

BlogBooker

From Blog to Book.

'WWW.SOMMERERFAMILY.COM'

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Chapter 1

2010

1.1 July

Grand Opening (2010-07-04 19:11)

Okay, maybe Grand is too strong a word, but it is definitely an opening. You'll notice that things are still a little rough around the edges. Mostly, there are things that we wish we had time to do that we just haven't. So be a little patient at first.

We have information that is incomplete. Dates that are wrong. Pictures that are copies of copies of copies. All sorts of things that my dad would yell at me for, except that there's really no chance that he'll ever read this.

What should you do first?

1. Register. There are parts of the site that you can't see until you register.
2. Comment. Every article on the site is meant to be a starting point, not an ending point. You can write your first comment by scrolling down a little bit and just saying "Hi."
3. Get Involved. If you see a mistake, let us know and we'll fix it. If you notice something missing, write it up and we'll publish it.

There's a HELP section that answers a lot of questions, and lets you ask new ones. There's also a CONTACT section if you want to send in an email. All of the really interesting links are along the top of the page. Check them out...

DeniseL (2010-07-05 23:23:02)

Wow, Lloyd and Co., thanks for all your hard work on this site! I LOVE the family member list in "Tools"! Where was this two days ago when I really needed it? LOL! BTW, I'll message you privately to fill in some of the missing Kuegele cousin info. I also really like the feature where you can point to a name and the box pops up telling

how that person fits into the family. Thanks for helping all of us "out-of-towners" stay connected!

DeniseL (2010-07-08 22:16:32)

\"/

Joni (2010-07-05 08:55:19)

Many thanks to those talented and tech savvy Sommerers for preparing this website for all of us. What a fun way to stay connected. Just 363 more days till the next family reunion at Heit's Point!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-08 11:57:32)

We can't just take your word on something like this. I'm afraid that we'll have to see some proof first. Maybe a birth certificate or other official document. Next thing you know, Uncle Mahlon will want to be first.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-06 23:03:57)

Lloyd, I thought the "Grand Opening" deserved a "Grand Picture"! For anyone who would like pictures, here is the Walmart Link to order them: <http://photos2.walmart.com/walmart/share-ethumbnailshare/AlbumID=3659756004/albumcount=1/p=80061278473740177/l=2266246004/g=5699036/cobrandOid=1011/otsc=SHR/otsi=SA-LBFB/pns/walmart/share/p=80061278473740177/l=2266246004/g=5699036/cobrandOid=1011/-otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBFB> I hope this works...the link is also on my Facebook page if this doesn't work

Lauren (2010-07-07 11:23:27)

It is a miracle those tables didn't break. Look at all those people!

Heidi Lock (2010-07-07 11:29:14)

I am so happy the administrator approved me so quickly.

Rachel (2010-07-07 14:46:23)

I am so proud to call these folks my in-laws... or are they outlaws?
Either way - I love the bunch! BTW - Christina, nice photography!

Dan Sommerer (2010-07-07 17:42:19)

I love my family... we are the best!!!

DeniseL (2010-07-08 11:06:59)

I noticed something else. On the Family Member page, Sis should be second in the sibling list, if you're keeping them in order.

Danny Sommerer (2010-07-07 20:15:00)

The only time I ever remember anyone getting hurt at Grandpa and Grandmas was U. Lloyd when the M80 he was throwing up in the air for all of us kids to hear on the 4th July and it blew up in his hand. I remember what that sounded like and all the commotion. He ran passed us into the house with his hand wrapped in a white cloth and it was full of blood. They took him to the hospital. One time there was a get together at G &G's and there was a hay ride. A bunch of kids and parents riding in that old 2 wheeled wagon that was connected to the WD45 Allis Chambers tractor (the one you had to hand crank to start, how many arms did it break starting it?). We had just crossed the dip below the pond and before you get to the creek and the wagon became unhooked. In a split second Pete jumped off of the wagon and started holding back the wagon, it was pulling him along but he never let go. He held it back from gaining to much speed until other Uncles could catch up to help him. Pete, I'll never forget that, you are my hero and always have been!!!! I hope you read this note. I'm not sure I've ever told you that but its a very true story. WE were allowed to do so many things at G & G that I would never let me kids do—why is that?? I love you all. Danny

Lloyd (2010-07-05 23:32:55)

Yes, just pass anything that needs to be added on, and we'll see that it gets changed. The best way to send that information in is to use the contact link at the top of the page. That way the information will

go to several people, and maybe get updated a little more quickly.

Tammy's Sister (2010-07-04 19:24)

Please keep Tammy Sommerer's sister and baby in your prayers as she delivers her baby today (July 4th, 2010).

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-08 20:23:42)

We are so happy that Mother and Baby Boy are doing fine. Congratulations Aunt Tammy and Uncle Micky.

Joni (2010-07-05 08:50:36)

Yes, we are wondering how the delivery went. I think Tammy said it's her brother's wife, rather than Tammy's sister. But I could be wrong. Nonetheless, we keep mother and baby in our prayers. :)

Lloyd (2010-07-07 08:28:51)

Thanks for the update. Glad to hear that everyone is doing fine.

Tammy (2010-07-06 18:09:50)

Just an update. Both my brother's wife and baby are fine. His name is Reid Adam Hampton, born 7/4/2010 7:30 a.m. 6 lbs 15 oz. 18 3/4 inches long. Thanks again for all your prayers.

Address Book (2010-07-07 08:31)

Just in case you didn't notice, some of the most interesting and potentially useful stuff on the website is located under the tools menu at the top of the screen.

For instance, there's an address book there, that we are gradually adding everyone's information to. If you just tried to look at it, you probably realized that it is password protected. You have to log-in to the site before you can view it. We did that because my mom said to do it that way, and you have to listen to your mom.



If you don't have a username, you can get one by clicking the Register button that is near the bottom of the Sidebar on the right hand side of the screen. You'll have to answer some questions, and undergo a though background check (we don't want to let in any rift-raft unless they are family), and wait until someone can look it over.

The image shows a login form with a light blue header bar containing the word "Login". Below the header, there are two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". Under the password field is a checkbox labeled "Remember me". At the bottom of the form, there are three buttons: "Login »" (highlighted with a yellow circle), "Register", and "Lost your password?".

I'm sure you'll find that some of the information in the Address Book is out of date. When you find something that needs to be changed, you can use the form at the top of the address book to send in the updated information. In fact, you might want to check your own information once you have a username just to make sure it is correct.

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 18:33:25)

I logged in and only get a place to update information. Nothing that looks like the example, At the bottom of the page it says addresses but when I click it t does nothing:(

Heit's Point Reunion 2010 (2010-07-07 21:38)



Okay, how many can you name?

Here we go....(left to right)

- On the Blankets: Mary, Brooke, Tavian, Brittney, Allison, Amelia, Matthew, Braydon, Devin, Cailey, Drew, John, Lea, Ian, Amelia, Makayla, Emma, Liz, Rhad, Wyatt, Melissa, Zoey, Lexi
- On the Short Bench: Jerry, Randee's Mom Ida, Lane, Randee, Lake, Anthony, Alexis, Luke, Logan, Coby, Sophie, Faith, Anna, Daniel, Declan, Gracin, Grace, Seth, Scott, Sheri, Paul & Christina
- Brothers & Sisters: Aunt Jane, Uncle Lloyd, Aunt Naomi, Aunt Lolly, Uncle Ralph, Aunt Cleo, Uncle Mahlon, Aunt Bea, Uncle Vernon, Wanda, Aunt Margie
- Standing behind the old people: Don, Pam, Larry, Mickey, Denise, Jayne, Heidi, Linda, Julie, Greer, Kenny, Linda,

Mary Lynn, Debbie, Teddy, Kathy Jane, Penny, Maxine, Micky & Tammy, Merideth, Jim & Chase, Lisa & Reese, Randon

- Up on the Benches: Chris, Bill, Denise, David, Joni, Hance, Lance, Joseph, Courtney, Lloyd, Sidney, Kelly, Deriyn, Al-isha, James & Tristan, Matthew & Ryan, Derek, Steve & Ezra, Becky
- People Standing on the Table: Mahlon Andrew, Whitney, Chandra, Katie, Vince, Judy, Pete, Chance, Doug, Melissa, Sam, Rachel, Aaron, Lauren, Andrew, Shawn, Debbie, Alexa, James & Simon, Anne, Brenna, Danny, Sarah, Chris, Thomas, Leanne, Melanie

How did you do????

If I have any of the names wrong, just learn to go by that name because that's what we are all calling you from now on! (just kidding, let me know and I will correct it)

If you would like to have a copy of this picture, I have uploaded all of my pictures to Walmart's Photo Center and you can pick and choose whatever you would like to order.

You will have to sign up for a Wal-mart account to order prints. You have the option of picking them up at your local Wal-mart or have them shipped directly to you. You can also print them in one hour if you wish. Be sure to look at the cropped photos before you print your pictures. The ones taken sideways crop funny, but I could not do a permanent fix on them. Also on the 8x10 photos, make sure it is centered before you print. Enjoy the photos!

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-09 10:28:21)

Christina, the picture is wonderful! Thank you so much for all your work in taking these pictures all weekend so we would have the memories of our get together. Thank you Lloyd, and who ever else is

putting this web site all together. I love it. Come on all you sisters brothers,nieces and nephews, Let us hear from you! Love you all.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-09 17:30:35)

You are very welcome...I wanted to say "thank you" to whoever decided to start singing during the photo....that was great! I love being serenaded!

Penny Watson (2010-07-08 18:59:38)

Cailey is holding her brother, Drew, and yes Colby is next to Logan. Braydon is to the left of Devin. Hope this helps! :)

Christina Rowland (2010-07-08 20:39:54)

Your wish is my command!

Christina Rowland (2010-07-08 16:28:15)

Ok, Penny, then who is Cailey holding, and is Colby sitting next to Logan? if not, who is that?

Rachel (2010-07-08 16:13:37)

Christina - When are you going to 'tag' everyone in the picture for facebook???? :)

Penny Watson (2010-07-14 20:57:23)

All have made it home safely! :) Dad and Sherri came home on Sunday and then the rest trickled in on Monday. They all seemed to really enjoy themselves... kind of wish I would have went now :)

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-15 14:34:52)

Glad to hear that everyone was happy and safe.

Tammy (2010-07-12 14:11:07)

Just one other correction. Kelly is the one standing next to Deriyn. She hasn't got on here so you could probably get it fixed by the times she finds out you have called her by her sisters name. :)

Christina Rowland (2010-07-12 16:07:41)

OK, fixed it...where was Becky?

Heidi Lock (2010-07-12 17:40:46)

Hey Mahlon's family, how was the flight? I did not hear of any plane crashes. Looks like all of you survived.

Heidi Lock (2010-07-12 17:42:00)

Hey how do I upload and photo of myself? I don't look good green with glasses and one tooth.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-12 19:50:32)

I don't know. I think it's a good look for you. But if you really want to change it, click on the image (just click your heels together 3 times) and then either watch the little video or choose (Get Your Gravatar Today).

Tammy Sommerer (2010-07-13 08:55:05)

She had to work. She just started a new job a couple of weeks ago and being the new person she got picked to work that weekend. Next year she will be able to request off.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-13 11:56:55)

I didn't think your girls were that old yet! Where does the time go?

Penny Watson (2010-07-08 10:08:57)

Nice job! I still don't know how we got everyone in the picture at the same time! :)) Also, Chase is being held by my dad, Jim, and not down on the blanket and Alisha and James are the couple next to Deryn. James is holding their son Tristan.

Jane Sommerer (2010-07-07 22:26:01)

Randee's Mom is Patty I think and Debbie's new granddaughter is Zoey. Such a good picture. I love the web site.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-07 22:40:27)
Thanks Mom! That's just what I needed!

Marylynn (2010-07-08 10:04:24)
Sorry but Patti is Chris' mother (Chris & Melissa Ducos). Randee's mom is Ida. Great site!

Birthday Wishes (2010-07-08 22:21)

Happy birthday to Kenny Williams and Rachel Sommerer, and also to everyone we missed. I think we have about 40 people's birthdays (out of something like 180 people in the family). If you're interested, you can check to see if we're missing someone and send in an update. If you send in any birthdays, include the year so that we can put it on the timeline as well.

Feel free to share any embarrassing stories about Ken or Rachel.

Anne Miller (2010-07-10 00:15:20)

Yes, he did grow up to be a very fine man. Too bad about his "long, curly, blond hair" though. It was most likely due to the cow's milk trick that it all fell out. So sad.

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-09 10:16:56)

Kenny was a beautiful child. He had long curly, blond, hair. a real doll. Elizabeth and Justin came home each summer to spend two or three weeks. That was the high light of our lives, we had these two nephews to play with. Kenny was about three years old, He would not drink the milk, from our milk cows, Elizabeth always had to go to the store and buy milk in the glass bottles for him. One day she got tired of this so she just filled the milk bottle with our milk. Kenny drank it, and was fine with it. We laughed about that. He grew up to be a fine man. I don't know of anything embarrassing to say about Rachel. She is a very loving and fine daughter-in-law.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-20 16:02:56)

They made it back safe and sound, but we haven't heard a peep out of them since. I think California might have changed them.

Mary Jane Piazza (2010-07-15 21:19:40)

My mother compiled everyone's up till she got ill. I probably have them.

Mary Jane Piazza (2010-07-15 21:20:53)

Hey, did Pete make it back from Hollywood, err, California?

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-16 11:00:47)

Happy 10th birthday, John Robert. We love you so much. Gramma and Grampa

Happy Birthday Declan (2010-07-11 17:51)

Birthday wishes to Declan Rowland. May all your birthdays be happy.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-11 20:00:08)

Happy Birthday to my favorite nephew! As usual, you can expect a present sometime in the next 6 months.

Christina (2010-07-11 20:14:19)

Your gifts are so great, they are worth the wait!

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-12 23:43:27)

Happy birthday Declan from your great aunt Lolly and uncle Ralph!
You are a fine little man.

The Old Ball Game (2010-07-12 05:41)

Sorry about not getting pictures of everyone. And, before my dad can mention it, sorry about not getting more close-ups of people, so that he can see who they are. The only way I could zoom in was to run up really close to people, and that would have been even more annoying than just having me stand in front of you while you were trying to watch the game.

[youtube height="320"]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJVOepguyvY>[/youtube]

There is a High Definition version of this available too if you don't mind waiting for it to download.

Rachel (2010-07-12 08:19:24)

Well Done, iLloyd!!! I especially like the black and white footage. Cool little album effects, too.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-12 13:14:53)

That was wonderful! Even Dad couldn't find a flaw in it (even if there was a remote possibility of him watching it!)

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-12 23:39:18)

That was the cutest thing I ever saw! Thanks so much Lloyd!

DeniseL (2010-07-13 00:53:18)

That was awesome!

Julie Baker (2010-07-23 21:15:18)

That was fantastic! Love the music too!!!!

Naomi Vetter (2010-07-23 22:27:12)

Wow!!! Kudos to you Lloyd!!! That was sooooooooooooo awesome!!!

uncle vernon (2010-08-20 14:39:11)

Very enjoyable.

The Big Game (2010-07-13 00:20)

I don't know if everyone had a chance to read this at the reunion, so I wanted to post it here as well. Rachel Sommerer wrote it just for you...

It is on a night such as this that dreams are awakened and legends are born. The air, heavy and thick, seems to descend to the ground in unison with the setting sun. As the light fades, the air embraces every living thing with which it comes into contact, wrapping itself in a smothering hug around them. Birds no longer dot the horizon, settling into their skybox seats as cicadas begin their cadence anthem. And then comes the resolute cry, "Play Ball!"

Players take the field as if spilling out into their places, which to the untrained eye appears to lack purpose. But there are directions shouted, adjustments made in individual strongholds, and constant communication between team members. The field that absorbs this surge of activity is as familiar to these players as they are to it. Re-acquaintances take place in the outfield between toes and turf. Bases are kicked in a familiar way as if patting an old friend on the back. No one here is a stranger; all are family - one of the same. And standing tall, albeit somewhat stooped and weathered is the backstop, the sentinel that stands ready for the game.

Anticipation courses through the crowd. Fans wave flags and shout encouragement to their favorite players as they try desperately to ignore those hot sticky hugs from the air. Nothing though, can dampen their spirits or dull the smiles on each and every face. This game means as much to them as it does to the players on the field. For many of them it brings back the memories of younger days and their own moments of glory. For others it is the simple pleasure of seeing youthful exuberance at play. Either way, this event is not to be missed!

"Batter up!" comes the call, and to the batter's box comes a rookie. Short in stature, but not in promise, this mighty swinger takes his place and surveys the opponent. An intense look of dogged determination sets into his eyes and everyone knows that someday this kid is gonna be great. Will tonight be his night?

The meeting of bat and ball makes itself known by the all familiar "crack!" Sturdy legs and a mighty will carry the rookie to first base as the fans roar, and his heart bursts with pride at this first successful at-bat in the big leagues. His eyes now turn toward second as he awaits the next hit, for surely the veteran up next will propel him around the bases.

Another "crack!" and the ball sails free over the infield of players with upturned faces. Gloves that were hanging limp start to rise up involuntarily in support of the solitary glove of the center fielder who dives to snatch the escaped sphere. A collected breath is released at exactly the same moment as the player, covered with grass stains and sweat, rises from the ground, right arm outstretched to produce the evidence of a spectacular catch. Even as the fans shout with glee the rookie runner tags up and heads for second. Hands clap and voices explode with enthusiasm as the game continues.

No one can stand to be idle during this event; all are compelled by some force of nature to be involved. The smallest of fans run among the seats, chubby fists wrapped around fading popsicles. Older attendees comment and speculate about individual players and their potential for greatness. Beer is sipped and water bottles tip to the lips of those roasting in the twilight embers of the sun.

Batters continue their parade of talent during strikes and hits, homeruns and outs, fly balls and grounders, while fielders put on a display of running, tagging, catching, diving and throwing. And as in any professional game, pitching takes center

stage. The placement of the ball over home plate is precisely calculated for each batter, based on height, strength, hand preference and experience. A straight fast ball for the upstart who is looking for the grand slam - just to see if the pitcher can get one by him; a slow arching curve ball for the unassuming, but consistent veteran of the game - to keep him guessing; and an inside slider to wake up the over confident cleanup hitter. This is not a movement of chance; it is a strategy of defense and the pitcher is master of the game.

The final inning closes with a thunderous applause from the crowd. It is at this moment that one can truly see the love of this game on the faces of each soul in attendance. The rookie, whose hat is too big for his head and who barely stands taller than his bat is hoisted onto the shoulders of his father coming in from his position at first base. The veteran who hit the fly ball stretches up from his chair and affectionately places an arm around his granddaughter who, in addition to running the bases on her own hit, was prepared to skirt the infield at lightning speed on his behalf, had his ball not been snagged by the center fielder. Who at this moment, in a brave attempt to continue the character of a true big league player, will share with no one but his wife that he will need to visit the chiropractor next week in order to realign all that has been rearranged during his 'catch of the game.

In the midst of mutual congratulations by all players on such a superb demonstration of talent, the right fielder unfolds himself and rises from his seat, the best one in the stadium. As he collapses the lawn chair, picks up his beer, and heads in from the outfield he is once again reminded how close up the action seems when you place yourself on the field for the entire game - no matter which team is at bat. Why show favoritism by choosing sides?

Cousins clasp hands with cousins. Aunts and nephews make sure gloves and bats are returned to rightful owners. Uncles and

nieces agree that the power rang true in the pink aluminum bat that evening. And the great grandbabies, who are not yet able to hold a bat, join the celebration of baseball by toddling around the now empty bases. Their bare toes collect helpings of soft, warm dirt at each base and their small hands grasp tightly to the finger of the great grandpa who walks steadily along beside them.

The folding chair stands are now empty. But unlike other stadiums, this field is void of any empty cups, cans, or snack containers. Great care is taken to erase the marks of human folly on this sacred piece of land. Little red wagons haul away Kool-Aid pouches, light beer bottles and a cooler of ice water. An inventory is taken of both equipment and children, making sure none are left behind. Bases are carefully placed in protective custody of the weathered shed where no elements can further promote their decay. Muffled voices of the fading crowd give prelude to the closing strands of the cicada's evening song and the occupants of the skybox seats have long passed settled into their feathered beds as God turns off the field light.

This game, where no score was kept, where no strike out was called, where a stolen base was literally in the hands of the shortstop, and where a kiss could be stolen from the third baseman by his wife on her way around to home, is truly the greatest game ever played. Were dreams truly awakened? Were legends born? On this one summer night, once a year, for one family – most definitely!

In honor of the Sommerer Family annual baseball game,
Rachel Sommerer
© June, 2010

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-13 12:30:51)

Wow. Rachel, that is so well written. I didn't know you could write.
Write some more...

Rachel (2010-07-13 13:34:06)

Thanks, Lloyd - the Sommerer family is great inspiration.

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-14 10:43:42)

Rachel you write beautifully. I can just see it all through your story.

Thank you so much. Gramma

Secrets... by Aunt Bea (2010-07-14 09:59)

One of the things we want to do with the website is publish items that some people have that maybe not everyone has seen. I have some of the things that our aunts and uncles (or great aunts and uncles or grandparents etc.) have written down that they remember from when they were young. We're especially interested in other memories that these spark in you. Maybe things you remember or maybe things that you've heard. Here's a memory from Aunt Bea...

I remember when Cleo was born and we weren't allowed in the bedroom, called the Orchid room. One morning, I remember daddy brought her into the kitchen where it was warm and showed us the new little baby. I also remember when Lolly was a new baby, Daddy bringing the new little baby into the kitchen to show to us all. Both babies had the prettiest dark eyes. I was going to Forest Hill School and it was kinda close to Christmas and we were not allowed to tell anyone about our new baby. Around the time of Christmas vacation mom let us tell at school and the teacher, Miss Margaret Hoffman, and others couldn't get over our keeping it a secret.

There was a reason for that, Daddy always said it was less trouble to keep house by himself than have helpers trying to take over, and company coming to visit as it disrupted the family as well. Mom stayed in bed ten days after a birth. It was expected.

Jane Sommerer (2010-07-14 21:11:35)

I couldn't imagine staying in bed for 10 days. That would wear a per-

son out.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-15 11:21:56)

That would be a hard secret for a little one to keep! Wouldn't people realize Grandma wasn't going to church and things?

Happy Birthday (2010-07-15 14:44)

Happy birthday wishes to Rachel Folkemer and Uncle Theodore Kuegele.

If anyone has any photos (embarrassing or otherwise) of them that I could add to this post, please send them my way post-haste.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-15 23:18:22)

Did I do that right? "Uncle Ted"? "Uncle Teddy"? "Uncle Theodore"? I think I've heard all of those, but I don't know if they were all referring to the same person. But in any event, happy birthday!

Mary Beth Vetter (2010-07-15 23:14)

Please keep Mary Beth Vetter in your prayers for strength and healing in her courageous fight against cancer.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-16 02:02:48)

Mary Beth, you are such an inspiration to our family in strength and courage! May Jesus continue to walk by your side day by day and carry you when the road becomes to hard. God's blessings on you and Derrick.

Doug (2010-07-18 22:19:38)

Mary Beth, we pray for you every single day! Our little John never lets us forget to pray for Mary Beth. We love you. Doug, Melissa, Joseph, John and Leah

Grandma's Diary (2010-07-16 15:11)

Aunt Naomi sent this to me a few days ago. I remember seeing it some time ago, but had forgotten about it. I think aunt Naomi transcribed it, but I'm not sure. Maybe someone who know will say. Is the original still around? It would be nice to post images of the original too.

Transcriber's note: Where there are (?) the writing was not legible or there were omissions. See notes on last page.

Our Diary

written by Theresa Erhardt Sommerer

1. We were married October 24, 1916 and left October 25 for our wedding trip to Lexington, Missouri. We stayed there a week, and then went to Benton (?). We returned to Jefferson City the first of November. Adolph voted at the polls at Wardsville on our way home on November 2nd. On November 3rd we went up home to get my things and in the evening a crowd gave us a chivarie.
2. Christmas day we went to church and on the way home Louis Henry turned our buggy over and us out. January 1st we spent up home with mamma and papa.
3. Theodore came to work for us the 24th of April, 1917.
4. On Sunday morning, August 26th at 5:00 a.m., Elizabeth was born. Yetta Meier, Dr. Aldridge, Mrs. Cooper and Nora were here. This was mission feast day. Mrs. Cooper went home on Monday, Sept. 9th. Bill Fischer died at Lexington on the (?) Herbert Sommerer was home here for Christmas. He helped Santa trim the Christmas tree.
5. August came down here on the first of April 1918.
6. Dora and Theodore got married in (?)

7. Andy's sale was the 7th of Sept... Lillian was born the 10th of October. Mrs. Cooper and Dr. Hill were here and Nora. Mrs. Cooper went home one week later.
8. Dec. - Farm wagon for Christmas.
9. January 1st 1919. August had tonsillitis and we would not let him get out of bed. Theodore Beck came in the afternoon and stayed until 12:30 am. Herbert was here and Theodore had just returned from camp a few days before.
10. In April, Andy took sick and died on April (?)
11. In July, 1919, we got our car.
12. Viola was born on (?) She was christened the following Sunday and we were there and also Bill Meiers, Nick Krueger, Chas. Propst, Nora, Bianka and Rev. Bultman.
13. August 25th was mission feast day. We went up in the afternoon in the car. Dad went in the morning with Wm. Meiers. Earnest Fischers were here from Benton County. After church we went down home. Enos Garden, Tillie, Louis, Clara, Leona, Mildred Beck, August, Otto, Selma, Morris and Gladys were there.
14. December 25th the kids got lots of Christmas presents and a tree. Wm. Meiers were down on the second Christmas day. January 1st we were up home. On the way home we took Uncle John along because Otto's car broke down by Herman Korsmeyers. On the second New Year's Day we were in at Tillie's, Mom's and Gladys's. Got lots of things for Christmas. March 12, 1920 Erhardt (Bud) was born. Bianka went back to town the 20th. Yetta, Dora, Nora, Julie were down that day. I was awful tired in the evening.
15. Bailed the 19, 20th until 3:30 on the January 21st. Nora and Gus went home.

16. On the 22nd I sewed all day. Made 3 aprons and some squares. On the 23rd I cleaned up the house in the a.m. and in the p.m. I went up and ironed and scrubbed for Yetta as Lydia was sick with pneumonia, a sore ear and whooping cough.
17. On Monday I washed. It rained nearly every day this week and today is the 29th of January. We were going down to Herbert's to bail hay but it rained this a.m. so we never went.
18. Also had showers with thunder and lightning. This p.m. I patched 10 pair of overalls. I sent 1 ½ dozen eggs to town with Adolph. They were \$.50 a dozen on January 27, 1921. Next morning I went to town to have my teeth fixed. I stayed in town one week, and came home on next Sunday.
19. Good Friday. March 25th I was at home alone all day. Gus and Adolph went to town and down to Herbert's. Went to get Gus' car. Easter Sunday we were at home all day. It rained every few minutes. The babies got their Easter eggs this p.m. It's very cold outside. Easter Monday we had snow. The 20th of April Helen Korsmeyer got married and the 12th of this month Selma Beck got married. Julia K. was down here for dinner the 11th. I've got about 60 little chicks. We haven't eaten any lettuce or radishes yet. The 23rd of April Gus, Dad and Adolph caught about 160 lbs. of fish which we distributed among our friends and relatives. The Moreau River was high that day on the 24th. We went up to Dora and Theodore's for dinner.
20. In the evening we stopped up home and got 54 baby chicks. Tillie and Louis were there. This was my birthday all day. The 25th we went to town because Buddie was sick with hives.
21. We came home in the rain all the way. Left our car back in the lane. Tuesday it rained all day and on Wednesday

I started to wash. But Buddie was cross and in the p.m. Mary and Aunt Minnie from Nebraska came down and so I put my washing out Thursday. I ironed in the p.m. and Friday I washed and hung my dark clothes out on Saturday as it was raining all week between times. In the a.m. Gus took Adolph to town as he went to Tipton. Gus went to town again this evening. Sunday we were at home alone all day and in evening it cleared up but at night an awful wind storm came. The first of May, Monday it's cloudy and cold. You can see the Moreau River all around, but it's out only in the very low places.

22. Adolph came home this evening. Today the 3rd of May, Mama and Papa were down also John Aftesheidt (?) and Herbert. The 4th of May Adolph went to town. He is going to Callaway with the Millers. Today is Acension Day. We were up home and to the...(?).can't read.
23. May 7 - Was a long day. Adolph went to town to get Prince Lavender (?). I did my Saturday's work at noon. I was done. I put out some beans, radishes and lettuce before it rained too hard. Gus sprouted late potatoes in the cellar. Sunday May 8th was a rainy day. And the Moreau River was the highest it has been all year.
24. May 10 - it rained lots of the time. We had just lots of fish due to the Moreau raise. Bill Meyer, Emil Hurchwiau, Dad, Gus, Adolph, Bud and Otto and Fred chased them. I made several pair of bloomers for Elizabeth and Lillian.
25. May 11 - Otto was down for dinner and Gus and Otto went to town and took 30 lbs. of dressed fish in. Also got 6 setting hens from Mary today.
26. May 12 - I washed clothes and then Yetta and Leona came in the p.m. I did not finish, as we went to the slue to fish. Gus came home. And we also had a rain, lightning & thundering at 12p.m.

27. May 13 - I ironed all day.
28. May 14 - Adolph and Gus got 4 loads of corn at Herbert's.
29. May 15 - We were at home alone all day. Gus went to town. We fixed on the car.
30. May 17 - Got calves. Took one truck load of hogs away.
31. May 19 - Gus listed (?) the piece of corn by the alfalfa.
32. On May (?) - Saturday, I cleaned up all morning.
33. Sunday, May 22 - Adolph worked on his tractor in the a.m. We went up to Wm. Meiers and Adolph to August Henrys. Herbert came up in the evening and went to the dance at Andy Zehenders.
34. May 23 - Rose (?) Poese (?) was out for dinner and fixed the tractor. I had a large strawberry shortcake and they ate it all. I picked my first large picking of strawberries.
35. May 24 - This a.m. at 9:00, Mrs. John Krueger was buried and I preserved 16 ½ quarts of strawberries. It's 4:30 now and I want to wash my dinner dishes, as we all took a nap after dinner as it's awful hot.
36. May 28 - on Saturday Lydia and Alma Meyer came down brought a bucket of cookies and took some strawberries along home. I did all my cleaning up in the a.m. at 11. We went to town. I got me some house aprons.
37. May 29 - we went up home for dinner and then over to Miller's.
38. May 30- I washed in the a.m., picked strawberries in the p.m.
39. May 31- I preserved strawberries in the a.m. and in the p.m. I went to work in the garden. Towards 7 o'clock then Elizabeth hit Lillian with a rock and we had to have that sewed up by the doctor.

40. June 3 - I did all my cleaning today as we want to go to town tomorrow evening and have the stitches taken from Lillian's sore.
41. June 5 - We were to church and then up to Martin Engelbrecht's. The two babies were so cross that I know Mrs. Engelbrecht was nearly worried to death.
42. June 11 - Was the picnic in town.
43. June 23 - On Thursday, Mama came and Selma and stayed until Monday p.m. Mama got sick so Gus took her and stayed himself.
44. Tuesday the Moreau was out all over the bottom's. It took all the bottom wheat and ruined all the corn. Wednesday I washed in the p.m. Buddie has a boil. We took him to have it lanced and on Friday I took sick in bed all day Sat. and Sun. Adolph done the work this is the first time I wasn't able to be up and do my housework since we were married.
45. Monday 4th was the big picnic and wedding. Bianka came down in the a.m. and in the evening Nora and Gus came from the picnic after her. It rained a good shower like it always does on the 4th.
46. On the 5th Adolph and Bill went up home after a cow. And brought Selma along down she helped me a lot with my house work. Today is Sunday. The 10th of July. Dora's boy is being christened. Louis and Herbert are namesakes. We did not have an invitation. Adolph took the wash up to Nora this p.m. Selma, Elizabeth and Lillian went along. Buddie and I are at home alone. Bill is down fishing.
47. Dec. 8 - Adolph Neymeyer shredded today...
48. Dec. 9 - We sawed wood today. I had no one to help me.
49. Dec. 10 - Was up home today. Adolph was at Theodore & Dora.

50. Dec. 11 - They are gathering corn. Louis Schepkers, Frank Korber and Adolph they want to finish up today. Up home they are butchering.
51. Dec. - 13 & 14 I am sick with tonsillitis. Adolph washed the 14th.
52. Dec. - 15 Rosa and Margaret were down for dinner. They took supper with Uncle Johns.
53. Dec. - 16 Adolph went to town with corn. They boys are chopping wood down by the Moreau.
54. Dec. - 17 Gladys has diphtheria. The boys got four rabbits this a. m.
55. Dec. - 24 Adolph and kids were up at Mary's in the p.m.
56. Dec. - 25 Herbert was here for dinner and Mary came down.
57. Dec. 26 - Tuesday we were to town at Tillie's for dinner and then up home, then stopped at Yetta's a minute, then with Mary, then came home.
58. Dec 31 - Yetta and all were down here (dad's horse sick to bed 10:30
59. We had roast goose for dinner and forgot to put the apple sauce and stuffing on the table. Also had lettuce and celery. In the p.m. we went to Meiers. They had goose for supper and burnt the gravy. Bertha went to Lawrence Sommers to a party and August took her home.
60. 1922, Jan 2 - John's Sommerer butchered.
61. Jan. 5 - We butchered on Friday and canned 108 quarts of meat.
62. Elizabeth went to town on the 31st of Dec. We had our hogs vaccinated Christmas week .About 30 died in all.

63. Jan. 13 – Bertha cleaned upstairs and I baked cookies, killed an old hen and iced the cookies.
64. Jan. 14 – In the a.m. about 2:30 Felix was born. Adolph got Mrs. Korsmeyer to come down, and in the p.m. Adolph and Luecke took Lillian to town.
65. Jan. 16 Adolph took Mrs. Korsmeyer home and brought Anna Krueger down.
66. Jan. 23 – On Monday I got up. Adolph took Anna home.
67. Jan. 24 – I had to go back to bed this evening. Called the doctor. He came here from Dave Sommerer's.
68. Feb. 5 – I got up today. Julia, Herbert and Ruth were here. August came in the evening.
69. Jan. 6 – Herbert Sommerer was here and returned the butchering things. Adolph went to town this a.m.
70. Feb. – Adolph is going to town after Margaret Goller, and Bertha is going home.
71. Feb. 12 – At home all day and was expecting company.
72. Feb. 15 – Tillie sent Elizabeth to the kindergarten for the first time.
73. Feb. 19 – Stilers (?), Gladys and Elizabeth were here this afternoon. Baby weighs 9 ½ lbs.
74. Feb. 20 – We washed this a.m. in the p.m. we dressed two greenheads Luecke got off the pond.
75. Feb. 21 – We had a rabbit for supper. Adolph was to town to get ship and flour.
76. Feb. 23 – Mr. Luecke took a cold, was sick until today, on Feb. 26. Now he is better. It's raining and gets slick when it falls on the ground. Was sleeting a little, too. Eggs are selling for 25-cents per dozen.

77. Feb. 24 – Viola Sachs and A. Moore got married.
78. March 9 – Adolph took Margaret in town and Elizabeth came along home.
79. March 14 – Had real high water. Was all over our wheat.
80. March 6 – Mary and Leona were down.
81. March 19 – Yesterday was the Schneider and Zuber sale (?) went down and never came home.
82. March 20 – We are home all day as we had a big hail storm this a. m. and thunder and lightning. The Moreau was out in the low bottom this....?
83. March 22 – We went up home to Mama because....?
84. Feb. 6 - Canned meat
85. Feb. 7 – Canned meat and rendered lard.
86. Feb. 8 – Sawed wood and baled hay. Leona was down and we washed.
87. Feb. 11 – At home alone all day.
88. Mar 11 – Rained all day. I did all my scrubbing because on Sat., Mar. 10, I washed and never got my cleaning done.
89. Mar. 12 – Bud's birthday. The Moreau was back full and could be seen all around just like on the morning three years ago.
90. Mar. 13 – Ironed this p.m. Kids all well. Have never been sick all winter. Never had a cold yet. Felix is cutting three teeth. He isn't a bit cross.
91. Jan 1- 1923 Got up at 4:30 a.m. Brought Dad home this p.m.

