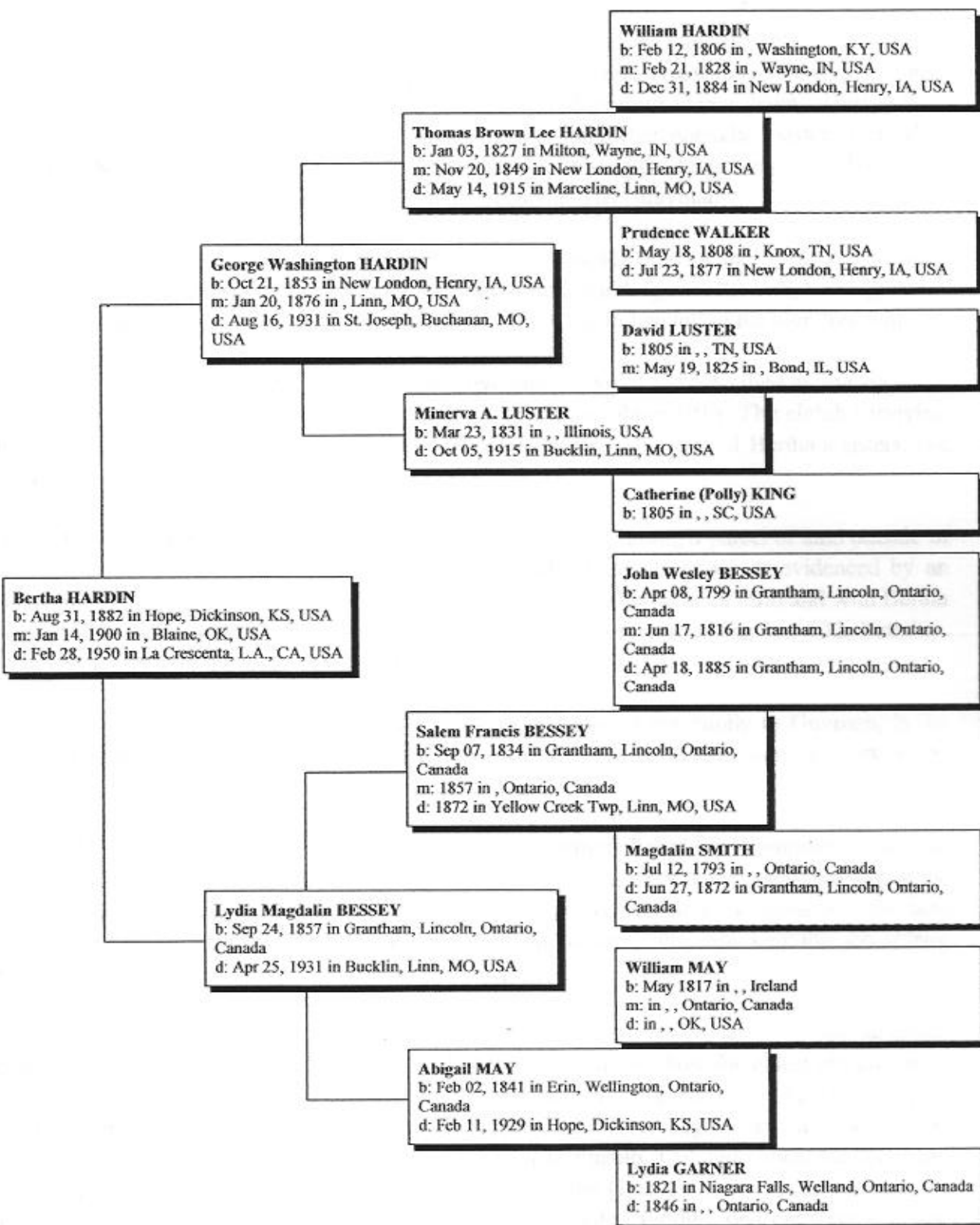
Mr. Hardin had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church about 60 years and always had taken an active part in affairs of this church. He had been a Sunday school teacher and superintendent, class leader and exhorter. He was also active in civic life, holding many offices of trust. For many years, he had been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Hardin had a host of friends throughout Linn County who will regret to learn of his untimely death. He was a great friend of all the children in the neighborhood.

Upon George's death, rather than selling the family farm and dividing up the proceeds, Bertha and her siblings decided that the farm should go to their brother, Oliver, who had been living there and caring for his aged parents. George and Magdalin are both buried in Elmwood Cemetery in

Marceline.

The Hardin family followed the traditional "Western Migration" pattern, beginning in Virginia and moving in succession, generation-by-generation to Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and, eventually, California. The family was a significant presence in the development of each community in which they settled and left a trail of leadership and accomplishment all along their way.

*Ancestors of Bertha HARDIN*



### **The TUCKER and HARDIN Branches Unite**

Bertha Hardin married Roy Tucker in Blaine County, Oklahoma, in January, 1900. He was 18, she was a year younger. After their marriage they moved to Eagle Township, Sedgwick County, Kansas, where Roy's maternal grandparents, Strother and Winnifred Pierce, lived. During their early years together, the Tuckers appear to have lived a somewhat nomadic existence, moving back and forth between Kansas and Oklahoma, perhaps following the farm work. In 1910, while living in Dewey County, Oklahoma, Roy listed his occupation as "drayman".

Grandma Bertha used to tell a story about doing her chores outside their cabin. When she heard her baby crying, she reentered the cabin and found an Indian standing over the crib, looking at the infant. She kept calm and, when his curiosity was satisfied, the Indian left of his own free will.

Bertha gave birth to 12 children, seven boys and five girls. Two of the boys died in infancy. The Tucker's finally settled in Amorita, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma, about 1914. The eighth surviving child, Iva Fern, was born in Amorita in 1917. Iva was named after one of Bertha's sisters, Iva Belle Hardin.

In 1919, Roy and Bertha apparently realized their dream by purchasing a parcel of land outside of Amorita for \$16,500 to farm wheat. They must have also raised livestock as evidenced by an application for the "T" brand. In 1920, less than a year after purchasing their farm and with Bertha pregnant with their twelfth child, Roy died of pneumonia before reaching his 40th birthday. Bertha was left to raise her large family alone.

Unable to work the farm without Roy, Bertha sold it and moved her family to Guymon, in the Oklahoma panhandle, where she took a succession of jobs. In 1922, she went to work at the Willoughby Hotel. In 1923, she worked at the Guymon Laundry.

In late 1923, Bertha took a job as the operator for the Guymon Telephone Company. This was ideal for a woman in her situation, since the job included housing. The telephone office was in the front of the house, while the family lived in the back. However, as the only operator in the days before direct dial, Bertha was "on call" 24 hours a day to connect calls. She kept this job at least through 1928.

The depressed conditions in the Oklahoma "dust bowl", forced the Tucker family to fan out across the Western United States in order to eke out a livelihood. George Alton, the eldest son known as "Allie", married Evie Gaither and moved to Springdale, Arkansas, and eventually settling in Richland, Washington. Herbert, known as "Tuck", moved to Los Angeles and then to the San Francisco Bay Area. Charlie married Ilma, and moved to Pueblo, Colorado, then Albuquerque, New Mexico. Lydia, known as "Sis", married twice (Dow and Grace) and lived in several locales. Thelma married Herman Booth, settling in Norwood, Colorado. Orville tried ranching in Craig, Colorado, married Thelma Epps, and settled in Baggs, Wyoming.

About 1931, Bertha brought her four youngest children, Howard, Iva, Wanda, and Ona, to

California. From old letters it appears that the family initially lived at 1134 N. McCadden Place, Hollywood, where Bertha found work as a seamstress. Iva, nicknamed "Polly" by her family, attended Hollywood High School.

In 1932, the family moved to 6155 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys, in what was then a very rural San Fernando Valley. There they started the "Tucker Ranch", raising and selling rabbits, chickens and eggs to supplement their income. Iva graduated from Van Nuys High School.

The economic difficulties that the family members were experiencing during the Depression are aptly illustrated in excerpts from letters that they wrote to their mother. In a letter from Allie and Evie, postmarked Springdale, Arkansas, December 21, 1932:

I am working in the wood. Another fellow and myself are cutting and selling wood. They burn lots of wood here, and especially this cold weather we are having. We are not apt to get rich, but we have been getting by in a way. I am absolutely broke and at Christmas time.

We think we have found a real place to live, in these hard times anyway. When we live here long enough to raise a garden and get some of these wild berries and fruits, we think we will live a little better.

We have had some time since we have been here but we are not sorry we came, for this is sure a better place to live than where we were at. I don't know what we would have did at Guymon this winter. People are sure good to us here. They give us so much fruit and vegetables and it helps so much.