92. Jan 7 - Was at home all day working got surprised this evening - danced and sure had a good time. Five women folks and seven men here.
93. Jan 8 – Ironed, and the doctor was here and took the cast off (off of who?) and examined his (whose?) leg and put it on again.
94. Jan 9 - Adolph going to take a load of corn tomorrow.
95. Jan 14 – Felix's Birthday. Nora and Selma were down and Ben Dulle was here in the p.m.
96. Feb 4 - At home baking for butchering on the Feb. 5. Mary, & Agnes helped me.
97. July 11 - Adolph thrashed at Ben Dulle's and July 12 at Loesch's. I'm feeling awful weak and tough today. Louis came home from his wreck he had his face all patched up.
98. August 26 - We had a birthday party for Elizabeth. Clara, Edna and Agnes Zehendner, Gladys and Selma were here.
99. Nov. 20 – Tillie, Louis and Gladys came out in the afternoon
100. Nov. 21 - I ironed in the a.m. and patched and darned in the p.m. Adolph dug late potatoes.
101. Nov. 23 – Dad went to Yetta's as Bill's on the jury and Adolph is washing late potatoes.
102. Nov. 24 - Adolph and kids and I were at home all day. Had roast chicken for our Thanksgiving dinner and we sure all ate a lot. Dad came home for supper.
103. Nov. 25 – Adolph is over at Adolph Niemeyer's helping get out corn.
104. Nov. 27 – We were all up home. Bianka and kids, Julie, Dora and family were there.

105. Nov. 25 – Frank L. came home last night. He is over at Andy Zehendner's chopping wood.
106. Dec. 1 – Buddie fell and cut his head. Adolph and Mary took him to the doctor and had two stitches taken.
107. Dec. 2 – Bertha came down today.
108. Dec. 3 – We had a five-inch snow and we cleaned up the house.
109. Dec. 24 – This evening Bertha went to church with Uncle John's. The kids saw the tree in the evening. Adolph had to wake them all up. Mr. Hurschle (?) and Adolph played dominoes. Our Christmas day we were here. I felt awful bad but had a good chicken dinner anyway. Adolph dried the supper dishes and dinner dishes.
110. Dec. 26 – We were here alone all day. Bertha came back in the p.m.
111. Dec. 18, 1921 – Bertha and Lillian were up at Mary's on Tuesday. Lillian wouldn't say a word all the time she was up there.
112. Nov. 14, 1923 – I went up to celebrate Mama and Papa's 51st wedding anniversary.
113. Sept. 1923 – Elizabeth and Lillian started school at Union.
114. Thanksgiving day 1923, we were all at home. Herbert was here and Margaret Goller as we were shredding the day before and were expecting to shred again but it rained all day so we didn't get to shred this week anymore.
115. Dec. 15, 1923 – Frank DeBroeck and Dad went to Bill Meier's butchering. Adolph took two girls (Elizabeth and Lillian) to town for new shoes.
116. Dec. 16, 1923 – At home all day. Washed woollens in gasoline.

117. Dec. 17 – Adolph, Bud, Felix, Frank Debouck and I went butchering to Zehenders. Grandpa was at home.
118. Dec. 20 – On Christmas day we were all to Louis Stuber’s for goose dinner, also Ed Meier’s and Theodore Erhardt’s family. Kids had a wonderful time.
119. Mar. 31 – Went to town to get repairs for Adolph’s engine. It snowed enough to make the ground white. Tuesday, April the 1st we went to the school election and put Mrs. Anna Zehendner back on the place as directed.
120. Wed., Apr. 3 – We are shredding our fodder this afternoon. Margaret Goller is helping me cook.
121. March 17, 1924 – We called Dr. Hill as Felix had an attack of asthma. Was pretty sick but recovered rapidly.
122. April 3 – Never had my garden plowed yet and never put out a seed yet. Am very anxious though.
123. April 11 – Have my garden all out, but it needs rain or it won’t come up. Today Elizabeth and Sis never went to school as Elizabeth has the hives.
124. Oct. 8, 1926 – Vernon was born.

#End of diary # #

Notes: In this diary I believe that “Dad” or “Grandpa” is Adolph’s father. And where reference is made to Papa and Mama, I believe that is Theresa’s mom and dad. When Mom mentions “up home” I’m sure she means the house on Dunklin St. where she was raised. All of the siblings (or their children) have one copy of this diary. I have the original copy in a cedar chest at my house.

- What is shredding?

- In 1921 eggs were 50-cents a dozen. They haven't gone up much in comparison to other food products.
- In farming, what is ship?
- Did Elizabeth go to kindergarten?
- What is a slue?
- What is a greenhead?

Website note: Numbers have been added to each entry to make referring to them in comments easier.

Rachel (2010-07-21 09:29:07)

My dad uses laquer thinner for this type of spot removal. He removed garage type grease from a white skirt for me. Couldn't even tell it was there! He is the man to have around for tough laundry stains. WD40 can work miracles too.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-11 14:24:43)

I am guessing, but wasn't there a machine that had about 20 disks in a row and the horse pulled it over the crops. Isn't that what the disk did , shred the crops into the ground . The dictionary says shred is tear off, fragment, cut or tear to shreds... Then there was this other thing that was called a harrow, the dictionary says it had spikes used for breaking up and leveling the plowed ground (harrowing) I think these things are still on Lloyds farm. When we have the fall Wiener roast we sure want to get Lloyd to show these things to the kids and me.

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-21 15:30:47)

When Mother says (up home) I think she is talking about Cedar Row, where Aunt Nora, and Uncle Henry lived, when we were growing up. That is where or Grandparents lived until they died. Correct me someone! I think Mother and Dady were married in that house.

Lauren (2010-07-20 18:50:01)

See? That is crazy! Setting the item in the sun for a couple of hours will get rid of the gas smell? I have to try that....

Christina Rowland (2010-07-20 13:39:56)

You will find this Helpful Hints book interesting! [http://books.google.com/books?id=B5UPAQA-AIAAJ &lpg=PA474 &ots=B4lci3ifMD &dq=washing %20woolens %20in %20gasoline &pg=PA474 #v=onepage &q &f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=B5UPAQA-AIAAJ&lpg=PA474&ots=B4lci3ifMD&dq=washing%20woolens%20in%20gasoline&pg=PA474#v=onepage&q&f=false)

Christina (2010-07-16 22:54:02)

Shredding is destroying the stalks of corn after the corn has been harvested. I found it amazing that they were harvesting hay in January...I can't imagine trying to bring in hay when it is below zero!

Lauren S. (2010-07-17 22:54:39)

That was fascinating! I want to know more about washing woolens in gasoline. Sounds dangerous (and fun).

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-18 09:20:17)

39. **...Elizabeth hit Lillian with a rock and we had to have that sewed up by the doctor.** I grew up hearing stories about my dad hitting his older brother and sisters with a hammer. I guess this is where he got that? That should be a category on the website, "hit by a rock."

Christina (2010-07-18 11:30:08)

Speaking of "hit by a rock" do you remember the time we were throwing wood from the little wagon behind the blue house and you hit me in the head with a log and knocked me off the wagon?

Jane Sommerer (2010-07-18 22:27:23)

Washing woolins in gasoline. Did they smell after they dried?? I remember putting coleoil on my legs to keep the chiggars off picking blackberries. At least the chiggars didn't eat me up. Washed the stuff off when got home though. The berries back then were bigger and

tastier for some reason.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-19 05:57:11)

I do remember that. I hadn't thought about it in years. Sorry. Maybe the new category should be, "hit on the head".

Christina Rowland (2010-07-19 09:02:55)

you were just smaller back then. (well, maybe not!)

Julie (2010-07-22 21:00:38)

haha! you funny!

Mahlon (2010-07-25 22:15:43)

Shredding is done by a machine like a threshing machine. Corn is cut in the fall and put in shocks which are big teepee looking bundles of corn stalks with the corn ear still on the stalk. These shocks were left in the field till we had time and enough help to haul it in and run it through the shredder. The procedure pulled the ears off and they were moved to a separate pile to go into the corn bin and the stalks were ground up and blowed up into the hayloft and then that was used for cattle feed. Ship is ground whole wheat kernals - like bread flower. We used it for feed by adding milk or whey. Hogs and chickens liked it. Slue is a low area or ditch that isn't normally filled with water that is the first to flood when the river comes up. Greenhead is a male mallard duck We don't know if Elizabeth went to kindergarten. Now you know all Mahlon knows. -Marylynn

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-26 15:55:27)

Mahlon didn't You and I, Cleo, Naomi, and Lloyd have to do this shredding with our own two little hands? That is what I remember! Setting beside a corn shock, and pulling the ears off the stalks. It was always so cold when we did this. After you left home and we got the tractor, and wagon, we would just drive through the corn rows, and throw the corn on the wagon. That was a lot nicer. Dady would cut the corn with a corn knife after we were through, and feed it to the cattle.

Mahlon (2010-07-26 21:24:18)

But that's not shredding; that's just shucking it. The shredder pulled the ears and chopped the stalks. Made it look just like silage.

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-26 22:28:13)

Did we have a shredder when I was at home? What did it look like?

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-06 18:17:03)

This is a reply to those who talked about washing things in gasoline. Mahlons Confirmation suit was washed in gasonine. I dont know how he could stand to wear it. I dont think that the smell ever left it. Mahlon will you please comment on this subject. Someone gave us a suit as I remember, It was dirty and I think Mother and father washed it. I am sure Vernon would remember this. I remember it hung on the clothes line. I just could not believe how he could wear it . It smelled so bad. I do not remember going to his confirmation

Anne (2010-08-08 13:05:54)

I do not believe for an instant that my Grandma EVER hit anyone with a rock! She was framed; I tell you!!

Julie Baker (2010-10-29 22:07:31)

I stumbled across this quote and thought it belongs on this site! Let us make future generations remember us as proud ancestors just as, today, we remember our forefathers. - Moo-hyum Roh

Christina Rowland (2010-10-11 16:58:04)

Dad used the machine with the disks to till up the bottom when I was a kid....it is not a shredder. the only other piece of old equipment that I know is there is the hay rake.

A Quick Update (2010-07-19 04:01)

Just a quick update on the website. About two dozen family members have registered for the site. That's a great start, and it covers most branches of the family to one extent or another. There are a few dozen more who read the site, but haven't decided to register yet. Nothing wrong with that, but you do have to register to really use the tools section of the site.

Lots of people have been sending in things that we can post on the site, and we'll get those out over the next few weeks. Our plan is to post something new every weekday. If you miss a day, just scroll down and you can see the posts for the last week. If you missed some things before that, there's an "Older Entries" button at the bottom of the page.

Christina suggested that we add a category for recipes, and that's in place now. It won't actually show up until someone sends in a recipe for us to post. I was hoping someone knew how to make grandma's bread.

We don't actually know what to do about birthdays. At first we thought we would post a "happy birthday" post to everyone on their birthday, but that would lead to some weeks where there were nothing but birthday posts. So we're still trying to work that one out. If you have any suggestions, let us know. We did move the "On This Day" thingy (that's the technical language) to the top of the sidebar.

We're also trying some new things to make the site easier to use. To make it easier to see people's comments, the comments for the current post now show up right below the post on the homepage (so you don't have to click an extra time). To make adding things to the site easier registered users can post items using the "Add a New Post" form on the bottom right or by clicking a link in the same area.

Finally, I wanted to point out a couple of things that were posted earlier in case anyone missed them the first time:

- Grandma's Diary (I can't believe some of the entries)
- Rachel's The Big Game (a great read. It's like being there)
- iLloyd's video of the game
- Christina's Family Reunion Photo (click on the photo for a larger version and print one of your own with the link to the Walmart photo printing thing)
- Uncle Ralph crowing like a rooster (I know many of you saw this last year too)
- Easter 1969 (video footage that my dad shot at grandma and grandpa's house)
- Prayer Requests (send any others in and we'll post them right away)

Take care and keep in touch.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-25 08:51:34)

Uncle Lloyd said that we had some of the family in the wrong birth order on the Family Members page. He knew they were in the wrong order because he had aunt Jane print off a copy of it for him. He doesn't want Al Gore to know everything that he does. Anyway, apparently we had aunt Margie and uncle Felix backwards and aunt Lolly and aunt Naomi backwards. They should be forward now.

The Farm in Winter (2010-07-20 04:48)

I don't know why, but I've always liked this photo. It's not a very good photograph. Everything is blurry. The color is washed out. There's no real focus on anything. But it's just compelling. It looks more like a painting than a photo to me. It makes everything look lonely, but makes me wish I was there at the same time.



It's not Christmas, but it will be soon.

We'd like to post pictures that bring back memories for people. If you have a picture, why not email it in? You can't really use the contact form for that, but you can send them to editors@sommererfamily.com or upload them to your favorite photo site and drop us a line about where to find them.

Rachel (2010-07-21 09:18:15)

You mention the fuzziness of the picture, which gives me the feeling that the farm is tucked in its valley under a fuzzy blanket of snow. It looks cozy and inviting. I wish I would have gotten to experienced

some of the good times there.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-20 09:03:34)

Ahhhhh snow....Remember the New Year's Day celebrations at Grandma's house? We would play all over the house. I remember playing cards next to the pot bellied stove where it was warm. Can you believe that so many people could fit into that little house and be so comfortable? When we were little, I remember sharing with Sam, Steve and Lloyd Grandma's little stool for a little table to eat at. The dinning room table seemed so big, but I never remember eating at it as a child....it was for the adults.

Aunt Lolly (2010-09-20 16:20:04)

When I look at this picture, I remember the cold December, that Lloyd and I went to cut down a Christmas tree. Lloyd was about 11 years old and I was about 16. Naomi was working and living at Norfleet's at the time, That was why she wasn't with us. We drove Dady's tractor and wagon, down the bottom, over to Motz's Goetz's, cut down a perfect tree, and started back home with it. Lloyd was driving, I was standing on the back of the two wheel wagon, We started up the hill (before you got to the first waterfall) all was going fine, then we proceeded up the real steep hill with the sharp turn. About half way up, the wagon separated from the tractor, and I and the Christmas tree, and wagon, started down the hill, we were going pretty fast, I was hoping that It wouldn't make the turn and continue heading down to the creek. I was lucky, It went straight and the wagon, went out into the pasture and was stopped by brush. I sat there wondering, how long it would take for Lloyd to miss me. He got as far as the walnut trees when he turned around and found me and the wagon missing. It probably scared him to death, wondering where he would find me. When he came back to find me and seen that I was ok, we had a good laugh over it. It still makes me laugh when I think of it. What wonderful memories we shared of our old home place.

Mary Jane (2010-09-19 21:59:29)

Say, where's the outhouse? Is it the thing that is laying on its side?

Loved that banister! Remember how you couldn't sneak down those steps because the 4th from the bottom had a terrible squeek? The freezer was an insight into Grandma's culinary mind. Not only did she freeze cookies and cow-parts, but it kept potato chips from getting rancid! Genius!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-08 21:03:14)

That Bannister was amazing. I don't ever remember anyone getting hurt on it, and it was always the most polished wood in the house.

Becky Sommerer Cary (2010-07-24 11:16:28)

Was it not great to all gather in the kitchen and say grace and sing before we ate all grandmas and our aunt's good food. Grandma sure could cook. Danny, Ralph, and I sure did love her home made noodles and aunt Cleo, s [mix cherry, grape, and strawberry cool-aid mixed together drink] It sure is funny to me that all the kids just new to go to our room [Grandma, s bedroom] to eat at the round table. We never had to use the door to get there either the window worked just fine. Where else in this world could you go and crawl through a window, slide down a flight of stairs or ride the rail and get chased by a GOAT all in one day????? ONLY GRANDMA'S!!! What a great life!!!! To all our aunt's, uncle's, and cousin's thanks for the memories. LIFE IS GOOD!!!!

Christina Rowland (2010-08-09 23:04:20)

What a fun place to play! I do remember some of the older kids helping us younger ones to slide down the bannister. I think Brittney and Shawn were the last ones to slide down it....sigh....

Julie (2010-08-09 21:07:25)

the freezer was fun for me! all you little kid learned to jump off of it into my arms!

cleo (2010-09-21 13:59:37)

I remember it well but I forgot what we used it for. Maybe it was Lloyds playhouse. or maybe we kept Lloyd in it. Maybe baby chicks.

Julie (2010-09-20 20:34:26)

The out house was attached to the smoke house on the left. the place where she threw the scraps to the chickens was to the right of that. The rocks piled up as the foundation for the smoke house was an excellent place to find kittens. They had a secret passage to get in and out of the smoke house over there. I cant believe you don't remember that!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-20 20:17:31)

You're talking about that little building between the smoke house and the chicken coop, right? I know that's not the outhouse, but I have never known what it is. You would think someone here could answer that.

Anne (2010-08-08 12:46:07)

I loved going out there and to my Grandparent's just up the road. I remember driving back and forth between the two places with Jeannie in her little car. Open and close, open and close the gate...so many times! Jeannie would even let us sit on her lap and let us take the wheel (boy, we thought we were hot stuff!) My favorites were "sneaking" around in the upstairs rooms- what treasures were up there! And sliding down the banister was the thing to do. It was fun exploring the farm, of course and learning about farm stuff... like when Brenna learned about electric fences- Haaaaaaa!

Hide and Wash Dishes... by Uncle Mahlon (2010-07-21 04:53)

Here's another memory. This one is from Uncle Mahlon. Ask him questions about it, and we'll see if we can get him to answer...

Another memory of Mom was when we were playing hide and go seek in the house. Mom had been washing dishes. We would hide and be found. In order to hide Beatrice, Mom took off her dress and put it on Beatrice and stood her on a box at the sink. The kids just thought she was Mom. Mom stood outside the house and watched from a window. We came in and looked and couldn't find her. When we finally found her, she had almost washed all the dishes from supper. That almost made her mad because she didn't like to wash dishes.

And then from there most of my memories were with Marjorie being my mother. Anything I did for the next several years I had to come to Marjorie first. She was in charge of me. Mom was always busy with something else. So Margie was really a mother to me in lots of ways.

Naomi Vetter (2010-07-22 12:07:20)

I can't remember how long...but I think too it was ingenious! (It must have hurt a little...ha ha)

Christina Rowland (2010-07-22 08:42:11)

Aunt Naomi, how long did they leave you hanging there? That is a brilliant hiding spot! When we used to play hide and go seek,

Grandma would get so mad at us if we hid in her flower beds!

Marylynn (2010-07-22 13:38:32)

She is eight years older than Mahlon. Don't you know he was a handful! He says she made beautiful dresses too and dressed Cleo up like Shirley Temple. This family is so talented...

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-21 21:32:43)

I'm don't think uncle Mahlon has registered yet (of course, that doesn't mean he hasn't been here). But someone might have to twist his arm a bit to get a response...

Naomi Vetter (2010-07-21 16:59:11)

Mahlon, Do you remember the time us last 5 kids were playing hide and seek and you (I was pretty little, but I remember it) put me inside Daddy's bib overalls that hung behind the bedroom door? I just hung there inside the overalls behind the door. They never found me there. You were so clever!

Rachel (2010-07-21 09:22:47)

This is a fantastic memory! I can imagine the laughter upon discovering Aunt Bea. And how creative was Grandma!?!? I'll have to remember this for future use - especially at dish washing time.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-21 11:03:25)

I wonder how old aunt Margie was at the time?

Christina Rowland (2010-07-21 15:48:11)

You know Aunt Marjie and Uncle Mahlon are both a little onory....I wonder how much stuff Aunt Majie let him get a way with that Grandma wouldn't have?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-23 18:50:40)

Dad's sitting in my dining room and Mom's reading the internet to him. He said that grandma did the same thing when he was a kid. With his generation of kids grandma put Aunt Lolly on a can in front

of the stove when they were playing hide-and-go-seek. Grandma put a coat from behind the door on aunt Lolly and a hat, and then Grandma slipped out the door and onto the porch.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-24 07:51:25)

New question from my dad: What house was that in?

Happy Anniversary!!! (2010-07-22 05:09)

Well, looking at the calendar, I'd say that Christina and Rachel did a fine job on birthdays. But it would be nice to have anniversaries on there as well. Of course, to do that we'd actually have to have those dates. So how about taking a minute and post any of the anniversary dates that you happen to have somewhat handy.

There will be a prize for the person who posts the most (duplicates don't count). I'll start us off.

Naomi Vetter (2010-07-22 12:06:01)

I don't know if I'm submitting this in the right place....Sorry, if not.
Wedding dates for Vetter Family Naomi & Louie Vetter June 9, 1962
Greg & Christy Vetter April 15, 1995 Vince & Deanne Vetter April 26, 1997
Derrick & Mary Beth Vetter August 25, 1995 Tracy & Curtis Allen September 16, 2000
Tiffany & Chris Petro October 14, 2007

Rachel (2010-07-22 10:54:53)

Sam & Rachel Sommerer June 22, 1996

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-22 13:27:07)

You did that exactly right. And so far you win the (as yet to be determined) prize.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-22 06:15:08)

Lloyd & Lauren Sommerer August 22, 1992 (or something like that)

Christina Rowland (2010-07-22 08:40:26)

Christina & Paul Rowland June 13, 1998

First Memories... Aunt Naomi (2010-07-23 05:06)

Aunt Naomi sent in a veritable treasure trove of memories for you to read. Here's the first:

My earliest memory is of playing underneath a quilt (which was in a quilt frame, being quilted) with my sister Lolly and brother Lloyd. The quilters put the quilt in a stand, which ended up looking like a very large table. The quilters sat around this "table" and it became a tent to us children. We loved playing under it. Sometimes we retrieved dropped needles or spools of thread and were gophers in general. I don't remember how old I was at that time but let's say perhaps around 4 or younger.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-23 08:32:40)

How often did they quilt? Did they leave the quilting frame up, or put it up and take it down every time? Did the older girls quilt too? Did any of the boys? Sorry, I have lots of questions today.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-23 08:50:34)

I remember when Grandma would have a quilt up when we were little....I don't recall being allowed to play underneath it, but all the aunts would come down and work on it with her. They would talk and sing...they even let me put in a few stitches....I wonder if someone came behind me and took them out....they were probably very bad.

Naomi Vetter (2010-07-23 09:47:15)

Some of the older girls may know the answer to this question...but I'm thinking that there were a lot of women there on quilting day and...is it possible to get it done in one day??? I don't know for sure, but I think they did. Back then, they didn't have anything but standard

size beds or cots, so I doubt it took a bunch of them long to quilt the whole thing.

Aunt Lolly (2010-07-23 15:28:02)

It was usually in the winter time, when Mother would put in a quilt. It is something to do when you can't do anything else. ha We had lots of fun under her quilts. It might take several weeks to do a quilt. Most of the time they would remain up until finished, that way she could work on it anytime she had a few minutes. I do not remember any of us girls actually setting there helping her. I didn't learn to quilt until Sam and Steve went off to high school, and Aunt Edna taught me. Mother belonged to a quilting club called the Sunshine Club (I think that was the name) Ever so often all these neighbor hood ladies would come to our house and quilt. This one time they tacked a beautiful white sheet with blue and white tacking (like heavy yarn). They finished it that day, That quilt was used on our bed (Naomi and mine) upstairs. We were so proud of it. They then, started on another regular quilt. That they didn't get finished. I guess Mother finished it. It takes a lot longer to quilt then it does to tack. After we all left home Daddy would help Mother quilt. He would thread the needles, help roll the blanket, and do the actual quilting. I couldn't believe my daddy was doing this, but I saw him! ha

Julie Baker (2010-07-23 21:34:01)

Yes Christina, they were very picky about their stitches!!! They would dog each other about them!!!!haha Personally if it held the quilt together ...it's good enough! You cant see the stitches from a few feet away anyway!!! I guess real quilters have their standards!

Naomi Vetter (2010-07-23 22:18:08)

I have the tufted blue and white bedspread, that Lolly mentions, in my cedar chest. When I took it from Mom's house, I washed it to put it on one of my beds. However, the fabric did not hold up after all that time, and threads separated in places. I then purchased a white sheet and had a lady I knew reinforce the spread so it would not receive further damage. I used it a while after that when the kids

came home, but after I had small grandchildren, I put it away. I'll use it again when they are older and are careful with other people's items.

Mahlon (2010-07-24 21:41:27)

I remember Mom always having a quilt in the frame in the winter time. If you came in the house and didn't look like you had something to do you had to go into the dining room and put in a few stitches and the stitches had to be just like what she had done. I must have been about 12 or 13 at the time. Mom always made sure we had something to do and we couldn't sit around and feel sorry for ourselves. There was one exception to this quilting thing. One year instead of having a quilt in the frame all winter - we refinished ALL the furniture in the house. We took razor blades and peeling knives and scraped until it was down to the bare wood. Daddy varnished it all and it looked so pretty after it was done. Those were the times we'd tell stories and sing. Sometimes we'd get Vernon to tell us coonhunting Labrador stories.

Whoa Pete (2010-07-26 04:52)

Dan Sommerer posted this as a comment a few weeks ago, and we wanted to make sure that no one missed this story about Peter Sommerer, so here it is for anyone who missed it the first time around.

One time there was a get together at Grandma & Grandpa's and there was a hay ride. A bunch of kids and parents were riding in that old 2 wheeled wagon that was connected to the old CA Allis Chambers tractor, the one you had to hand crank to start, How many arms did it break starting it?

We had just crossed the dip below the pond before you get to the creek and the wagon became unhooked. In a split second Pete jumped off of the wagon and started holding back the wagon, it was pulling him along but he never let go. He held it back from gaining to much speed until other Uncles could catch up to help him.

Pete, I'll never forget that, you are my hero and always have been!!!! I hope you read this note. I'm not sure I've ever told you that but it's a very true story.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-26 08:47:20)

When I was a kid and would go down to mow Grandma's yard or carry in wood for her, she would occasionally call me "Peter". That never bothered me, because Pete's a pretty swell guy and my godfather.

Rachel (2010-07-26 09:30:28)

I don't know if anyone else realizes this, but I adopted Pete as my new grandfather. Word on his shirt says he is the world's greatest grandpa

- now he's mine too! :)

Family Members (2010-07-27 04:32)

The family members list is a little tool that I wanted, so that I could look and see how everyone is related. You'd think I would just know this stuff by now, but I don't. You'll find the family members list and a bunch of other occasionally useful items in the tools menu at the top of the website.

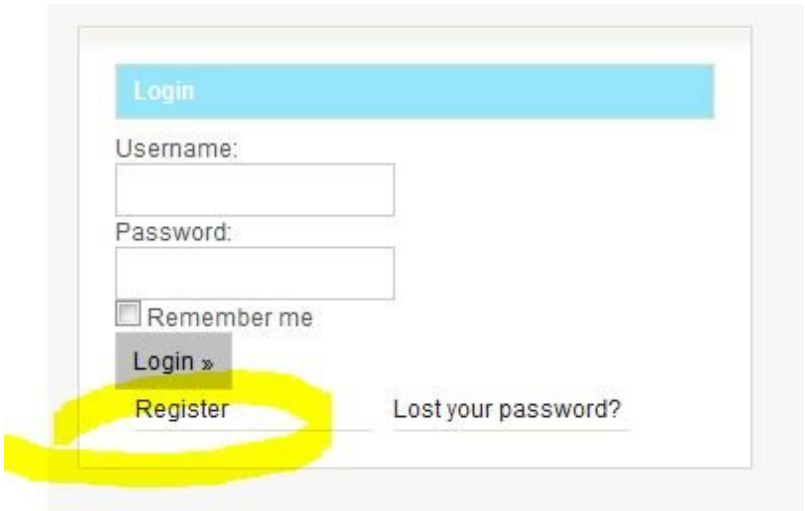
The cool feature about the family members list is that if you click on the little [+] sign next to each family, it will expand to show you the next level. You can keep digging down as far as there are kids to find. If you just tried to look at it just now, you probably realized that it is password protected. You have to log-in to the site before you can view it. We did that because my mom said that you might not want the whole world to know your mother's maiden name, and you have to listen to your mom.

Family Members (edit)

[Expand All](#) [Collapse All](#)

- + Elizabeth & Justin Williams
- + Erhardt (Bud) & Alma Sommerer
- + Lillian (Sis) & Theodor (Ted) Kuegele
- + Majorie & Edgar (Ed) Beck
- Felix & Carol Sommerer
 - Mark & Mary Sommerer
 - Scott Sommerer
- + Vernon & Florence Sommerer
- + Beatrice & Fred Putnam
- + Mahlon & Mary Lynn Sommerer
- + Cleopha Howard
- + Naomi & Louis Vetter
- + Theresa (Lolly) & Ralph Sommerer
- + Lloyd & Jane Sommerer

If you don't have a username, you can get one by clicking the Register button that is near the bottom of the Sidebar on the right hand side of the screen. You'll have to answer some questions, and undergo a though background check (we don't want to let in any rift-raft unless they are family), and wait until someone can look it over.



We think the information in the family members list is pretty up-to-date, but you guys keep having babies, so, when you find something that needs to be changed, you can use the form below the list to send in the updated information. In fact, you might want to check you families information once you have a username just to make sure it is correct.

Coincidentally, my parents came up to our house this last weekend for the Nebraska Sommerer Family Picnic, and Dad (Uncle Lloyd) told them that he would list out everyone in his family for them. He was glad to find it already done when he got here.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-27 17:31:44)

So, how many people attended the Nebraska Sommerer Family Reunion?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-27 19:00:45)

I should probably write something about that. But I don't have any pictures. Mom has some.

Lauren (2010-07-27 21:37:41)

Hey, now. I took a picture of my plate. Actually, the pictures I took of the people are all on your Mom's camera. Rats.

The Marjorie Beck Story (part 1)... by Aunt Marji (2010-07-28 04:59)

Aunt Marji writes

I was born on March 24, 1925 at the "First Place." The folks put out a garden that morning. I had two sisters and two brothers then. When I was one and a half years old, I had another brother and a few years later another brother.

The folks lost the farm in the crash. We moved to the "Second Place" then. I was in the first grade at Union School. We walked to school. I don't remember if we lived at the second place long enough to plant a garden!! I remembered Bud and Sis were very sick when we lived there and Dr. Hill stayed with them all night.

We moved to the "Third Place" near Aunt Nora's and went to Honey Creek Lutheran School the rest of the year, then switched to Pleasant Valley Public School when I was in the second grade. We walked to school.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-31 19:45:13)

Aunt Ada's house used to be a school? That house had such a strange, modern layout. It always amazed me as a child. By the way (for everyone else) Aunt Ada is my mom's aunt. It's not strange that you guys don't know her.

Jane Sommerer (2010-07-31 18:34:20)

Lloyd says The Third Place was Rilius Beck's Place along what is now Hwy 54. Pleasant Valley Public School is where aunt Ada lived. They

made the school into a house. There is a beauty shop there in front of the house now.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-28 09:52:11)

Okay, someone tell me how to spell aunt Marji. Is that really right?

Nebraska Sommerer Family Picnic

(2010-07-29 04:17)

Sunday, July 25th was the 50th annual Sommerer Family Picnic. My folks, Uncle Lloyd and Aunt Jane, came up for the weekend, and we all went to Fremont, NE to meet some other Sommerers. They have a picnic in a park every year at about this time. Uncle Lloyd says that Grandma came up to see them once that he remembers, and Leroy Engelbrecht has, evidently, been up a time or two.

This is actually the second year that we've attended, but it had been a long dry spell since they heard from the Sommerers from Missouri, and my Dad was glad to fill them in.

There were somewhere between 20 and 30 people in attendance, but there are more relatives scattered about than that. They said that they have a hard time getting any of the young people (anyone under 40) to come. My dad thought they could maybe use a lake and some boats for that.

They were just about the nicest people you would ever want to meet, and the food (we had a pot-luck lunch) was way too good and there was way too much of it. They made us feel very welcome and they want to know when the rest of you are going to come up.

Who are these people? They are the descendants of Great Grandpa Sommerer's brother. That is to say, Adolph Sommerer's father's brother. That brother was Johann Wilhelm Sommerer (for those of you keeping score at home). There might have also been some descendants of his sisters Katherina Maria and Anna (who also went to Nebraska) there as well. I wasn't quite straight on that bit.

Fun fact #54: You are related to Jordan Larson who is on the USA National Volleyball team. She played against Lincoln Lutheran

(where I teach) about 6 years ago, and she's wicked good. However at the time I didn't know that we were related. We are (again, for those of you keeping score at home) fourth cousins once removed. Her mother was a Sommerer, and we share, approximately, 0.026 % of the same genetic material.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-29 11:36:05)

Drat, you're right. I was counting brothers as cousins on the chart and that threw me off. Third cousins once removed it is. If anyone's wondering (I know) that didn't throw off the percent of genetic material. By the way, where'd everybody go? There were lots of people commenting, and now... POOF... everyone's gone. Was it the rap-ture?

Christina Rowland (2010-07-29 10:30:59)

Actually, you are third cousins, probably two or three times removed...As these are Great Granpa Sommerer's Brother's decendents, that would make Adolf a First cousin, Lloyd Sr. a Second Cousin and you a Third cousin. If Jordan is a generation or two below you, that would be the times of removal and since Dad was the last of the 12 children the other side of the family could certainly have one or two generations on you. I'm glad you had a good time...You'll have to let me know when the reunion is next year so I can come too!

Christina Rowland (2010-07-29 12:16:15)

Oh....Aunt Lolly's family is in Branson for the weekend.....that probably explains it!

Christina (2010-07-29 21:22:48)

Is that because of his awesome vertical jump?

Julie Baker (2010-07-29 17:17:08)

Well you were saving my post because you said you had others to post first... So I thought you were overloaded with posts ;)

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-29 17:34:20)

They are two different things. We have lots of nice posts (yours will be up tomorrow), and people are sending in "new" memories and such that we will post in the future. **Nebraska Sommerer Family Picnic** is a post. What we don't have are comments. What you just wrote (and the 3 others here —4 if you count this one) is a comment, and that's what I'm hoping to see more of. Besides, comments are easy. It can be as simple as saying, "I remember that too." Or you could ask a question about the post. Or maybe answer someone else's question. Julie, I know you know all this stuff already. You just gave me a perfect opportunity to say it, and I didn't want to pass that up. So thanks.

Lauren (2010-07-29 19:01:17)

I've always thought that Lloyd has great volleyball-playing potential.

Moses Kulbeth (2010-08-30 15:10:20)

Fed up with obtaining low numbers of useless traffic for your site? Well i want to share with you a new underground tactic that produces me personally \$900 on a daily basis on 100 % AUTOPILOT. I possibly could be here all day and going into detail but why dont you just check their website out? There is really a excellent video that explains everything. So if your seriously interested in producing hassle-free hard cash this is the website for you. Auto Traffic Avalanche

Julie Baker (2010-08-30 17:15:46)

LOL we are not here to earn cash. What we have is priceless anyway! Four generations of family = PRICELESS!

cleo (2010-07-30 08:47:27)

testing teating 123

Jane Sommerer (2010-07-31 14:53:41)

Cleo and I just had that discussion about the difference between comments and posts. I think we have it straight now. We enjoyed the reunion very much. Lloyd was a good host. We got to go Monday

and see where the original Sommererville in Nebraska was. It is just across the creek about a mile from Uehling, Neb. The tombstones were in Oakland, Neb I think. I learn stuff all the time.

Rachel (2010-08-01 16:16:26)

The only Sommerer folks in Branson were Sam, me, the kids and Whitney. (We stole her for a couple of days.) We are back so let the comments begin!

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-01 22:42:23)

Christina it's because Lloyd's related to Jordan Larson! Go Lloyd! yah

Memories of grandma's house (2010-07-30 04:00)

Here are some memories from Julie Baker about grandma's house:

I remember the first couple time I saw The Wizard of Oz was a grandma house. I think it was shown Thanksgiving evening. There were a bunch of cousins here and grandma and the aunts popped popcorn. Grandma brought in a BIG tub full of good salty popcorn and we each got a bowl to get some out of the tub to eat. I guess by that time she was conditioned to feeding a herd. I was soo scared of the monkey men.

Another thing grandma like to do is send Danny and I to walk up to the mailbox to get the mail and pack us a picnic lunch for along the way! Usually we ate it under the tree at the top of the hill!

I wouldn't eat grandma hamburgers. They had a strange, ulky strong taste. I watched her make them one time and saw what she was doing to ruin her hamburgers. She was putting leaves on them. Well now when I am cooking a Christmas or Thanksgiving turkey for my family I use Bay leaves and the smell reminds me of her hamburgers!

Julie Baker (2010-08-04 17:19:21)

Doodle Bugs must have been all the rage back then! I remember a game grandma would play was Doodlie Doolie Doodle Bug...How many fingers do I hol up? HaHa!

Maryllynn (2010-08-05 21:15:03)

It's amazing that Mahlon can sing all those old songs that Grandma sang word for word but he can't remember what he came in the room

for.

Jane Sommerer (2010-08-05 23:41:03)

Lloyd is starting to have a fair amount of wasted steps these days,too.
I on the other hand wouldn't admit mine.

Mahlon (2010-08-04 21:28:33)

The reason you chant into the doodle bug hole is to vibrate the sand and the bug thinks an ant has fallen in and he comes up to eat the bug that fell in. You don't want to get your nose too close to the hole.... Marylynn wants to know about the dung ball. Mahlon says it's the cocoon for the larvae of the doodle bug. Mahlon says, One time I poked a stick in one and chased Bea all around the cow pasture at Shubert's. Girls don't like dung balls. When Lolly was a tiny baby she was allergic to mother's milk and cow's milk. So Dad bought some goats and she did good on goat's milk. Now for something to have fun with Bea and I would make string halters and put them on the baby goats. Out by the barn was a foundation of an old round silo about knee high. Bea and I would put the goats on the foundation and ride them around like merry go round. We couldn't have been very old but Lolly was a tiny baby. One time Aunt Nora and Uncle Henry came to visit us. It was twenty miles from their house to ours and we didn't see them often. While they were there the goats got out. And back then most all cars had a cloth top, not metal top. All at once someone started yelling. The goats had climbed on the roof. Their feet and legs went through and there they hung. (Mahlon doesn't remember what Uncle Henry said. It was before they invented duct tape.)It wasn't the last time they came to visit.