I sure am sorry we can't send anyone anything for Christmas, but it is just impossible because dollars are sure scarce with us.

And in a letter from Orville, postmarked Craig, Colorado, May 18, 1935 (note the reference to his future wife, Thelma):

This country is a stock country so you know about what my work is. I like the country fine, although this is a hard country, but that's why I like it I guess.

My Christmas was ruined though cause there was a homesteader up here and his wife died and that was Christmas Eve. Snow was deep and the horse couldn't get up there so I taken a team and sled and went up and got her and brought her down off the mountain. So you know I didn't have much fun. So you can see that the country is pretty tough sometimes.

We have quite a bit of wild game here and it is pretty nice. The sage chickens will soon be big enough to eat. I have been having a little trouble with my teeth. I think I will have them all pulled and get some false ones.

Does times seem to be getting any better now or not? I can't notice them getting any better here. I have a girl and she sure is good looking too and her name is Thelma. She is a little bit different from my old girls. She sure is a nice girl. So if time ever permits, I might make a blunder, but I haven't yet.

I haft to go fix fence and if I don't get this off, it will be another week before mail day so good by.

You can hear his desperation in a letter from Orville dated May 23, 1935:

One reason I have not wrote more often is because I know I should help Howard and Herbert out and I just simply haven't had any. Just a little now and then, but I think things is going to pick up some here. If they don't I will just have to quit this country and try some other. I have been trying to get some stock started and haven't had much luck so I think I will go get me a job and quit this ranch business. I like stock but I think I have tried it about long enough.

In the mid-1930's, the family returned to Hollywood, living at 1122 N. Madison. While living here, the Tucker family began attending Fountain Avenue Baptist Church, where Iva met George Henricks.

Howard joined the Glendale Fire Department and rose through the ranks to become Deputy Fire Chief. He was married three times and had three sons - Howard Jr., William, and Daniel.

Wanda married Warren E. Spain, who, with his father George E. Spain, owned a Los Angeles Real Estate and Insurance Agency. They had a daughter, Virginia, and a son, Warren Jr., nicknamed "Skeeter".

Ona married James (Bud) Coats and returned with him to his family's home in Cisco, Texas, where they raised two sons, James and Richard, and a daughter, Susan.

The Tucker's remained in close touch, even though they had fanned out over the western states. They had several family reunions which were well attended. When I was a boy, most of our family summer vacations were spent on long automobile trips, visiting the families of my mother's siblings.

Bertha moved to a small apartment on Fountain Avenue, across the street from the Baptist Church, where she lived until her death. She was a godly woman who attended every service and took notes during each Sunday sermon. On occasions when the minister tried to repeat a successful sermon, Bertha, after consulting her notes, was able to tell him when he last preached that particular sermon. She died in 1950, at age 67, at her son Howard's home in La Crescenta. Her body was shipped to Amorita to be buried next to her husband, Roy.

Bertha lived for 30 years after her husband's death. She deserves a great deal of credit and admiration for the hardships she overcame in raising a large family by herself during the most economically depressed period of American history.

### The HENRICKS and TUCKER Branches Unite

Iva Tucker and George A. Henricks, Jr. were married at Fountain Avenue Baptist Church on August 5, 1938. When they were first married, George and Iva rented a small house at 1536 N. Commonwealth Ave., Los Angeles.

Having been reared during the Great Depression, job security was understandably very important to George Jr. After working for a short time for Republic Insurance Company, he took a job doing time-and-motion studies at Vega Aircraft Company, around the time of the outbreak of hostilities that led to World War II. Vega soon merged with Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. George remained with Lockheed for more than 30 years, finding job security in an industry known for its instability. He achieved the job title of "manufacturing planner".

George and Iva's first son, Donald George, was born on January 27, 1943. At the time of his birth, the country was embroiled in World War II. That day's headline on the Los Angeles Times read: "F.D.R. Meets Churchill in Africa; Drives for Victory in '43 Mapped". The motion picture *Casablanca*, which has become a cinema classic, opened that week at the Warner's Theater in Hollywood.

Soon after "Donny's" birth the family purchased their first house at 2345 Duane St., in the Silver Lake area of Los Angeles. While living there, their second son, Robert Arthur ("Bobby"), was born two years to the day after his older brother. By that time the war was winding down and the country's outlook was optimistic.

In the early 1940's, at an age when most men would have been ready to retire, George Sr. took a job as an elevator operator at the Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital, located about a block from the family home. He continued working there well into his 70's. The kindly old gentleman was a favorite of the doctors and nurses, who frequently stopped by to sit on his front porch and visit on warm summer evenings.

In the late '40's both George Sr. and Anna suffered ill health. Anna developed diabetes and George suffered a mild heart attack. In February, 1948, Anna died at age 69. Since his father was not strong enough to live by himself, George Jr. moved his family back to his family home on Fountain Ave. to care for his aging father.

Like their father before them, Don and Bob attended Ramona Elementary School, taught by some of the same teachers that had educated their dad thirty years earlier. The children's life was somewhat idyllic. They freely roamed the neighborhood on their bicycles with their cousin, Skeeter Spain. They participated in touch-football, basketball and softball leagues sponsored by the Hollywood YMCA. In the early 1950's, their family became one of the first in the neighborhood to have a black and white television set. The neighbors would gather at their house to watch such TV staples as wrestling and roller derby.

Since Fountain Avenue Baptist Church was a few minutes walk from home, the family's religious



and social life revolved around the church, where George Jr. served as an usher, Deacon and Trustee and Iva sang in the choir. Don and Bob attended Le Conte Junior High and Hollywood High School.

In 1957, the U.S.S.R. launched Sputnik, the first satellite to circle the earth. The people of the U.S. were concerned about this advance, but didn't exactly understand its significance. This signaled the beginning of the "race for space" between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. In this same year, George Sr. passed away at his home at age 83.

George Sr. witnessed a great deal of technological change in his lifetime. Take, for example, the field of transportation. At the beginning of his life, the primary modes of long distance transportation were horses, the railroad and steamships. He witnessed the progression to automobiles, airplanes and rockets launching satellites into space. George referred to the family car as "the machine".

George Sr. and Anna are buried side-by-side at Forest Lawn, Glendale.

In 1958, George and Iva sold the family home in Hollywood and moved to the suburbs, purchasing a house in the rapidly developing San Fernando Valley. The home, located at 10940 Fruitland Drive, North Hollywood, featured a large swimming pool and was reputed to have once been the home of the motion picture actor, John Garfield. Their new home was on the boundary between Hollywood and North Hollywood High Schools, so Don was able to continue attending Hollywood High School. Both brothers were good students and both played on the varsity football team.

Upon graduating from Hollywood High School, both Don and Bob enrolled at the University of California at Los Angeles, where they both became members of Sigma Nu Fraternity. While students at U.C.L.A. the young men lived through the tension of the "Cold War", as exemplified by the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962. They also were shocked by the untimely assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963. Don received a B.A. degree in Economics in 1964 and an M.B.A. in 1966 from U.C.L.A.

While a graduate student, he took a summer intern position with Montgomery Ward Department Store in Panorama City. It was in the snack bar at Montgomery Ward, during a coffee break, that Don met Cherry Lynn Hoyt, the young lady who was to become his wife.

Meanwhile, George and Iva Henricks grew in different directions. Iva was an incredibly bright woman, who would have done well in a college environment, which her early financial situation never permitted. When her children were grown, she returned to work and advanced to a responsible position with the California State Department of Employment. She was well read and loved to travel.

George, on the other hand, read little except for financial and political news and never felt he had enough saved for a rainy day. These differences led to conflicting priorities, and in 1969, they divorced. George remarried Marge Rainwater, a coworker he met at Lockheed.



Iva died of cancer in 1978, at age 60, and is buried at Forrest Lawn, Glendale. George retired from Lockheed in 1979 and died in his sleep in 1980, at age 64. He is buried at Forrest Lawn, Hollywood Hills. Both loved their children and grandchildren and their legacies helped fund their grand-children's educations, allowing them advantages that their grandparents never had.

### The HOYT Branch

Cherry was the eldest of three daughters born to Richard Spencer Hoyt and Joy Horstmann Hoyt. The Hoyt family can also trace its roots deep in American history.

The patriarch of the family was Simon Hoyt, who was born in West Hatch, Somersetshire, England, in 1590. He had four sons, the second of which, Nicholas, was born in 1620. Simon's wife died in 1625 and he brought his family on *The Lyon's Whelp* to Salem of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In 1629, he was one of the founders of Charleston, where he remarried. In 1633, he is recorded in Dorchester, and from there he moved to Scituate early in 1635.

About this time some families, dissatisfied with the autocratic government of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and with the law requiring church membership as a condition of voting and holding office, withdrew from the colony. In 1635, three bands, under the leadership of Rev. Thomas Hooker and Roger Ludlow, set out once more in search of liberty. The first group founded Hartford, Connecticut, in 1636. Simon Hoyt's family joined the second group that settled in Windsor, a few miles north of Hartford.

In 1646, Simon sold his land in Windsor and moved again, 60 miles to the south to the shore of Long Island Sound. The reason for this move may be found in the fact that Roger Ludlow, had founded a settlement on the sound in 1639, which he named Fairfield for the beauty of its location. Simon's friendship with Ludlow may have influenced him to follow. He purchased land in Fairfield in 1649. Sometime thereafter, Simon made a final move to Stamford, Connecticut, where in died in 1657.

Even though they never left the Eastern Seaboard, Simon and his family were true pioneers. They were early settlers of seven different New England towns, usually among the first white residents in the area. Scarcely had he a roof over his log cabin, before Simon started off to subdue a new portion of wilderness.

Son Nicholas seems to have loyally followed the family until they reached Windsor. Here he married Susanna Joyce, a widow with a young daughter. Together they had four sons, the third of whom, David, was born in 1651. From the record, it appears that Nicholas, Susanna and their youngest son, Daniel, may have fallen victims of some fatal epidemic in July 1655. Susanna died on the fourth, Nicholas on the seventh and Daniel on the fifteenth of July, leaving David, age 4, and three other children orphaned.

Little is known of David Hoyt and his siblings for the next few years. Kind friends must have cared for the orphans, since their grandparents, aunts and uncles had already moved south to Fairfield. By 1673, David was married and living in Hadley, Massachusetts, with one son. From Hadley, he moved to Hatfield.

The family, now numbering six, moved up the Connecticut River from Hatfield at the time of the permanent settlement of Deerfield, Massachusetts, in 1682. When his second wife died, David

married for a third time, a widow, Abigail (Cook) Pomeroy. Together, they had three more children, including his fourth son, Benjamin, born in 1692.

The townspeople of Deerfield erected a palisade around the town to protect them from the local Indians, with whom they frequently skirmished. On the fateful night of February 29, 1704, a force of French and Indians attacked the Deerfield settlement. The enemy gained admittance to the palisade by means of heavily encrusted snow banks, so that they were dispersed among the cabins before they were discovered. Forty nine of the residents were killed. Every cabin was burned, except one, which was stoutly defended by seven men. The door to that house is on display today today in the Deerfield Museum. It has a gaping hole in the middle where the Indians hacked their way in. After finally capturing that house, the Indians gathered within it their captives - 29 men, 24 women and 58 children.

Hearing screams on the night of the attack, young Benjamin Hoyt avoided capture by jumping from a window and hiding in the corn crib until morning. Other family members were not as lucky. David, Abigail and four of their children were taken captive by the Indians and marched to Canada. David was forced to carry a large bundle as well as his youngest child or see her killed by the Indians. The baby was killed and, when provisions became scarce, David apparently starved to death near what is now Newbury, Vermont. His widow, Abigail, and the three remaining children endured all the horrors of captivity, and were eventually freed. Abigail returned to Deerfield and remarried.

Upon his escape Benjamin Hoyt fled to Norwalk, Connecticut, where he lived with relatives, and later came with them to the newly established Ridgefield, in Fairfield County, Connecticut. He purchased lot #2 and built a structure there in 1713. This one room dwelling had no basement and had a fireplace of stone with a bee hive oven in its back wall. But its most most distinguishing feature was its front door. Known as the "Indian door", it had vertical boards with metal studs on the outside and horizontal boards on the inside to help prevent break-ins. After what he and his family had endured at Deerfield, it was only natural that Benjamin feared another Indian attack.

Benjamin and his wife, Sarah, raised six children in their farmhouse. His first son, Benjamin Jr., was born there in 1721. As his family grew, so did his house. Within several years Benjamin had erected around and above this first room, a larger house that exists to this day. Benjamin's son David inherited his parents' home upon his father's death in 1759, and already having a home in Ridgefield, chose to sell it to his nephew, Timothy Keeler. Timothy Keeler made alterations to his grandparents' old home and opened it as *T. Keeler's Inn* in 1772. *Keeler's Tavern* still stands today as a museum, listed in the National Register of Historic Places and considered one of Ridgefield's historic treasures.

Benjamin Hoyt Jr., married Patience Smith in 1751. Their son, Timothy, was born in Ridgefield in 1770. In 1799, Timothy Hoyt married Dolly Olmstead, daughter of Daniel and Joanna Olmstead, descendants of another prominent Ridgefield pioneer family. In 1708, Dolly's ancestor, Richard Olmstead, with his brother Daniel and 22 others, had purchased 2000 acres from the Indian, Sachem Catoonah, and his associates for 100 pounds. This tract of land was divided into 20 acre plots and became the town of Ridgefield.

In 1819, Timothy and Dolly left Ridgefield and moved, with their seven children, to Cayuga County, New York, near the town of Sennett. It must have been a difficult decision for Timothy and Dolly, because at that time their families had lived in Ridgefield for over 100 years. It is said that they made at least part of the journey by an ox-drawn sled. In 1822, their son, Jonathan G. Hoyt, was born in Cayuga County. Jonathan passed his early life on the family farm, receiving his education in the public schools.

His mother, Dolly, died in 1845, but his father, Timothy, lived another 17 years. Timothy's obituary, dated July 1862, read in part:

...A man greatly beloved. Now 60 years since he gave his heart to Christ. Connected with the First Presbyterian Church of Auburn, then after the death of his wife, moved to the Meridian Presbyterian Church, to which he belonged until his death. He had a wife of rare Christian excellence and six sons and one daughter together with a number of grandchildren. All were useful members of the church. Children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have celebrated his birthday annually on June 12, at the house where he died when he reached 92 years. Father Hoyt is gone. "He gave up the ghost and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and he was gathered to his people."

In 1844, Jonathan Hoyt married Isadore Sabra Van Wie, daughter of Henry and Lydia (Conger) Van Wie. Isadore was a decendent of Hendrick Gerritse Van Wie, who had arrived in the Dutch Colony of New Amsterdam in 1664. Born in Holland, Hendrick arrived on the ship *de Endracht*, and paid for his passage with eight whole and four half beaver pelts.

Referred to as "Fat Hendrick", he settled in the Dutch settlement of Beverwyck, later renamed Albany, when it transferred from Dutch to English control. He built a house there in 1679 on the Town Road at Van Wie's Point. This area is now part of the town of Bethlehem, New York. This early house was replaced in 1732 with the Van Wie House, built by Hendrick Van Wie, grandson of the emigrant Hendrick, and housed six generations of the Van Wie family.

Hendrick's grandson, Andries Van Wie, served as a Private in the Albany Militia during the Revolutionary War, as did Lydia Conger's father, Uzziah. Uzziah Conger served as a Corporal in the 5th Company (also known as Van Wie's Company) of the 3rd Regiment, New York Troops. The fact that Uzziah's Company carried the Van Wie name, indicates that the Conger and Van Wie families were associated long before their offspring married. The Revolutionary War veterans may have been granted land in Central New York for their service, as both families migrated a few miles east of Albany, to the village of Ira in Cayuga County, where Isadore Van Wie was born.

In 1845, Jonathan he got a job as a miller at the grist mill in Meridian, Cayuga County. Jonathan and Isadore Hoyt's third child, William Spencer Hoyt, was born in Cato Township, Cayuga County, in 1855. After eight years as a miller, Jonathan turned to farming for five years.



In 1862, Jonathan, believing he could do better at his trade, moved his family west to Muir, Ionia County, Michigan, and returned to milling. The family may have traveled part of the way via the newly-opened Erie Canal which connected Central New York with Lake Erie and Michigan. In 1875, he relocated to Saline, Michigan, and purchased the York Mills.

William S. Hoyt, following in his father's footsteps, became a miller. He married an English girl, Jennie Hickmott, and they left Michigan for the Dakota Territory. The 1880 Dakota Territory Census lists a William S. Hoyt living at Fort Buffalo Township in Mellette County.

According to Vroman Van Wie's obituary, dated February 10, 1919, Jonathan and Isadore Hoyt journeyed with her brother, Vroman, from New York to California in 1851. The Hoyt's returned to New York, but Vroman eventually located "at White Bluff prairie, near Meadow Lake" in what is now Washington state. He traveled to Spokane Falls in 1872 to get sawed lumber to floor his log house. At that time there were "no wagon roads and but two white men and one white woman living there". Vroman became quite influential, acting as County Commissioner for Stevens County before Spokane County was formed.