Julie Baker (2010-08-04 18:02:52)

or was it Bumbly Bumbly Bumble Bee. I think it was bumble bee!

Julie Baker (2010-07-30 05:30:55)

The words "Ollie Ollie Income Free" (which is how we said it) gives me a nostalgic feeling as well! All the cousins who were there for those hide and seek games know what I mean. As one coming from a very

small immediate family, the best feeling of my childhood is the feeling of belonging. Belonging to a large extended family. God sure placed me with a good family.

Jane Sommerer (2010-07-31 18:47:24)

Lloyd says: Going to the mailbox was R & R and he looked at the funny pages on the way home. They got the Kansas City Star and they ran stories in segments. He would read the story on the way home if he liked the story.

Julie Baker (2010-08-01 16:58:06)

I didn't know it ever moved!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-03 19:44:43)

How do you call doodle bugs to the surface?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-30 08:15:38)

Speaking of walking up the road, I remember one time when there was a dead snake on the road up past Aunt Elizabeth's and Uncle Justin's. Mary Jane didn't want to see that dead snake when she went home, so she paid me a whole dollar to remove it. I am currently available for further snake removal, should the need arise.

cleo (2010-07-30 08:45:51)

do you do remove groundhogs too?

Christina Rowland (2010-07-30 10:10:55)

I had a cat that would do that....it is somewhere in the woods on the farm right now, but he would kill anything that came into our yard!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-07-30 17:40:10)

Unfortunately, I am not currently groundhog certified in your state.

Lauren (2010-07-30 18:54:36)

How far away was that mailbox?? Is this the mailbox that I know, or was it all the way up by the road?

Cleopha Howard (2010-07-31 14:40:57)

It wasn't so bad going to the mail box. I would rather do that then some of the other things that need to be done. In other words it was like getting out of work to go to the mail box.

Julie Baker (2010-08-01 05:40:03)

Lauren, the mailbox was up on the black top road. It probably took us an hour or so to get there and back....depending on what distractions we had along the way!!!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-01 10:03:04)

And there were plenty of distractions. Does anyone remember when Grandma's mailbox was moved down by Aunt Elizabeth's house? I would guess around 1978, but I'm not sure.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-03 16:08:41)

Naomi and I were always happy to get the mail. That was when we got to play, and pretend all kinds of wonderful things. We also got very good at calling doodle bugs to the surface of the road. We got to watch bugs roll their huge dung balls along the road, gather red clay to make modeling clay, and just relax and talk. It was one half a mile from the house to the mail box.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-04 10:04:34)

You find a doodle bug hill (kind of like an ant hill) in the road, get down on your hands and knees, and chant over and over into the hill, Doodle bug, doodle bug, boodle bug, In a short while the ground will start to move, and you keep calling doodle bug. Then the doodle bugs will come up out of their den. Boy! what an exciting life we had! ha ha

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-05 09:30:44)

Julie, it was blumity, blumity, fistie, bug, how many fingers do I hold up!

Cleopha Howard (2010-08-05 11:38:04)

How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood, when fond recollections present them to view! The orchard the meadows the deep tangled wildwood and every loved spot that my infancy knew. The cottage of our father the dairy house neigh, and even the rude bucket that hung in the well. our bucket didn't hang from the well that I remember. But I do have the bucket at my house that we drank from. We used this bucket to fill the reservoir on the kitchen stove in the morning so we had warm warm water, We kept the bucket filled all day. It sure was a blessing to have warm water in the house. We also had to keep it filled because we got all the water we used for canning, cooking, washing drinking and what ever from our water bucket.

Julie Baker (2010-11-21 11:11:59)

time to start singing this song! Over the river and thru the woods, To grandmother's house we go; The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh, Thru the white and drifted snow, oh! Over the river and thru the woods, Oh, how the wind does blow! It stings the toes and bites the nose, As over the ground we go. Over the river and thru the woods, To have a first-rate play; Oh, hear the bells ring, "Ting-a-ling-ling!" Hurrah for Thanksgiving Day-ay! Over the river and thru the wood, Trot fast my dapple gray! Spring over the ground, Like a hunting hound! For this is Thanksgiving Day. Over the river and through the woods, And straight through the barnyard gate. We seem to go extremely slow It is so hard to wait! Over the river and through the wood – Now Grandmother's cap I spy! Hurrah for the fun! Is the pudding done? Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!

1.2 August

Complaint Box (2010-08-01 08:16)

Is there anything here that is not working for you? Is there anything that needs to be changed? Do you have any suggestions? Are we posting too much stuff with new things every weekday? Are we posting too little stuff? Do you have trouble commenting?

What do you think?

Julie Baker (2010-08-01 17:19:29)

I am getting use to it:) It might help if on the post itself it told what category it was from. If you click on recent comments like I do it just magically takes you there... but If I wanted to find it without clicking a recent comment I just poke around usually under history or others drop down box. I am Not complaining though. You are doing a marvelous job! And as far as the how often to post things question... As long as they are coming in...Post it as it comes in. It's not like it going anywhere...I will still be there for the once a month viewer. But if nothing new comes on, the frequent viewer will get bored with it... (maybe) My best regards to the staff! P.s. Love Love Love the upcoming birthday thing and now you've made it a week or so ahead so that we could send a snail mail card! Good job!

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-01 22:48:26)

I love reading new stuff every day. It just makes me feel closer to all my family. Thank you so much

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-02 07:00:42)

Julie, I tried to add the category of the posts. I don't know that it's in a great place, but I couldn't find a better place for it. Thanks for all of the good feedback.

Aunt Naomi's Home Movies (2010-08-02 04:08)

Aunt Naomi sent me some of her home movies a while ago, and I went through and pulled out some clips that might be interesting to the whole family. I haven't gone through all of the home movies yet, so there will probably be another one of these in a few weeks.

[youtube height="320"]<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp7E1BWmmME>[/youtube]

There's also a more "dramatic" version.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-04 21:01:20)

Hey, today was Derrick's birthday, and it's his birthday on this video too!

Christina (2010-08-04 21:14:20)

Happy Birthday Paul! We love you!

Christina (2010-08-02 20:55:20)

It looks like Tracy is about three, so who would have been a baby then? Maybe Darren?

Julie Baker (2010-08-02 19:15:53)

Yes I watched it. Much more deamatic for sure... like the upbeat one bettter. It is amazing how it changes the feeling. Never realized or thought about how important the music is!!!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-02 17:37:53)

There were so many good bits from Aunt Naomi's movie. But I thought it would be better to make several short ones than one long one. Besides, this one lasted exactly one song. Has anyone looked at the more dramatic version? It's really strange how one change can make the whole thing feel different.

Julie Baker (2010-08-02 17:11:43)

Who is the baby grandma is so lovingly holding?

Julie Baker (2010-08-02 17:09:36)

Thankyou Aunt Naomi and Lloyd!!! That was a real treasure! Lloyd you were such a pretty baby! I remember your age group had lots of babies and we would play pass the baby and there were plenty to go around!!! It was so good to see JeanMarie's little smiling face. Boo hooo I wanna go back there and see those people again. Back the way we were.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-03 09:16:02)

I am guessing that the baby is Steve, or Meri, Sam was 1 and a half, and Tracy was two when Steve was born. Naomi do you know? That was a wonderful movie! I loved it. Thank you Naomi and Lloyd jr.

Paul (2010-08-04 08:26:04)

Cool video. I was hoping to see a shot of my beautiful wife as a baby, but I gather she was born yet. Oh well, I hope maybe in the next couple of films (if there are anymore).

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-04 11:15:33)

I think there might be a shot of your beautiful wife at the 2 minute 32 second mark.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-04 11:58:46)

Are you referring to the shot of someone's possibly pregnant belly? Because the little girl jumping off the cistern is definately Tracey...there's a shot close after that of You, Tracey and Sam!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-04 13:02:14)

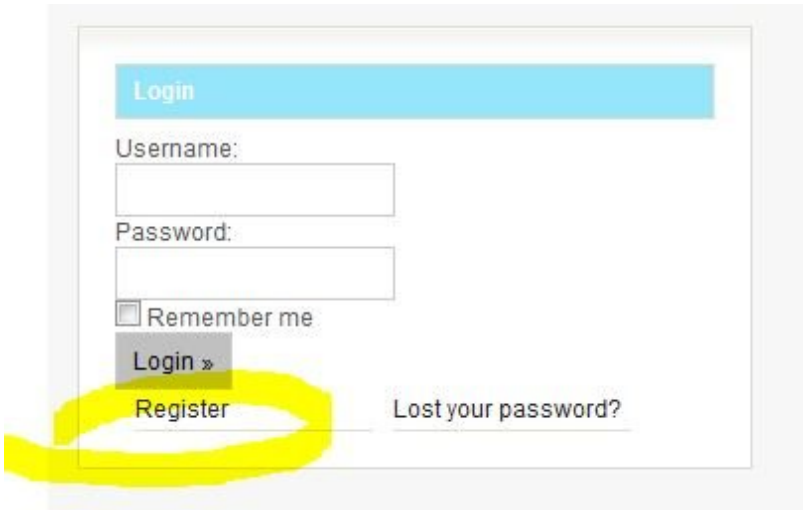
I think that might be mom and you.

Popup Glossary (2010-08-03 04:07)

If you've been reading for a while, you know that there are a few somewhat interesting pages available from the tools menu at the top of the website. The Popup Glossary isn't one of them. This page is part of the tool that creates the cute mouse-overs whenever we type a name (like Brittney Rowland) in a post. I really like that feature, because it lets me know who some of the younger members of our family belong to.



Unfortunately, to have the feature, you also have to have the page. So I threw it in with the other tools, even though it's pretty worthless by itself. As with the other tools, you'll have to register and login before you can see it.



This is probably a good place to point out that, for simplicity, parental information always lists a single parental decedent from Adolph and Theresa. This is not the most accurate possible way to list people (in fact, it's pretty darn inaccurate), but it is the most straight forward. Every other consistent way that we thought of to list people was quite complex. Anyway, this is just meant to give you an idea of where people fit in. It's not meant to be a genealogy listing.

Julie Baker (2010-08-03 17:10:49)

Thanks for pointing out the mouse over thing. I didn't notice it until you told me! I was excited to use it as it was...very nice and even more convenient now that I know the mouse over trick! You are so cleaver.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-03 19:43:42)

One thing that I didn't consider is that it's a good way to look someone up if you just know their first name. I've done that a few times since the website went up. And, since everyone is numbered, you can use it to see how many people are in the family. But if you do that, you have to add in the aunts and uncles.

Grandma walks to school.....by Christina Rowland (2010-08-04 04:04)

When I was eighteen and told Grandma I was going to Rockhurst College in Kansas City, she told me this story...

When I was a little girl, we lived some times in town and sometimes in the country. When I was about six years old, we moved back into town, but our house was not near any of the public schools, so I would walk to the Catholic grade school and that is where I went to school for two years. So I guess you can go to a Catholic college.

I don't remember if she said if she walked by herself, but it sure sounded like it to me.

Jane Sommerer (2010-08-05 23:32:02)

Weren't those buckets of beer the same size as the little buckets she put around your necks to pick blackberries in? It seems to me they were.

Julie Baker (2010-08-04 17:11:22)

She told me about when she was a little girl and lived in town she had to walk to the brewery everyday and get a bucket of beer for her father!(I guess they sold it by the buckets full back then) I know where her house was and have since found out where the brewery was In the old Munichburg area. She got ice from where the grocery store on the corner is. In the old days it was a Ice House. I wonder if she went to St Peters school? It would be the closest one and was there at that time.(across from the Capital). She also told me one time that before she was married she worked at Woolworths! I remember Woolworths! I love to imagine her walking the streets of my hometown and how it must have looked back then.We should think about buying a brick in

her name for the Old Munichburg society. I have no info of the cost but could find out if enough people are interested.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-04 18:37:38)

Wow! I didn't know Grandma had ever worked off the farm! That is interesting....some day when I am in JC you will have to show me where her house was.....I don't think anyone has ever pointed it out to me before.

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-18 22:22:22)

Cleo, I'm fairly sure the name of the girl she went to St. Peter's school with was named Sophie Schleer. She told me someone used to bake bread and other bakery items for Father Helias and the other priests at St. Peters and mom and Sophie were the delivery girls who took the items up to St. Peters rectory. (Of course there is always the chance the lady who baked the bread was named Sophie Schleer. Maybe you can find out her age on Ancestry.com and see if she was close to mom's age or quite a bit older (old enough to bake bread).

cleo (2010-09-18 20:34:50)

When I heard the story about mother going out at noon to get Grand-paw beer to eat with his lunch, i always thought of it in terms of it being the size or the molassas buckets that we used when we made molassas, I think they were half a gallon buckets. Of course we used them for everything and anything. We used them for lunch boxes at times and berry picking. Those were the good old days.

Cleopha Howard (2010-08-05 10:08:52)

Hello family, I was going to write you a story about Mother and her friend named Mary Cleopha Brenneisen, who I was named after. I was going to tell you the story that I thought mother always told me. Which was that she had a friend who she played with (I always thought that friend was older then her and took her to school with her, to St Peters School.) This morning I went to Ancestry.com and did my research and found out that Mary Cleopha wasnt born until 3 of April 1904. When Mary Cleopha was born Mother was already 6 years old. That

makes me wonder about the whole story. Maybe Mother walked Mary Cleopha to school??? I guess we will never know. I could go to St Peters and see if Mother was ever enrolled in School there. I have done research there before but it is too hot to think about it.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-05 14:18:09)

Aunt Cleo.....please tell us the story anyway....we all love a good story about Grandma!

Julie (2011-01-25 18:48:06)

<http://blog.visitjeffersoncity.com/>

Julie (2011-01-25 18:43:49)

Grandma was 13 years old when the capitol burned down..., she told me that she remember when it burned. There is going to be a ceremony to commemorate the very hour of the fire 100 years later. see below for details. BREAKING NEWS: CAPITOL ON FIRE Posted on January 25, 2011 by sarah@visitjeffersoncity.com Submitted by Suzanne Fox On February 5, 1911, due to inadequate fire equipment, citizens and fire fighters of Jefferson City watched helplessly as the state capitol burned. After the fire had subsided, prison inmates were sent in to retrieve important documents and files. At 6:15 p.m. on February 5, 2011, 100 years later, the Jefferson City Fire Department will parade fire trucks from Bolivar Street to the Capitol. Mayor Landwehr will also be doing a presentation to commemorate the exact hour of the 1911 fire. Following the parade and presentation at 7:30 p.m. (until 10 p.m.) will be a reception at Cottonstone Gallery, located at 116 E. High Street. The reception will kick off a month long exhibit which will display photos, a new painting by gallery owner Jim Dyke and artifacts saved from the fire. Some of the artifacts include a door from the Governor's office, a desk from the Secretary of State, gates from the entrance and much more.

The World Champion... by Uncle Felix

(2010-08-05 04:09)

This one is from Uncle Felix...

The time was when I was in second grade. Going to East Union School, some of us younger boys, I can't remember well enough to name names, were playing around the privi. Some one thought of a contest to see who could pee over the privi. We all failed except John Rolling. John that day became "The World Champion."

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-05 16:47:54)

Sometimes you just have to go.

Cleopha Howard (2010-08-05 10:16:50)

That is the second reply that didn't get through

Rachel (2010-08-05 12:03:00)

Please don't tell this story to Gracen. He will pee whenever/wherever he thinks he can get away with it. Let me tell you... he doesn't get away with it on the lawn of the city pool! I guess he is truly meant to be a country boy. What's a mother to do?

Christina Rowland (2010-08-05 14:16:03)

My thought is "better on the lawn, than in the pool!" I can't say too much...not long ago the neighbor kids ran in to tattle that Declan peed on the dog....turns out he was taking a wizz in the back yard and the dog ran in front of him....I was more upset that he wizzed around the other kids...it's not like the house was more than 20 paces from him!

Ollie Ollie Income Free! (2010-08-06 04:41)

"Ollie Ollie Income Free!" LOL. Just thinking of those words takes me back to grandma & grandpa's house .It would be summertime just as it started turning dark. The grownups were entertaining themselves singing or talking. It was probably the 4th of July. Lots of kid would be there.

We had lots of fun playing hide and seek. After several people were found and the rest could not be found you yelled OLLIE OLLIE INCOME FREE! So you could get on with another game and maybe see where someone came out of to steal their idea of a hiding place.

What was the game we played where we split up half on one side of the house half on the other... then someone would throw the ball over the house to the other side and yelled something as they threw the ball.

Christina (2010-08-06 21:50:24)

I thought it was "ollie, Ollie Oxen Free"? I don't remember playing that game, but I do remember playing "Ghost in the Graveyard, run, run, run". I think we destroyed many a flower hiding in Grandma's flower beds!

Julie (2010-08-06 21:39:16)

Yes, that's it! Andy over! That was so much fun!

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-06 18:02:10)

Julie it was either (andy over) or handy over, one side threw the ball over the house to the other side, the other side caught it, and came around the house, trying to tag as many players as they could. Those players who were tagged were on that side. Then the ball was thrown over the house by the side who had caught the ball, and so it con-

tinued. If anyone remembers more about this game please comment. We played this at Oak Grove all the time. At Honey Creek we played over the white building, that we had dinners in. The school was too large. Can anyone remember how to play dare base? I forgot how to play that game

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-08 00:03:26)

I think I remember playing "Ghost in the graveyard", but I don't remember anything about it. Anyone know what it was?

Julie (2010-08-07 19:15:59)

that the way we said it! It was probably originally "all ye all ye in come free" back 100 years ago!

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-08 11:05:45)

Hmmmmmm...I thought we yelled, "Ollie, Ollie, COME IN Free." Whatever it was, it was so much fun!

Anne (2010-08-08 12:49:39)

Agrees... for us it was "Ollie, ollie oxen free!" Who knows what it was in the way back time, but we all knew what it meant.

Who's Who (2010-08-09 04:47)

No new posts for you until you figure out who these people are!

Christina Rowland said that I should take a still frame from Aunt Naomi's home video and make it an image so that we could figure out who was there.



Move your mouse over the image for the numbers.

You might be able to tell who is who from the video a little better than from the picture. When you recognize someone, put what number and who they are in the comments (move your mouse over the picture to see the numbers). Disputes will be settled by arm wrestling.

1. Sam Sommerer
2. Uncle Ralph
3. Aunt Florence

4. Uncle Vernon
5. Aunt Lolly
6. Uncle Ed
7. Grandma
8. Aunt Margie
9. Tracy Allen
10. Uncle Louie
11. Kenny Williams
12. Uncle Mahlon
13. Uncle Justin
14. Aunt Elizabeth
15. Bob Williams?
16. Jane Williams?
17. Kathy Jane Meisinger
18. Ted Kuegele?
19. Johnny Williams
20. Mary Jane Piazza
21. Derrick Vetter
22. Peter Sommerer
23. Aunt Dorothy
24. Jim Sommerer?
25. Aunt Cleo

26. Dan Sommerer
27. Becky Cary
28. Julie Baker
29. Debbie Hauser
30. Jeanne Marie Owens
31. Phillip Vetter
32. Greg Vetter
33. Doug Sommerer?
34. David Sommerer

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-12 22:03:37)

You are probably right...it's weird...where are Felix, Carol and Scott?
Other family members are roaming the hills, I guess.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-12 17:54:16)

I'm pretty sure Aunt Naomi said that it was Teddy, but she had some question marks after that one. I don't know if she would contest your naming or not.

Rachel (2010-08-09 07:53:47)

I am not sure about this, but: #2 Ralph? and #5 Lolly?

Christina Rowland (2010-08-09 09:17:35)

#6 - Uncle Ed #7 - Grandma #8 - Aunt Margi #27 - Becky #28 -
Julie #29 - Debbie

Julie (2010-08-10 01:17:28)

sometimes he came down and stayed without Uncle Felix.

Julie (2010-08-10 01:20:34)

Good Question! Could be that while your parents were visiting they left early to go visit Aunt Janes side.

Julie (2010-08-10 01:24:10)

24 is definately Jim. I am thinking 34 might me David.

Julie (2010-08-10 01:26:10)

who on earth could #4 be?

Julie (2010-08-10 01:30:50)

could 4 be uncle Vernon and 5 be Florance? Aunt Naomi is probably taking the video.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-09 22:54:37)

Is #18 Jimmy? doesn't make much sense for Mark to be there without Uncle Felix. #24 - David? #31 - Doug #32 - Phil #33 - Vince #34 - Greg

Christina Rowland (2010-08-09 23:01:39)

ok, so in the video Little Lloyd was there....why wasn't he and Uncle Lloyd and Aunt Jane in the picture?

Christina (2010-08-09 22:31:06)

I think these are correct: #4 - Uncle Vernon #15 - Uncle Ted #3 - Aunt Florence - I think Aunt Naomi is the one videotaping #23 - Aunt Dorothy

Julie (2010-08-09 20:57:11)

17 Kathy Jane 16 Sis /Lillian 12 Mahlon 11 Kenny 10 Louie 9 Tracy 6 uncle Ed 5 Aunt Lolly 3 Aunt Naomi 19 Johnny 30 Jean Marie 22 Peter 26 Danny? 13 Justin 28 me! 25 Cleo 8 Aunt Margie (that's how i spell it!) 14 Aunt Elizabeth 20 Mary Jane 21 Derrick 18 Mark? 1 Sam 2 Ralph 7 Grandma 27 Becky 29 Debbie 24 Jim not a clue who 4/24 and 23 are!!!

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-10 21:08:38)

Lloyd, my mind is blown to bits by all the amazing things you can do with everything about the computer!!! I am e-mailing to you the answers to the picture puzzle (how clever of you!) in case you want to add it later after everyone has guessed.

Christina (2010-08-11 21:14:07)

No #17 is Kathy Jane.....I looked at the video and she is wearing those cloths

Julie (2010-08-11 21:27:40)

18 is Mark Sommerer. Ok who do I have to arm wrestle here? hahaha

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-11 18:00:27)

#15 and 16 look a lot like Bob and Jane Williams. I cam remember them being at our house. I can't find Kathy Jane on this picture, Who ever 17 is, she is too tall to be Kathy. Help!

Julie (2010-08-12 22:41:36)

I think the person I thought was Lillian is actually Bob and Jane. Aunt Elizabeths friends. I dont see Fred or Aunt Bea at all. But trust me...That is Mark.We got to know each other really well that summer!

Julie (2010-08-12 22:30:21)

I think that "beard" is some "white noise" or black noise that just happened to land on his chin. You know like crackles in the oldness of the video. His most distinguishing feature is that he is the tallest one there! MUST be him!

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-12 22:01:25)

I am confused by the picture also. It does look like Fred and Lil in 15 & 16...but then, where is Ted, Sr. and where is Bea? The reason I decuced it might be Ted, Jr., is that it doesn't look like anyone else and somebody had to drive Lil there...okay, I know, overactive imagination. Lolly is probably right that it is someone else. The thing that

surprises me the most is how different Florence and Vernon look. I don't remember Vernon having a beard, but it sure looks like he has one.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-10 06:42:23)

I don't think the video is necessarily in chronological order. And things that are right next to each other on the video could be days or years apart.

Things I Remember Fondly... by Aunt Sis (part 1) (2010-08-11 04:12)

Here are some memories from Aunt Sis...

Grandpa & Grandma Erhardt's, Mother's Day Gathering the twin snowball bushes by the garden gate always were in full bloom and Grandma would let us grandchildren have a snowball fight. Not a bloom was left on the bush and the ground was white as snow, in May.

After dinner Grandpa Edwin and Dad (Adolph) would set out on the banister on the front porch and talk of many things, mostly in German. One thing Grandpa Edwin said I'll always remember (it was in English), "They say pepper helps a man on his horse, and a woman to her grave." I was about 7 and thought it was funny, but they didn't laugh and I've wondered about the truth in that all these years!

Cleopha Howard (2010-08-11 18:37:23)

What house were they living in then? Was it aunt Nora's house?

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-11 17:24:31)

The first kids who knew Grandmas and Grampas are so lucky. I never knew any as they had all passed before I was born or when I was very small. I never knew how to be a Grandma (having had none to pattern after), but I am learning slowly.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-12 10:31:04)

I am very sure it was Aunt Nora's house, Our Grandparents owned that farm(Cedar Row) until they died. Mother always talked about

her dad dying on the hill side going towards Hwy. 54. Uncle Henry and Aunt Nora took it over then. I can still remember the snow ball bushes along the fence and by the house that Aunt Nora had. Aunt Nora and Uncle Henry, were the closest thing to grandparents that us last kids had. They were wonderful.

Kittens... by Carolyn Jean (2010-08-12 04:18)

This memory is brought to you by Carolynn Jean Schlickman.

Now, one summer morning around the fourth of July, if not on the fourth, Aunt Marjorie, Uncle Edgar and Kathy stopped by on their way out to Grandma's for the day. They offered to take me along and I was thrilled to be able to spend the whole day at Grandma's. Upon departing my Dad said, "Why don't you take a couple of kittens along because Grandma needs some!" I was happy to oblige, so Mom got a box, put some rags in it and two little kittens. I didn't think we needed a box, we could hold them and play with them on our laps, but I went along with the idea anyway. Off we went motoring out Tanner Bridge Road. Not far down the road a horrendous odor filled the car. Aunt Marjorie made a comment as we passed a barn lot. Well, I knew better and now I knew why Mom had insisted on bringing the box of rags. Although the odor didn't go away, we did finally make it to Grandma's in good shape.

I took the box of kittens to the house, placed the box on the porch and took the kittens to give to Grandma. Now Grandma didn't seem as thrilled to receive the kittens as I was led to believe she wanted them. Obviously it was more my Dad's idea of getting rid of some kittens rather than Grandma needing some.

I have many wonderful memories of participating in holiday get-togethers and reunions at Grandma & Grandpa's. I remember how cozy and warm Grandma's house was in winter with the wood burning stoves and the endless buffet of delicious meals.

Julie (2010-08-12 22:52:52)
Greer know's how you feel!

Julie (2010-08-12 22:54:18)
Grandma's house = kittens!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-12 21:34:19)
Lauren almost came home with a "stray" cat today. I really dodged a bullet there.

Funny story about Cats | Sommerer Family Website (2010-08-18 05:21:08)
[...] knows that Grandma was not a big kitten fan. I'm sure Uncle Bud knew that very well. Ha Ha. That's a good one. That was a topic of late night discussion for several of us [...]

Taking care of Vernon... by Uncle Felix (2010-08-13 04:16)

We need more stories about Uncle Vernon

One day Mom was working in the garden. She told me to take care of Vernon. Vernon wanted in the garden to eat some tails(carrots). I held the gate closed and he started crying. Then he got mad and said, "It's a hell of a mess you made me cry!"

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-14 12:22:25)

Someone (I can't remember who) asked about Marjorie's shortened name spelling. I visited with her on the phone this morning, and she said it is Margie.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-13 22:45:42)

I just love that he calls carrots "Tails"

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-13 18:41:24)

I believe that's the most I've ever hear uncle Vernon swear. Or is that cuss? I get them confused.

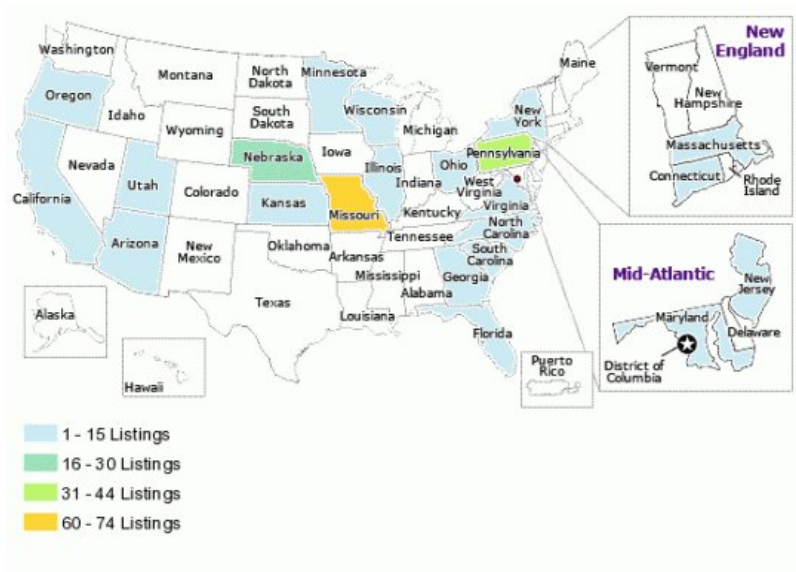
Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-14 20:13:57)

Thanks Aunt Naomi.

Where are the Sommerers? (2010-08-16 04:15)

WhitePages.com lets you search through all of the telephone books in the country and sort through the data in various ways. One of the things they do is list where people who have a certain last name live, and what first names those people typically have.

Here's the map for Sommerer, but you should click on the link, because you can look at the data in other ways as well.



Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-16 11:13:04)

Just a quick note about registering on the website. You have to enter a real email address, because it sends you an email that you have to click on to finish the registration. If you can't log in, that might be why. I would be glad to delete your username so you can try again. Just let me know.

Rachel (2010-08-16 16:04:39)

So, do we have any connections (literal) to the Sommerers in Pennsylvania? There seem to be a number of them.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-17 09:52:20)

apparently the two brothers who came over and went to Missouri and Nebraska were mor prolific then the rest of them! Or maybe they just had more boys.....I keep forgot it was only counting people with the name Sommerer, not the ones related to them.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-16 22:09:09)

You should see the Smith Family! And you can also look up first names too.

Lauren (2010-08-16 21:02:39)

Wow, for such a unique name, you guys are surprisingly popular!

Calendar (2010-08-17 04:23)

Did you notice that there are a handful of useful pages located under the tools menu at the top of the website? You should check them out. Go ahead. I'll wait.

Okay, did you find the calendar? It's pretty cool. We're not putting birth years on it, so mom said that we didn't have to password protect it. I don't know why she doesn't want people to know how old she is.

Calendar (edit)

January 2010						
« Prev						Next »
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 * Great Grandma Margaret Beck	4	5 * Aaron Hyatt Lock	6	7 * Jane Snowden Putnam	8	9
10	11	Aaron Hyatt Lock Time: 12:37 pm Happy Birthday Aaron!		4 Grandmother Elizabeth Commerer	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

We have all of the birthdays that we have on the calendar, so if one is missing, let us know. We don't have very many anniversaries yet. You should add yours to the comments below and I'll put it in the calendar. Right now I think Lauren's is the only one on it.

I'm sure you'll find that some of the information in the calen-

dar is missing or wrong. When you find something that needs to be changed, you can use the form below the calendar to send in the updated information. In fact, you might want to check your families information to make sure it is correct.

Funny story about Cats (2010-08-18 04:50)

Everyone knows that Grandma was not a big kitten fan. I'm sure Uncle Bud knew that very well. Ha Ha. That's a good one. That was a topic of late night discussion for several of us regarding Grandmas love of cats at Heits Point this year. Not! But, it never seemed to keep her from having a good supply of kittens hiding in the fork of the old hollow tree that was between the house and the garden –somewhat close to 3rd base in the backyard. We never could beat Julie to the tree first to get a kitten to hold. Julie was mean when it came to her cats.

Just a thought about the game Andy Over –who was Andy– the guy the game was named for anyway? Ha. Another memory is, I think that you had to catch the ball on the fly to be able to go to the other side of the house to catch someone. If the ball hit the ground then you had to wait until your side caught it to go get someone. Many times when we were younger we couldn't throw the ball much over the big house and the ball ended up rolling down the back side so it was easier to catch.

Does anyone remember the chicken soup Grandma used to make where she put all of the chicken into the pot except the beek and the BOK BOK BOK? I remember looking into the pot to get that great soup out of it and seeing chicken feet.

I love the old photos and stories. A friend that I got to know, Dennie Spalding, told me many stories of the Adolph and Teresa Sommerer family. He was a neighbor that lived where the Schellbargers lived, right? He told me how he used to go over to Grandmas and Grandpas farm and used his tractor to plow sometimes when he had his work done.

We keep praying for our families and we love you all. Thanks for the great link this internet site gives us to our wonderful past.
–Danny

P. S. Can you all believe Julie is old enough to have a grand-baby and at the same time her baby is a freshman in college? I know I'm old but I'll always be younger than her. Sorry Julie I haven't given you a hard time for a while now.

Julie (2010-08-19 17:17:56)

I thought she had it to shoot squirrels. That's what she told me. But then she knew better than to tell me anything else!

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-19 12:54:17)

I guess we all hear things in different ways. I always thought the ball game was called annie-over. I was curious and looked on the Internet, and they referred to the game as ante-over, so that wasn't far off. You ante in poker....so that's interesting it was called that.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-19 08:59:02)

Warning! Warning! Julie....don't read this! One year at Christmas time I was helping wrap a present with my dad, (I was probably 10) We were wrapping a BB gun and I thought it was for my brother. Then Lloyd, Jr. walked in and I couldn't believe my dad let him see his Christmas present, but my dad said...."that's not for Lloyd, it's for Grandma." Apparently, she had asked him for a good BB gun so she could shoot at the cats to make them stay out in the barn and away from the house.

Julie (2010-08-18 23:12:48)

:)

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-18 22:32:36)

When I was in school, we called the game "handy over" (hand it over) I think It was shortened to andy over by you kids. That's fine too.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-18 22:23:31)

Mother was always stewing and complaining about her cats, Mostly I think she was afraid of tripping and falling when they tried to walk between her feet. One day I got to her house, I found her setting

on the sofa with a horrible looking, dirty, mangy, tiny kitten on her lap,(her holding a cat was a big shock to me)! She was trying to wash it with soap and wash cloth. I couldn't believe my eyes! The kitten was not helping her, she had a hard time trying to get it clean, but she didn't stop. I thought to myself, that cat is never going to get well and strong. The next time I went down there, the cat was clean,healthy, and Gramma's pride and joy. She kept it in the house too. Ha. Gramma's heart was to big to let that little kitten die.

Mahlon (2010-08-18 20:43:29)

You kids may not know that for years the folks would get about 500 baby chicks in the early spring. To keep them warm they were kept in the kitchen in a cage on top of the dining room table fully extended. Every day we had to change the newspaper under it for obvious reasons. After a couple of months it came time to butcher the chickens we would butcher 25 or 30 of them on Friday, put them on ice and early Saturday morning Dad would drive the car to town and two of us kids and we'd go from house to house selling these premium fresh dressed chickens and whatever other garden produce we had at the time. Our chickens were clean and nicely prepared and we had no trouble selling them. We kept the head and feet at home and Mom would make the best chicken noodle soup. The wattles and brain were so good and I'd rather eat a chicken foot than a breast....unless you've tried the chicken feet don't knock them.This happened during WWII. People had to have rationing stamps to buy meat and other things at the store but our door to door stuff didn't need them.

Julie (2010-08-18 20:57:21)

So our family got by by being in the black market meat business!

Julie (2010-08-18 21:00:28)

I dont think I could make anything to eat out of chicken heads and feet. Way to go Grandma!

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-18 21:44:40)

Just have to add this to the cat/kitten issue. The folks always wanted

cats on the farm to take care of the mice, rats, snakes and whatever else they were good for (mousers). They helped protect the crops from varmints. What I remember is that they were never allowed in the house, however I think that rule was relaxed when grandchildren came home.

Julie (2010-08-18 20:28:40)

I never knew grandma didn't like cats! I know she didn't like when the scampered under her feet when she walked out of the house and was afraid she would trip if she stepped on one. In my mid she had to do what they did in those days to keep from being over run with them. Now days you get them fixed. I remember her marveling about her two grown up cats that had kittens about the same time. She said that while one mother was "out" hunting the other cat would mother her kittens and vice versa. They co raised their litters! The best places to find kittens are around the foundation of the smokehouse. And the barn... both levels. I really liked when they were in the hayloft, hiding in that good smelling hay! Now Danny you are I think 2 years younger than me. When my oldest was the age of your oldest Ours lives were so busy and hectic and chaotic. You are surrounded by offspring that question everything you do and think they know better etc etc. You just cant imagine the changes coming your way! Soon they will admit you did know what's best for them. That satisfaction goes a long way. And when one of them brings home a little one that is the spitting image of your first born your heart will melt. You will be so proud of the adults they have become. And you Know they are starting the cycle all over again and all the sleepless nights they caused you, they will get to experience with thir first born and it wont end for 18-20 years.(I almost feel sorry for them) Paybacks ARE a you know what!haha Enjoy the ride!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-18 18:39:14)

Julie is the "Great Kitten Protector" of the Sommerer family. Every family needs one.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-20 11:19:03)

You know, what just struck me is that...If I was 10, that made Grandma 84....we gave an 84 year old woman a BB gun for Christmas!

Jane (2010-08-20 19:57:03)

Dad's BB gun backfired on him. When she got tired of the cows eating on her honey suckle during the hot dry summer. She would shoot at the cows if they got to close to her fence. It is a wonder one of them didn't come up blind. They didn't come to close to her fence though!

Cracked up... by Aunt Bea (2010-08-19 04:56)

A memory from Aunt Bea...

I remember down at Schubert we used to get company from Honey Creek sometimes. One visit (I don't remember who it was) Cleo was sitting on one side of the table and Mahlon on the opposite side. Mom owned a beautiful bowl and I guess it had a crack half through it. They both tried to pull the bowl toward them and it cracked and they each had one side and the fruit juice spilled all over the table. Glad it wasn't me!

Lauren (2010-08-19 06:18:47)

That is funny!

Jane (2010-08-20 19:47:50)

I wonder how old they were? Were they that strong or just having a pulling contest. Poor Grandma, I bet she either peeled all that fruit or put it up.

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-21 20:06:03)

Now that we are talking about cracked bowls, I've got one for ya! Mom got a brand new Mix Master from the kids after electricity was installed at our home. I was using the Mix Master when I was about 9 years old? and I broke Mother's big bowl. The Mix Master always came with two bowls, a large and small one. I felt just awful breaking the bowl because I knew how much Mother loved that appliance. They somehow were able to purchase another shortly after that (I don't know how), but the moral to this story is...keep yer cotton-pickin' hands offen ma's bowls!!

Uncle Vernon's Story (part 1) (2010-08-20 04:00)

Aunt Naomi recently typed up some of the memories that Uncle Vernon wrote down some time ago (can anyone tell us when?). Here's the first installment...

I have been asked by my younger siblings to put in writing some of the things that happened to me or to the family when I was young. I'll start off with a few of my very earliest memories (the events that forever remain in the mind of a child).

- One day Mom sent me out with a deposit in the pot that Beatrice had just made and told me to give it to Daddy for his lunch. He and another man were out in the well house working on the well.
- Another earliest memory was a project of getting hair and mop thread out of the rollers on the baby bed we all used.
- The custom was to go outside for a pee before going to bed.
- There was large sandstone outcropping near the toilet, and I always wanted to beat on it with a hammer to make sparks.

Pete Sommerer (2010-09-12 11:24:48)

There is nothing wrong with going outside to pee especially in the winter with snow on the ground. Ha Ha

Jane (2010-08-20 19:45:20)

Hey, you live in town. You can't do that besides where is your out-house at? Are you going to beat on your patio to make sparks??

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-20 17:04:45)

I think I'm going to have to what I can to revive the custom of going outside to pee before going to bed.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-12 12:38:24)

I'm thinking that we should plant some bamboo around the patio. I could use a little more privacy for just such occasions.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-12 12:38:56)

Lauren has a compost pile and she says that's where I should go, but it's scary out there.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-24 07:18:15)

My Dad told me what it sold for just a few years ago, but I don't remember.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-24 09:35:19)

Julie, your grampa (Adolph's) father was Mathias Junior. The Sommerer home on Tanner Bridge, is no longer standing. It was torn down several years ago, and a big, beautiful home built on the same spot. No one is living there, It has not sold yet. When Harold John died, he left to Ralph and I, four of Simon Kerl's books, One is titled (Kerl's Poems) 1868, and another (Kerl's First Lessons in English Grammar) 1875, another (Kerl's Primary English Grammar) 1860, and another (Kerl's Elementary English Grammar) 1869. His book of poems is wonderful. He was a brilliant man. It's a shame he died so young.

Julie Baker (2010-08-24 16:39:20)

I know!

Julie Baker (2010-08-23 18:57:58)

is Grandpa's (Adolph's) father Mathis Sr or Mathis jr? Who were the seven Sommerer children that grew up in the house? very interesting. Wonder if we could arrange a tour?

Julie Baker (2010-08-23 18:59:20)

could we put our money together and buy it back???????? just kidding

Julie Baker (2010-08-23 19:05:50)

Oh, some Aunt, Uncle or Mother, tell us the story of this place from Adolph's view. Was this the place they lost in the depression?

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-19 07:03:37)

Mathias, Jr. was Adolph's father. The picture is of Mathias, Sr.

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-23 13:49:53)

A few years ago I purchased author Gary Kremer's books for Louie for a Christmas gift. I was so pleased to find this story in the book Heartland History, volumn 1, on pages 68, 69 & 70. The book does not however have the pic of Anna & John, nor does it have Harold's pic.

Julie (2010-08-23 05:57:53)

Wish they had a picture of Katherina Marie.

Julie (2010-08-23 06:02:00)

I see the Sommerer genes in Mathis. He looks like some of my cousins!!! HANDSOME!

cleo (2010-08-24 06:21:30)

Julie the farm on Rainbow drive was the home Phyllis Erhart was born and raised in. Her brother lived in that house until they sold it a few years ago.

Julie Baker (2010-08-23 19:16:04)

Another interesting place was on grandmas side. Down Rainbow drive brfore you get to Binder Lake there is a big old farmhouse. It boasted a century farm sign on it. It was in the same family for over 100 years. The Earhart Farm. It was sold outside the family just a few years ago. Is that farm in your book? (Aunt Naomi) Grandma told me that she remembered going to the place and her father was a good carpenter and he added a front porch on it when she was a little girl. I guess that was her father's brother's house. I live not too far from that place nd remember when the then current owners remodeled it and tore down the front pourch. I made me sad.

Julie Baker (2010-08-24 17:05:15)

That is a real treasure! I remember that for some reason my mom and I went to his house one time. I remember he seemed to be a nice and gentel man. He was so proud of some old books and showed them to us. I was happy for him that those books made him happy but they

were just some old books to me. School books especilly (ylk) Now I know the rest of the story to quote Paul Harvey.

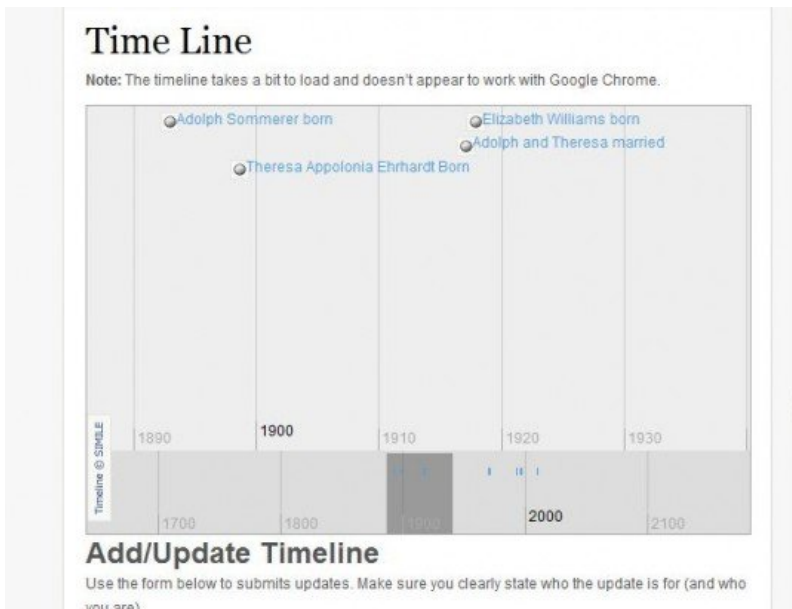
Naomi Vetter (2010-08-25 22:30:50)

The only Ehrhardts mentioned in the books (Vol. 1)are named in/at Scruggs Station & Lohman. The names Erna Fischer, Ehrhardt, Lydia Loesch and other names I remember Mom talking about are mentioned. I don't think this was the same area as Rainbow drive but have no way of knowing, really.

Time Line (2010-08-24 04:28)

Another interesting and potentially even useful tool on the web-site is the time line. It's a neat little program that allows you to easily scroll through historical events.

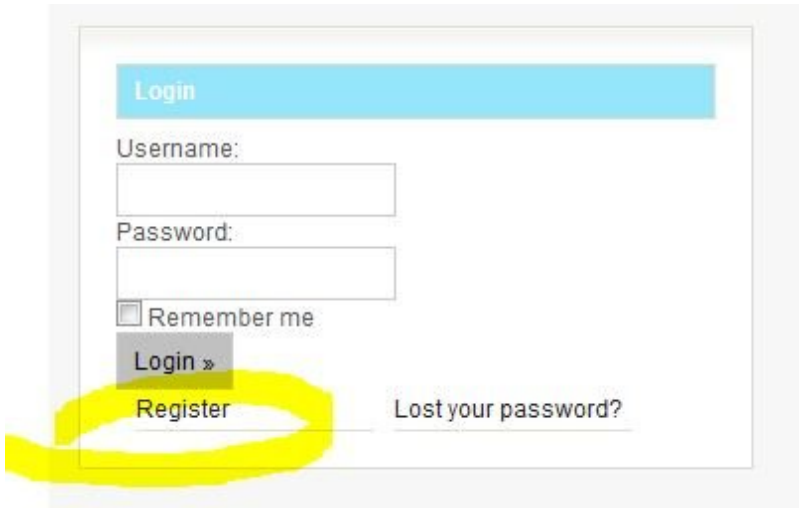
We don't have a lot of information in the time line yet, so don't think that we're intentionally leaving anything out. If it's not there, chances are that we either don't know the right dates, or we just haven't gotten to it yet. We'd like to get everyone's birthday, anniversary and so forth added to the time line.



Instead of password protecting the whole time line, mom said that it would be okay if we didn't display the birthdays of people who are still alive. So everyone can see some of the information on the time line, but you have to be logged in to see current birthdays. If you'd like to see all of the information, you have to log-in to the site.

If you don't have a username, you can get one by clicking the

Register button that is near the bottom of the Sidebar on the right hand side of the screen. You'll have to answer some questions, and undergo a though background check (we don't want to let in any rift-raft unless they are family), and wait until someone can look it over.



Login

Username:

Password:

☐ Remember me

Login »

Register

Lost your password?

I'm sure you'll find that some information is missing from the time line. You can use the form under the time line send in that information. In fact, you might want to check your own information once you have a username just to make sure it is correct.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-24 07:11:19)

I know, there's not much information on the timeline. I thought I'd have time to add things, but with school starting it just didn't happen. Feel free to add comments with the dates of things that should be on the timeline.

A Sad Memory... Aunt Naomi (2010-08-25 04:11)

Here's the second installment of memories from Aunt Naomi...

I suppose one remembers best events that are either happy or sad and the rest of the in between mundane things go unremembered. My next memory was a sad memory. My brother Lloyd and I were raking the leaves and both of us wanted the rake. I don't remember what led up to the crisis but I do remember running with the rake, and Lloyd running after me trying to get it. I was running with the forks of the rake turned upward. Lloyd stepped on the rake. I next remember a flurry of activity –mother disinfecting and a trip to the local doctor. I think there was one at Henley –I have to check on this for accuracy. Lloyd spent I don't know how many days at St. Mary's hospital. There was concern for a while that he might lose his foot, as gangrene had set in. However, the doctor was able to save his foot minus a few toes. My mother never did say the accident was my fault. I always was thankful for that. I suppose most mothers would feel that it was their fault and I am sure mother did. It would have been very hard for me to have that on my conscience, as I felt bad enough as it was. I must have been around 4 when this happened, because Lloyd was 2 years old. Likely he was close to 3 and I close to 5.

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-25 16:38:33)

Maybe some of the older siblings remember this and can add to it. I remember feeling so bad and sitting out on the east house steps scared to death.

Christina Rowland (2010-08-27 09:05:36)

I hated wearing shoes! I was probably a bane to our dad....but the one time I put one of those hay forks we used for pulling bales into the barn through my foot I was wearing tennis shoes....go figure!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-26 12:40:36)

I was pretty old before I figured out why dad didn't want us to run around bare foot like everyone else. I'm blaming Uncle Lloyd that I'm such a tenderfoot.

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-26 11:19:19)

Naomi I am surprised you even remember that! You were only four years old! a baby yourself. I think Lloyd was in the hospital about 6 weeks? Cleo do you remember? All during that time Mother and Dady were not allowed to see him or hold him, We could only look at him through a window, and watch him. (Lloyd wasn't allowed to see them) That must have been hell for Mother and Dady. Years later, I heard Dady say to Mother, (This was after Lloyd had done something he shouldn't have) " You deal with him, you said I could never lay a hand on him!" He was our gift from God.

Mahlon (2010-08-25 21:37:16)

I don't recall anybody thinking even for a minute that it was your fault. The two of you were going to rake the yard and you headed around the house to get started. This happened on the south side of the house and mom right away put kerosene on it (the treatment of the day) and the doctor at Henley said that was good for it. Later on he said he wished he had made opened the wound on the top of the foot so drainage would have been better and it wouldn't have gotten infected. This being a country doctor he didn't know all the new medications being used. Dr Taylor in at St Mary's had just been in the military taking care of wounds like this. He used penicillin. That was the first time it was used in our family. It must have worked because gangrene was very serious back then. Lloyd was in the hospital for his third birthday. He was in the hospital for a long time. We just prayed day to day that he would get better. When he came home the

folks gave him a beagle hound puppy for his birthday. To pay for the hospital stay we took in whatever vegetables were available, dressed chickens, etc. The whole hospital bill was paid for with produce from the farm. No cash.

Grandma's Pies... by Aunt Florence
(2010-08-26 04:19)

Here's one from Aunt Florence...

I always marveled at how good Grandma's pies tasted, especially the strawberry and rhubarb ones, or the combination of the two fruits. I later found out the distinctive taste came from the fact she used lard in the crust, not that white stuff we call Crisco that I always used.

I'm sure we all have memories of Grandma's cooking that we could share.

The Silo Carousel... by Uncle Mahlon (2010-08-27 04:15)

Now when Lolly was born she had a little problem and couldn't handle cow's milk. So Dad bought some goats. Now you had to have multipurpose animals. They couldn't just be milked. So out by the barn was an old foundation where a silo used to be years before. It was about a foot across on top and two foot high and it was round about twelve feet across. So Beatrice and I would go out and catch these baby goats that weren't very big and put them up on the circle. Then we'd get up on the foundation and ride the goats. They were our carousel. Now we probably weighed more than the goats did. But they took us around and we spent lots of days out there riding the goats. So you have to get your fun where you find it.

Please, won't someone draw a picture of this? Please?

Rachel (2010-08-27 11:47:19)

Get ready to sing... Here we go round the silo foundation; The silo foundation, the silo foundation. Here we go round the silo foundation, On goats of baby size. :)

Christina (2010-08-27 20:49:20)

I'll never sing that song the same old way again!

Have I Gotten Someone's Goat (2010-08-30 08:10)

When Sam and I got married I "inherited" some things from his bachelor pad: Lego, computer parts, Lego, Ansel Adams posters, Lego, etc. You get the picture. I found a spot for most of this, tossed what didn't meet my standards, and started asking questions as to WHY he had some of this stuff. Knowing Sam as most of you do, the explanations were creative if nothing else. But one object that came to reside with us still has not fully been explained. And while I have adopted it and now call it my own, I am still very curious as to its story.

Can someone help me out with the history of this infamous Sommerer heirloom?

And does it have a name?



Christina Rowland (2010-08-30 09:43:53)

Well, for all of my childhood years, that goat hung in the "boys" bedroom upstairs at Grandma's house. The older cousins told us younger

ones that it was the boogy man because it's eyes would follow you no matter where you were in the room. Needless to say, it scared the pants off of me. It hung right above the light switch, and I remember we girls would argue about who had to reach in to turn the light on. The doors upstairs were always kept closed, so someone would open the door just a crack and reach in and try to turn on the light without touching the goat head! Even though we raised sheep on the farm for a long time, that goat head was so scary!

Naomi Vetter (2010-08-31 10:09:13)

Isn't that the goat that provided milk for Lolly when she was a baby and couldn't tolerate cow's milk? That's what I always thought it was....it's a symbol of her survival!

Christina Rowland (2010-08-31 10:15:00)

Do female goats have horns?

Aunt Lolly (2010-08-31 12:23:36)

Mahlon where are you? Tell us about that goat! I always thought it was old Hariam's goat. I grew up with it in my bedroom. It didn't bother me. It was a good old goat!ha

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-30 18:53:21)

Yes, that goat head is, by far, the scariest thing in the world. I think I was 14 before I would willingly go into that room. Whoever the older cousin was who told us about the goat should have an honorary degree in child psychology. There was always a place a grandma's house that you could go that was a child free zone.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-08-30 21:11:36)

Hey, it's Grandpa Sommerer's birthday. I would not have known that. I wonder what the odds are the two of his great great? grand kids have the same birthday. Someone should get right on that and figure it out.

Mahlon (2010-08-31 20:03:44)

Well, I don't know for sure but I think the goat was our herd sire. One of my sponsors, Otto Tickelcamp, decided to become a taxidermist. He took lessons and this goat was one of his first projects. He mounted the goat and gave it to Mom & Dad. Wish I knew how the goat came to his demise but can't recall ever hearing that. The goat hung in several locations in our house. It's been there ever since I can remember so it has to be 75 years old or older. On a humid day you can still smell old Billy if you want to sniff him. Naomi it wasn't the goat that gave Lolly milk but it might have been her husband. Mom and I was looking at the goat one day and I said I'd sure like to have that since Otto was my sponsor. She said it's yours. When I was ready to claim it some young man was there and said he'd sure like to have that goat 'cause it brought fond memories and I said it's yours. And thus Billy found a home with Rachel.

Mahlon (2010-08-31 20:04:46)

Christina, some females have horns. Our goats do...

Rachel (2010-09-01 15:37:50)

Thanks, Uncle Mahlon!!! He has a good home and I will NEVER give him away!

Rachel (2010-09-01 15:38:31)

By the way, did this goat have a name? If not, I think he will be named Otto!

Lloyd, Jr. (2010-09-02 06:23:38)

I was always told that it was, "The Boogy Man". I took this to be some terrible, horrible manifestation of pure evil. But it was the 70's and, looking back on it, might have just meant that he liked to dance.

Julie Baker (2010-09-01 18:35:06)

I think I only see 1 horn in the picture. Did he lose one?

It's a live one Uncle Lloyd... by Dan Sommerer **(2010-08-31 04:53)**

The only time I ever remember anyone getting hurt at Grandpa and Grandmas was Uncle Lloyd when the M80, that he was throwing up in the air for all of us kids to hear on the 4th July, blew up in his hand. I remember what that sounded like and all the commotion. He ran passed us into the house with his hand wrapped in a white cloth and it was full of blood. They took him to the hospital. Cousin Lloyd was really little and he cried the whole time his parents were gone. Surprisingly, that didn't stop Uncle Lloyd from shooting off fireworks for years to come.

Pete Sommerer (2010-09-12 11:04:48)

Pete says he is crying too just reading this story....(sentimental old fool) Lloyd, Jr. I think this is part of a song lyric I remember

Christina Rowland (2010-09-01 09:05:21)

Because Cousin Lloyd cries alot now too! he he he

Lauren (2010-08-31 18:46:17)

Why does none of this story surprise me? :D

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-01 14:09:05)

You would cry too, if it happened to you.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-30 17:21:42)

Lauren, I'm Sherie Krause, daughter of Herbert J. Fischer, Sr. son of Rosina Canora Sommerer. I have a rather large genealogy that I have been filling in for about the last 10 years. Cleo has been very helpful to me in this. One thing I'm missing is your birthdate. Would you mind giving that to me either here or at my email address LSKrause5@aol.com. Thanks so much. Sherie

1.3 September

Uncle Vernon's Story (part 2) (2010-09-01 04:55)

At our sale, Pearl Ehrhardt collected bottle caps from where they were selling soda pop and removed the inside cork and attached them to her skirt completely around it and when she would twirl around, the skirt would flair out. It's interesting the events of youth that stick in your mind.

The auctioneer at the sale was named Dawson. I didn't remember much about the sale, but in 1944 or 1945 we took some cows up to Norfleet's barn and had a sale. When Dawson started the sale, he said that it was the second sale that he had for Mr. Sommerer.

Nearly everything we had was sold at the sale, so we didn't have much to move to the 2nd Ivan place. The Ivan place was large. It had two houses on it. The one we moved into is the one Bud purchased in 1949. Ehrhardt's owned both farms. They lived in the house (brick) on the lower farm.

Grandpa Sommerer helped Uncle Herbert Sommerer purchase the Ivan farm. When the depression hit, he was about to lose it, so Aunt Dora and Uncle Theodore moved from their Honey Creek farm down to the Ivan place to try to help Uncle Herbert Sommerer save the farm. In the process, they lost both Ivan places and the Honey Creek farm also. Aunt Tillie and Uncle Hans Eckert purchased the Honey Creek farm and later sold it back to them when they could afford to buy it back.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-05 19:22:58)

So, what sorts of things didn't get sold? Were beds sold? Clothing? Were there lots of farm sales going on? I remember going to a fair number of farm sales in the 70s as a child. I imagine these were quite a bit sadder.

Julie (2010-09-07 20:32:45)

I hear a reoccurring theme here. Sounds like family stuck together and helped looked out for each other. Even going so far as to buy "places" to try to keep kin from losing it. I am proud of them!

Gas Rationing... by Uncle Mahlon (2010-09-02 04:50)

Then somewhere along this period (second World War) Dad and I was over south of the house, across the creek, up on that ridge. The first ridge. We was building a turkey house. We had turkeys and he wanted to keep them away from the chickens so they wouldn't get infected. You couldn't raise chickens and turkeys together. While we were there and a phone call came in and Mom hollered at us to come over real quick that Uncle Herbert was found. He was in a hospital in St. Louis with a stroke. So I remember we came back and Dad and Aunt Dora and a bunch of them got together and they decided that they had to go down. So each one of them had to put in to get enough gas rationing stamps to drive to St. Louis to see their brother that they hadn't seen for upteen years. he had disappeared from home. So they had quite a deal to get enough gas to get there.

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-02 17:14:44)

I didn't know you couldn't raise turkeys and chickens together. I also didn't know (until Christina asked) that female goats had horns. It just never crossed my mind. I'm learning a lot of agriculture trivia !!

lovechickens (2010-10-29 11:46:48)

Awesome ideas there, thanks. I actually took the plunge and got me some chickens last week! Now I have so many eggs like you wouldn't believe. You might be interested in these egg recipes.

Hospitals and Dolls... Aunt Naomi

(2010-09-03 04:02)

When I started school, (I started early - maybe 5) I was sick a lot with tonsillitis a lot. Another early memory is of going to St. Mary's Hospital and the Sister telling me she was going to take me to the "perfume" room that was probably ether.

The perfume room was the operating room and after my tonsils were taken out, I got my first doll that I can remember (I had a brown bear before that) This is the little rubber doll in the basement in the cradle with damaged arm & leg. I don't know what ever became of the bear. That doll suffered through a lot with an owner determined to have a doll with hair. I painted her hair area black to give the effect to more hair. When I decided that I wanted her to have real hair like dolls I had seen in Sears Catalog, I cut my hair and glued it onto her head. It actually did not look too bad either. There are remnants of glue on her head now, poor thing. She's been through a lot, because later I painted hair on her again.

Rachel (2010-09-03 15:03:02)

Ha! I like that.

Pete Sommerer (2010-09-12 10:53:09)

Pete says he did not have a doll when he was younger but he has one now!!

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-19 15:51:41)

Then Sophia Schleer must have been the lady who made the bread that mom and the other girl (Mary Cleopha??) took up to St. Peters..possibly, maybe.. In my basement hanging on the wall is a "round" bread pan with slide indentations. I think mom said that was Sophia's...maybe....possibly....

cleo (2010-09-19 15:20:10)

In 1910 the Schleer Family lived on Dunklin Street next door to Granpa and grandma Ehrhardt, Aunt Tillie age 20 and mother age 11. There was the mother named Emma Schleer, Sophia Schleerh her daughter age 30, who was a dressmaker, and her 2 brothers. I think that Sophia was the seamstress who made mother all those beautiful clothes.

Rachel (2010-09-03 08:40:59)

Oh the memories of childhood dolls. I still have my first doll in her not-so-white dress and little pink knitted cap. She has seen better days. She has the sort of eyes that are open when she is upright and closed when she is laid down. Only, one eye sticks. So you have to manually open or shut it. It is sort of a creepy thing if you think about it, so I just leave her sitting up with both eyes wide open. I am chuckling to myself now, thinking about laying the doll down and tucking it nicely in Anna's bed for her to find; with one eye open and one shut. Will that give my daughter nightmares?

Christina Rowland (2010-09-03 09:54:59)

She's just winking! She's a very determined flirt!

I want your email addresses (2010-09-06 04:05)

Well, I think we have everyone's mailing address now (but you might want to check to see if your address and your kid's addresses are right) . What do you think the chances are of collecting email addresses? I don't think it's going to happen by just asking for them. What I'm hoping we can do is have everyone who reads this take a few minutes and email all of the family email addresses that you have to me at Lloyd@LloydAndLauren.com

I'll take all of the email addresses that I get, sort through them, remove the inevitable duplicates and try them to make sure they are still current. Then I'll compile one big list that we can use as needed.

Remember, don't just send me your email address. Send my all of the family email addresses that you have. That way we'll have a much better chance of not leaving anyone out.

How we're doing? (part 1) (2010-09-07 04:06)

Mary Jane Piazza sent me an email recently and asked how the we were doing with Ye Olde Family Website. I realize that this sort of post isn't interesting to everyone, but since the people who are interested don't really have any way to know these things unless I post about them, I'm going to go ahead anyway. If you're not interested, feel free to give this post a miss. Mary Jane was asking about the stats and such, and that's a pretty good way to judge how well a website is doing, but usually doesn't tell the whole story.

If you just look at the stats for our site here, I think we're doing relatively well for being online for just a little over two months. For the month of August the website stats looked like this:

We had 1,231 Unique visitors. That number is probably a little inflated because some of us access the website from two or more computers, and it's really counting the number of different computers that come to the website and not the number of different people.

Those visitors came to the site 3,145 times in August. Most of the 1,231 people who came to the site came once because they searched for something and our site came up. They may or may not have found what they were looking for and left. But some people came 31 times in August too.

They looked at 16,667 pages while they were here. That's 5.29 pages per visit, and that's really a pretty good number. For comparison, people who come to LloydAndLauren.com average 4.38 pages per visit, people who come to my church's website average 4.57 pages per visit and people who come to our school website average 9.41 pages per visit (maybe it's too hard for them to find what they need on the school website).

But the top 25 people who looked at the website accounted for a

about 4900 of those pages, and I have to think that most of those people are members of the family.

Most of the people who viewed the website in August were from the USA, but there were 349 pages viewed from Spain, 168 from Japan, 132 from Canada, 128 from Netherlands, 107 from Ukraine, 87 from Germany, 74 from Great Britain and roughly 60 other countries represented. Only one visitor was recorded from Bangladesh. Come on Bangladesh.

The busiest day of the week for us is Sunday which is interesting because we never post anything new on Sunday. The slowest day of the week is Saturday. We get roughly twice as many page views on Sunday (720) as we do on Saturday (390). We also get more hits from 8-9pm than any other time.

The home page gets the most hits (as you might expect). After that, the most viewed posts are: Memories of Grandma's House, The Big Game, Aunt Naomi's Home Movies and, oddly enough, Taking Care of Vernon.

So, that's how we're doing.

Rachel (2010-09-07 08:42:23)

I am in the category of the "folks who will find this interesting." Come on... someone from Bangladesh visited our site? Who can't find that interesting! I am simply amazed that our family page has gotten hits from ALL OVER THE WORLD! When Katie goes to Italy for classes next semester we should be able to get hits from that country too. Amazing!

Julie (2010-09-07 20:26:43)

I find it very interesting also! Thanks for the update!

Mary Beth Vetter (2010-09-07 13:24)

The Lord in his wisdom and mercy has called home his servant, Mary Beth Vetter, this morning.

Pray for her family.

We love you Derrick.

cleo (2010-09-09 09:06:31)

We have our own personal angel in heaven now.

Paul (2010-09-08 20:22:29)

For those of you who didn't get to see it. Mary Beth's obituary is here: http://www.newstribune.com/articles/2010-09/08/obituaries/nt114obit_vetter2010.txt Not sure how long the link will be available, but it is still live as of Sept 8 2010 at 8:25pm.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-07 16:10:35)

Aunt Naomi said that the visitation would be tomorrow (Wednesday) evening from 5:00-8:00pm and that the funeral would be at 10:00am (Thursday?). She was not sure about which church it would be at, but it will be in the paper tomorrow. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Julie (2010-09-07 20:21:26)

God saw you getting tired, When a cure was not to be. So He wrapped his arms around you, ... and whispered, "come to Me." You didn't deserve what you went through, So He gave you rest. God's garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best And when I saw you sleeping, So peaceful and free from pain I could not wish you back To suffer that again.- Author Unknown Derrick you've been a wonderful caring husband. I admire you for your strength during her illness. We love you and pray for God to grant you the peace that passes understanding during this time.

Christina (2010-09-07 21:05:10)

Derrick, Our prayers for strength and understanding are with you and with your family. You had a precious gift and although it is gone from you now, rejoice that the Lord will bring you home to your gift in time.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-08 22:26:07)

Thanks Paul. I'm going to paste it here in case it's not available for long: ————— Mary Beth Buck Vetter, 43, of Lohman, Mo., died Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2010, at her residence after a courageous battle with breast cancer. She was born on Feb. 7, 1967, in Jacksonville, Ill., the daughter of Harry Edward Buck Jr., and Judy Carrigan Buck, both of whom survive in Jacksonville, Ill. She was married on Aug. 25, 1995, in Jefferson City to Derrick Francis Vetter who survives at the home. She was a 1985 graduate of Auburn (Ill.) High School, and a 1990 graduate of St. Louise College of Pharmacy. Mrs. Vetter was employed for 20 years as a pharmacist most recently with Target. She was a member of Capital West Christian Church, Jefferson City, and loved the outdoors and being with her family. Other survivors include one brother, Harry (Karen) Buck, III; and one sister, Teri (Melvin) Dambacher, both of Springfield, Ill.; two nieces, Baylyn (Billy) McFadden; and Lauren Dambacher; three nephews, Zach Buck, Travis Buck, and Dylan Dambacher; and Derrick's extended family including his parents, Louis and Naomi Vetter, Jefferson City, along with their children and grandchildren. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday September 9, 2010, at Capital West Christian Church with the Pastor Rick Yoder officiating. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home. Additional funeral service will be 1 p.m. Saturday, September 11, 2010, at Williamson Funeral Home, Jacksonville, Ill. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery in Jacksonville, Ill. Additional visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Friday at Williamson Funeral Home, Jacksonville, Ill. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to SSM Hospice, 520 Ellis Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65101; Capital West Christian Church, 1308 Fairgrounds Rd., Jefferson City, MO 65109; or to Susan G. Komen for the Cure Fund, 3301 W. Broadway, Ste. C; Columbia, MO 65203. Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Those

wishing to email condolences or tributes to the family may do so at the www.dulletrimble.com website.

Grandpa, Grandma and The Twelve at Honey Creek (2010-09-13 04:46)

A few months ago someone actually sent me a new copy of this photo. I don't actually remember who did it, but I would like to know, so maybe you could take credit in the comments?

Anyway, this copy is much better than the one that I had. Not only is it missing the annoying blue ink spots. It actually has everyone in the picture. But I still don't know when this was taken or what the occasion was. Am I right that it is taken at Honey Creek, below the school office?



Original (click to enlarge)



Retouched a bit (click to enlarge)

Click on either version for a larger picture, and email me if you would like "suitable for printing" copy of either one.

Mary Jane (2010-09-19 22:05:45)

My folks have the same one, plus a cousin-one. I was 14 or so with waist length, hippy hair, so it was 1968?? Definately a family reunion, but why was it there instead of the farm?

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 09:07:15)

Maryjane...send in the cousin one. I remember it too. It was the first time we had seen Johnny in a long time. He was so handsome. He was wearing a blue long sleeved shirt that had billowing sleeves and a vest.

Rachel (2010-09-13 16:47:57)

Lolly gave me this picture to replace the other one. Thanks Grandma!!! Now, can you remember and tell us about it?

Aunt Lolly (2010-09-14 08:41:09)

This was not Mother and Dady's 50th anniversary. It was taken at one of our reunions at Honey Creek, by the school house. I would say it was taken in 1969 or 1970, judging by the clothes I have on. I think Lloyd and Sam were babies, which would have made it 1970. Dady died in November. Does that sound right brothers and sisters? Vernon let us hear from you. Are you going to the library to read this? Love you all.

Christina (2010-09-20 20:52:31)

Maybe they caught him in between stick outs! hahaha

Pete Sommerer (2010-09-20 20:07:09)

Why isn't Grandpa sticking out his tongue?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-26 10:53:37)

Shhhhhh. That's the October 4th post (mark your calendars).

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 12:51:01)

Yea... marking calender now!

[Sommerer] Family Mailing List (2010-09-14 04:28)

As most of you know by now, we started a Sommerer Family Mailing List a few weeks ago. For those of you not familiar with a mailing list (sometimes called a listserv). It provides a single email address, in our case: family@sommererfamily.com, and email sent to that address is passed on to everyone on the list.

Only people who are members of the list (our family) can see who is on the list, and only members of the list (our family) can send email to family@sommererfamily.com. Any email that is sent in is first "held for moderation" to make sure that it is something that we should be sending on through the mailing list.

Our intention is to send a once a week summary of things that have been posted to the website, and any news/announcements that anyone else wants to send in. We won't be passing on anything that is a FWD intended for the general public –just family stuff. We're still trying to increase awareness and participation in the family website, so we might pass non-urgent (and non-confidential) news on as a blurb on the list with a link to a post on the website.

We went ahead and added everyone's email address to the list. That's really not the right way to go about this sort of thing. We should have sent out an announcement about the list and let you decide for yourself if you wanted to subscribe to it. But you're family, so we didn't bother. What we didn't do is include anyone's college kids (or kids in general) in the list. If you would like them to receive updates, please send in their email address.

Having said that, you are welcome to unsubscribe or change your email address or manage your account in any way you choose at this address. That link is also available under the "tools" menu at the top of the page. You will also get an email message once a month reminding you that you're on the list and how to make any changes.

Many Memories... by Aunt Cleo (2010-09-15 04:18)

Aunt Cleo sent this article and a nice letter to me last week. She said that I could put it on the website, and I'm very happy to do so. First the article by Juliana Smith:

In April 1942, American industry was retooling and refocusing its energies on war production. The production of civilian automobiles was banned during the war and automotive plants instead turned out jeeps, tanks, and other military vehicles. Women donated their nylon hosiery to make parachutes and tow ropes. Americans were encouraged to salvage metal, rubber, rags, and newspapers for the war effort and sanitation trucks scheduled special collections to retrieve these materials which were in short supply. "Salvage for Victory" depots were also set up.

Food was being rationed and the 27 April 1942 Lima News (Lima, Ohio) noted that, "After a week from tomorrow no hairpin or bobbie pin manufacturer may make these articles longer than two inches."

New factories were being built, but workers were desperately needed to man them. On 27 April 1942, men who were born on or between 28 April 1877 and 16 February 1897 not already in the military were required to register for a draft—not for military service, but to help the government get a grasp on the industrial manpower capacity of the country. Known as the "Old Man's Draft," it was one of seven draft registrations during World War II, and is the only one that is currently available to the public.

The article is from ancestry.com, and you can read the original article on their website. Aunt Cleo goes on to write:

When I read this article it brought back many memories. I would love to hear memories of Mahlon, Vernon, Bea and Margie from this time.

I remember collecting rags to sell. They didn't have to be clean rags either. As I remember, they could have dirt on them. I didn't realize that they had nylon hose before the war. I thought they were the result of the parachutes and ropes that were used during the war.

I think Mahlon and I were natural born scavengers. I don't know why, but we had lots of things to salvage and sell (at least I think we sold them). As I recall we got paid for it anyway. I know we carried a lot of things home that were left at the burned-out house we passed everyday going to and from school.

I don't think we called it recycling then. I can't remember how it was referred to. It was just part of the war effort.

Julie (2010-09-15 18:28:02)

Does anyone want to elaborate on who Julianna Smith was? I believe her maiden name was Dix as in Dix Nursery. And I think she was sister to Jessi Dix who married our Uncle Gus. (Grandma's brother) The Dix family owned most of the west side of Jefferson City. Uncle Gus owned some of that, I don't know if it was her dowry or if he bought it from them. He owned the land our church is on and Howser Maliard is on. Back years ago Dix nursery was the only local nursery around and was a big deal back in the day. Julianna was on the radio talking about nursery stuff. Now did I get that right? by the way..... I like the sound of that name(Juliane). A little bird told me if I get a grand daughter some day that will be her name!!!! Except the last

name will be Jones! Julianne Jones!

Christina (2010-09-15 21:35:43)

Wow! Thanks Julie for the background information.....You know my teddy bear when I was a little kid was named Julie!

Julie (2010-09-16 05:37:15)

ahh! I didn't know that!