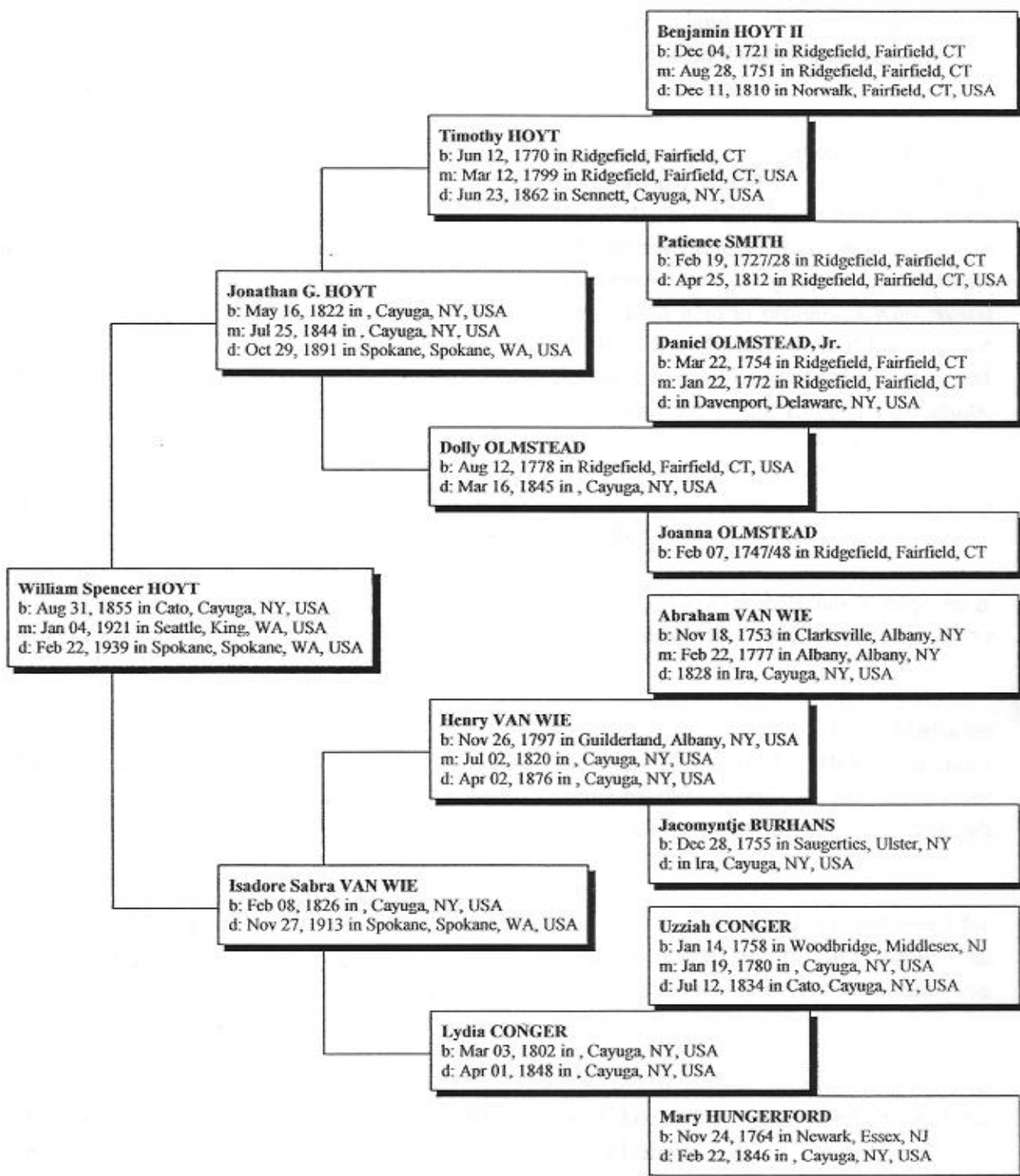
In a newspaper interview dated January 11, 1931, William's brother, the Rev. Frederick Van Wie Hoyt described the circumstances around his brother's arrival in Spokane as follows:

My father, J.G. Hoyt, was an expert miller. About 1884, Havermale and Davis erected a large flour mill on Havermale Island. They were having some trouble with their miller and at the suggestion of my uncle, Mr. Vanwie, they telegraphed my brother, W.S. Hoyt of Dakota, to come and accept a position in the mill. He had followed the footsteps of his father and became adept in this capacity. Then in 1894, I entered into partnership with my brother and we started the Garden Springs greenhouses.

William and Jennie had three children, only one of whom, Annie Mabel, lived to adulthood. William's parents, Jonathan and Isadore, left Michigan to live with him in Spokane. William's father, Jonathan, died in 1891. William's wife, Jennie, died in 1893 and his mother, Isadore, died in 1913. All three are buried in the Hoyt Family plot at Greenwood Cemetery in Spokane.

In 1897, William married Mattie Hammond. They adopted a daughter, Evangeline, whom William claimed "he found in the woods". According to family lore, Evangeline eventually married 13 times and was known as "the bootleg queen of Washington State" during Prohibition. Mattie died soon after her marriage to William, leaving him a widower for the second time.



*Ancestors of William Spencer HOYT*

### The TATE Branch

Florence Evelyn was the daughter of John and Isabella (Cherry) Tate, who were married in 1865 in the Parish Church in Loughgall, County Armagh, Northern Ireland. Their marriage record names Dawson Tate, a linen manufacturer from Portadown, as John Tate's father and Richard Cherry, a builder from Loughgall, as Isabella's father.

At this point, we do not know a great deal about the Tate ancestors. We can assume from the surnames - Tate, Cherry, and Addey - which are most commonly found in Scotland, that the families were Scots-Irish. Pressed by the English military, the Northern Irish Kings left their country in 1607, surrendering Northern Ireland to English control. King James I saw this as an opportunity to solve the problem of the poverty stricken farmers located along the border between England and Scotland. His plan included granting parcels of Irish land to promoters who would assume the responsibility of moving Scottish border folk to Ireland. Thus, Protestant families like the Tates, Cherrys, and Addeys were transplanted from Scotland to Northern Ireland and provided a Protestant buffer between the predominant Irish Catholics and the ruling English Protestants. These transplants became known as "Scots-Irish".

Much of what we actually know about the Tates and Cherrys we have learned from investigating the following family heirlooms still treasured by the Hoyt family:

- A large silver plate that is inscribed as follows: "*Presented to Richard Cherry Esqr by a number of his friends as a token of their regard and esteem on the occasion of his leaving Loughgall to reside in Belfast, October 1881*".
- A sterling silver trowel, inscribed as follows: "*Memorial Stones, Lisburn Road Methodist Hall, Presented to Mrs. Addey by Master R.J. Edwards, February 17, 1906.*" Richard Cherry's wife was Isabelle Addey. Addey seems to have been the name of a prominent linen manufacturing family from the Loughgall area and associated with the Cherry's through marriage.
- A book entitled *At Home Among the Atoms* by John Tate. It was printed and published for the author in 1855 (perhaps as a student?) at the Portadown and Lurgan News Offices. The book says that John Tate was also the author of two other books: *The Sun: Its Constitution* and *Sun-Spots*.
- A book entitled *Who's Who and Why, A Biographical Dictionary of Notable Men and Women of Western Canada* published in 1912. One of the people included is D'Arcy Tate, "born Portadown, Ireland, June 14, 1866, son of John and Isabella Tate".
- Florence Tate's calling card, listing her address as Ruskerry, Donegal Park". Donegal Park was the name of an upscale area in Belfast, and Ruskerry, the name of the estate on which they resided.

From this evidence we can assume that the Cherrys and Tates were from the neighboring communities of Loughgall and Portadown respectively. The Portadown directories list Dawson Tate as a farmer, living in Drumcree Cottage from 1870 to 1880. Mrs. Tate continued to live there from 1892 through 1901. As an aside, Drumcree and Portadown have served as headquarters of the Protestant Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland (LOL) or "Orangemen" who, until recently, had battled the Irish Catholics for centuries in Northern Ireland. Dawson Tate served as Master of Portadown's LOL #20 (Erin's Royal Standard, Kilmagamish) from 1835 through 1837.

The Portadown directories also indicate that their son, John Tate, born about 1831, owned or managed a boot factory on High Steet from 1865 through 1892. That boot factory still stands as a shoe store today at 19 High Street, the main market street of Portadown. John died in Portadown in 1892.

Records of St. Lukes Church in Loughgall show Cherry's as members continually from the year 1775. Richard Cherry, born about 1810, was mentioned as having served as Church Warden in 1853 and 1861. Griffith's Land Valuations of 1864 indicated Richard Cherry owned property at Levealleglish, Eagralougher, and in the Village of Loughgall. He married Isabelle Addey, daughter of Robert Addey, and they had six children, including Isabella born in 1849.

Richard Cherry was an architect/builder by trade. The Irish Architectural Archive lists Richard as "a buiding contractor of Armagh, active in the 1860's when he built a huge flax spinning mill in Armagh and worked on churches in Loughgilly and Drumglass." There are records of him being a party to a contract to expand the Armagh jail in 1845 and to erect a church at Mulladry in County Armagh in 1856. According to the silver tray, the Cherrys relocated from Loughgall to Belfast in 1881. Richard Cherry died in the Sydenham area of Belfast in 1885. Cherry Hoyt was named after Richard Cherry.

John and Isabella Tate had ten children. They must have been financially well off, since they were able to provide some unusual educational opportunities for their children. D'Arcy Tate, their firstborn, attended Queen's College in Belfast. He became Solicitor General for the Canadian Grand Trunk Railroad in 1910 and held the prestigious title of "King's Counsellor". There is a town in Bristish Columbia called Darcy, named for D'Arcy Tate.

Daughter, Isabelle Addey Tate, was a remarkable woman for her time. She was educated at Queen's College, and graduated in the Royal University of Ireland in 1899. She obtained her M.D. from the Royal University in Dublin in 1902, that University being among the first in Great Britain to admit women medical students. In 1904, she was awarded the "Diploma of Public Health" by Victoria University in Manchester, England.

In 1908, Dr. Tate is believed to be the first woman to practice medicine in Brumly, England. At the outbreak of World War I, Dr. Tate volunteered to for the Third Serbian Relief Fund Unit. Named after their administrator, Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, "The Stobart Unit" was originally comprised of 70 female doctors and nurses. Their mission was to provide medical support to wounded Serbian soldiers defending their country against the advances of the Austrian-German Army. The Stobart Unit docked at Salonika in April, 1915, and set up operations in Kragujevac,

Serbia. Dr. Tate was in charge of the X-ray unit and was listed as a "senior surgeon".

In the summer of 1915, Dr. Tate contracted typhoid fever, and was invalided home in the fall, just prior to the Stobart Unit's general retreat from Serbia ahead of the advancing Austrian-German Army. Upon recovery, Dr. Tate treated the wounded at the Graylingwell War Hospital in the south of England. Again, in 1916, she volunteered for service abroad, attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps on the island of Malta. She fell ill on Malta and died at the military hospital in January, 1917. Her death certificate lists the cause of death as "congestion of the brain". Her obituary concluded:

Foregoing a life of ease and luxury, which might have been hers for the choice, she preferred the path of sacrifice and service, and has now given her life for her country, her death adding another name to that illustrious band of noble women who have unostentatiously made the supreme sacrifice in the great world war.

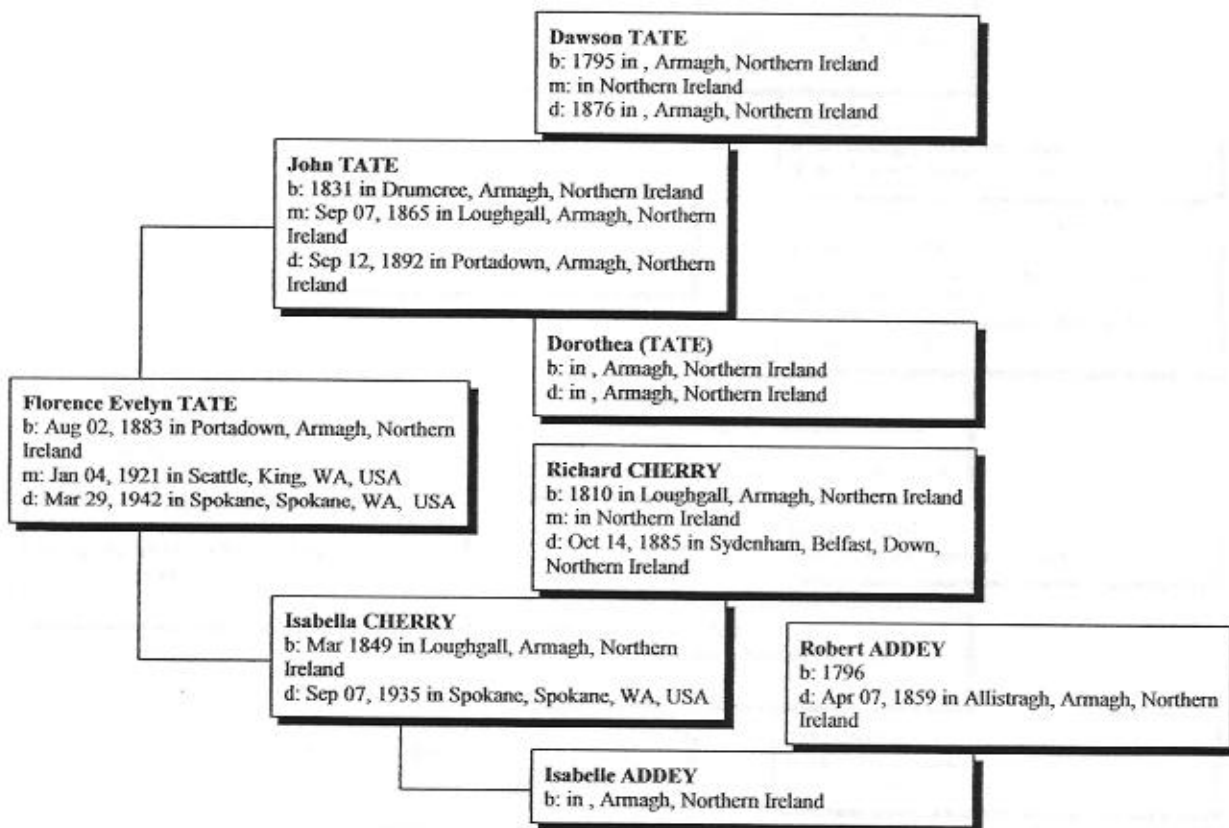
The third child of John and Isabella Tate, George Augustus, was born in 1870. George emigrated to the U.S. and married Elizabeth Mabel Mackie in St. Louis in 1895. Born in Chicago, Elizabeth was the daughter of John and Margaret (Huddelson) Mackie. John, a laborer, was born in Ireland in 1853 and Margaret, in Scotland in 1857.

The second of George and Elizabeth's four children, Audrey Isabel, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1897. George was listed in the 1900 Cleveland Directory as a Superintendant at Western Electric. The family must have traveled to Ireland, since the 1901 Irish Census shows them with his mother in Portadown. When the family returned to the U.S., they settled in Chicago, where George became an electrical contractor. He had the reputation of being a hard-drinking, high-living Irishman. His possessions included a boat, the *Audrey T* which he kept on Lake Superior.