Julie (2010-09-16 20:30:20)

I am told that this Juliana Smith is not the same one I was wonderng if it was.

Uncle Vernon's Story (part 3) (2010-09-16 04:12)

I suppose it was while we lived on the Ivan place that I remember being with Mom at Aunt Nora's (I think she lived with her folks and took care of them). Grandma or Grandpa Ehrhardt was dying and Aunt Bianka, Tillie, Nora and Mom and I were there. They passed away within 18 months of each other. I remember going to the funeral. We didn't have a car, so Daddy rented one. I remember Mom changing Beatrice's diapers in the car on the way home. I remember family gatherings at Heymeyer's when the snowball bush was in full bloom. We would have snowball fights. I suppose that group would have been made up of Sommerers, Ehrhardts and Heymeyers.

cleo (2010-09-24 19:32:25)

Dear Mary Jane. i wish we could get your Dad and Uncle Mahlon and Aunt Bea and even Margie. Write an article on THE BRAZITO STORE. If we had any money, as little as a penny, We could buy ourselves candy. I remember one time we went to the store and we didn't have any money and we didn't go into the store, we stayed in the car. Mr Zelig's sister came out and gave us some candy. I remember after Bea had been to the city to work and she came back for a few months, she was teaching me how to be Cityfied. She bought herself coke and proceeded to drink it very leisurely, and you dont drink all of it ,you leave a little, so as not to look uncouth.I wonder now how the Zeligs ran that store day in and day out with only the 3 of them.. . I wish I could remember their names.I am happy to know that the second generation was able to experience the store.

Jane (2010-09-19 17:18:41)

Must have been cool because snowballs bloom when it is cool.

Rachel (2010-09-16 08:12:49)

Did you ever get in trouble for picking all the snowballs? And did you have to shovel the walk after your fight?

Julie (2010-09-16 05:48:20)

wow, just think...that was not a disposable diaper either!

Lloyd, Jr. (2010-09-16 06:25:52)

I wonder what it cost to rent a car then? Did you have to hitch-up the team to go in and get the car? How did you get the horses back?

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-16 20:33:18)

I just can't understand them letting you grandchildren pick and throw those beautiful flowers. I guess I'm just a grouchy grammy. How many of you remember mother saying this: "When you have children to raise, they are your flowers. After your children are gone from home, then you can grow your flowers." That's what I am doing now, and I guess it would kinda bother me if my grandchildren (darling as they are) picked them and threw them.

Mary Jane (2010-09-19 21:34:50)

Just in! – from the patriarch! Snowballs bloom in spring. Grandma's parents died 18 months apart. For one of the funerals, the axle of their car had broken (carrying too many kids??) Grandma's sister Nora's husband (Henry Heymeyer) was a salesman in Jeff City and always had a reliable, if not fancy, car and drove them to the rental place. (Shucks, I like the picture of hitching up the wagon to a team of mules and pulling up to Enterprise.) Cars usually got about 20K miles, but his 1939 Chevy got 100K miles on the first motor, and then several more hundred miles on subsequent motors. (Now isn't that some great trivia!) Also, that year Chevrolet bowed to pressure from city folks and made a lever on the dashboard to switch the car's horn from making a beep-beep sound for city driving needs, to one for the country, that "you could hear for a mile." Now, where along that would Lloyd Sr's 1960's "ah-OOOO-ga" horn fall? Now let's talk about THAT car! Who remembers going to Brazito to buy candy with Uncle Lloyd?

Photo Friday (2010-09-17 04:00)

Hey, lets have a new feature on the website. It has been brought to my attention that we're a little on the wordy side. To get some more pictures on the site, we're starting Photo Fridays. The only problem is that I have exactly 5 photos that are interesting enough to post. You'll have to send some in if Photo Friday is going to get off the ground.

What sort of photos are we looking for? It doesn't really matter. We're not proud. We'll post anything. Here are a couple to get you started. You can send more to editors@sommererfamily.com.



Cards at Grandma's house. (click to enlarge)



Needs a little explanation. (click to enlarge)

Julie (2010-09-17 18:41:13)

In the 2nd photo no explanation is needed for me know they are doing the chicken dance!!!!

Jane (2010-09-20 15:29:36)

Yah, right. Lloyd and Tina used to ride around in the grocery cart and people would stop and ask if they were twins. She wouldn't be that small with Lloyd standing there. Can you see the little red wagon in the picture?

Julie (2010-09-19 22:06:35)

I was thinking she was holding Tina.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-17 17:40:00)

My new theory is that Uncle Ralph has already lost his (plaid) shirt

in the card game by this point. He's just lucky he had another one handy.

Jane (2010-09-19 17:14:34)

I'm guessing Ralph was used to working in an office and didn't need a flannel shirt. Tina is right on who is at the table. Chicken dance is Becky Lloyd Steve Sam Mahlon Lolly? I think Tina is behind Sam and Vernon. Not sure who Becky is holding. A little girl. Maybe Tiffany?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-17 06:25:55)

What I want to know is how Uncle Ralph got into the card game without a plaid shirt?

Rachel (2010-09-17 08:29:47)

Ok, in picture one, we've got Ralph, Mahlon, Lloyd, Danny and who else? And I agree with Lloyd Jr. where is Grandpa's plaid shirt?? I think I have identified a couple individuals in the second photo; can someone please name them all for me? Thank you. Have a great weekend everybody!!

Christina Rowland (2010-09-17 21:15:49)

Uncle Ralph is just so much more sophisticated than the rest of the guys!

Julie (2010-09-17 18:47:28)

someone needs to send in the picture of my 3 boy cousins bare butts skinny dipping at the 1st waterfall. It haung in grandmas house for years. I think someone even wrote a poem for it!

Christina Rowland (2010-09-18 12:01:53)

I think Pete has that photo

Mahlon (2010-09-18 14:50:57)

Uncle Mahlon says can you turn that first picture around so he can see who that guy is with his back to us...? Just name those boys

since I can't be sure. On the chicken dance photo nobody knew Vernon could dance. The old swimming hole photo - we have a copy here somewhere. The boys were Danny, Mark, and Jim in the first waterfall-photo taken by Mahlon and yes he wrote a poem too. But where is it? The search is on. Mahlon has it but he's looking.

Mahlon (2010-09-18 15:03:58)

There has been lots of enjoyment in that creek where the photo was taken. Up where the creek starts just below Lloyd's house was a pond and the grandkids used to go there and swim and fish when there wasn't a bull in the pen. Then down the stream just a little farther was a year round spring. Grandpa built a wooden silo (did you know Grandpa Adolph was a carpenter?)right there by the spring and that was used until the silo by the barn was built, maybe 1947. There is another spring fed creek on the north side of the house. When you follow the creek downstream you came to the big elm tree with a root across the creek. This caused a pool to form here when the water ran over the root. About four foot deep and that was the first waterfall. A little further down it ran into a bigger creek and when you followed that a little way further you came to the big waterfall. On the way home from school one day in February Glen Hale and I decided to go swimming - in the big pool. We waited till the girls had gone on home and we stripped naked and went in the water. That's where we learned to swim. Mom always said don't go near the water till you learn how to swim. You had to swim or freeze your ass off the ice was just above freezing. I know I never caused my mom a bit of worry. I always took care of myself.

Julie (2010-09-19 13:47:55)

I agree, I think it's Pete too.

Christina (2010-09-19 09:50:10)

I'm thinking that is Pete with his back to the photographer....then Glen, Danny, Lloyd Sr., Mahlon & Ralph.

Julie (2010-09-20 19:10:09)

Thats true! Well who else could it be? Tracey was older than Tina. We should be able to figure it out sence there was a shortage of girls for a while there. (maybe it a boy in a pink coat!)

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-20 18:01:36)

How can I be that small and still have high water jeans on? At some point, the hand-me-down process must have gotten derailed.

Ancestors page now available (2010-09-20 04:05)

A while back, my dad came up for a visit, and he brought with him the book, The Sommerer Family that many of you probably saw at the family reunion some years ago. He spent more or less equal amounts of time looking through it and complaining about it while he was here.

It doesn't actually have a whole lot of information about our side of the family (roughly a dozen pages out of 250). Most of it is about Uncle Ralph's side of the family. But there was enough information for me to get a little interested and to sign up at ancestry.com for a month.

Anyway, I put together a page like our Family Members page, but going the other direction. You can find it in the "tools" menu at the top of the page. The page is called Ancestors.

Julie (2010-09-21 18:49:02)

"you are brother's and sisters in christ"

cleo (2010-09-23 02:21:27)

I believe that Lolly is right. That is about the only way that you could be directly related to him. I went into Ancestry.com marriages and couldn't find this marriage between our grandfather and Rosina Duenkel. It should have been there because we know he married the daughter of the man who gave him the 10 cents to help him cross the Moreau river. I have to go back and check again. I am sure Lolly is right. Lolly I enjoy your articles please write more.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-26 22:18:01)

You weren't crazy. I made the page, but I put it in the wrong menu. It's sort of amazing that we could go 6 days before someone pointed it out. The page is actually in the tools menu now.

cleo (2010-09-21 13:51:22)

He could be related to you through the Becks or the Engelbrechts or the Meiers or the Popp of schmidts or Gerlings, or Hoffmans,or Somebody named Gundelfinger but how are you related to those people.Sorry I'm no help. I dont think you are related to him.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-20 21:28:14)

Okay, someone look at that and tell me how Corey (Curt or Gail) Duenckel is related to me. Is he, like a "third cousin removed once and pushed a little to the left" or something like that?

Aunt Lolly (2010-09-22 13:00:51)

Our Great grampa (Johnn Mathias Sommerer) married Rosina B. Duenckel.. I guess that is how we are related to the Duenckels.

Christina Rowland (2010-09-23 10:00:42)

Wow! Grandma died three years before she was born!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-23 10:23:56)

Hey! Typing is hard! Anyway, if you don't like it, you can just go change it.

Christina Rowland (2010-09-27 10:43:27)

most people didn't notice because they could just click the link through the e-mail to get to the page.....but thanks for fixing it Lloyd!

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 19:02:09)

You can find it in the "tools" menu at the top of the page. The page is called Ancestors.

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 19:02:58)

But Ancestors is not there??!!!

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 19:03:50)

I going to quit now before I get kicked out of here!!!!LOL Love you all!

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 18:37:42)

it is not under my tool drop down box.:(But I found this link by using keyword!!! (I'm on chrome) It should be there right???

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-27 17:41:26)

I noticed...but I thought I just didn't know how to use the site right to find Ancestors. I'm still learning and learning and learning and...does anyone have a recipe for "Computer Smarts Stew"?

Julie Baker (2010-09-27 18:15:22)

thanks!

How we're doing (part 2) (2010-09-21 04:08)

In part 1 we looked at the stats of the Sommerer Family website, but I mentioned that that's only one way of looking at how a website is doing. It turns out that getting people to use a family website is not the easiest thing in the world. I've spoken to many people who have started a family website, but stopped after a month or two.

I think that what most people don't realize is that the decision to have a family website is actually a family decision. It's usually not a formal decision, and maybe it's usually not even a conscience decision. Let me explain what I mean.

It only takes one person to decide to setup a website for a family. But unless you have a certain number of family members who come to the website and participate, it eventually seems like a lot of wasted effort to the person who started the website. The family website gets less and less attention until it eventually dies. It probably dies with a fair number of people who still come to the site regularly, but didn't really get involved beyond that.

I don't want you guys to think I'm complaining. Rachel, Sam, Christina and I knew what we were getting into when we started this. And really, we all (as a family) have made a pretty good start of it. We have roughly 180 people in the family and 32 of us have registered on the site (registering is only necessary to view addresses, birth dates and such). There are 18 people who have commented at least once and nearly a dozen people who have submitted something to post on the site.

The truth is, it's hard to get people to say something on a website. People have a tendency to think that other people don't want to hear what they have to say, or that what they have to say isn't important enough to type out. They come to a website regularly, but no one knows that they do. In technogeek these people are referred to as "Lurkers". They lurk on a website, but never make

their presence known.

Verily, Verily I say to you, there is more joy at SommererFamily.com over 1 lurker who submits a comment than over 99 registered users.

How are we doing? I'd say we're doing a lot better than most family websites. But we'll have to make a decision about whether or not we want to have one. In this case, we vote with our keyboards. If we want a family website, we have to make comments. Not long comments or deep comments. Just comments.

A website is all about communication, and communication is a two way street. People are coming here to hear what you have to say. If you're not saying anything, they will quit coming.

Julie (2010-09-21 19:06:10)

Well here's a thought....I had gotten the impression that the site was about past memories and such, which is good to hear old stories and things but maybe it would be good to add a current category. So when someone has their children and grandchildren home for a special occasion then can snap a picture and send it in with a comment about the occasion. I think a current picture section would be a good thing to encourage participation for those who don't own any old pictures. I would enjoy seeing what the extended family is up to throughout the year! But you may feel like if they don't come in the first place another category might not help either ...I don't know. Sarah is very excited about grandma's diary. I don't think she has commented but am glad it is there for her to find out about her family. Thanks so much. As you know I comment, I think your weekly update through email is a good outreach. Hopefully your plea will not fall on deaf ears.... We don't get together as an extended family over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and I would like to see pictures and hear about everyone's holidays. Come on people.....

Julie (2010-09-21 19:13:49)

Kathy Jane WHERE ARE YOU! Where is Becky? Where is any of Aunt Bea's family? I know you ALL have computers...

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-21 20:14:09)

I encourage you to give more time for the expected results. There will be light use sometimes and heavy at other times. This site is simply wonderful. I enjoy it so much and the information under tools and the other links is so helpful....don't get discouraged!

Aunt Lolly (2010-09-21 09:41:52)

I enjoy our web site so much, Please family let's not let it die! I would love to hear from all my nieces and nephews, about what they are doing and about their children. and grandchildren.

Lauren (2010-09-21 05:58:39)

Ha! I like your quote. :)

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-22 12:34:28)

We're not discouraged. Heck, I think we're off to a pretty good start. I just want everyone to understand that having a family website is a group effort. Lots of family websites start off well and then sort of disappear. I'm trying to be a little proactive and let people know up-front that for a family website to work, you have to have people who are willing to contribute. Contributing comments is every bit as important as writing articles and keeping things running.

Uncle Herbert (2010-09-22 04:16)

In reading the Aunt and Uncle's stories, a number of them mentioned Uncle Herbert and the fact that he was gone for a number of years. My Dad told me this story one night when we were both up with Brittney when she was little.

Uncle Herbert was Grandpa Adolph's younger brother. When Uncle Herbert was a boy a barn door fell on him and injured his back, so he was somewhat stooped over (of course he was an old man when my Dad knew him, so this could have been part of the stoop.) Grandpa Adolph, being the oldest boy would inherit the farm from his father, so because Uncle Herbert was injured he was sent to school to become a banker. The family could afford to send him to school. They were rather well off. Grandpa Adolph was the first person in Cole County to own a tractor and they owned all of their own farm equipment. They were even able to afford farm hands.

A few years before the Great Depression hit, Great Grandpa Sommerer decided that Uncle Herbert should have a farm of his own. They mortgaged the homestead farm that would belong to Adolph to purchase Uncle Herbert's farm. Life went on as it typically does on a farm until the depression came to the area. Uncle Herbert's crops didn't bring in enough money to pay the mortgage payment and he decided he had had enough of farming and took off. That left the mortgage payment to be made and the homestead farm connected to it. Grandma and Grandpa didn't have the cash to make the payment either and were forced to sell off their farm equipment to try to raise the money. They were not able to save the homestead, but moved to Uncle Herbert's farm to try to make a go of it. This was how Grandma and Grandpa lost the old homestead.

This would have been in the 1920's. Uncle Herbert was not heard from again until after my dad was born in 1943. When he was finally able to speak again after his stroke, they found his fam-

ily and his brother and sisters went to St. Louis and brought him home. I don't think he originally lived with Grandma and Grandpa, but that is where he spent his final years. Most of us remember the rope swing on the tree in front of Grandma's house, well I guess Uncle Herbert liked to sit on the swing in the shade in the afternoons. My dad and Aunt Naomi would

cleo (2010-09-24 20:58:54)

When uncle Herbert was found in the St Louis Hospital he had been very sick. I believe that the thought was that he would die soon. His sister Aunt Dora and her family took Uncle Herbert to their home and took care of him. He got well, but he was still a hunchback who had had a stroke. One arm and one leg were no good. He had to drag one leg, it worked well enough that he could walk. All the neighbors got to know Uncle Herbert through his walks. One arm just hung. With his good hand he would reach over and pull the paralyzed arm into his lap When he sat down. If that wasn't bad enough he lost part of his memory. He had trouble talking. He would try to tell something and the word he wanted to say wouldn't come to his memory. Did you ever brush your dentures with one hand. When Uncle Herbert got into it with Aunt Dora he came to our house. I believe that Bea was home then , also Vernon , Mahlon , myself , Lolly, Naomi, Lloyd, Mother and father. It was a full house.

Shawn (2010-09-22 08:47:26)

yeah, i remember hearing about this at the last family reunion... i didn't even know anything about this before that though!

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-22 14:03:44)

I am glad to know this about Uncle Herbert. I remember being mean to him when I was little, but I don't remember why. I think it was because Mother was upset with him about something. I think Lloyd and I invented "moonning." Poor Uncle Herbert! It's bad enough to be crippled but to then have your snotty neice and nephew "moon" you and running away....and he couldn't run fast enough to catch us... bad, bad kids we were. BUT it makes memories..and I had to share

this with everyone! I imagine he can run just fine now, and I'm in for it when I see him in Heaven (if I do)...ha ha

Aunt Lolly (2010-09-23 16:25:26)

I don't think Uncle Herbert lived with us more than a couple of years, I can remember him going on a walk every day, coming back with ticks all over him (in the summer) and him deticking himself out in the yard. I was probably 8-10 years old. He got in trouble with mother, when he started butting into Mother and Dady's business about how to raise their kids. Mother put her foot down, and Daddy had to take him to Aunt Dora's. I can remember that real well. I was proud of Mother. I always felt sorry for him, and loved him anyway. Uncle Herbert was around 55 years old I think when he lived with us.

Jane (2010-09-22 23:33:19)

I thought Uncle Herbert lived with Grandma and Grandpa for a while but not when he was very very old. I hope someone who knows this story can fill in the blanks.

Float Trip 2011 (2010-09-23 04:48)

Brittney and I would like to do a "Sommerer Family" float trip next summer.....

So our first question is would it be better to go before or after the family reunion?

Julie (2010-09-23 20:57:05)

I'd like to do it after. Around here the beginning of June is not always swimsuit weather yet, still kinda cool sometimes. I'll do whatever suits everybody else. Be sure to go to a place that rents rafts! (I don't do canoes anymore)

Christina Rowland (2010-09-23 14:17:55)

I am thinking that is a good question for the next post about the float trip.....right now, let's look at the best time. I am thinking after 4th of July because there is less possibility of a rain out.....and more sun! Rachel - you can float with Aaron, leave Sam at home if he doesn't like to float!Ha!

Shawn Baker (2010-09-23 15:32:09)

im really excited for this... i would personally like to go before just because it normally isn't as hot, but im good with either:)

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-23 13:36:29)

Are you thinking one of the "extended float trips" that we've done in the past where we camp before and/or after? Or are you thinking a single day type of float trip?

Rachel (2010-09-23 11:46:16)

Boy, it has been awhile since we've done one of those. I was along for one the year before Sam and I got married - that would make it the summer of 1995. I think it would be a blast. Before or after? I see pros and cons on both sides. If you do it before, water levels would be up and the temps might not be as hot, tends to rain more before.

If you do it afterward, temps are warmer, water levels are typically lower, but more sun. I think it would need to be still in July or VERY early august because teachers tend to be back in meetings by the second week in August. I like to camp and love water. You would have to convince Sam...

Judy Sommerer (2010-11-12 20:44:24)

Yeah, a float trip. Pete and I went on one last summer with a couple and their kids. We had a blast except for the tent and a little rain..I need a new air mattress or a bigger tent!!! Maybe Pete and I need to loose a little weight too. Riverfront or Hoozah are both good places and our vote is after reunion too.

Photo Friday (2010-09-24 04:51)

Aunt Cleo sent this photo in. She mailed it to me, I scanned it and mailed it back to her. If you have any photos that you'd like to share, I'd be glad to do the same with yours. If you have access to a scanner, you can scan it and email it to me too.

This photo was taken July 4th, 1970 at Honey Creek. I don't think I've ever seen it before. Is that a smile?



Grandma and Grandpa (click to enlarge)

Jane (2010-09-24 23:49:35)

Aunt Cleo called Dad today and he came to look at this picture. He hadn't seen it before.

Christina (2010-09-24 21:18:01)

Pete said Grandpa always stuck out his tongue whenever someone took his picture....maybe the picture taker was trying to be quick before he got the chance to stick it out!

cleo (2010-09-24 21:27:42)

Christina and Pete, I believe you are correct. He either was getting ready to or just finished sticking out his tongue

Julie (2010-09-26 08:06:49)

He had heart disease...they call it the silent killer. He probably should have been on blood pressure medicine. They didn't know so much about it back then. I remember Grandma saying the evening before he died they pulled out old picture and were looking at them and reflected on their life and that he had remarked what a good life they had had together. He slept on the couch because he wasn't feeling good ... when she woke up and came in there he was gone. Hands folded over his chest looking perfectly peaceful. That was a wonderful thought to leave her with! By the way... she slept on that very couch for years until it was falling apart and was hauled off. Even when she got a new couch she wouldn't sleep in her bed. She slept on the new couch. I know someone who's husband died in their bed and she wouldn't sleep in it and hauled it to the dump. Grandma slept on the couch even though, or maybe because he died on it. To each his own!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-26 08:12:27)

Well, you can see them on some monitors anyway. I have two monitors hooked up right now, and I can see them on one, but not really on the other. Or maybe I'm losing it.

Julie (2010-09-26 08:29:42)

I see them!

Julie Baker (2010-09-26 08:53:04)

I'd say it's Felix. This pict was taken the same day as the other one that show them w their children, Grandma is in the same dress. The only person with a plaid shirt is Felix! Whoever it is their head goes above what is reflected in the window. So we cant see their head. Then a shorter person by him.

Julie Baker (2010-09-25 08:37:15)

what are their ages in this picture? Look how big and strong his arms are! Looks like he's holding back a smile and giving a "knowing" look.(or a warning look)

Christina Rowland (2010-09-25 10:50:49)

If the date of the photo is correct, Grandma was 72 and Grandpa was 78....I just looked to make sure I had Grandpa's age correct....he died in November of 1970...hard to believe he looked that good only a few months before he died.

Christina Rowland (2010-09-25 10:52:16)

Sorry, but that cracked me up.....we work on a great site and do all kinds of interesting things, and he will only look at the site because Aunt Cleo called him? Aunt Cleo, call your brother every day, apparently he listens to you!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-25 17:02:59)

Um, I guess you can't see them in this picture at all. I'll try to post one that you can see someday. Trust me, I'm not crazy.

Jane (2010-09-25 20:57:47)

Hey, you are right about the great site. Look at thos big hands.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-24 14:56:43)

I can't tell if Grandpa is slyly looking back at Grandma or if it's just my mind playing tricks on me.

Rachel (2010-09-24 15:36:34)

I think you might be right. I wonder what she might have said.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-24 16:13:52)

If we were on CSI, we could enhance the photo to see who those people who are reflected in the window are.

Rachel (2010-09-24 08:20:00)

I am not sure about a smile, but I think I have seen this look on Gracen's face when asked for a photo.

Recipes (2010-09-27 04:06)

I was poking around the site and noticed a recipe tab. I have dozens of my grandma's (Elizabeth's) recipes. I love looking through them just to see her handwriting. Many are on greeting cards from different family members.

Mary Jane (2010-10-03 23:51:32)

Please do! When I think of Aunt Elizabeth's house, I remember the fun salt and pepper shakers in that curio cabinet custom built for their MO house!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-27 11:34:49)

I agree. Recipes are a good addition. I think it would be cool to scan in the "original", but also have the text of the recipe available.

Rachel (2010-09-27 09:40:54)

I think putting some of the recipes in here would be great!

Johann Mathias Sommerer, Jr & Elisabeth Albrect married (2010-09-28 04:00)

On April 22, 1890 Johann Mathias Sommerer, Jr and Elisabeth Albrect (Grandpa's Mom and Dad) were married. This was Johann Mathias' second marriage. His first wife, Leona Ehrhardt died 5 months earlier.



Wedding Picture? (click to enlarge)

The picture of Grandpa's father and mother came from Pearl Ehrhardt Carrender. She was kind enough to let me copy it this past spring.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-27 08:10:03)

Hi Sommerers, I'm the granddaughter of Rosina Canora Sommerer, Johann Mathias Sommerer's first born. Her only full sibling was Henrietta "Yetta" Sommerer. My dad was Rosina's 2nd born Herbert John Fischer, Sr. It might be of interest to you that several years ago my son Evan had a blood clot in his leg. It was diagnosed as "Protein C Deficiency", which is a blood clotting disorder and is genetic. I was tested for it and was diagnosed with it as well. In 2004 I had blood clots in both legs and a lung. We believe that my dad had the disorder (he died suddenly in 1965 of what we believe to be a blood clot when he was 57). Since Rosina died after giving birth to her 10th child, we believe she had the disorder, and since her mother Leona Ehrhardt died after her 2nd child, we believe that it came down from her. That would not effect any of you who are Adolph's decencents, however. I located a cousin who is decended from Leona and she had a blood clot episode about the same time I did. Just thought you might find this interesting.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-27 08:47:42)

Sherie this information is good for us to know. I remember after Julie was born Father being in bed with a blood clot on his leg. There are others in the family who can speak on this subject better then I can. Julie was born in October and I went back to work in late November. Mother and father took care of Julie for a number of weeks until Mrs Branson and Jo started babysitting for me. I remember Father being in bed with Julie in the bassinet next to him and he cared for her while mother was doing her chores milking, working on the tobacco and whatever. We also carry the same Erhardt blood as you. Only Leona mothers blood would be different.

Lauren S. (2010-09-28 19:21:24)

I love the quality of this photo - it's very formal and dreamy. (It reminds me of the photos from Little House on the Prairie, of which I was a big, big fan.) <http://campus.lakeforest.edu/ebner/peck-be/liwfam.jpg>

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-28 19:30:51)

Does anyone know which church they were married in? I think Mom's mom and dad were married at Zion. I'd appreciate knowing where Daddy's mom and dad were married also.

Lloyd, Jr. (2010-09-29 06:33:56)

The background on this picture confuses me. I can't tell what the thing on the right is (my right; their left).

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-10 20:52:54)

Dear Family, I hope i get this right. here goes. Leona R Ehrhardt born Jan. 16 1864 in Cole County Mo daughter of Johann Adam Erhardt and Lydia Eggers. She was married April 10,1884 to Mathias Sommerer in Cole County Mo. Leona died Dec. 8, 1889, Their children were Aunt Rosina born 1885 and Aunt Yetta born 1888

Julie Baker (2010-10-10 21:07:20)

Wow the youngest was under 1 year old. I'd say they needed a mother! Now... does grandma have a sister named Yetta also? There's a Dora on one side and a Nora on the other... right? And what are the names then of the children from the 2nd marriage? Grandpa, of course, uncle Herbert a Nora or Dora is that all then?

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-27 19:13:05)

Uncle Herbert was born 1895 according to the 1900 census. Aunt Margaret was born the same year as mother 1898 in the same census

Mahlon (2010-10-27 18:51:19)

Uncle Herbert's stroke was during the second world war since the family put their gas stamps together to get to St Louis to pick him up. When was he born? I can't remember?

Christina Rowland (2010-09-29 09:35:58)

If you look behind the people, you can see that the wall is directly behind them and there is a chair rail about mid thigh high....the thing on the right would have to be a mural on the wall because there

is no depth to the room.

Rachel (2010-09-29 08:11:41)

I am wondering if it is a mural painted on the wall. It doesn't look "real" to me - faded.

Rachel (2010-09-29 08:14:35)

I have a question - not knowing the history like others in the family. Were there children from the first marriage? 5 months seems like a very quick turn around and I am wondering if there were children that needed a mother. Or if there is more to the story. I am just curious now...

Jane (2010-10-27 15:59:09)

Ok, I have a question? Does Uncle Herbert's stroke at a young age have anything to do with this or would it be a different thing? Was he younger than 50 when it happened? Seems we figured it up once and he was pretty young? Food for thought, Elizabeth did not remember that Adolph had the blood clot when someone in her family had one.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-27 16:35:21)

Elizabeth was living in Washington DC at the time. I am sure she knew it and was just having a memory lapse. Uncle Herbert would have been close to 50. Isn't that a good time for a man to have a stroke. I would like to know from Sherie what can be have done to prevent this.

Great Grandpa Sommerer... by Uncle Mahlon (2010-09-29 04:27)

This is Mahlon Sommerer and I now take pen in hand to give you an account. It may be fiction or it may be fact but it comes from Mahlon's almanac. Here's some of my earliest recollection of life in the Sommerer Clan.

The earliest I can remember was when I was just over two years old. It was 1934 and we lived at Shubert's. I was in a west bedroom with Grandpa Sommerer. This was my grandpa, my father's father. he was whittling out axe handles. I was trying to get him to play ring around the rosy with me. I must have been pestering him for most of half an hour. I remember several times asking him to play ring around the rosy and he kept saying he had to get his axe handle made.

Then the next thing I remember was Mom and I was standing at a window or door looking toward Shuberts watching the cars going up the road and out of sight. That was Grandpa's funeral procession going up the hill to where they buried him. So that is one of the few memories I have of Mom and I look back she was probably pregnant with Cleo or Lolly and that's why she didn't go to the funeral. Grandpa died on March 10 and Cleo was born on the 15th in 1935.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-09-29 13:04:05)

Note that there is a picture of Great-Grandpa Sommerer (Uncle Mahlon's grandpa) in the previous post.

Naomi Vetter (2010-09-29 21:32:56)

I love reading and learning about the family from your writings. Please take pen in hand often!!!

cleo (2010-10-02 09:59:49)

Mahlon you told that so well I feel like I was there. Keep writing . I enjoy your memories. Mahlon do you remember when i fell into the slop bucket.

Mahlon (2010-10-02 17:26:36)

Cleo, you came out smelling like a rose. Under the sink was a five gallon bucket for dishwater and scraps etc. it had a lid - we added wheat or corn to it and the chickens and hogs would eat it better. Cleo fell in the bucket at Shuberts. She stepped on the lid and fell in head first. We washed her up and she smelled alright. Bet she was scared though. Daddy built the sink and we used it several different houses. It was never connected to a drain until we moved to Lloyd's place and then it just drained through the wall to a bucket setting in the flower bed.

The Slop Bucket... by Aunt Bea (2010-09-30 04:50)

Mom was a life-saver. At an early age, Cleopha learned to walk. Now she was a little taller than the slop bucket. Definition of a Slop Bucket: It sets close to the kitchen and all used liquids are poured into the slop bucket for watering the hogs. All dish water, peelings, sour milk or sour cream, water from peeling vegetables from the garden, left over food, coffee grounds, etc. (no body waste). Anything the pigs could eat or drink.

I remember I was out by the chicken yard or toilet. I heard mom screaming and hollering. Cleopha had walked up to the slop bucket and was just the right height to stoop forward and fall in head first. Mom was ironing in the kitchen and all of a sudden she missed Cleopha and jumped up, opened the screen door and found two little legs sticking out of the bucket. Later, I looked into the bucket and it was the dirtiest slop in there, really sour and ugly. I don't know what mom did but she saved Cleopha's life for sure. That was down at Schubert's.

Christina (2010-09-30 20:41:31)

I wonder if Aunt Cleo remembers this? I bet she never envied the pigs!

cleo (2010-10-01 08:40:30)

The time I remember falling into the slop bucket was when we had the Walters family over on a sunday afternoon and we made ice cream so it was in the summer time. We were playing chasing games and I was running and fell into the slop bucket. I guess I set some kind of record for the slop bucket. It Was on the back porch where it happened .

Mahlon (2010-10-02 17:30:34)

Holy Cow! I didn't read these first about the slop bucket. How many times did she fall into the slop bucket?

1.4 October

Photo Friday (2010-10-01 04:42)

Today's Photo Friday pictures are from Aunt Cleo. She mailed the photos to me, I scanned them and mailed them back to her. Here they are for you. Aunt Cleo said that the writing on the back of the photos was Aunt Margie's, so that's where the names come from.



Cleo and Micky (click to enlarge)



Johnny and Teddy (click to enlarge)



Lolly and Mary (click to enlarge)



Naomi and Kenny (click to enbiggen)

Mahlon (2010-10-03 08:31:58)

I think it was Lillian's daughter, Mary Pamela.

Tracy Vetter (2010-10-05 19:55:11)

I think Cleo's shoes are so cute! I guess fashions don't really change that much.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-04 08:56:44)

Hollyhocks were along the entire east side of the house. I remember the south fence yard having those orange lilys (we made straws out of the dried stems because they were hollow). Before the new room was enclosed on the west side, there were blue morning glories that climbed up to the roof...beautiful! She had some Gladiolas for a while on the south fence. Besides the rose bush and a few harvest bell bushes, I don't know the names of the other things she had.

Julie Baker (2010-10-04 00:21:45)

Grandma had flowers and flowering bushes surrounding her house. Also along the fence that went from the outhouse to the front yard. Iris' were along the fence along with some young walnut trees. I remember her zenias , the most, they were always along the back of the house. There were more flowers on each side of the cellar. then there was a rose bush in the back yard(good hiding place for hide and seek) and a hugh bed of tiger lillys behing the rosebush and bordering the garden. She had a yucca by the entrance to the garden. she had mint in the orchard growing along the fence. It was a magical place!

Mary Jane (2010-10-03 23:37:13)

I have a question for everybody: Vernon quoted Grandma, who said: "I will raise kids, and when I get done raising kids, I will raise flowers." What all all kinds of flowers did Grandma have, and where were they located? Another topic for fun: Who has a good story of something that happened in the barn? Ron wants to know why barns have pigeon coops.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-05 07:06:07)

That kitchen door that you mentioned ,Mary Jane, Went out to the garden and the celler and the toilet and it was on the east side of the house like lolly mentioned. The group of flowers, the rose bush the day lillies and what ever that was in the yard that you mentioned, that we played around also had a yucca plant which mother didnt like. I didnt like it either so one year I tried to dig it out. I dug 3 feet down and filled the hole up and the next year it came back. You cant kill them. There was a tree in that side of the yard that gave us wonderful shade. We would do a lot of the preperation of the vegetables in the shade, like shelling peas, preparing the green beans for canning. The kitchen was very hot with the fire for canning. Sometimes we would eat out side in the summertime under that tree.

Mahlon (2010-10-02 17:18:15)

For a shower, Mahlon says I took a bucket with a calf nipple on it and cut a hole in the nipple about half as round as a pencil and at noon

I'd fill the bucket with water and set it in the sun. At bedtime I'd hang the bucket on the front porch on a hook that is still there and take the plug out of the nipple and with that three gallons of water I'd shower, wash my hair with Grandma's lye soap and rinse off and be ready for bed. Now that's conserving water. What did you do in the winter time? You didn't get quite as dirty so you only bathed on Saturday night so you'd be ready to go to church on Sunday morning. The laundry tub was filled half full and set on the wood cookstove stove to warm the water. We'd take it off and set it on the floor when the water was warm. The little kids bathed first and by the time I got my bath the lye soap had dissolved and looked like clabbered milk floating on the water. At least four kids took their bath in the same water but not all in the tub at once. We got water poured over our heads to rinse us off.. All the hot water was heated in a reservoir on the back of the cookstove.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-01 20:53:51)

The mule's name was ole Bert, He was a good old mule. Hello everyone! We just got back from Branson. Had a good time with Uncle Mahlon and Aunt Marylynn. Got to see Joshua last Sunday! He flew into St.Louis Sunday morning. Vincent picked him up at the airport. We stopped by Davids Sunday evening, on our way to Branson, and got to visit with him a short while. Katie, called this evening, from college. It was good hearing from her too, She is doing well. Vincent is playing football, we got to see him play a few weeks ago. We were so proud of him. Lance and chance are playing baseball for Calvary. We get to see them play once in a while. They make us proud also. I feel like we have been gone forever, and I just have to talk to all of you. I love you all!!!! I love the pictures Cleo, Thanks for sharing

Lauren (2010-10-01 17:14:29)

What, no name for the horse? (or is that a mule?)

Julie Baker (2010-10-01 20:53:59)

I cant get over how barren the yard looks. I guess all those beautiful bushes and flowers hadn't been planted yet. Probably spent all their

energy on the garden. Hey I can see where the bathroom will be build several years ahead! So I know where you went to the bathroom...but inquiring minds want to know where was your bath tub? Oh and how much trouble was it to get warm water? did you have to heat it on the stove first! When our water heater went out I had to do that....took forever to get enough water warm! Wow you all had it tough! The older Aunts and Uncles had plenty of babies around all the time but the younger ones didn't have babes underfoot all the time until the grandchildren came to visit...And I realize now that the older (1st) grandchildren must have had a totally different experience at grand-mas than us younger ones!

Julie Baker (2010-10-01 20:58:07)

I cant get over how much Sarah and my mom look alike!

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-03 11:46:03)

Vernon and Mahlon probably cut all that wood to make the wood pile. It was great fun for Naomi,Lloyd and I too get on top of the woodpiles and dig us out a big deep hole, that was our play house or fort! They never fussed at us for digging those holes! That was great fun.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-02 21:51:39)

I don't think I've ever seen pictures of the house without the living room and the bathroom.

Jane (2010-10-02 23:36:12)

Look at that wood pile. I wonder who chopped that! I'm sure glad I didn't have to load that!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-03 00:03:02)

I forgot to ask who the Mary is on the horse (it was a mule) with Aunt Lolly.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-03 19:08:57)

Just got back from Overland Park, KS to visit with Tracy and Tiffany. I took a Honda load of their things (attic stored items) up to them. Tiffany and I tiled and grouted two end table tops and the turned out real pretty. I'm so thankful we had neices and nephews our age when we were young. When they came home, that was the highlight of our lives! I barely remember old Bert, but well remember the woodpile fun playing on it and carrying wood in for the heating and cooking stoves. That job mostly fell to the smaller kids. I remember the shower bucket Mahlon made too. He was the "inventor" in the family. (end)

Julie Baker (2010-10-04 17:33:27)

I know that always confused me too! T)o me it is the side (orchard side

Julie Baker (2010-10-04 22:05:09)

Hollyhocks and rose of Sharon bush flowers made hats for the cats! I'd pick off the bloom then pinch out the center then set it on their heads!

Christina (2010-10-06 11:31:05)

We won't do anything until next fall, when I will be there to bully, I mean help organize things!

Mary Jane (2010-10-04 09:55:54)

Orient me, please. The back kitchn door going to the vegetable garden was WHICH direction?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-04 10:07:38)

We need a drafter or architect or something in the family to draw out Grandma's house. Then we can fill in the flowers. I always thought of the sides of Grandma's house as Front, Orchard, Garden, Pasture. But some people call Orchard the front, because it was the actual front of the house.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-04 15:18:45)

This is a story about (our great inventor) Mahlon. I remember those who milked at the time, carrying the milk in cans from the barn to be placed into a barrel of water that sat by the old well pump. It was my job to fill the barrel with fresh cold well water. Those cans weighed a lot! Mahlon found two wheels from somewhere??? They were large metal wheels, he built a wonderful two wheel wagon, that he called his hoodlin wagon. It was built so well and large enough to put all the milk cans on, We didn't have to carry the milk cans anymore. I wonder if that hoodlin wagon is still on the farm! Lloyd is it still down there? One time He carried large metal poles home from school, and made us a swing. What a brother!!

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-04 15:25:30)

The garden was east, the barn west, the front of the house, Orchard was north, and the south went over to cousin Alvins.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-05 10:04:57)

The poor cats don't have anyone who will make them hats anymore! We should talk Uncle Lloyd into having an Autumn bonfire and cook-out on the farm next year! Not in the farm house because the power isn't on anymore, but we could do a bonfire in the circle driveway and roast hot dogs and SING!

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-05 10:39:53)

If you all have the cookout at the farm, I'll bring the smores fixin's...chocolate bars, marshmallows and graham crackers. That would be SO much fun...bring back such good memories.

Brenna Butler is in the hospital (2010-10-03 22:20)

Brenna Butler went into the hospital last week and was eventually diagnosed with a kidney infection. Since then it looks like she has come down with pneumonia. Please keep her in your prayers.

If anyone can supply some more information, that would be great.

Linda Williams (2010-10-06 05:44:07)

Brenna got to go home yesterday afternoon. I know she was glad, Anne had the girls for one more night and Ken helped her settle in. I think (hope) she will stay home until Monday. This whole thing has taken a lot out of her. Thanks for all your prayers, please continue to keep Brenna and the girls in your prayers as she recovers.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-05 18:41:06)

Well, it sounds like Brenna is headed home now. Glad to hear it.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-06 19:27:04)

We are happy to hear that you are home Brenna, We love you, and are praying for you and your precious little girls.

Julie Baker (2010-10-15 05:41:54)

Please pray for our little Sarah. She went to the emergency room last night with stomach pain. They did a CAT scan and found out her appendix is inflamed and has a rupture and is leaking. They will be doing surgery this morning sometime.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-04 13:28:29)

We all hope you start feeling better soon Brenna!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-04 14:34:54)

I thought we might get an update from Anne, but I think she's taking care of the kids. Maybe pray for her too.

Rachel (2010-10-04 14:58:26)

We're praying for you and your family, Brenna. Hang in there!

Heidi got Hitched (2010-10-05 04:20)

Over the weekend Heidi Locke and David Sullivan were married. I was going to make up a bunch of details, but maybe it would be better if someone a little more well informed just got us up to speed...

Wish them the best when you get a chance.

Jane (2010-10-10 19:23:48)

Congratulations Heidi and David. Wishing you much happiness and joy.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-05 10:00:54)

Congratulations Heidi and David! I can't wait to see you guys next 4th of July! Send Lloyd some pictures to post of your big day!

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-05 10:22:07)

Heidi and David, we are so happy for you. Can't wait to meet you David! Take care of our girl, she means the world to us. We love you. Aunt Lolly and Uncle Ralph

Who's Who? (1970 edition) (2010-10-06 04:15)

Family Reunion July 4th, 1970. You've seen The Twelve and you've seen Grandma and Grandpa. Now lets do the cousins...



Cousins (click to enlarge)

Lets see if we can figure out who's who again...

1. Phillip Vetter
2. David Sommerer
3. Greg Vetter
4. Doug Sommerer
5. Sam Sommerer
6. Grandma
7. Scott Sommerer
8. Grandpa
9. Jim Sommerer

10. Dan Sommerer
11. Derrick Vetter
12. Tracy Allen
13. Becky Cary
14. Ted Kuegele
15. Carolynn Jean Schlickman
16. Lillian (Micky) Dittmer
17. Mary (Pam) Folkemer
18. Kathy Jane Meisinger
19. Mary Jane Piazza
20. Linda Lock ??
21. Leon Sommerer ??
22. Peter Sommerer
23. Debbie Hauser
24. Julie Baker
25. Mark Sommerer ??
26. Johnny Williams

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-31 22:09:11)

Mystery solved. And welcome to the website!

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-06 10:45:51)

I know ALL of them, but I'm not telling. I love Linda's hair!!!!

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-08 09:05:14)

Yes Julie you are right. Five is Sam, he was 6 months old. David is 2 and Doug 4

Jane & Bill (2010-10-31 20:58:55)

Hey Tina you're right. That does look like Merideth Putnam Nitzel

Jane & Bill (2010-10-31 21:00:21)

Yes, Bill was in Marine Corps training.

Julie Baker (2010-10-06 17:44:48)

7= Scott Sommerer 3= Greg 4= Phil or David Naomi help!

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-06 20:03:43)

That #22 is a very handsome guy!! I can't tell if Grandpa has his tongue out or not!! Grandma is not turned scolding him, so that must be a sign.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-06 20:08:29)

So is Sam #5?

Julie Baker (2010-10-06 06:19:38)

10= Danny 13= Becky 18= Kathy Jane 19= MARY jANE 20= LINDA
21= LEON 22= pETER 23=DEBBIE 24= ME JULIE 25= MARK
26= JOHNNY 15 MIGHT BE CAROLYN JEAN

Christina (2010-10-06 11:27:19)

#16's haircut looks a lot like Merrideth Nitzle's!

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-06 22:05:51)

Okay. My young'uns are: Phil # 1; Greg # 3; Derrick # 11; Tracy # 12. I don't know where Vince is....he's not in the pic.

DeniseL (2010-10-07 17:18:43)

#17 is my mom, Mickey Dittmer. And #16 is Pam Folkemer. #14 COULD be Ted Kuegele, but I'm not as certain about that one.

Christina (2010-10-07 17:58:20)

I think Jim is on grandpa's lap #9

Julie Baker (2010-10-07 21:31:37)

7 is Scott Sommerer

Julie Baker (2010-10-07 21:37:05)

I think 2 is David and 4 is Douglas. How about it Aunt Lolly, is that right?

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-06 20:16:36)

Christina - Look at # 2. That looks like Sam.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-09 05:34:04)

Did anyone notice that Billy Putnam is missing. Could he have been in the service? Where was Billy

Mary Jane (2010-10-10 22:20:12)

Lloyd, for a guy that wasn't born yet, you have certainly done your homework! I love Linda's hair in #20 – And are those lederhosen? Is that why she named a daughter Heidi? #21 is Leon – can we smoke him out to join the fun? Ditto #21 Leon, and #25 Mark. What happened to all our name bearers? Oh yea, that's why we got Pete.

Julie Baker (2010-10-10 22:41:47)

For such a large family do you realize there are quite a few of us that are lonely only's? Me, Maryjane, Kathy Jane, Jeannie Marie, Glen Cary Jr. And all of us have more than 1!

Christina Rowland (2010-10-07 10:16:23)

This was taken in 1970 Pete, that's the year Sam was born....and although he was always a lot bigger than me, I'm pretty sure he wasn't three feet tall at 6 month old! HA!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-07 11:12:15)

So? Who's left... Scott Sommerer, Ted Kuegele, Pam Kuegele, Micky Kuegele, Carolynn Jean Sommerer, David Sommerer, Doug Sommerer, Jim Sommerer. Anyone else left? I mean, apart from me. Where am I?

Heidi (2010-11-15 13:22:36)

That's what I thought!

Photo Friday (2010-10-08 04:06)

I really like these old photos taken around Grandma and Grandpa house. It's really fun to look at how things have changed over the years. Kenny Williams has obviously changed.



Kenny Williams on the cistern

Aunt Cleo send this photo in. She says that it's the only photo she has seen that has their old well in it. Does anyone have another?

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-10 16:21:42)

WOW I am so glad to hear that. Now that you know where it is, maybe my sisters and I can drive down there someday. I have wanted to do that for a long time. Happy Birthday, We prayed for you in church today. This is in response to Julie going to visit Denise Lawrenz in Arkansas

Christina (2010-10-10 16:23:42)

I don't remember any doors on it....Dad kept the "little" tractor in there, so maybe he took the doors off so he could get in and out faster....I didn't even know there was a door into the middle part until I was about 10....

Christina (2010-10-10 16:24:20)

Happy Birthday Julie!

Jane (2010-10-10 19:18:14)

You are getting younger aren't you Julie? Lloyd said there was a fence from the shed out by that tree and there was always old equipment parked out there. He remembers the tree as well. He thought the paddle was where they put the water pipe in when it rained. Otherwise they kept it out of the way.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-08 10:30:04)

Are we talking about the pump in the foreground or the pump in the background?

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-08 10:58:38)

The cistern pump is the one in the foreground. The one in the background is the well pump...but I remember the well pump having a pumping handle, because one of my older siblings told me that if I put my ring (beautiful 10-cent ring) down the well, that I could pump it back up...just don't ever believe your older siblings!

Julie Baker (2010-10-10 08:28:12)

Hi family... I love hearing about earlier days of the family! Surreys, and cisterns! I got to visit with Denise Lorenze yesterday! We are in Little rock visiting Greers mother and we took her out for a drive to Petit Jean about an hour from LR and I remembered that Denise runs a Lutheran camp there so we drove around and found the camp and she was there!!! How cool is that!!!! today is her grandma Lillians birthday and mine too!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-09 06:49:32)

That's how I remember it too. A big stump with a big pile of fence posts (piled) around it. Reasonably interesting to a kid, but not quite as nice as an actual tree.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-08 09:20:40)

I didn't remember that cistern pump until I saw this picture. I remember the galvanized metal pump thingy, though. Is it still there? Where is the pump in the picture? Was it taken to the junk yard?

Christina (2010-10-08 21:50:10)

When did the pretty tree behind the machine shed come down? I don't remember anything there except a big stump?

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-09 05:28:28)

Christina I was wondering if the tree was still there. It was really a nice tree. I think it was some type of locust tree, Mahlon and Vernon will know.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-09 14:45:08)

Wow, good eye. I think it is.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-09 13:03:51)

This pic may be the winner for getting the most comments ever, but I have another question and I HOPE someone will answer it... Is that tobacco hanging in the right side of the machine shed? I didn't know

we raised tobacco when I was that young. It sure looks like tobacco hanging there.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-09 19:32:25)

Naomi that was going to be my next comment. I wanted to know if people could see the tobacco hanging in the machine shed. It's hanging very high I guess because there is machinery under it, Next to it is the tool shed. Father had a very orderly tool shed. The tool shed was neater then the kitchen...On the other side of the tool shed was a place for animals. I remember having sheep in there at one time. I guess it was used for about anything it was needed for. on the otherside of the fence is a trough that we threw feed for the chickens. If it was grain we just threw it on the ground.

Mahlon (2010-10-09 19:58:52)

We started raising tobacco during WWII. There wasn't enough tobacco to supply the troops so allotments were made. Allotments allowed a farmer to raise so much tobacco acreage. We raised 9/10 of an acre and the government came out and checked to be sure it wasn't more than that. The first year there was a good price and the second year we made about \$150 total on the tobacco. Some of the farmers decided that wasn't worth the effort. After that we got more for it like maybe \$700. Because the government guaranteed a certain amount. I think towards the end Lloyd was paid NOT to raise it. Both of the trees were removed when the power line came in. They were cut down sometime about 1947. Daddy didn't have any tools so that's why his tool shed was neat. Most of the time we kept the sheep in the left side of the shed. But one winter we raised pigs in the front corner. It was so cold! Vernon stayed with the sow when she was ready to deliver. Daddy warmed towels on the stove. I sat with Vernon. When it was just about time I'd run to the house and get warm towels in a bucket and run back to Vernon. He would wrap the baby pig in the towel and I'd run back to the house. Daddy would get the pig warm and put it in a box behind the stove. When all the pigs were born and warm we took them back to the sow. Sow had about twelve or fourteen pigs and she didn't have room for that many so we bottle fed a couple.

Jane (2010-10-10 00:03:26)

I didn't realize the tool shed was enclosed all around on the south end. For some reason I thought the west and east sides were open. Well they are now anyway.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-09 20:23:24)

The tree is the picture on the right...I thought was there when I was in my pre-teens. I remember the surry with the finge on top sitting under the tree for many years. I don't know where the surry came from, but I remember the ride Mahlon gave me in it...bouncing over big rocks..it was wild! I don't know which horse whas hitched to it and I thought we would be killed for sure. The ride was through the west woods (just west-south of Lloyds's house). What great memories!

Julie Baker (2010-10-10 20:56:52)

I think after 50 I can start over at 1. So that makes me 4 years old!

Grandma and Grandpa's siblings (2010-10-11 04:29)

Julie sent this in earlier in the week. Can you help her out?

I am looking for information. I heard the names Aunt Yetta and Aunt Dora and such and assumed that they are Grandma's sisters. I am embarrassed to say that I now think they were grandpa sisters!

Could someone list grandmas siblings in birth order (date of birth isn't necessary) And Grandpa's siblings and what mother they belong to? I am sorry to say I don't know this. Yetta sounds familiar but maybe it's because I watch The Nanny ! All these names Julia, Bianca, Nora, Dora... I'm getting confused!!!!

I'll help out like I normally do by adding some numbers (isn't Lloyd a big helper?)

Grandma's brother's and sisters (and their spouses?)

1. Margaret Julianna Ehrhardt 1873 - 1962
2. Henry Herman Ehrhardt 1876 - 1877
3. Otto John Ehrhardt 1878 - 1952
4. Andrew Erhardt 1880 - 1919
5. Gustav Adolph Erhardt 1883 - 1980
6. Theodore Julius Ehrhardt 1884 - 1953 m. Dorothea Sommerer*
7. Bianca Margaretha Ehrhardt 1887 - 1961
8. Ottilie Cleora Ehrhardt 1890 - 1981

9. Eleonora Christina Erhardt 1892 - 1963
10. Christian Nicholas Ehrhardt 1894 - 1897
11. Theresa Appolonia Ehrhardt 1898 - 1995

Grandpa's half brother's and sisters (and their spouses?) Leona
Rosina Ehrhardt's children

1. Rosina Canora b: 22 Oct. 1885 d: Mar. 1929 m. Ernest
Fischer
2. Henrietta Elisabeth b: 1 Jan. 1888 d: 23 Nov. 1973 m.
William Meier

Grandpa's brother's and sisters (and their spouses?) Elisabeth
Albrecht's children

1. Adolf Mathias 1892 - 1970
2. Dorothea Katherine 1893 - 1959 m. Theodore Ehrhardt*
3. Herbert Johan Friedrich Nov. 1895 - 1977
4. Margaretha Christina 1898 - 1972

Most of the information from Grandpa's side of the family is from the book *The Sommerer Family* by Herbert Lorenz Sommerer, published in 2001 which some of you have. I do not know how much stock to put in it's accuracy in this list (although in general it seems to be painstakingly researched and documented) as it has grandpa listed as Mathaus Adolf and Rosina Canora listed as Canora Rosina.

The information from Grandma's side of the family is from this

website. Which has Grandpa listed correctly. There are also more specific dates available, but I was too lazy to type them all in.

Lauren and I now have a drinking game that involves my dad using the phrase "double first cousin".

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-11 16:38:09)

We'll know for sure when some smart person fills in the list, but I THINK mom was also the seventh of seven daughters. If that is the case, I (the seventh of seven daughters) should have some kind of powers too. :)

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-11 15:04:07)

So, if dad (Uncle Lloyd to the rest of you) is the 12th child of the 12th child, where are his magical powers?

Julie Baker (2010-10-11 10:40:04)

I've added some updates to the address book...

Christina Rowland (2010-10-11 09:19:23)

Add some more numbers for Grandma's brothers and sisters....she was the youngest of 12.

Julie Baker (2010-10-14 18:24:03)

It's the house next to Aunt Elizabeth's old house!

Julie Baker (2010-10-16 06:17:36)

I remember going with Grandma and Grandpa to visit someone who was very sick and It was one of his sisters. It was in another town. There was a young girl there and her name was Rosina.Sherie,is there a Rosina that would be currently in her mid to early 50's? I never got to see the sick person, they were in their bedroom. But I remember playing with this girl I never saw before and never saw again! Thank you for laying it all out so clearly about grandpa's brothers and sisters! Any pictures of his sisters as mature adults would be fantastic.(picture is worth 1000 words!)

Julie Baker (2010-10-16 06:21:17)

looking at the wonderful list Lloyd provided above, it must have been one of the ones that died in 1972 or 1973.

Julie Baker (2010-10-16 06:29:33)

Gosh! I just noticed after looking at that chart that grandma brother married grandpas sister!

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-15 22:35:47)

Hi Julie, I'm Sherie Krause. My dad was Herbert John Fischer, Sr. His mother was Rosina Sommerer. Her sister was Henrietta "Yetta" Elizabeth. Their mother was Leona Rosalie Ehrhardt, my great grandmother. After her death Mathias married Elizabeth Albrecht. They had 4 children: Adolph Mathias, Dorothea "Dora" Katharina, Herbert Johann, & Margaretha Christina. I have lots of info on that part of the family. If you need info on us, let me know.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-15 22:38:12)

Lloyd, Rosina Sommerer and Ernest A. Fischer are my dad's parents.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-15 22:42:06)

They had 10 children. Rosina died with her 10th, a girl named Rosina. My dad Herbert was #2. There are only two of those 10 who are still alive: Uncle Ernie #9 and Aunt Irma #5. I saw Uncle Ernie last month and he looks great.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-16 22:39:45)

No, I can't think of another Rosina that would be in her 50s. Grandma Rosina's baby daughter Rosina that Aunt Margaret raised died in her sleep in January 2001. She was 71. None of her girls were named Rosina.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-15 08:33:18)

That house belonged to the Whittle's when I was a child. He built the other three little houses at the top of the hill. That house is built

funny because the basement is only about six feet high compared to the eight feet in the other houses. I used to play there with their granddaughter when I was a child.

Julie Baker (2010-10-13 22:17:34)

Shes looking to move closer to town so I know if its not for sale now it will be very soon!

Julie Baker (2010-10-13 22:11:14)

Guess what! There is a girl that works with me and she sits across the the wall from my cubical. She just moved to that cube a few months ago. So I just recently got to know her better and I friended her on face book. I was looking at her pictures and she has a picture of the road in front of her house when it was covered in snow. It looked so familiar. She lists her home address on facebook. Guess what it's on Sommerer Road!!!From the looks of it she's towards the top of the road. I'll have to ask it if its the blue house!!!Im not even sure if its blue anymore. If its not that one its the one next to it!!!! Isn't that neat!

Julie Baker (2010-10-13 19:02:51)

I found the Nora and Dora that had me so confused! #9 under granndma's siblings is Nora. And #2 under Elizabeth Albrechts children is Dora!!!

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-13 08:31:20)

It's seventh daughter of the seventh daughter. I think they are blessed with more children then their siblings.

Julie Baker (2010-10-11 21:43:56)

from a previous comment I gather Grandpa's 1/2 sisters were Yetta and Rosina. I know he had a brother named Uncle Herbert, A sister named Dora or Nora. Any others? I knew Grandma's brother Uncle Gus! Then there was a Julia,Bianca,Tillie? I know she talked about a brother (little brother) named Christian who died as a small child. That's all I know!

Christina Rowland (2010-10-12 09:45:59)

There were two small children who died on Grandma's side, I don't know their names. Mom, have Dad (Uncle Lloyd) tell you the names of Grandma and Grandpa's brothers and sisters.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-17 07:56:57)

I'm not sure whether the rules of the game require us to drink whenever anyone says "double first cousins" or just my father. If someone would care to clarify that, It would be most appreciated.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-16 14:47:55)

Julie, I have a picture of all the brothers and sisters from both mothers with Mathais. I also have pictures of some of their families. I'll scan then and load them on soon. Aunt Margaret Sommerer Kreisslet, Rosina's 1/2 sister, had no children of her own, so she took baby Rosina Fischer to raise after her sister Rosa Fischer, my grandmother, died in childbirth with her 10th child. Aunt Margaret must have been a very caring, selfless, and loving person to have taken in her dead sister's baby to raise and to take in and care for her father-in-law until his death at her home. The young girl you played with was one of the older Fischer girls. Probably Paula or Esther, because Rosina was an infant. The Ernest Fischer's had 10 kids: #1 Clarence, #2 Herbert, #3 Henrietta, #4 Walter, #5 Irma, #6 Pauls, #7 Henry, #8 Esther, #9 Ernie, & #10 Rosina. The only two still living are Irma & Ernie. Irma is in her 90's and has two daughters. Ernie was a truck driver and never married or had any kids.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-16 14:50:15)

BTW, whenever any of you talk about grandpa or grandma, please say who the person is. We all probably have different grandparents. I'm not sure where all of you belong yet.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-16 15:00:06)

I noticed some misspelling on my list of Fischer kids. It was Paula, not Pauls

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-10-16 22:34:52)

Right, I noticed that too. That would make their kids double first cousins.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-18 11:59:26)

When we say "Grandma & Grandpa" we are almost always refering to Adolf Mathias and Theresa Erhardt Sommerer. The majority of those who comment are either their children or grandchildren. But we will try to make this more clear for you and for the younger generations. Thanks!

Christina Rowland (2010-10-14 16:36:59)

Wow! Grandma AND Uncle Gus both lived to be 97 years old!

Julie Baker (2010-10-15 09:13:17)

It belongs to Mica Whittle. (that is her boyfriend) They asking \$105000

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-15 09:31:19)

Aunt Cleo sent me an email saying that Rosina Sommerer was married to Ernest Fischer. I'm not sure why she didn't just say that here her own self.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-12 17:04:12)

Yes, you've had magical powers this whole time. All you have to do is click your heels together three times and say...

Julie Baker (2010-10-13 06:16:08)

WOW! Thanks!

Christina Rowland (2010-10-11 17:00:29)

Happy Birthday Olivia!

Christina (2011-05-06 09:51:50)

Does Dad think we don't know who he is anymore?

Jane (2011-05-04 22:28:11)

Lloyd Justin Theodore Sommerer Sr say I only have 2 double 1st cousin's left and they are both in nursing homes.

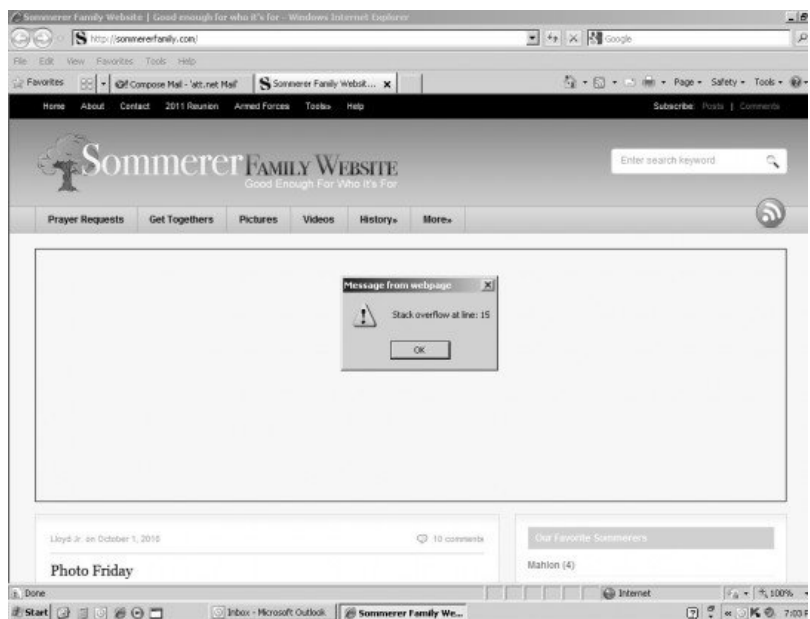
Jane (2011-05-04 22:45:43)

Lloyd says Christian was not her little brother. Mom was the youngest of 11 recorded kids. Her mom told her she was the youngest of 12. He supposes there was a miscarriage in there that she considered her 12th child. Aunt Tilly lived to 97 years also. Her name was Ottilie

Recent Website Changes (2010-10-13 04:40)

Here's one of those articles about the website rather than about the family that I feel compelled to write every so often. Just bear with me.

1) A couple of people contacted me asking what that big blank box was for at the top of the website, and offering suggestions of things that we could put there. It turns out that some versions of Internet Explorer had problems keeping things straight and wouldn't show images there. Sam Sommerer sent in the image below pointing out that Internet Explorer was now giving error messages also. Well, to make a long story pretty much the same length (sorry Zeke), There were some plugins to our website that were interacting in ways that Internet Explorer couldn't understand. After moving 194 Sommerer names to a new plugin (the one that shows you how you're related to someone when you put your mouse over their name, like this: Alisha Bland), everything worked okay. But if you're still using Internet Explorer –and according to the website statistics 34 % of you are– you might consider upgrading to a different browser (or at least the current version).



2) While I was trying to figure out what was wrong with the images, I updated some other plugins (to see if they were the problem) and managed to mess up the address book. It took a few emails for Julie to convince me that (a) she wasn't crazy and (b) she could no longer get to the address book. The new plugin changed the way it decided who could look at the addresses, but that is fixed now too.

3) Finally, after talking with a half dozen people, we've decided to scale back the number of items we're putting on the site each week. A few weeks ago we noticed that there were a lot more comments (we're all about the comments) on the Photo Friday posts than on the other posts. Was that just because they were photos? Was it because people had three days to comment on it? We did some experimenting, and (although it looks like it was a little of both) decided to post every other day for a while. I'd be interested in hearing what you guys think of that, so now you've got something to comment about even on this boring post.

Christina (2010-10-13 21:04:39)

Thank you Lloyd for not making me re-enter all of the 194 names.....We all appreciate all of your work!

Julie Baker (2010-10-13 06:10:23)

I'm glad you do the teckie posts. It let us know that you are taking care of our website and doing thing to keep it running smoothly. I was getting error message about a stack overflow at line (some #) too!! I didnt write you about it because I just thought it my my computer or something, besides when I clicked ok it kept going (sometimes I'd have to click ok several times! But then I downloaded chrome and so I use both now. chrome works best for the sommerer site. I have a question about the behind the sea ns stuff that goes on... how long should you wait to see a change that you submitted to the address book before you think it just got lost in space? Going on 2 weeks now I got a new fancy phone for my birthday!!! Greer bought me the HTC evo. So now I can check the site during my breaks and luch at work!!!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-13 13:35:37)

Well, it really depends on how busy people are. I think Rachel is doing the Addresses, but it might be Christina. They get the updates that people send in and eventually the changes get made. It wouldn't be a bad idea for them to reply to update requests just to say that they received the updates and would, eventually get around to making the changes.

Rachel (2010-10-14 10:41:59)

Family, I am trying to get caught up and make corrections to addresses, anniversaries, etc. However, I have come across a glitch in my pc system that has left me without access to this info so I can't edit at the moment. Captain Lloyd has been notified and I am confident that he will have the problem fixed in no time. Meanwhile, thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sarah Jones Hospitalized (2010-10-15 06:14)

Julie just wrote in that her daughter Sarah Jones was admitted to the hospital:

Please pray for our little Sarah. She went to the emergency room last night with stomach pain. They did a CAT scan and found out her appendix is inflamed and has a rupture and is leaking. They will be doing surgery this morning sometime.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-20 21:19:04)

Julie, we are so sorry your little girl has been so sick. We have been praying for her, I'm happy to read that Sarah is doing much better. We thought of you on your birthday! Oct. 10th while out in New Mexico. Even Ralph remembered it! Happy late Birthday, sweet, precious, God Child! Aunt Lolly

Christina Rowland (2010-10-15 08:29:24)

Keeping Sarah and her family in our prayers...

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-15 06:23:12)

Definitely in our thoughts and prayers this morning. Keep us updated on how things go.

Julie Baker (2010-10-15 12:40:54)

Come to find out her appendix tore in half! Good thing the Dr. realized it and kept looking for the other half! She will be at Capital Region for 3-5 days depending how the infection heals. She has a drainage tube. She is in room 3424.

Julie Baker (2010-10-20 19:14:56)

Sarah is doing so much better that now instead of going home Sun or Mon...she might get to go home Fri or Sat! Thanks for all the prayers

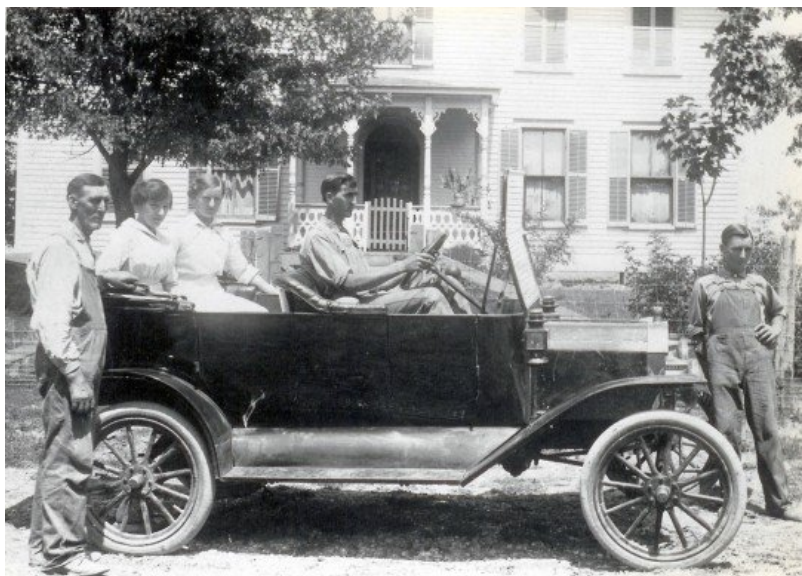
and well wishes!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-20 19:33:31)

Glad to hear she's doing well.

Photo Friday (2010-10-15 22:34)

My mom emailed this photo to me. She said that it was from Aunt Cleo and that I had seen the photo before, because it sets in their living room, but she doubted that many people had seen it. Well, I don't remember it, so I guess that makes one more person who hasn't seen it.



Now that's a car! (click to largation)

Here's what she sent about who's who (I think from left to right): Johann Mathias Sommerer, Jr (Great grandpa), his children: Margaret (Maggy), Dorothea (Dora), Adolph (Grandpa) and Herbert (aka uncle Herbert).

It's a problem figuring out how to label people in these pictures. Any generation that I pick to give relationships (Great grandpa for instance) is wrong for at least half of the people who are reading this. So I've been just giving the relationships from the "cousins" standpoint (sorry aunts, sorry second cousins). You'll have to do your own translating. But it didn't seem right to call "Great Uncle Herbert" that, when all I've ever heard him called in my life

was "Uncle Herbert".

Sammy Oestreicher (2010-10-16 23:43:35)

Can we get back on subject matter please. Everything appears to possess gotten off the topic. Some of those feedback are unbelievable.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-15 06:25:56)

Yeah, I thought I had corrected that before, but I guess I didn't. If you're wondering what we're talking about, I had Uncle Herbert listed as a nephew when I first wrote this, and never got around to actually changing it.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-17 07:53:52)

Sammy is a made up person (he's spam). You might have noticed that when you leave comments there is also a space for you to fill in a website (if you have one). If people click on your name, you are taken to that person's website. Some nefarious people use that to make thousands of comments a day in the hope that someone will click on their name and go to their website. Their website will be selling things or would attempt to deliver a virus to your computer. We get a dozen or so of these spam comments a day, but nearly all of them are filtered out by the spam filter.

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-17 06:27:11)

Who is Sammy Oestreicher? and What subject was he on?

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-17 07:00:47)

Aunt Rosie was married 1905 and Aunt Yetta was married 1911, father was married 1916, and Aunt Dora married 1918 and Aunt Margaret was married 1920. I am guessing that the picture was taken sometimes between 1911 and 1916. How old is that car? Does it look like a new car? My Idea is that the 2 oldest girls are married with families at the time the picture was taken.

Julie Baker (2010-10-16 21:35:42)

Wonder where the other 2 girls are?

Julie Baker (2010-10-15 05:24:21)

Looks like an episode of the Waltons! Johnboy, Maryellen and the gang! I think Uncle Herbert was his son too.

Jane (2010-10-21 00:12:29)

look at all the gingerbread on the front porch and how everything is painted and white .

Heidi (2010-11-15 13:44:11)

Aunt Cleopha that just made my day reading your comment. I literally was laughing out loud.

Missing in action (2010-10-18 04:16)

Can you help find the email addresses of these people? We've been sending out weekly updates for about a month now, and already in that time we've had a few pieces of important news to share. I imagine that most of these people keep in touch in other ways, but it would still be nice to be able to reach everyone if the need should arise.

I'm trying to get email addresses first, because then it's pretty simple to ask people for their other contact information. So if you know any of your son's, daughter's, cousin's, nephew's, niece's, aunt's, uncle's, mom's, dad's, grandma's or grandpa's email addresses on the list below, would you please put it in a comment?

If you haven't talked to one of these people in a while and want to give them a call to ask them, that would be okay with me. But you might want to bring it up toward the end of the conversation, so they don't think that that's the only reason that you called.

I know that some of these people might not have an email address, but please make sure that you check with them before you say that they don't. Sometimes people leap into the 21st century late in life.

Wrong (old) email addresses

- Ryan & Sarah Jones NOT sarmo87@yahoo.com
- Glen & Randii Cary NOT randeecary@centurytel.net
- Dave & Carolynn Jean Schlickman NOT chdav@socket.net
- Bill & Jane Putnam NOT janenbil@advertisnet.com
- Jim & Sheri Sommerer NOT sherri@centramocardiology.com

- Dave & Joni Sommerer NOT zaccess5@aol.com

No email addresses

- Aunt Margie
- Justin & Amanda Clutter
- Chris & Melissa Ducos
- Jerry & Mary Edwards
- Samantha Edwards
- Mathew Folkemer
- Justin & Cassica Jobe
- Courtney Knipp
- Jason & Tina Kuegele
- Ted Kuegele
- Linda Lock (No Email)
- Aunt Bea (No Email)
- Matt Putnam (No Email)
- Andy & Chandra Sommerer
- Brad & Kristin Wehner
- John & Lin Williams

I didn't include anyone that we still have listed as living at home. You might look at the address book to see if any of your children or grandchildren should be listed separately from their parents now.

Julie Baker (2010-10-26 19:23:10)

Sarah's address is correct but she never checks it so it overflows. She said she will go into it and delete some stuff so it wont bounce new emails. She says she prefers facebook if you really want to reach her.

Rachel (2010-10-19 11:57:48)

I think I have fixed: Randee's, Tina Kuegele's, Sherri's.

Rachel (2010-10-19 11:45:55)

I have edited Bill and Jane's email on the site (janenbill@att.net), and Dave and Joni's email is ezaccess5@aol.com (you seem to be missing the 'e').