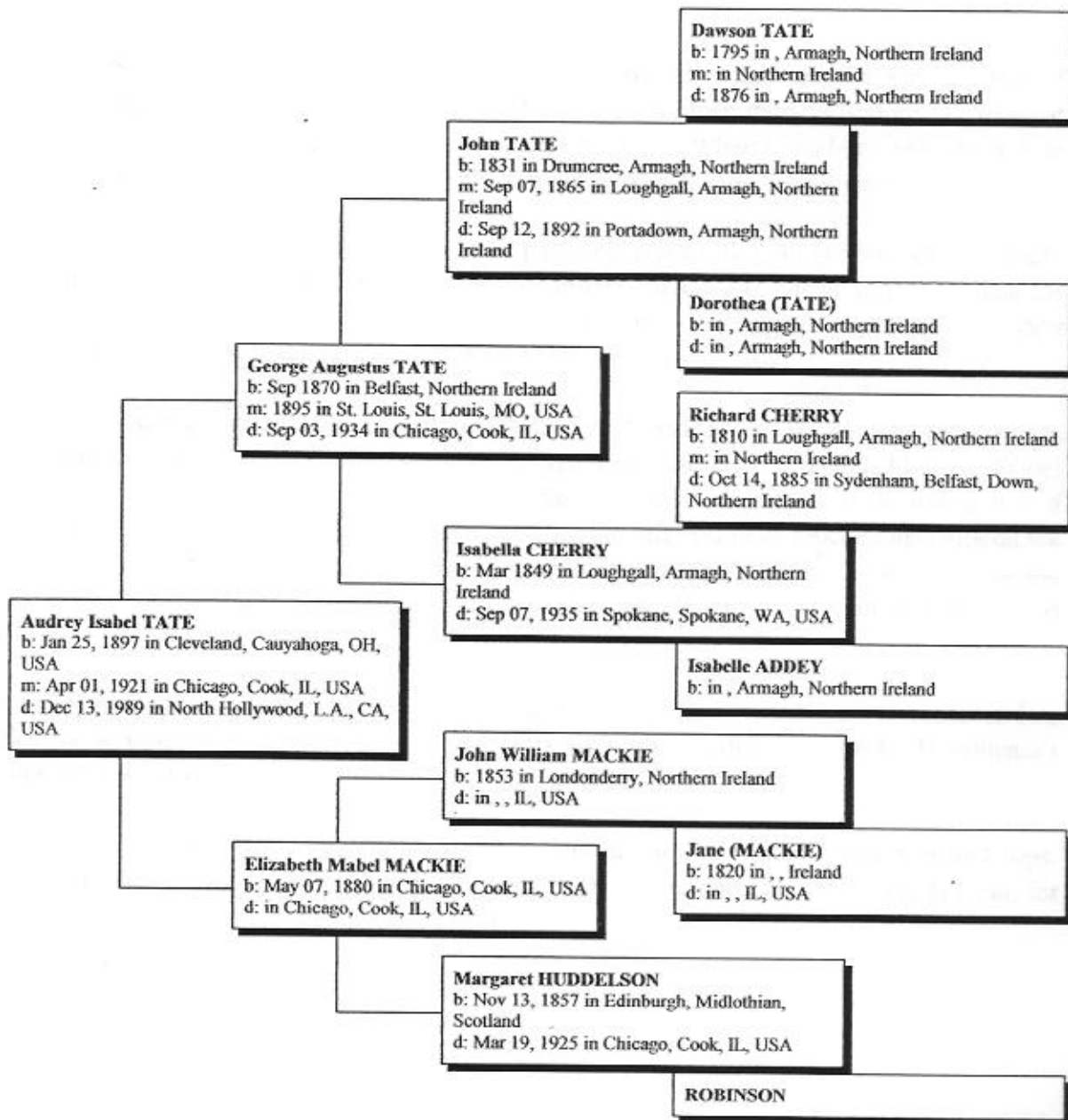
About 1902, Isabella Tate relocated her family, which included daughter, Florence, born in 1883, from Portadown to an estate called Ruskerry in Donegall Park, a rather exclusive section of Belfast at that time. In 1912, both Isabella and Florence signed the Women's Declaration declaring their uncompromising opposition to the Irish Home Rule Bill before the English Parliament. Family tradition maintained that Florence fell in love with an heir to the Lipton Tea fortune in Belfast, but her mother did not approve. Ellis Island immigration records show that Florence visited New York in 1917.

The Ellis Island records also show that Florence, her mother Isabella, her sister, Gladys, and her aunt, Augusta Cherry, sailed from Liverpool and arrived in New York in September, 1920. From there, they emigrated to British Columbia, probably to join Isabella's children, D'Arcy and Lilian Tate, who had settled in Victoria. At some point, Isabella and Florence traveled to Spokane, Washington, to visit Florence's sister Marion (Tate) Mitchell, who had married and settled there. It was during this visit that Florence met widower William S. Hoyt.



*Ancestors of Florence Evelyn TATE*



*Ancestors of Audrey Isabel TATE*

### The HOYT and TATE Branches Unite

In 1922, at the age of 67, William Hoyt took his third wife, Florence Evelyn Tate. Florence had emigrated with her mother, Isabella, aunt Augusta Cherry, and sister Gladys, from Belfast to Victoria, British Columbia, in 1920. Florence had remained single until wedding William at age 38.

Florence, joined by her mother and her aunt Augusta, moved to the Garden Springs area of Spokane with the Hoyts. In 1923, Florence gave birth to a daughter, Patricia Isadore. In 1925, at the ripe old age of 70, William fathered a son, Richard Spencer. When Grandmother Isabella Tate died in Spokane in 1935 at age 86, she had survived her husband, John, by 43 years.

William remained in Spokane for 55 years and in partnership with his younger brother, Frederick, in Hoyt Brothers Florists for 40 years. William died in 1939 at age 84. Times were very hard for Florence and her two children after William's death. They were forced to rely on William's eldest daughter, Annie (Hoyt) Schultz, for help, which was not given graciously.

Florence fell ill and died unexpectedly in 1942 at age 59. Her death left her son Richard, known as Dick, orphaned at age 16. Audrey's father, George Tate, and Dick's mother, Florence (Tate) Hoyt, had been siblings. In a letter written from Spokane to his cousin Audrey, telling her of Florence's death, Dick wrote: "Of course we don't need to tell you how shocked and broken we are. I just can't believe it yet. It doesn't seem possible that the one dearest to me is safe on the other shore." Both William and Florence are buried in the Hoyt Family plot in Greenwood Cemetery.

Audrey, undoubtedly feeling compassion for young Dick's loss, invited him to come to Los Angeles for a visit. It was on this visit that Dick met Joy, Audrey and Leslie Horstmann's daughter, who was just his age.

Dick returned to Spokane and, although not yet 18, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. World War II was in progress and, after boot camp, Dick was stationed in Honolulu, Hawaii, for two and a half years, attaining the rank of Sergeant.

### The HORSTMANN Branch

Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Horstmann was born May 1, 1822. The census records list his place of birth as "Hanover". Hannover is a German city and a province in Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen). The area was the Kingdom of Hannover at the time of Friedrich's birth. It became a province of Prussia in 1866 and then part of Germany after unification in 1871.

Following the German tradition, he was called by his second name, Frederick. Ship records show a "Friderig Horstman" of Hannover departing Bremen on the bark *Constitution*, and arriving in New York on April 16, 1852. Census records indicate that Frederick's wife, Elizabetha Meier, and first son, Henry, were also from Hannover. Elizabetha, alternately called Eliza or Betha, was born in the town of Loxstedt, the daughter of Carl and Anna Maria (Marx) Meier. Since neither Betha nor Henry are listed in the immigration record, it is unclear whether they came to America with Frederick or joined him here later.

Frederick wasted little time, filing for citizenship in Greenup County, Kentucky, in 1854, as soon as he was eligible. He received his U.S. Citizenship in 1859. Frederick's occupation is listed in the census records as "laborer" and "brick layer".

The Horstmann's had seven more children in Greenup County, the second of which, Heinrich Wilhelm, called William, was born in 1859. William's baptismal certificate survives to this day and names William's birthplace as "Greenup Furnace". Four of his siblings were born at Laurel Furnace, Buffalo Furnace, Bellefonte Furnace and Peninsularis Furnace. From this record, it appears that Frederick and family moved from furnace to furnace in Greenup County, perhaps following the work.

What is a furnace? Early settlers in Greenup County found the land rich in iron ore. We can learn something about life at Greenup Furnace from *Iron Furnaces of the Hanging Rock Iron Region*, by Donald E. Rist. Greenup Furnace, later renamed Hunnewell Furnace, was an outdoor pig iron-producing furnace located about seven miles south of the town of Greenup. The furnace itself was a large pyramid of stone about 25 feet at the base and 25 to 40 feet high. It was built against a hill, so that the ore, limestone and charcoal could be dumped into the stack at the top, the molten iron being drawn from an outlet at the bottom.

The furnace was the center of a self-contained company town, employing about 120 workers, one of whom in 1859 was Frederick Horstmann. Along with the furnace operation, the property had a 150-acre meadow, 350 acres of corn, and 200 acres of fenced pasture for the company stock. Lumber was sawed on the company mill. The tiny community had its own church, school, combination grocery, furniture and hardware store, slaughter house, and barber shop. Workers were smelters, potters, fillers at the furnace and choppers who felled and trimmed the trees for the charcoal.

It is not entirely clear what it was like to live and work at a furnace such as Greenup. However, it must have been a life of hard work and few luxuries. It brings to mind the lifestyle described in

the lyrics of the folk song, *Sixteen Tons*, specifically the chorus:

You load 16 tons and what do you get?

Another day older and deeper in debt.

St. Peter don't you call me 'cause I can't go,

I owe my soul to the company store.

The remains of these furnaces still dot the landscape of Northeast Kentucky.