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-18 20:32:28)

Well, I heard a good story this past weekend from Dad. I may not have all the details correct, but I think that someone will correct the errors. We took Dad and Marylynn some apples that came off of our trees. They thought that they were very good. Dad said that one time when he was living at home, someone let them pick the apples on their trees. Dad said that there was a wagon load. He said that they took them home and Grandpa had Uncle Vernon dig a hole to put them in. This was a hole as big as the wagon bed that was full of apples. I guess that Uncle Vernon borrowed a backhoe or a bulldozer from a neighbor as I do not remember Grandpa having one of these. Uncle Vernon then dug the hole and lined it with a tarp and straw, then he put the apples in there and put straw and another tarp on them before he covered them with dirt. I do not know how the bulldozer did not squarsh the apples or how many bales of straw Uncle Vernon used. But, however, they had apples all winter just by reaching in the end of the pit by moving the straw bales out of the way and getting however many apples they wanted.

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-30 21:23:05)

JUSTIN and Amanda Clutter a _clut@hotmail.com Chris and MELISSA Ducos chrisducos@live.com COURTNEY Knipp courtney.knipp@yahoo.com 2

Christina (2010-10-19 01:51:10)

I'm surprised some varmit didn't eat the apples!

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-24 20:22:34)

Yes, I want a copy. Is there a Jeff City location where I can purchase one? Naomi

Danny Sommerer (2010-10-24 16:55:31)

If anyone is interested. Our mens group at Honey Creek has made a CD. It has 12 of the oldy but goody favorite church hymns on it plus the Doxology—making 13 total. I think of standing in the kitchen at Grandma's and Grandpa's or at HP singing the Doxology with you every time I here it. Doug and Joseph are in the group playing the harmonica, fiddle and mandolin. I'm not sure why my brothers got all the instrument playing talent but they did. Doug and Joe Joe do a great job. I sing lead and harmony. This CD was recorded in the church basement with some relatively inexpensive equipment but it still sounds good. Denise just looked over my shoulder and told me not to write about the equipment but its true. We have dedicated the CD to our friend Mitch Berendzen who was killed in July 2010 just before the national Lutheran youth gathering in New Orleans—he and his wife Betty are (were) youth leaders from Honey Creek. On the album back there is a picture of all the kids' hands that went to the gathering and they were wearing bracelets made out of the flowers at his funeral. The profits from the sales of these videos are going to the new school building project at Honey Creek. Maybe the next CD will be giving to Calvary. If you are interested in a CD just let Lolly or me know and we can get you one. WE are asking for a donation of \$13 to pay for the making of the CD cover and case as well as something for the school building. Ralph got the first CD we sold but paid \$200 for his signed copy, copy number 1. Just to update you. The Blessing/Consecration for the new Calvary High School building will be November 14th. Dedication will be later when we have more time to plan. We are going to try to move into and start using the school over Thanksgiving weekend. Thats a huge "Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow." I can't believe its happening. It still seems

like we are still so far away—but its really happening. You all have been so supportive of this school from the very start, each of you in so many ways—BLESS YOU ALL!!! I'll keep you all posted.. Love to all. Danny

Danny Sommerer (2010-10-24 16:29:37)

HI all, I love to read the stories, thank you LLoyd Jr. and everyone else for doing this web site.. Blessings to all, Danny

Danny Sommerer (2010-10-25 15:29:12)

I think Lolly may have picked one up for you but I'll check. Thank you.. Danny

A stitch in time... by Uncle Mahlon (2010-10-20 04:45)

As you know, we have a few memories from our aunts and uncles that we'll post from time to time. But we don't have all that we'd like to have. If you have any stories that you'd like to share, you can use the contact link at the top of the page to send them in. This one is by Uncle Mahlon, and it's really familiar to me. It almost seems like it was published before, but it's listed as a draft now, so I'm just going to go ahead and publish it again. We'll teach it.

One time Cleo and I wanted to play ball but we didn't have a ball. So I found a tin can and put rocks in it and bent it shut. We played ball with this for awhile till the sun got in my eyes and it came down and hit me on top of the head and cut my head. Cut a hole in the top of my head. Mom promised to give me a nickel if I'd let her sew it up. It took three stitches. I let her but I don't remember if I ever got the nickel.

That was one of three times she had to sew me up because of some nonsense. The second time she sewed me up I was trying to jump a barbed wire fence and I didn't jump quite high enough and cut my ankle and she had to sew it up. Three or four stitches in it.

The third time I was chasing a calf. I caught it by the tail and it drug me for a ways. I cut my knee. Mom was good about it. She just soaked the needle and thread in Lysol water to disinfect it and sewed it up. That kept us from having to go to the doctor so often.

I was five or six years old and my namesake Gladys

gave me a Santa Claus for Christmas in a box that had a pair of knickerbockers in it. Both of these were my pride and joy. I don't ever remember having anything like that. I still have the Santa Claus. The knickerbockers pants and coat I always wore to church. I came home from church and had to go out and see if we had any eggs. The chicken house was divided in two parts. There was about an 18 inch square door between the two areas so when I gathered the eggs in one side I crawled to the other side and gathered the eggs putting them all in my pockets. When I came in the house to take out the eggs, I had already mashed the eggs in one pocket to where I had all these eggs running inside my pocket. Mom was a little displeased with me. I just remember her saying take it off so I can clean it and that's the last I remember of that.

But I don't think I got any more eggs with my suit on.

Cleo (2010-10-26 18:07:54)

I have read 2 thing today on the Sommerer web site that I can hardly believe. One is my little brother sewed up someone. Not to mention it was his son. Our cute little nephew. The next thing was that picture of Cletus Goetz and Vernon. I did not believe it was Vernon, until Vernon told us it was. I am really looking forward to pictures of the youngsters. Maybe by family reunion next year I will be able to identify all of the younger family members. Happy Halloween everyone.

Christina Rowland (2010-07-06 23:37:44)

If Uncle Mahlon was 5 or 6 which house do you think they were in at that time? Certainly not the farm house we know, since the chicken coop there never had two parts!

Lloyd (2010-07-06 10:15:11)

I think it's amazing that there are all these stories that I (at least) have never heard before.

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-30 20:41:23)

I always spent a couple of weeks at Grandpa and Grandma's every summer. One morning I woke up and went to the living room and there was Grandpa sewing his finger up. Grandpa always helped Grandma with the dishes and that morning he cut his finger on a knife. I thought that I had ONE TOUGH Grandpa! I can still see him standing there with the needle sewing up his finger. I also remember Grandma sewing up something for me. I think it was my shirt! Same story though - barbed wire!!

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-30 20:46:44)

Also, I would like to thank the two people that voted me their 'favorite Sommerer.' Whoever you two people are, I love you!

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-20 19:41:55)

Here are my stitch stories...I feel like I've written this before, but can't find it on the site...Anyway, when I was about 5 or 6. I was bothering Felix (I was such a pest to my older brothers when they came home) and he nudged me away from him and I fell against the butterchurn. Mother sewed up the back of my head, but I don't think it was too many stitches. Then, the barbed wire I ran into that Cleo mentioned was the barbed-wire gate that shut off the barnyard from the road and it was laying half down...not closed and not fully open. It was dusk and hard to see it and I ran into it and I still have a big scar on my leg even though Mother sewed it up. The stitches didn't hold because of the leg muscle, I guess. I also fell off of the "front?" porch railing when I was pretending it was horse when I was about 6 and got a cut on my forehead, but it didn't require stitches. I have a scar on my upper arm that she didn't sew up (I think she decided I was a hopeless case). We were cutting paper dolls out of the JC Penney's catalogue and we were not supposed to use razor blades to do this but I did anyway and accidentally cut my own arm. End of Naomi's

Stitch Story.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-22 19:40:01)

I remember the jumping on the bed and the hitting of the head and the bleeding, but I don't actually recall anything after that point.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-20 21:04:33)

I can remember the night Naomi and I went out to the barn yard to shut the first gate,(closest to Lloyd's house) The other gate was by the barn, it was laying down for some reason, and we both ran through it ok, we were scared to death of the booger man and wanted to get the heck back home. We closed the first gate, and took off running, I went to the side and got through the lying down gate, but Naomi went more to the middle, and got hooked in her upper leg by a barb. I don't remember her crying, but we looked at her leg, and it was about an Inch and a half, or so long but that wasn't the worst part, it was about an inch deep, and standing wide open, IT was awful!!! We ran back to the house and showed it to Mother and Dady, I remember, mother telling Naomi that she would give her a dollar if she let her sew it up. I thought, No!! you have to be nuts to let Mother do that! It was after 9pm and I guess they didn't want to go to town. Naomi agreed to let Mother sew her up. Cleo, Lloyd and I couldn't stand to watch, so we went out in the yard, I remember, we were slumped down in the yard with our hands over our ears. We couldn't stand to hear her cry. Daddy helped Mother, I guess he held Naomi down. The stitches didn't hold very well, because the wound was too deep, Naomi has a big scar, It didn't hurt her good looks any, but I sure felt sorry for her. There was no way I ever would have let Mother sew me up!ha

cleo (2010-10-20 16:57:20)

Sorry I threw the can up .

cleo (2010-10-20 16:50:45)

We were at Schuberts when I through the can up and it came down on his head. We were all out in the barnyard as i remember it. I

couldn't lie out of it, everyone saw it. I don't remember ever getting sewed up myself. I remember when Naomi cut herself crawling threw a bob wire fence. It was a pretty nasty cut as I remember. She was not real small at the time. I can't remember Lolly getting sewed up, but I would be surprised if she wasn't sewed up a number of times. Lolly like to do things. She would try anything. Like she couldn't wait to milk. She wanted to do it. I was hoping I never had to and I got out of it for awhile. I never started milking until I came back home from Cousin Frieda's. It was the spring after I was a freshman. I have a picture here with Mahlon in those pants. It might be one of those pictures that Jane put on a disk for me. I want everyone to know Sherie Kraus. Sherie is one of Aunt Rosies Grandaughters. She has written volumes on her family. I believe that Aunt Bianca (mother's sister) married the first time A Fischer who was a brother to Aunt Rosies husband. Aunt Bianca children were August Fischer Morris Fischer and another boy. By her second husband she had 2 girls Rose and Tootie Miller, They are all dead now.

Mahlon (2010-10-22 18:13:27)

Sorry about the delay. It was at Schubert's down by Taos.

Christina Rowland (2010-10-21 09:53:08)

I remember being at the little blue house and having Sam and Steve over one time (their parents were there as well) Lloyd, me, Sam and Steve were jumping on Lloyd's bed and Lloyd fell and hit his head on the headboard and sliced it open. I remember them laying him on the table so dad could sew him up. Seems like the thread was a strange color, maybe bright red. I don't remember ever needing stitches, which is good because I was awful just having a splinter removed!

Christina (2010-10-25 21:56:47)

You probably passed out.....like when you gave blood with Andrew to make him feel better about the whole needle thing. I'm pretty sure that you passing out made him feel a lot better! LOL!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-26 09:03:29)

Yes, looking back on it, I clearly wasn't the right person to calm anyone's nerves.

Photo Friday (2010-10-22 04:23)

Boy, you mention that you don't have any picture of the porch and they just start rolling in. Aunt Naomi sent in these two pictures last weekend. I scanned them in and sent them back to her. She even included a self addressed, stamped envelope. You didn't have to do that Aunt Naomi, but it did make my job easier. With any luck they are safely back in her possession by now.



Grandma, Cletus Goetz and Uncle ~~Mahlon~~ Vernon (Click for a larger version)



Aunt Naomi (Click for a larger version)

Wow, these pictures bring a lot of questions to my mind. And since I'm doing the typing, I'm just going to go ahead and ask them:

1. About when do you think each of these was taken?
2. Is the porch in the process of being enclosed in the first picture?
3. Is that the old Civil War rifle that was in what I have been calling The Grainery, but what I have more recently heard referred to as the Tool Shed?
4. Does that little dog next to Grandma have horns?

Okay, lets hear your questions... And hopefully some answers. Oh, Cletus Goetz lived here, right?

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-23 17:40:31)

Cleo, I don't remember anything about the bathroom, except that they wanted to get it done before our wedding, cause the wedding

supper was held there at the house. I gave Mother money once in a while, she may have saved it and used it to built the bathroom. When I got out of high school, and got a good job, I remember buying them their first tv (for Christmas I think.) Daddy was sick in bed with a blood clot. I thought that would give them some enjoyment. Lloyd had to work so hard, to get all the work done by his self. That boy milked 14 or more cows morning and evening, I don't know if Mother helped him or not, plus all the other work connected with the farm.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-23 17:19:36)

I want to thank you too Cleo for all you do for us. You are a real gem! Thank you little brother for the delicious fried chicken dinner. Jane we missed you. Love you always. Lolly ps. I too thought it was Mahlon and Cletus.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-23 16:54:35)

Vernon said yes, definitely that is him in the photo. Vernon was in Jeff Cy today with Wanda and while at Cleo's he viewed some of the website. Lloyd treated his area siblings and Wanda to a fried chicken dinner at Steve's. It was fun to discuss olden days and cuss and discuss things. Thanks again, Lloyd, and thanks Cleo for getting us hooligans together.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-22 17:27:18)

You can actually click on the pictures for a larger image now. Sorry about that.

Mahlon (2010-10-24 20:02:32)

Well, you know you are probably right. Maybe that isn't me after all. After examining that picture more closely I decided I was better looking. Besides that Mom wouldn't let me have a gun until I was confirmed. I'd only be about 13 going on 14 in '44.

Pete Sommerer (2010-10-25 20:36:48)

I remember Uncle Lloyd milking and us taking milk in those 10 gal milk cans to the cellar. I also remember the milk man coming and us

hauling them back out of the cellar on a two wheeler to his truck. It sure seems as if I remember the bathroom getting completed. I SURE remember getting my baths in a washtub out in the yard.

cleo (2010-10-22 19:05:59)

That is the cutest dog. He looks like a first cousin to Mickey Mouse

Christina Rowland (2010-10-22 09:22:49)

I think in the first picture the porch still had all of the screening.....Dad (Uncle Lloyd) said that the screening eventually fell off before they decided to enclose the area. You can see the support for the porch on the second picture...I wonder if they poored a partial foundation when they enclosed the area....I can't remember if there is a solid concrete wall below that area or not...all I can picture is Grandma's flowers and asparagus.

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-22 09:36:39)

The "dog horns" could be wood for the heating stoves. I think we piled it in that area of the porch. We piled the kitchen cooking stove split wood along the other wall (north/south shorter wall). Maybe the 2nd pic was taken around 1955 or 56ish? I don't know how old Mahlon is in the 1st photo. And, I never, ever remember that dog. I don't know if it might belong to Cletus?

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-22 22:26:17)

The porch,was like this when I graduated from High School in 1956. By the time Ralph and I were married in 1958, the porch was inclosed and bathroom added.

cleo (2010-10-23 01:48:51)

Dear family , I think you should know that Lolly was the one who supplied the money for the bathroom. Father did the work. and I guess Montgomery wards, where they purchased the fixtures installed them. I believe that Lolly said that Elizabeth contributed to this also. Lolly get on here and tell us all about. it Please

Julie Baker (2010-10-23 08:39:30)

Wow.Uncle Mahlon, Jimmy got your smile!. JIMMY LOOKED JUST LIKE YOU! And Andrew looks just like Jimmy! I love seeing family resemblances through the generations! It's a real treat to see the previous generation as children since we weren't there to see you then. These pictures are priceless...thanks to the contributors and Lloyd, the web master for sharing them with us.

Julie Baker (2010-10-23 08:50:11)

wonder who the 3rd rifle was for?

Jane (2010-10-23 09:04:14)

The rest of the story: Theresa Ehrhardt Sommerer, Vernon Paul Ernest Frank Sommerer and Johnny Cletes. Approx 1944. Henley, Mo

Julie Baker (2010-10-23 09:16:59)

so that's Vernon. Well then Jimmy looks like him too!

Jane (2010-10-23 10:34:06)

Lloyd says that is before they redid the chimney's if anyone is interested.

cleo (2010-11-02 16:15:00)

Hi, This is a quote from Beatrice. She said the little dog in the photo above was given to Lloyd, Sr. by Katie Propst. She is the mother of Dorothy Hemeyer's husband (Clarence Propst).

Halloween Costume "Contest" (2010-10-25 04:53)

It has been brought to my attention that we have been dwelling on the past a lot for the last few weeks. Mary Jane Piazza and Julie Baker have (independently, I think, but they might be playing me) suggested that we have a little costume "contest".

The idea is that everyone takes a picture of their kids, grand-kids, nieces, nephews und so weiter. Then email the pictures to me: lloyd@LloydAndLauren.com. I'll put them on the website and we can all ohhh and ahhh over them.

If you take the pictures inside there will probably be better lighting, and please make sure you tell me who is who in each picture, or I'll just mess everything up. If you want to make sure that we have a picture of your grand-babies, you might want to call your kids in case they don't read this article.



Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-25 17:06:01)

Don't you hate posts where you don't have anything to say?

Julie Baker (2010-10-25 21:15:10)

that;s funny...we are not in cahoots! Great minds think alike I guess!!
I cant wait to see a und so weiter!!! If I have one I'm not taking a
picture of it!

Christina (2010-10-25 21:52:11)

Do they have to be current year photos?

Julie Baker (2010-10-26 05:40:53)

I don't think so... Mine will haver to be because I didn't get a picture
of my little man last year (I know I cant believe it either),

Naomi Vetter (2010-10-26 10:21:08)

I know who they all are and I've never seen them lookin' better!!! Ha
ha.

Jane (2010-10-27 16:07:02)

Great picture.

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-28 08:31:33)

I love my new look! You did good Julie! ha ha

Joseph Passes Eagle Scout Board Review (2010-10-27 04:38)

Mel wrote in this week to let us know that Joseph Sommerer passed his Eagle Scout Board of Review on October 19th. The US and Missouri flags were flown over the Missouri Capital in his honor on that day. Joseph will have an official Court of Honor in a few months when all of the paperwork comes in.



I don't know how many of you have been involved in Scouting, but this is a rare and high achievement. Just look at this list of Eagle Scouts to see what I mean. As a teacher, I occasionally have students who are working on their Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project, and they have always been the very best students.

I wonder if we could get Joseph to tell us about his Eagle Scout

Leadership Service Project? Oh, and how many of you remember Joseph more like this?



Naomi Vetter (2010-10-27 09:57:53)

Kudos to you Joseph on this distinguished achievement! I would love to know what your Leadership Service Project was.

Mary Jane (2010-10-31 18:41:48)

That's HUGE, Joseph! H U G E!! You are forever ahead of the rest in dedication, ability and heart. My first boyfriend was an Eagle Scout. If they are smart, all the girls will want to marry you! ;)

Kayleigh Krynicki (2010-12-08 01:33:52)

alright so I spent the last 5 mins searching for the same theme you're using and can't find it. Didn't want to have to ask but really would love to use it for my blog, could you let me know? I'll check back here soon for any replies. Thank you

Joseph Sommerer (2010-10-27 19:18:36)

For my Eagle Project I organized the building of a handicapped accessible picnic table for my church, Cedar Grove Baptist Church. I helped my dad and Jim Sommerer do the welding of the frame, painted it, and other scouts helped me put the wood on the top. I will try to get a picture uploaded.

Mahlon (2010-10-27 18:38:27)

Congratulations, Joseph! Tell us about your project. We're all so proud of you. Let's see some pictures of your project....

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-27 17:52:01)

Joseph this is the first time that We've seen you in your scout uniform! My goodness! you look impressive! Grandpa and I are so proud of you, and love you so much. You are a wonderful blessing to us. Gramma

Joni (2010-10-28 18:21:11)

Way to go Joseph!! We are so very proud of you. A LOT of work and dedication went into that special achievement. I read somewhere that it's one of the only accomplishments you can complete when you're 14, that still means something when you're 50. Congratulations on a job well done!

Cleopha Howard (2010-10-27 10:29:47)

I want to know more about Joseph and his award. Who is Mel? and how did he know about this and I didn't. Is Mel my brother Mahlon? Well how did you know about it? I would also like to have a report from Joseph. Thanks.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-10-27 11:02:50)

Mel is Melissa Sommerer, Joseph's mom. I'm guessing she read about it on Facebook or something like that.

Christina (2010-10-27 12:18:24)

Congratulations Joseph! Declan is in Cub Scouts now, so we appreciate all that you have done to get to Eagle Scout! It's also nice to have someone in the family for him to look up to in the Scouts! Great Job!

Jane (2010-10-27 16:04:22)

We are so proud of you Joseph. Keep up the good work!

Rachel (2010-10-27 16:14:41)

Way to go, Joseph!!

mary kay (2010-10-27 16:31:52)

Way to go Joseph, JCMG is so proud of all that you have accomplished, you are such a great role model for the youth of today, Keep up the good work.

Christina (2010-10-28 10:36:36)

What a wonderful project Joseph! Great job!

Tracy Vetter (2010-11-01 16:30:21)

You should be so proud! Good job going the distance!

Mr. And Mrs. David Gregory Sullivan
(2010-10-29 04:14)

You might recall that Heidi Locke (Heidi Lock-Sullivan now*) married David Sullivan a little bit ago. Heidi sent me photos after I pestered her for a while –she evidently had other things to do on her honeymoon. And then once she sent me some pictures, I promptly forgot to put them on the website. I'm sure she will make me feel bad about it in good time.

Best wishes, Heidi. And welcome to the family, David.









I don't actually know if it's Lock-Sullivan. I was just guessing.

Joni (2010-10-31 20:58:01)

Yes, congratulations to Heidi and David! I've so enjoyed the pictures on facebook, and the link to your wedding and honeymoon albums. Beautiful! I especially loved the "Sullivan 2010" drawn in the sand, and the wedding day picture of David and Heidi and Tyler. God's blessings to this new family! And welcome, David and Tyler!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-01 23:15:52)

You are a very striking couple. Blessings on your new life together. You know we will be able to fill your new husband in on all the good stuff at our summer—Sommerer time together at Heits Point. Ha Ha I bet you can't wait!!! Does he smoke Swisher Sweet cigars and play the Ucayali. Hope that is spelled right—spell check didn't even know how to spell it..

Sarah Jones (2010-10-31 20:06:17)

Congrats! You look so pretty! I'm so happy for both of you.

Aunt Jane (2010-10-31 20:11:58)

Happy Happy All of you look so wonderful. Enjoy!

Merideth Nitzel (2010-10-31 20:21:43)

Heidi- you look gorgeous, darling!! So does your wedding party.
Where, oh where, was your honeymoon?

Mary Jane (2010-10-31 19:00:07)

Here's to a long, evolving life together!

Julie Baker (2010-10-29 20:13:24)

I am happy for you Heidi!

Aunt Lolly (2010-10-29 20:17:00)

Welcome to our family David. We are looking forward to meeting you.
Heidi and David we wish you God's blessings, and a long and happy
life together. You are a very beautiful bride Heidi. All our love, Aunt
Lolly and Uncle Ralph

Heidi (2010-11-15 13:29:57)

Thank you everyone!! We already have index cards of the family with
name, photo, likes, dislikes, democrat or republican on the back. I
test him daily. He has much to learn!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-15 16:50:05)

You'll have to let Paul borrow those when you are done.....

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-15 17:11:29)

Sommerer Flash Cards® That's how we can make our millions.

Lloyd (2010-10-29 13:12:14)

So, have you given David the New Spouse Guide to the Fourth of July
yet, or are you waiting until closer to the date?

Tracy Vetter (2010-11-01 16:28:09)

Congrats!! Beautiful bride and groom and the wedding and honeymoon look like they matched! Welcome David.

1.5 November

Updates from Danny... (2010-11-01 04:56)

Dan Sommerer added this as a comment last week, but since not everyone sees every comment, I thought I would republish it so that more people would get a chance to see it. Thanks to everyone who has sent in Halloween pictures. If you haven't yet, lets get on the ball...

If anyone is interested, our men's group at Honey Creek has made a CD. It has 12 of the oldies but goodies favorite church hymns on it plus the Doxology—making 13 total. I think of standing in the kitchen at Grandma's and Grandpa's or at Heit's Point singing the Doxology with you every time I hear it. Doug and Joseph are in the group playing the harmonica, fiddle and mandolin. I'm not sure why my brothers got all the instrument playing talent, but they did. Doug and Joe Joe do a great job. I sing lead and harmony. This CD was recorded in the church basement with some relatively inexpensive equipment but it still sounds good.

Denise just looked over my shoulder and told me not to write about the equipment, but it's true. We have dedicated the CD to our friend Mitch Berendzen who was killed in July 2010 just before the national Lutheran youth gathering in New Orleans—he and his wife Betty are (were) youth leaders from Honey Creek. On the album back there is a picture of all the kids' hands that went to the gathering and they were wearing bracelets made out of the flowers at his funeral. The profits from the sales of these videos are going to the new school building project at Honey Creek. Maybe the next CD will be giving to Calvary. If you are interested in a CD just let Lolly or me know and we can get you one. WE are asking for a donation of

\$13 to pay for the making of the CD cover and case as well as something for the school building.

Ralph got the first CD we sold, but paid \$200 for his signed copy, copy number 1.

Just to update you. The Blessing/Consecration for the new Calvary High School building will be November 14th. Dedication will be later when we have more time to plan. We are going to try to move into and start using the school over Thanksgiving weekend. That's a huge "Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow." I can't believe it's happening. It still seems like we are still so far away—but it's really happening. You all have been so supportive of this school from the very start, each of you in so many ways—BLESS YOU ALL!!!

I'll keep you all posted.. Love to all.

—Danny

You can find contact information for Danny or Aunt Lolly in the address book in the tools menu at the top of the page (you know, so you can order a CD). Actually, you could probably just put that you want one in the comments below too.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-09 17:27:01)
It would have to be the cookies!

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-01 09:59:36)

Dear Family, this CD is awesomely beautiful! The songs are 1. Over in the Glory Land, 2. In the Sweet By and By, 3. Where We'll Never Grow Old, 4. What a Friend We Have in Jesus, 5. Standing at the Gate, 6. Where Could I Go but to the Lord, 7. The Old Rugged Cross, 8. On My Father's Side, 9. Mansions Over the Hilltop, 10. The Dream,

11. Just A Little Talk With Jesus, 12. The Old Country Church, 13. The Doxology. These 13 guy's would love to come to your church or school to do a concert. Danny thinks he doesn't have any music talent, but he got this group of guys together, to become what they are. That's a talent too.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-01 10:19:33)

I purchased a CD and it is wonderful! I can sing along and harmonize with most of the songs if I want. They are ALL beautiful. I especially love, "On my Father's Side."!!! I highly recommend that everyone add it to their music collection. I hope they produce another CD very soon with more favorites!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-10 16:43:24)

Yeah!

cleo (2010-11-11 09:33:16)

You crazy kids! Chicken feet were delicious. When you put chicken feet into boiling water, the skin and the toenails and every thing come off clean. You have a whole clean chicken foot. After you wash them , put them in a pot of water with salt and boil them. What ever you call this stuff that is on a chicken foot, it is really good. I wish I knew where to buy some chicken feet.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-01 23:00:47)

Thank you A.Naomi for the kind words. I really didn't get all these guys together but its been fun singing while Joseph is playing his fiddle or mandolin and Doug is playing his harmonica. I often find myself listening when I'm supposed to be singing. Ha. I wish U. Felix could hear Doug playing. I bet he would get a big smile. We are so proud of you Joseph for getting your high honor. That is really something for a great young man at such an young age. You have set the bar high for John and Lia. Love and blessings to all this wonderful family. Danny P.S. This family web site is very much appreciated, more than we can tell those of you that are responsible for it—Lloyd Jr, Tina, Rach etc. and everyone.

Rachel (2010-11-02 16:56:18)

Sam got three votes for St. Charles county assessor! (the voters were: him, me and a friend of mine from work.) I'll completely die if he gets a call to come downtown for his new job.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-01 23:08:11)

Get out and vote tomorrow, vote early and often. Lets try to make Pete somewhat unhappy about the results—Ha Ha Please do not vote yes on Prop B, If you read the entire Prop its really very little about Puppy Mills and a huge part about domestic animal agriculture and its regulation. The department of Ag in MO already has the authority to keep the bad puppy mills from occurring but it doesn't have the money. Sorry for the speech but this group is playing on the heart strings of many people that don't have a clue what is actually in the wording of the Proposition. Danny

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-02 06:28:46)

So, are there any CDs left? Danny, if I send you a check, can you slip one to my mom for me? I used to try to tell people to make sure they voted. Then I decided that if someone was too dumb to know that they should vote, that I'm not really sure that I want them to vote anyway. So voting is very important, but if you don't want to, or if you feel like you have something that's more important to do, then I wouldn't worry about it if I were you.

Lauren (2010-11-02 22:17:36)

You should have written Sam in, too.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-02 09:10:24)

Danny, thanks for letting us know this. Unfortunately that is the case with most propositions we vote on..things added we don't know about.

Christina (2010-11-02 22:50:54)

Darn, I should have thought of that!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-03 00:36:25)

Pete I'll trade you any ole hound that was raised in a puppy mill and I'll give you Tony LaRussa. We don't need him anymore. It is 12:27AM and we still don't know if Prop B passed or failed. Looks like Obama got the change he was asking for tonight. Whitney wrote a cool English paper on the Sommerer Family. I enjoyed reading it because you never know what your kids think of the time we spend with our family at HP. From reading it tonight, I had a big lump in my throat—its exactly what I would have said —that is if I were better at writing English papers. HaHa. Its good to see the younger Sommerers feel the same way about our huge loving family. Danny

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-02 17:39:41)

We had a few positions on our county ballot where there were no candidates; only a line for a write-in. I wrote in Lauren for them.

Julie Baker (2010-11-02 17:30:43)

Yes the wording is very misleading. Of course everyone want the dogs to be fed and kept in good conditions.

Julie Baker (2010-11-02 18:22:08)

If I knew he was running I would have written him in in a couple places myself... next time let us know!!!hahaha

Pete Sommerer (2010-11-02 20:19:09)

One of my votes cancelled out all of your votes. We are ahead because I voted using the names of four dead people!!!!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-11 11:09:04)

I don't remember the corn flake cookies, but I loved the Lebkuchin cookies....they were my favorite! Especially since they were so dense that one of them filled you up for a long time! Julie - her cookies might have been crunchier because she cooked with gas instead of electric, or she might have left them in a little longer than what the recipe called for (who am I kidding, like Grandma ever used a recipe!)

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-11 11:24:55)

I would love to have Mothers divinity candy, and cornflake cookie recipe. They were my favorite also. I have never been able to make these as good as Mothers were. I did not like her leb cookies. They were made with molasses, and at an early age, I developed a real dislike of anything with molasses in it. I think it was because we had it by the gallons to eat! Several years ago, I decided to make all my Christmas cookies with real butter, I bought 15 lbs of butter, made my cookies, sugar, chocolate chip, peanut butter, and my candy. I was expecting them to be twice as good, since I used the butter. They were all hard as bricks when they cooled. I was shocked. That may be why Mothers sugar, and leb. cookies were so hard. All she had was butter to use. I went back to using oleo. Cleo is right, Chicken feet are delicious, they may not look good boiling in a pot of chicken noodle soup, but the flavor is awesome.

Julie Baker (2010-11-11 06:39:32)

My favorite sweets that grandma made: chocolate fudge, cornflake cookies, divinity candy. Anybody know how she made cornflake cookies? I been searching over the years for a recipe for them. They usually turn out soft. Hers were crunchy and hard (once again like the leb cookies) maybe it had something to do with she always put them in the freezer after she made them. I dont think they were in there long enough to get freezer burnt. I sure miss those cookies.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-09 16:04:05)

I think Whitney sent it to Lloyd last night. Why are Grandma's houses so special?

cleo (2010-11-09 14:52:59)

Yes Whitney, post it here so we can all read it.

Joni (2010-11-08 21:28:17)

Hey Danny – Be sure to save a copy of that CD for us. We'll buy one. I'd love to read Whitney's English paper. You are quite a writer

yourself. Maybe that's where she gets it? Maybe she can email it to me. Or post it here on sommererfamily.com????

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-10 07:19:37)

I'm on it, chief. Um, but it won't be for a little bit. We're running a back-log of things to post at the moment.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-09 23:17:52)

Cousin Lloyd- I sent you the essay so get on that and post it! And Tina- I forgot to write about the jello shots... hahaha! hope dad doesn't read this! And also, I forgot to write about my job in the Saturday morning breakfasts... Professional egg beater! Thanks Jim :) Hope you all enjoy the essay... I had fun writing it! Whitney

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-11 00:38:11)

They were so hard that if you dropped one of them they could break concrete. I cut some grass or something for my neighbor Virginia Erhardt, her husband Herbert is related to us. Grandpa's brother lived with Herbert brother Johnny. Anyway—after doing this duty for her, which I was glad to do, she wanted to pay me. I told her no! So instead she gave me some Lep cookies. They were very soft. Lep cookies were the only thing that Grandma cooked that I didn't eat except for the chicken feet in the noodle soup. That's another story— Good night and Bless you all. danny

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-11 00:39:33)

Debbie should give us her famous baked bean recipe.

cleo (2010-11-10 18:56:03)

No I did not like those cookies. I only eat them when all the other cookies were gone. They tasted a little better when all the other cookies and candy were gone. Does anyone want a recipe for Aunt Maggie's Liebe cookies (Lebkuchen)? I was sitting here looking at the Loesch family genealogy and the recipe is here in front of me. It don't look too hard either.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-10 19:29:39)

I have a couple of recipes that Anne Miller sent in that I'll be putting on the website "pretty soon". If anyone else has recipes to send in, I'd be glad to get them up as well.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-10 18:07:35)

Did anyone like Grandma's Lep cookies???

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-10 18:06:21)

Lloyd that note was sent by Whitney—she has the patience of her mother and Grandmother Lolly. Ha Ha Don't let her give you any trouble..

Christina Rowland (2010-11-02 10:40:40)

I voted early, last Monday (October 25th) and I tried to vote often, but they told me once was all I got! HA HA!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-02 12:21:42)

Lloyd I think your Mom may have got one already, I'll check. I agree about some people voting..... Ha Ha

Our Big Farmhouse...

Aunt Naomi

(2010-11-03 04:43)

Our big farmhouse was heated only by wood burning stoves until I was in high school. I can remember how cold it got in winter when the fires would go out at night. If we took water up to our bedroom to drink, it would be frozen in the morning. It was that cold! In the morning we would grab our clothes and run downstairs and stand around the stove and dress. Talk about dressing fast! Mother would always have the stoves blazing hot in the morning.

Our front porch had a rail around all three exposed sides. I liked to sit on the rail and pretend I was riding a horse. I got carried away riding my imaginary horse and fell off the rail onto the flowerbed below. I cut a gash in my forehead when I fell. There is still a scar there today. I don't think I got stitches for that but I did get stitches in the back of my head when I fell against the butter churn. This was probably when I was about 5 or 6. Mother got out her needle, thread and alcohol and stitched me up. You couldn't just run to the doctor in those days as you can now to get stitches.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-03 22:52:07)

I wish I could remember if I did or not...but I don't remember. I have my doubts.... The only time I can remember mother giving any money was one time Lolly and I (we had learned there was such a thing as an "allowance" decided we would tell mother we wanted an allowance for all the work we did...probably a nickle or dime...but I can remember. We stood upstairs by the pink bedroom door and hollered down to her that we needed our money (a quick get-away into our room in case we got into trouble with her for being so nervy). We were totally shocked when she actually did give us some money. I think she gave us some money for a few weeks and we forgot about it...counting our lucky stars that we got as much as we did without getting into trouble.

Lauren (2010-11-03 22:25:30)

I get all woozy with these 'got stitched up' stories. You are a tough bunch.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-03 22:26:32)

Aunt Naomi, did you get your dollar for letting grandma stitch you up? From what I understand, that was the going rate.

Julie Baker (2010-11-04 17:41:00)

wow how different things are now days. Now you have to pay someone else thousands to sew you up and you dont get anything! (except some fancy stitches)

Julie Baker (2010-11-03 18:24:25)

I remember my hands and legs were always white after I played on it. I guess the paint rubbed off on to our skin. Did it do that to you to Aunt Nazomi?

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-03 18:38:52)

Yes, it was the porch facing the orchard. I don't remember any white rubbing off on me from the paint, but it probably did.

Jane (2010-11-07 21:44:41)

I can't remember you ever riding the sheep. I must have been inside talking. I can remember feeding them late at night when they were super little. I could never sew someone up. I just don't have the nerve to do that. That's why Lloyd always took the splinters out. He must have grandma's ability.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-07 22:38:16)

So, did dad stitch me up after the bloody jumping on the bed affair that Tina mentioned last week, or was that just what you told her to keep her from jumping on the bed?

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-03 14:46:01)

That picture of Joesph just doesn't look right without a couple of pelts around his head or a coon-skin hat for accent. Has anybody heard from Pete since last night??? Or is he in a bunker just trying to get through the election... Ha Ha

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-03 14:48:29)

Aunt Naomi, I think that was all of our play horses, was that the one facing the orchard??