By 1870, The Horstmann family, perhaps seeking a better life, had moved to the nearby town of Ashland, in Boyd County, Kentucky. Here they had two more children, bringing the total to ten. The Horstmann's are listed in the 1897 Ashland Directory, living at 814 Winchester (today the site of a shopping mall). Betha and Fred continued to live in Ashland until their deaths in 1902 and 1904, respectively.

It was probably in Ashland, that William Horstmann met Fannie Rhoda Bayliss. Fannie was born in St. Louis in 1862. Her father was James Bayless, born in England, and her mother was Elizabeth Finlay, born in Scotland. The couple was married in St. Louis in 1859. The 1880 census shows Elizabeth as a widow and Fannie, living in Covington, Kentucky, working as a "servant" for a banker.

In 1880, William was living in South Chicago, working as a "nail feeder". William and Fannie were married in 1882 in Covington, Kentucky. The couple settled in Chicago, where William became a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. They had five children. The fifth, Leslie Francis Horstmann, nicknamed "Shuey", was born there in 1894.

About 1925, William and Fannie Horstmann retired to "Hillside Farm" in North Judson, Indiana. Here they ran an apiary, keeping bees for honey. We get a glimpse into the character of William Horstmann from a letter he wrote to his son's family in 1939, postmarked North Judson:

To my Dear Children Shuey, Audrey and Joy:

Four score years ago March 14, 1859 I first seen the light of day on the Green Hills of old Kentucky. I certainly am proud of my age. I am thankful that I have been permitted to live and seen the many years pass away into history. I am thankful for the many good friends that I have had. Many of them have passed to their reward and new ones have taken their place.

March 14, 1939, will be my 80th birthday anniversary. I consider this an eventful day in my life and deem it fitting and proper that I in some way celebrate this great event.

I have decided to have open house all day Tuesday March 14, 1939. I intend to be up at sunrise, dress up in my best Sunday clothes, get out the Stars and Stripes "the flag of my country", raise it to the top of my flag pole.

Then I will be ready to meet all comers with the good old fashion Hillside Greeting. You are heartily invited to be with me and help celebrate.

Lovingly, Papa

A 1939 newspaper description indicates that this birthday celebration went pretty much as planned:

Tuesday, March 14, is an eventful day in the life of Wm. H. Horstmann. Since 1859 it has been a day of days for him, for it was eighty years ago that he first saw the light of day on the green hills of old Kentucky.

On Tuesday morning Mr. Horstmann arose at sunrise, one of the prettiest days we've had this season, looked at the calendar and remarked that it was his eightieth birthday, but he felt not a day older than a kid of forty.

He put on his best store clothes, hoisted the Stars and Stripes to the top of the high flagpole on the Hillside farm and made ready to receive the many friends he was sure would come to help him celebrate this eventful day.

They started arriving early and many remained 'till a very late hour and there was reason enough, too, for the larder was well stocked with good foods, birthday cakes and refreshments.

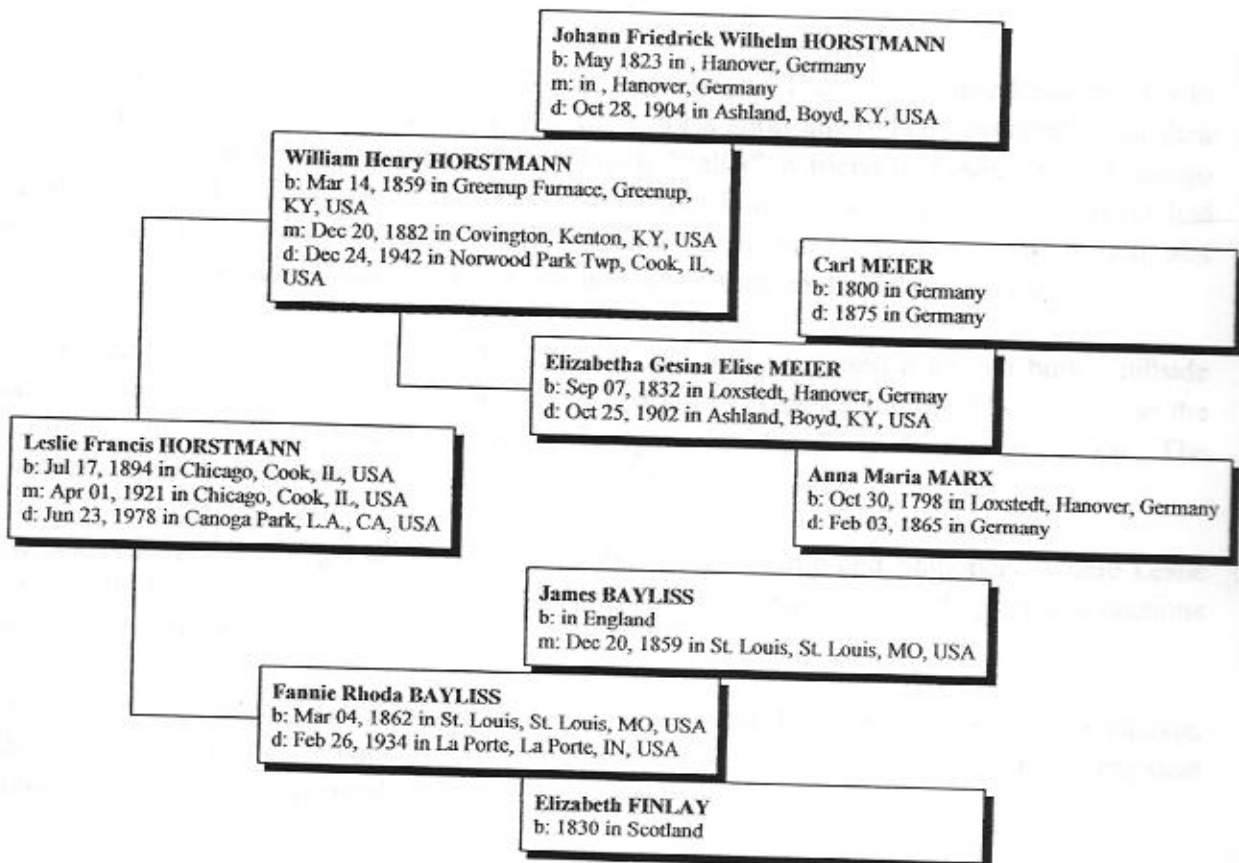
Besides the many visitors Mr. Horstmann received 107 greeting cards, 21 letters, four telegrams and was also the recipient of many gifts.

The allusion to raising the flag was a tradition carried on by his son, Leslie, throughout his life, and, later by the Hoyt family.

Fannie Horstmann died in 1934. William remarried in 1939, but this wife, Anna, died in 1940. William continued to live on his farm until shortly before his death in Chicago in 1942, where he is buried in Mt. Elmwood Cemetery.



# *Ancestors of Leslie Francis HORSTMANN*



**The HORSTMANN and TATE Branches Unite**

Leslie Horstmann enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve and served on active duty during World War I from May 1917 through July 1919. He was stationed on the Great Lakes, in Philadelphia, and on the U.S.S. Prairie as a drummer, with the rank of First Musician.

After leaving the service, Leslie supposedly took a job as a crew member on a yacht on Lake Superior, owned by George Tate. He met Mr. Tate's daughter, Audrey, who had been surrounded by wealth and had several "well-to-do beaux". But she became attracted to Leslie. They fell in love and eloped in 1921. For a time after their marriage, the Horstmann's lived with the Tate's in Chicago. Eventually, they purchased their own home in Evanston, Illinois, where their only child, Joy, was born in 1925.

The young Horstmann family was hit hard by the Depression. They both worked and sent Joy to live with her grandparents in North Judson, Indiana, for a short time. They eventually lost their jobs and their Evanston home to foreclosure. "Uncle Walter", a friend of Leslie's from Chicago had come west and suggested that the Horstmann's join him in Los Angeles. The friend had ordered a new 1936 Chrysler in Detroit. The Horstmann's went to Detroit, picked up the car, and drove it to Las Vegas, where they met Uncle Walter. They then continued on together to L.A.

The Horstmann family initially lived in Inglewood, but soon purchased a lot and built a hillside home on Laurel Crest Drive in Studio City, then a rural Los Angeles suburb. The house was the first one built on what is now a crowded hillside neighborhood and was their pride and joy. The Horstmanns lived there for the rest of their married lives.

Uncle Walter helped Leslie get a job as a salesman for L.A. Stamp and Stationery, where Leslie remained until his retirement. Audrey was a homemaker who enjoyed attending antique auctions from which she furnished their home.

Upon graduating from North Hollywood High School, Joy enrolled at the University of Redlands, where she studied Physical Therapy. She graduated from an advanced program in Physical Therapy at the Children's Hospital.

While Joy was studying at the University, she met and began corresponding with Dick, who was stationed with the Marines in Honolulu. Their relationship was like that of so many other young couples separated by the war and is perfectly described in a letter that Joy wrote to her father from the University:

Dear Daddy,

I would like your advice about a few things that I am sure Mommie wouldn't understand.

You see I am unofficially engaged to Dick and we have made many plans. Now since I have been in college and Dick has been gone almost a year I have been going out with many fellows. Dick is very serious and I seem to enjoy going out with other boys and having a good time.

As I figure, I haven't breally made up my mind as it is difficult with Dickie gone and I don't know what to do. Tonight Bob Heydon asked me if I was interested in a fellow overseas because if I was he would lay off as it was his policy not to butt in on others territory. He said that the fellows over there were fighting for him and he didn't feel that it was fair to them. I have no inclination to stay home every night as that is just like rotting away and I am too young I think. It just isn't fair to Dick, Roy, Rob or any of them. I either have to tell Dick or just continue to go out and find out how I feel.

In every fellow that I have gone out with I have found a good point in. I do think that Dick is wonderful and he is the swellst fellow I have ever met but I can't say that I really love him as I haven't been with him enough. Everytime I go out with someone I think that he is wonderful and the whole thing changes. I don't know whether everyone goes through this stage but I can say that it sure is hard and I am tied up in knots trying to figure out what to do.

I realize that I should never have accepted Dick but now that I have it is a big mess. I am not in love with anyone up here or anyone at home but I do want to go out once in a while.

Mom things that Dick is so swell and she can't understand how I feel. Every time I come home Mother starts in on how keen Dick is and how I should watch myself.

Please Daddy write and tell me what to do for I have a hollow pit in my tummy trying to figure it out.

Love, Your confused daughter,  
Jo

We don't know exactly what advice that Leslie gave Joy in response to her letter, but the following is an exerpt from Joy's next letter to her father:

Daddy Dear,

Received your wonderful letter this morning and it was a most fine comfort. Thank you so much for I really became disorganized there for a little while. Can understand just what you mean about plenty of fellows around instead of narrowing it down to one. That is a very good idea I have always thought. as the fellows can't quite tell what the score is.

Suppose this will all work out for the best when Butch (Dick) comes home and I am home from school. Butch is just perfect and a keen fellow all around. I just couldn't do anything to hurt him. If anything has to be done it would be better to wait until he comes home anyway. He may thing I'm a dud!

Thank you again for the advice dear Daddy. I think no one could have such a nice father as I.

Meanwhile, Dick had his own concerns which he voiced in a letter to his cousin (although he referred to her as his aunt) Audrey:

### The HOYT and HORSTMANN Branches Unite

When he was discharged from the Marines in 1946, Dick Hoyt and Joy Horstmann were married at the Horstmann home in Studio City. After a brief "honeymoon" to Spokane to settle Dick's mother's estate, the Hoyts settled near the Horstmanns in the San Fernando Valley. The first of three daughters, Cherry Lynn, was born on July 2, 1947. Daughters Amy, and Audrey Florence, nicknamed Sam, followed in 1950 and 1956.

The Hoyts enjoyed purchasing houses needing work, fixing them up, and re-selling them at a profit. They moved from Woodcliff Road in Woodland Hills to La Maida St. and on to Chandler Blvd. in Van Nuys. Dick founded *R.S. Hoyt & Company*, a manufacturer's representative for the sale of industrial lubricants. The girls attended Grant High School in Van Nuys.

The Horstmann's were doting grandparents and great-grandparents and were known to their grandchildren as "Gram and Gramps". They frequently and graciously hosted their extended family for celebratory dinners, with Gramps often providing the entertainment by playing the "spoons". In their older years, the Horstmann's traveled extensively, making many friends from among their traveling companions. Gramps passed away in 1978 at age 84, and Gram in 1989 at age 92. Both were cremated and their ashes spread at sea.

Amy Hoyt married Robert Nibbe and they had two sons, Glen and Richard. Audrey Hoyt married Charles (Chip) Stevens and had a son, Nicholas.

Dick and Joy purchased a small house in Leona Valley, California in 1979, and began going there every weekend. In 1989, Dick sold his company and they decided to make Leona Valley their permanent home. They continued buying homes in that area that needed lots of help, fixing them up and reselling them. Dick estimated doing this with 22 houses. Dick became an active member of the LVIA, serving as chairman of grounds for the community building and as treasurer for four years.

Somewhere in the 1990's, Joy began gradually displaying symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease. By the early 2000's, Dick was devoting himself almost entirely to her care. In 2004, Dick could no longer provide the care that Joy required and she was moved to the Aegis Assisted Living Center in Granada Hills.

Dick put their Leona Valley home on the market and purchased a home on Braemore Road, just three doors away from Cherry and Don. This move allowed him to be able to visit Joy on a more frequent basis. Joy finally succumbed to Alzheimer's in 2009.

In 2010, Dick decided that he would be more comfortable living at Aegis. He sold his home and moved into Aegis Assisted Living Center.



### The HENRICKS and HOYT Branches Unite

Don Henricks and Cherry Hoyt were married on April 6, 1968, at Bel Air Presbyterian Church. Their wedding reception was held in the back yard of the Hoyt's home on Chandler Blvd. in Van Nuys.

At the time, Don was working in engineering administration at Lockheed Aircraft's Rye Canyon Research and Testing Facility. Cherry was in her Junior year at San Fernando Valley State College (later to become California State University Northridge).

Upon her graduation from "Valley State" in 1969, Cherry began looking for a responsible and challenging job commensurate with her education. At this time, few companies were willing to offer these types of jobs to women. She finally landed a job in management with Pacific Telephone Company, where she supervised long distance telephone operators. Don and Cherry bought their first home, a "fixer-upper" on Los Alimos St. in Granada Hills.

In 1970, Cherry convinced Don to leave Lockheed and join her at Pacific Telephone, where she perceived good career opportunities. When daughter, Christie, was born on July 22, 1971, Cherry left Pacific Telephone, seeking a career that would give her a more flexible work schedule and a chance to express her creativity. With Kathy Scroggie, an Alpha Omega sorority sister from college, Cherry formed Two's Company Interiors. In 1972, Cherry and Don purchased what was to become their family home at 18845 Braemore Road in Northridge. Their second daughter, Cindy, was born on October 18, 1973.

In the early 1980's, Two's Company made a strategic decision to specialize in the merchandizing of model homes and sales offices. This decision proved to be a good one, as Two's Company became a leader in that business in Southern California for 25 years.

Don continued working for the same company, although the corporate name changed from Pacific Telephone, to Pacific Telesis, to Pacific Bell, for 26 years, in a variety of assignments. At different times he worked as an engineer, operations supervisor, labor relations manager, computer operations manager, and planning manager. Don took advantage of an early retirement offer by Pacific Bell at the end of 1996 and was able to retire at the age of 54. He then devoted his efforts to helping Cherry build Two's Company Interiors.

With the recession and housing crisis of 2008, Cherry decided to scale-back Two's Company Interiors. Southern California home builders ceased building and, therefore, there were no new model homes to decorate. Cherry wisely scaled back operations before losing her investment in the company.

In March of 2008, Christie married Steve Harper in Key West, Florida. In July of the same year, Cindy married Chuck Curley in Maui, Hawaii.

Cherry began taking courses in floral design at Pierce College. In 2009, she founded Blossoms by



Cherry, specializing in florals for special events.

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Aunt, it is rather hard for me to write a letter like this as it is indeed hard to convey in writing what you would a hundred time rather say person to person.

When I came down there I had no such idea in my mind, as I have never up till now even thought about such a thing. I guess it was one day all of a sudden that I decided I liked you daughter. There must be something inside of a guy that tells him when he has found the right girl. I know that we are both very young and somehow shouldn't think of love that seriously; however I just couldn't go home and leave Joy to some other egg that might beat me to her. I know you must understand how I feel.

Audrey, I want you to know that even if Joy and I are engaged now it might be several years before we get married. There are several reasons why I just said what I did so here they are. In the first place I am not as yet situated well enough to take on the responsibility of marriage. (I think you know what I mean without my saying any more).

Secondly, and probably most important of all, THIS WAR. It wouldn't do for us to marry before I go to war as chances are I might never come back, and I would be so afraid that would so interfere with her future.

I indeed want you to know that Joy is indeed everything in the world to me and with her in mind I am willing to make any sacrifice in order that she can be the happiest girl in the world.

Your loving son,  
Dick

Despite their concerns Dick survived the war and returned to a still-single Joy and her family.