Rachel (2010-11-03 15:34:20)

I didn't have a porch growing up but I did have have a play horse. It was the tractor tire on my dad's C Farmall. The axle was my stirrup and I pulled a jump rope through the rim for my reins. (I did make sure that I sat in the direction WITH the tire treads and not against them.) It was about the right height AND I would get to play in different locations, depending on where Dad had the "horse" parked.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-04 07:21:10)

She did get her dollar Lloyd.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-04 16:08:36)

I remember playing on the porch...at least when there weren't any hornets nests on it! But I seem to remember being told not to use that door a lot. (probably because we let it bang shut and all of the adults were in the dining room right near it) I don't think I ever played "horse" on it.....there were too many sheep to ride to use a stationary horse!

Photo Friday (2010-11-05 04:07)

Yet another porch photo. This is how I remember the porch at Grandma's house. This was a picture from my mom, Aunt Jane. But I didn't ask her who it was in the picture. I sort of assumed that it was Christina and me, but I'm not really sure about that. I think it was taken in about 1974.



[click for full size](#)

And this one again just for comparison...



[Click for a larger version](#)

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-06 10:09:40)

In the Cole County Plat Book for the Clark Township, the spelling is "Boise Brule". So Christina's spelling is nearest to correct we've seen so far.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-09 17:25:13)

Someone had to keep him in line!

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-05 09:20:01)

My eyes were drawn immediately to the patch on Lloyd's pants. I'll bet Mom did that. She was always patching the knees on pants. I like the long cane fishing poles behind Lloyd's back. It looks like maybe he is going to take his little sister fishing.

Julie Baker (2010-11-06 05:26:49)

How many ways can we spell it! Bob Ruly

Julie Baker (2010-11-06 05:28:49)

How many ways can we spell it! "UN"officially that is! Bob Ruley

Christina (2010-11-05 23:27:20)

Be all called it the Bob Brooly, but the actual name was spelled Boise Brule on the sign for the creek down Rt H. We are definitely not french!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-05 21:36:43)

Those a the cutest kids, and still are. Sam prob pulled the feathers out of the chicken and handed them to Tina just so she would get in trouble. Looks like Sparky has his/her dog house on the porch as well. I think Grandma called every dog I can remember having—Sparky. I don't remember the Boise Buele but I do remember going to the Bob Ruelle creek. Has anyone heard from Pete since the election???

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-07 13:11:43)

I was giving everyone time to send them to me. Did you hear that everyone?

Christina (2010-11-07 11:36:11)

Lloyd, Where are the halloween pictures?

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-06 21:06:05)

We all must have way to much time on our hands to comment on the creek by Grandmas Ha Ha.

cleo (2010-11-06 21:50:51)

Hey Danny I do have too much time on my hands. My kid is raised and my grandkids are raised. Thank God for a very precious Great grand child. But to get back to the creek I will always think of it as Bob Brule. Danny You are in the best part of your life, with children to raise and Grandchildren to look forward to. It will be many years before you will have to much time on your hands. I am so glad you come on here and put your 2 cents worth in now and then. Let us hear from you often. Do you want me to investigate what happened to your cousin and my godson Peter?

Julie Baker (2010-11-07 23:15:31)

I always thought the song about the poor Indian boy... was so sad.

Julie Baker (2010-11-07 23:09:46)

They sang every time they were together...pretty much still do! My whole life my mom and I sang our hearts out when we go anywhere in the car. Any old song the whole way there! I don't think our old red Rambler (shown on the easter video) even had a radio!

Julie Baker (2010-11-07 19:26:18)

how many do you have now? i have a feeling If they haven't sent them by now they don't intend to.

Mary Jane (2010-11-07 20:59:53)

So adorable you two! I was told it was the Bob Rhulle too, and always wondered who he was! I remember the porch before it was boxed in, and rescuing a crying kitten through that long window in a rain storm. Who remembers when our aunts were in Sweet Adelines and used to sing in 4 part harmony while washing dishes?

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-07 21:21:00)

I remember the very first time I sang harmony (alto). It was to the song called "Long, Long, Ago" and Cleo and Lolly were teaching me to sing the harmony part. I was hooked on harmony from that point on. We sang washing dishes, hoeing corn, milking cows, shelling peas, hanging out clothes to dry, scrubbing floors, baking bread....singing was our salvation. Then, eons later when a Sweet Adeline group organized in Jeff Cy, Bea, Lolly, Cleo and I all were a part of the original group. Later, Lolly and Bea dropped out, but Cleo and I hung in there for many years (I'm not sure how many). I went to a men's barbershop show just last night It was really good!

Jane (2010-11-07 21:28:08)

Aunt Cleo is right Dan. Enjoy your children, they grow up to fast. We sure enjoyed those two dolls. She is looking at her big brother with so much admiration.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-07 22:35:27)

Surprisingly enough, I've received 4 more pictures this evening. Actually, maybe that isn't all that surprising. I don't know why I would expect anyone else to be more on the ball than I am. After all, I haven't actually done anything with the pictures yet.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-09 15:55:18)

I'm not sure that was a look of admiration or rather Jr. was fix'en to get his butt chewed on by his pretty little baby sister.... ha Ha

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-09 16:01:10)

This web site was a great idea. I miss all of you between visits. It helps make the time pass between July 4ths. We really did have a wonderful childhood. Don't know if I would ever change anything. What was that game we all played at Grandma's/Grandpa's where you started at the top of the stairway and if you did something you could move down a step until you got to the bottom—whoever got to the bottom 1st was the winner??? Do you all remember sitting on the back porch with Aunt Margie and Aunt Elizabeth and singing all the vacation bible school songs? "I've got the Joy-Joy-Joy-Joy down in my heart"

Julie Baker (2010-11-09 19:02:48)

I remember peeling things (whatever was in season at the time like peaches or snipping the ends off green beans etc) in the kitchen sitting in front of the big floor to waist high radio. They liked to listen to a radio show called party line. Then later in the afternoon grandma watched General Hospital. We weren't very fast and barely put a dent in the stuff that needed to be worked up, but I guess as long as we tried our best we never got fussed at for not being very productive. Now being a grandma myself I think they didn't care how much we produced really, they let us feel like we were helping!

Rachel (2010-11-05 10:18:47)

After closer inspection of the picture, it looks to me that they have

already gone fishing and that they are holding a fish between them. Thanks for bringing supper home, kids.

Rachel (2010-11-05 10:20:14)

Are those feathers in Christina's other hand?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-05 11:03:17)

I think you're right. Fish in one hand and feathers in the other.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-05 12:23:50)

Where do you think we went fishing? I don't remember any of the fish down at the waterfall getting that big? Maybe the Boise Broule?

Christina Rowland (2010-11-05 12:25:12)

The chickens were terrified of me! HA!

Cleopha Howard (2010-11-05 15:07:09)

That is the cutest picture. I have one when Mother took Julie fishing. Julie was about 2 or 3. I wanted to sent it in but mother was not dressed very nice. but I wish you all could see it. She is setting on the steps of the cistern rock with fishing line and fish. I was surprised how big they were too. I don't think Mother would go to the Boise Brule to fish, but she may have taken you to the pond if not the creek. Do you all notice Mother was using her trellis for her flowers to dry clothes on. I wish i could remember some of the things she had growing on that trellis over the years. At one time there was the seven sisters roses. There was something that she was very proud of for years. (What was it)I know Lolly and Naomi will remember. Was it grapes?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-05 15:42:34)

I think Aunt Cleo is right. I think it must have been the pond.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-05 15:52:37)

Those are the cutest little dolls! I don't mean the fish! Just the right size for to little fishermen. Love you both.

News from Mary Jane (2010-11-08 04:40)

I'm Escaping the New England cold and snow and coming to Missouri this Wednesday through Saturday, Y'all! Dad and I are thrilled to be going to see Uncle Mahlon and Aunt Mary Lynn over on the other side of the state.

The last time I was in a house of Uncle Mahlon's was when I was probably 7 or so. Uncle Mahlon and Aunt Dorothy had a double bed mattress suspended by chains above their own bed, for the girls. Being an only child, I never got to sleep with any other warm wiggling bodies, much less in a bunk bed, so that was one of the thrills of my growing up.

Pete, and little baby Jimmy, had their own room, where I remember Peter had heads, skins, bones, and Indian artifacts spread around his room on the radiator. Such a "boy!" I liked that though. In fact, I liked everything about being with their family and I am anxious to go see their world 50 years later. I will have my notepad going, collecting memoirs from our patriarch, Vernon.

Who has some questions you'd like me to ask? We've got 5 hours each way. War, gardening, barn construction, cheese peddling in Jeff City, pig neutering? It'll be fun to get he and Mahlon together too. Hope I can write that fast. Better bring a tape recorder.

Oh, and I think we can forget Vernon for the website. He tried. He bought a computer for a dollar at a church tag sale, but when I told him he had to get internet service for \$60+ a month, he didn't speak – which is typical of Dad when he is thoroughly disgusted. Since my Mom was a wizz-bang typist and personal secretary for so many years, he said he always wanted just to be able to type his name. He never had tried. So he got his dollar's worth – he got to type, and even though he doesn't have internet, it showed up on the screen. He was thrilled.

I'll take him to the library and show him the website, I promise,

and I will stow away lots of pictures, as well as stories and mail them asap.

Can I be a favorite then?? I can hear Grandma disapproving of this somehow. She'd tell us to "play nice."

Mary Jane

Julie Baker (2010-11-13 02:33:43)

<http://www.apple.com/ipad/> click the 3rd one down "watch the ipad video"

Julie Baker (2010-11-13 02:16:41)

LOL!

Julie Baker (2010-11-12 17:33:18)

I was hoping uncle Mahlon would put him on when they were at his house.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-12 10:08:08)

I was sort of hoping that Mary Jane would get Uncle Vernon to say something on the website while they were together. But I guess that just wasn't in the cards. Oh well...

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-12 19:00:19)

Please someone tell us old people what an iPad is, what it can do, how much it cost. If it doesn't have a monthly charge, can you work it the same way you do a computer? Is it a telephone? I bet I could tear it up, I can tear up most anything electronic. boo hoo

Mahlon (2010-11-12 22:12:11)

I got a question...is an ipad anything like what the girls use once a month?

Mahlon (2010-11-12 22:41:35)

We just had a wonderful visit with Vernon and Mary Jane. Many stories were told and yes we should have had a recorder going. Bet you didn't know Mary Jane is a great cook? She brought the works and made us blueberry-walnut pancakes for breakfast. We slathered on the butter and soaked the whole thing in REAL maple syrup. We always wanted a live in cook. Did you know...Mary Jane is an outdoorsy person. Hiking, bugs, and mud. She gardens and is a prolific writer. She also takes wonderful photos. She is fearless! Peter you and your zip line have nothing to compare to Mary Jane's stories. Better listen up. We really look forward to more visits. Who is next? Kathy & Loren have been here and now Mary Jane and Vernon. Now take this to heart and get to know your relatives. Everyone has such interesting stories to share. Through the work of Lloyd and Rachel and the rest of you this website has really made connections and strengthened family ties. Thank you.

Julie Baker (2010-11-08 12:10:57)

I think its a great idea. He just needs to be able to get on the internet with it and he can have the world at his fingertips! Since he's retired he can set up a little schedule for himself to go to where there is an internet hot spot and set there and drink his coffee and surf the net every day! He goes to the VA to volunteer. Our VA has free internet I'm sure his does too. The other volunteers or office staff would be able to help him a little until he gets the hang of it. (I know because I have had to ask strangers help me use my new phone!) We would enjoy his input. This way he wouldn't have a monthly fee to worry about! (I wonder how he thinks we get on it? We all pay a monthly fee!!!) Well good luck. I hope Santa brings him an iPad!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-08 11:40:33)

or that is more ILloyd! but he would probably enjoy it and they are pretty reasonable. I was hoping Lloyd would come visit me more, since I bought a Mac, but alas, he does not like me.....sigh....

Julie Baker (2010-11-08 07:14:05)

Maybe he could try net zero. <http://www.netzero.net/>. Or you could buy him a little net book for christmas (mine was only 300.00) and he could take it to the VA, Mcdonalds, Starbucks, Barns and Nobel ect to get free internet.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-08 07:26:21)

That's a good idea. There are lots of places that you can get free internet now. Since he doesn't know how to use any computer right now, I would suggest an iPad. I don't think that you can find anything that is easier to use or that is harder to mess-up.

Rachel (2010-11-08 17:34:48)

Hey, MaryJane, I hope you have a super-fantastic visit!!

Mary Jane (2010-11-14 03:28:12)

Yes, Uncle Mahlon, iUsedTo, but iM happy to say iDon't anymore! Just got home from my great trip to see Dad, Uncle Mahlon and Aunt Marylynn. Debby, Alicia/James/Tristin and Jerry/Mary Edwards also stopped by, as a bonus! Dad/Vernon and Mahlon were like the two giggley roommates they once were, tellin' tales and swapin' lies till wee hours. What incredible hosts they are, and what a wonderland to visit and experience! Cousins, as we become empty nesters, lets go visiting one another! And yes, I play in mud, hike volcanos, love to edit, write, and cook!

Halloween Costumes 2010 (2010-11-10 04:27)

Here they are folks, in all their scary glory... Click on the pictures to make them bigger.

[gallery link="file"]

1. Brittney Christina, Declan Rowland and someone else
2. Declan & Paul Rowland
3. Ian Miller
4. Simon Miller & grandpa Kenny Williams
5. Amelia Miller
6. Haile & Brady Wheeler
7. Lake, Lane & Logan Cary
8. Tyler Sullivan
9. Matthew Jones
10. Katie Sommerer
11. Declan Rowland
12. Rachel Sommerer
13. Sam Sommerer
14. Sam Sommerer's Pumpkin (Oh, he has time to carve a killer Jack-O-Lantern, but does he have time to comment on this website?)
15. Anna & Gracen Sommerer
16. Leah Sommerer

17. John Sommerer

Christina Rowland (2010-11-11 10:58:58)

Declan said he would only take you Grandma if you dress up and make Grandpa dress up too!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-11 11:00:26)

Congratulations Becky, now you have TWO monkeys!

Rachel (2010-11-11 11:42:29)

Now you know the truth...Sam and I have ANNA's Hair!!! Hilhairious!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-12 07:36:04)

oops, I forgot to put John and Leah's pictures up. They are up now. Sorry about that.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-12 09:35:40)

What a pretty little butterfly, and S.S.Minno, Gilligan!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-12 09:58:37)

I love John's costume! That is so cute!

Jane (2010-11-11 00:26:46)

It helped a lot to be able to figure out who was who. Thanks. I liked all the pictures but oh Sam that is some pumpkin! Let's all go to the renaissance next year. Declan will you escort another group of women around??

Anne (2010-11-10 18:43:55)

I know, right? I thought I was the only one that thought my pop looked like Peter! Actually, he is dressed as "Super Papa". If you look closely you will see he is wearing his uber fashionable "Never fear, Grandpa is here" t-shirt. In his off time he is a mild mannered, folk singer-songwriter.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-10 23:34:57)

I kinda like the "wenches" costumes. That must have been a lot of work! Good job, Christina!!

Lauren (2010-11-10 18:23:37)

I always thought Anna had Sam's hair.and Rachel's.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-10 18:31:39)

I love ever one of these pictures! They are so precious. Thank you so much for sharing them with us. I could not pick any for first place,because they are all good.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-10 16:59:57)

If we were voting, my vote would go to Kenny Williams for his nearly perfect Peter Yarrow costume. How does he do it?

Grandpa (2010-11-12 04:55)

Mary Jane Piazza sent this to me a few months ago, and it seemed like this would be a good day to post it:

I can still hear the words as Dad hung up the phone: "Daddy is dead," my father said. When the phone rings, even now, at 6 a.m., I say to myself, "oh no, Someone died." What an incredibly sad day. I felt like there had been a paradigm shift in our world.

We wouldn't be 'going down to Jeff' till the next morning, but everything that Friday at school seemed so surreal. I had just started my Sophomore year in High School. There was a football game that Friday night. I had a nice boyfriend who played trombone in the marching band. Our school was huge and to have a boyfriend in the marching band was the epitome of "cool." I looked forward to sitting in the stands, cozied against all the sweaty musicians in their uniforms and their instruments to keep warm. I felt so guilty, though, being there, when my Grandpa was lying dead. I felt so helpless—and guilty for being at the game. All I could think of was Grandma, and how she was taking it. Someone said that she ran into his side of the shiffarobe and was hugging his house shoes and sobbing. Dad felt I should have been home, in mourning instead of the game. But I was indeed mourning. I bet everyone in the family can tell you the spot they were standing that morning of that Friday the 13th, when they got the call. But most of all, I remember all of us cousins crying, blowing our noses, and as soon as we pulled ourselves together, someone would relate another remembrance, and it would all start over again.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-12 11:29:59)

I can remember the phone call from Mother, It was early, I got up from bed to answer. About the same time I said Hello, Elizabeth answered her phone. She was on the same party line as Mother. I don't know how that happened, that both our phones rang, We were on a private line. It was strange. Mother said, Daddy is dead. Elizabeth said I'll be right down. and she and Justin went right away. I don't remember anything else after that. After we got the little ones off to school, I went to Mother's. The ambulance had already taken Dad. It's hard to believe that was 40 years ago. Dad would have been so proud to see what a fine job all his Grandchildren did in raising their children and grandchildren.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-12 10:10:28)

I can't remember anything about Daddy's passing except that I was told he was lying on the couch with his arms crossed on his chest. To appear to have passed in such a peaceful manner gave us great comfort.

Julie Baker (2010-11-12 07:02:20)

Good job Lloyd for your excellent timing and relevance.

Julie Baker (2010-11-12 06:42:05)

I don't remember when we got the call but oddly enough I remember exactly what I was wearing. like others who were local...we drove out as soon as we heard about it.

Pete Sommerer (2010-11-12 19:38:45)

Aunt Lolly you are such a beautiful wonderful aunt and such a good person! You are a constant reminder of what a wonderful family we have. When Grandpa died we were living at the farm in Centertown. I felt that I was pretty close to Grandpa - he taught me many things that I am now passing on to my grandkids. How to be ORNERY and have fun. When I found out that Grandpa had died, I went out to our outhouse and sat down and cried. I was going to miss him - he was the greatest. I was a pallbearer for Grandpa - I think that he should

have lost weight before then or cuz Billy should have lifted more.

Mahlon (2010-11-12 22:24:01)

On Friday the 13th I got up at the normal time and got dressed. I grabbed the milk bucket and headed out the door to go milk. The phone rang and when I answered it was Elizabeth and she gave me the news that Daddy had died. When the phone rang I knew something was the matter before I even picked up the phone. I told everybody the news and finished the chores. The amazing thing - we normally would get together around July 4th. for a reunion. This year within about two weeks of his death ALL the children came home to visit for some reason or the other.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-14 11:04:09)

Thank you Peter for your kind words, I love you very very much. Thank you Mary Jane for the sweet story about Grampa. I'm sorry Lloyd, I just can't get the boys to say anything, They may not know how to do it. I would like to hear from them too.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-13 14:05:15)

This is an afterthought about Sam's carved Halloween pumpkin...I am sad that all the creativity and carving ended up in a pie or rotting away after Halloween. I wish our "family sculptor" would carve a pumpkin out of a medium that would be permanent. It was awesome, and such talent should not go into a pumpkin pie!!!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-13 21:43:11)

Aunt Naomi, I fully agree with you, but don't expect to get a response from Sam. Apparently, Aunt Lolly and Uncle Ralph have decided that only their oldest son is allowed to say anything here on the website. So until Danny is no longer with us (or is bested in combat) don't expect to hear anything from David, Doug, Sam or Steve.

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-14 00:00:19)

Sounds like a challenge....Sam, come on...write something!!!!!!!!!!!!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-14 00:09:38)

I'll try to get the bros to write to you Lloyd. I remember waking up to a phone call and there being some confusion about what was said. I think that Aunt Elizabeth didn't understand Grandpa to mean that Grandpa was gone but rather that something was wrong. But with that being 40 years ago I was only several weeks old then!! Ha Ha. When we went to Grandmas for the first time after learning of his death I remember walking in the door and seeing Grandma at the doorway between the kitchen and the TV room. She was wearing an apron she always wore and just said to us "He's gone, Dady's gone" It was good to hear from Pete. Pete is in a lot of ways, alot like I remember Grandpa. Maybe cause he got to spend a lot of time at Grandma and Grandpas house growing up. Pete, have you ever chased any of your Grand-kids with a fly swatter??? Or, played "Old Maid" with them with a marked Old Maid in the deck? When Grandpa would end up with the Old Maid card at the end he would call it "Ole Pretty Boy" He almost had us believing it was fun to get the Ole Pretty boy card—

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-14 00:13:04)

Thank you Mary Jane for the note to all of us.

Nothing Better Than Being a Sommerer (2010-11-15 04:26)

As promised, here's Whitney Sommerer's paper that Danny mentioned last week, and that everyone wanted to read. Nice job Whitney.

According to Webster's Dictionary, a family is defined as "close relatives or a social unit." I am part of a family filled with closeness and love. I am a Sommerer. Being a member of this family means everything to me. When we are together, good times are guaranteed, and memories are made. The miles between the families do not seem to matter once we see each other face to face. The best aspects of the Sommerer family are the reunions we have every year, the communication between us online, and the uniqueness that defines us.

Every Fourth of July weekend, my great-grandparents' children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and even great great-grandchildren gather together for a fun and exciting reunion. Heit's Point is the name of the camp where the igloo coolers stocked with food are rolled in, and the lawn chairs are set up. The location is a quiet, grand-daddy long leg infested wooden area off the Lake of the Ozarks. Roughly two hundred or more people make up this down-to-earth family, and we are continuously growing every year. No one goes hungry or thirsts here. Scrumptious potlucks, country-cooked breakfasts, and numerous snack foods fill the tables. Sweet ice tea made by my Uncle Mahlon is the hit drink of the weekend. Everyone is so full of sugar; we can't help but have a good time. While

the sun is still shining on Saturday evening, the whole gang goes out to the old ball field and plays a fiercely competitive softball game. Because there are so many people, each team has about twenty to thirty players. Midnight hits, and many people are still awake playing card games, roasting hotdogs and marshmallows, singing, and drinking. Following the church service on Sunday morning, we all say our good-byes and head back home.

Following the reunion, pictures and videos of the exciting weekend are placed online. While sitting at home on the computer, the internet allows anyone to browse through our own website, Facebook profile, and YouTube videos. We are a popular family indeed! Pictures, videos, and information about my family can be found on all three pages. The mastermind of the website and Facebook profile is my computer whiz cousin, Lloyd Jr. With his talents, he even posts random videos of the family on YouTube including my Grandpa Ralph wearing a chicken hat while performing on stage. Even though our family is spread all over the United States, we are still able to stay easily connected with each other. “I miss you!” or “I’ll be home for Thanksgiving.” are the quick messages sent between my cousin, Katie, and me.

The road trips may seem long when we travel to see each other, but a simple message online fixes the anticipation of what will happen when we meet again. My immediate family is like no other family; we are unique. One reason we are unique is that we value having a family filled with many kids and grandkids. Also, large, extended families like ours are not commonly seen in the United States. Traditional “get-togethers” for the main holidays such as Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas are at grandma and grandpa’s house.

Instead of watching up-to-date movies, the shooting of guns in an old John Wayne western movie are heard. When I think of watching a movie, I crave the salty, homemade popcorn my grandma cooks on the stove instead of popping a bag in the microwave. Keeping close ties with each family member is important when maintaining peace, and we succeed at it. Problems never occur amongst anyone. Everyone is full of love and we are thankful to have each other. A special talent lies within each member in my family. At the young age of fourteen, my cousin, Joseph, is now an Eagle Scout. Vincent plays the piano flawlessly while Aunt Melanie's voice is breath-taking when she sings. Anna can sing Christmas songs in German, and my brothers can fix any computer or mechanical problems.

Unfortunately, a lot of my extended family lives all over the United States, and I never get to see them. We take advantage of our weekend-long, camping trips at Heit's Point by spending quality time playing games, singing songs, and eating delicious meals. Even though we are apart, we can still instant message or email each other with our very own website or Facebook. The uniqueness that defines our family makes us special. I wouldn't trade my family for anything. Their love and support has helped me to become the woman I am today, and I can't thank God enough for them.

Mahlon (2010-11-26 18:24:24)

GUESS WHAT DADDY MAHLON MADE US FOR DINNER TONIGHT FOR OUR FIRST NIGHT OF OUR ALL WEEK-END THANKSGIVING FRESH HOMEMADE CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP.TO TOP IT OFF WE HAVE FRESH HICKORY NUT TEA CAKES.OH GOD IS SO GOOD!!!!!! THANK YOU AUNT NAOMI FOR THE RECIPE.

cleo (2010-11-16 19:49:53)

Whitni I enjoyed reading your article. I hope you write more. How about life of a college student, or tell us about your job at Lincoln Univ. I love to hear what you are doing in the gardening Dept. Now I got to say something about family reunion. We need a Float trip and a dance and about 10 singalongs(in the daytime)when I am awake. A rummage give away sale to get rid of thing that you think that others may be able to use. We need Mahlon to teach the next generation how to do survival cooking. preparing chicken feet for eating, and while he is at it he could teach us ot make chicken noodle soup. We could all help . Then to finish it off we need Uncle Vernon to tell us a true story of coon hunting in the labrador.

Pete Sommerer (2010-11-16 20:25:40)

Christina, you should love your enemies. Whitney, we love you! You are a wonderful young woman. Remember, there are only two things you are born with your name and your family; and you need to take care of both of them, which you have!!

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-16 22:53:31)

Whitni, Grandpa and I are very proud of you. That is a fine essay. Continue to be a "light" in this world of darkness for your Lord Jesus. Love always. Grandma

Jane (2010-12-19 21:39:24)

Great Uncle Lloyd says " She will be your baby for—ever"

Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-15 07:32:32)

That's right folks. I'm a master-mind now (try not to forget it when I say something that appears to lesser minds as stupid). But don't forget my fellow masterminds: Rachel and Christina. Without them this website would never have gotten off the ground.

Rachel (2010-11-15 10:28:23)

Hmmm... Mastermind, I'm not sure I resemble that compliment. :) Nice essay, Whitney! I'm glad to be part of this amazing family and

I thank God for them also. And just so you know, YOU are pretty special, too.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-15 10:29:14)

Does that mean we have to call you Imaster now.....hehehe!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-15 10:30:50)

Wow! I want to be part of THAT family....oh, wait, I am! I feel the same way you do Whitney....Just so glad that this is the family God gave me! I love every one of you.....even Pete!

Julie Baker (2010-11-15 11:09:46)

Bravo!

Whitni Sommerer (2010-11-15 19:27:40)

I'm glad you all liked it... I had a lot of fun writing it. I love you all very much :)

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-15 22:49:48)

What a wonderful testimony to the family!!! Great job, Whitney!

Mary Jane (2010-11-16 14:36:16)

Love the cowboys! Reminds me of li'l Jordan and Ian at that age—right down to the "binky"! Say, Southwest Airlines is waiting to hear the dates of the next reunion – is it the first or second weekend of July? The 4th is on a Monday. I like the idea of a float trip, maybe after?? What would everyone say to a square dance on the Friday or Saturday night – if we could get a caller?

Danny Sommerer (2010-12-18 01:01:16)

I am not going to acknowledge that my little fat baby girl (Whitni) is a young woman as she states in her story about the Sommerer Family. I'll tell her when she can be a young woman and she will remain my baby girl until I tell her otherwise.....

Danny Sommerer (2010-12-18 00:51:45)

Heidi, You always have been a favorite Sommerer, along with your beautiful family, Linda, A Bea and Uncle Willy-Jane-Mere, Matt — all of you. I remember going to your mom and dad's wedding—it was the first time I had ever seen anyone being served drinks at a bar... When was that? That really was a great quote by Pete and so true. I think Pete should have been a Lutheran Preacher like his Grandpa Medler. I can't wait to see all of you again. Whitney did get an A on the class paper. One of the comments her teacher made was "Reading this paper makes me wish I belonged to a family like that" Danny

Melissa Sommerer (2010-11-16 11:53:29)

Whitni....we are so proud of you—and proud to be Sommerer's too!

Heidi (2010-12-16 14:48:42)

I am crying, that is so beautiful. I hope if you wrote that for school you received an A+++++. I remember Pete telling me the same thing he told you. There are two things you are born with your name and your family. Now Pete is generally full of shit as we all know. But honestly the older I have become the more that one liner makes sense. Hugs to ALL my wonderful family. I love you all!

Heidi (2010-12-16 14:50:13)

P.S. I like leaving comments so I am a "favorite Sommerer". Three today, yippee!!

Joni (2010-11-20 22:31:03)

Miss Whitney! Wow, what a writer you are! You captured the essence of FAMILY in just a few paragraphs! Keep writing and journaling. We are thankful that you are part of this family. :)

Hickory Nut Tea Cakes (2010-11-17 04:23)

We've been passing around the idea of posting recipes for a while. Well, Anne Miller was the first person to actually do something about it, and I love what she did. She didn't just send in the recipe, she sent in a picture of the recipe. I think it's very interesting to look at the actual recipe that someone wrote out all those years ago. If you send in a recipe, please take a picture of it as well (or scan it) and send that in too.

Hickory Nut Tea Cakes "Moms" (I assume this means Great-Grandma Theresa)

2 c b sugar

1 c chop nuts

4 c flour

1 tsp soda

1 c butter or lard (yum! gotta love that!)

2 eggs

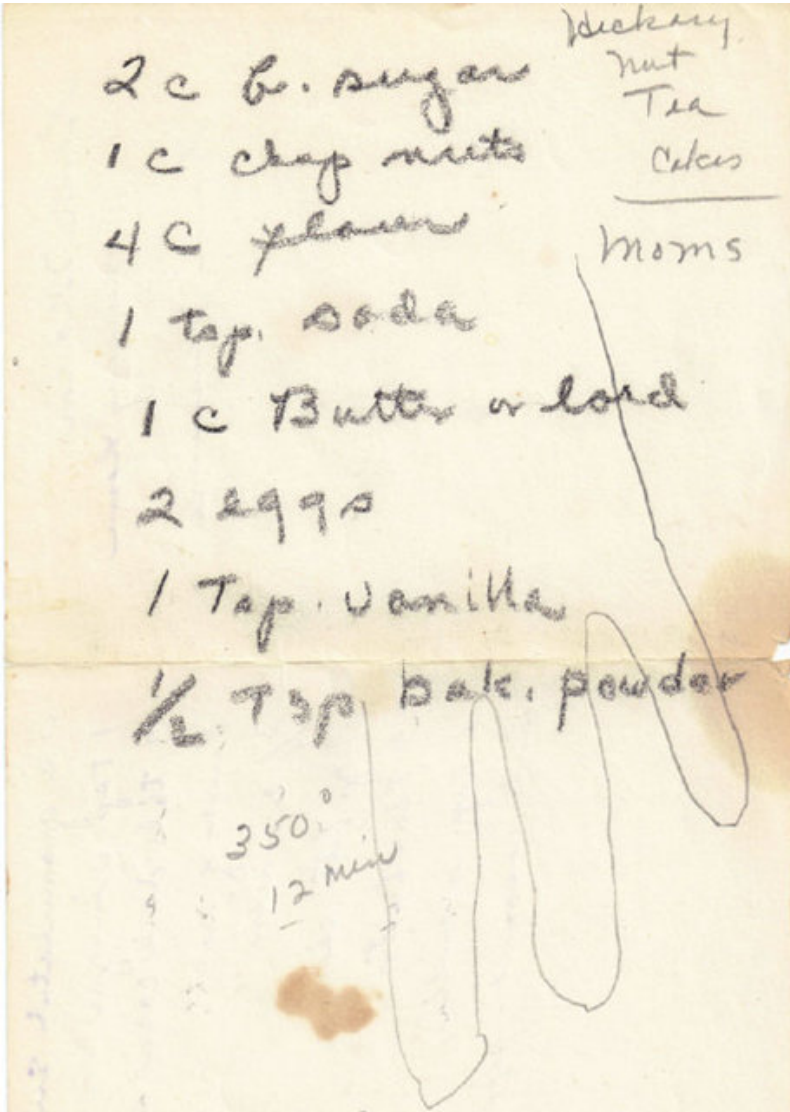
1 tsp vanilla

1/2 tsp bak powder

350 degrees

12

min



Julie Baker (2010-11-17 07:33:19)
seeing the real thing is charming!

Rachel (2010-11-17 09:02:55)
Nice touch on the scanned recipe card. And I LOVE the hand that is partially drawn. Any guess as to whose it is? It has to be a little

person. I have to admit, when I first read the ingredients I misread: 1/2 tsp BLACK powder instead of Bak. powder. HeHe - baking those cakes would have created a big bang theory!

Julie Baker (2010-11-17 18:43:47)

I was thinking along the same lines as Tina...I would have put in in a loaf pan like you do banana bread!!! Good thing we have someone who remembers them as cookies..... wonder why she didn't just call them cookies???

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-17 17:42:24)

Last year I purchased hickory nuts from Peggy (Propst) Heidbreider. She may have some this year.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-17 11:42:20)

I was thinking these were the ones that Mother formed in a roll, put wax paper around them and put in the ref. for a short time and then sliced thin and put on a cookie sheet, and baked. Cleo is that right?

Lloyd (2010-11-17 12:18:52)

You know, the one thing that we are missing is a photo of the final product. That would be cool too. Okay, so we're really missing two things. From now on, when you send in a recipe, please also include a sample.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-12-23 13:27:21)

I believe it does get me on track. Thanks so much for the info.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-17 17:30:48)

that might be hard to e-mail to you!

Julie Baker (2010-11-23 11:01:18)

We made Grandmas Hickory nut tea cakes. Here is a picture of it! <http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=173254569359815&set=a.173254392693166.41138.100000258184441&pid=539834&id=100000258184441>

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-17 10:02:02)

I am so happy to have this recipe! Thank you Anne. These were my favorite cookies too. Can't wait to make them.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-17 11:03:39)

I'm not sure I'm eating your cookies anymore Rachel....I love you, but being with Sam has apparently made you dangerous!

Christina Rowland (2010-11-17 11:05:16)

Are these drop cookies or do you put it in a pan like brownies? the whole "cake" thing has me wondering.

cleo (2010-11-17 11:09:34)

These cookies that mother made were referred to as Ice box cookies, or refrigerator cookies, unless I am losing my mind. The dough was put together and rolled into a log and put into the frig and when she wanted to bake them she would slice the dough off the roll. These cookies were so good and they were usually sort of in a square shape, more square than round. Mahlon are you going to make refrigerator cookies for Christmas? I want some.

cleo (2010-11-17 09:18:39)

These were our favorite cookies that mother made. Be sure that you understand that the sugar is brown sugar. That is what is so special about them along with the hickory nuts. I am so happy to have this recipe. I have a nut cracker but I wouldn't know where to get Hickory nuts. Thanks.

Jane (2010-11-17 20:19:46)

Those were always the best ever cookies. I'm going to make some for Thanksgiving if I have any hickory nuts.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-17 22:30:34)

We did call them Ice box cookies. You can find ice box cookies in lots of cook books. I have tried a lot of them, but they didn't taste as good

as Mothers. Does anyone have Mothers corn flake cookie recipe? I liked them too. I couldn't make those either.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-12-22 13:51:00)

Hi Naomi, I wrote you a note on Facebook this morning about Peggy Probst Heidbreder. I was wondering who her parents were. I have alot of Probsts and Propsts in my tree and a few Heidbrederes, but I can't find her. Would you mind giving me that info so I can update my files. Thanks so much, Sherie Fischer Krause (grandmother was Rosina Canora Sommerer).

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-24 14:54:08)

My favorite was the chocolate chip cookies made with chips that weren't chocolate cause they made Grandmas nose turn red. They were butter flavored.. ???

Cleopha Howard (2010-12-22 17:18:02)

Hi sherry. this is Cleo. I will sent you that info as soon as I can. Peggy is the step- granddaughter of Aunt Nora Ehrhardt. Aunt Nora Married Henry Hemeyer and he had a daughter named Dorothy(His daughter by first marriage)Dorothy Hemeyer married Clarence propst. Does this get you back on track ? if not just e-mail me .

Mahlon (2010-11-20 19:42:34)

We have some hickory nuts. Mahlon says if he gets some cracked and picked out he'll make some cookies. They really were special.

Seven Sister's Roses (2010-11-19 04:07)

Aunt Naomi sent these to me a few weeks ago. She didn't provide the story behind the name, but I'm sure we can get her to fill in the details...





Lloyd Jr. (2010-11-21 19:32:28)

I don't actually know what it is, but for some reason it reminds me a lot of Mary Jane.

cleo (2010-11-21 17:30:41)

On the top picture there is a plant growing up around the roses. They are about 3 feet high I am guessing. I would love to know what they were. Does anyone remember what color they were? If they were perennials? Where did they come from. Mother and her card playing friends traded flowers and seeds a lot .

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-21 16:44:06)

When I was little, these roses were all along the gate and fence going out in the garden, They were beautiful, I was always proud that they had our name, being one of seven sisters. I don't remember them being out at the front gate. Mother must have planted them after I left home. I wish I had a start off those bushes! I think Sigmund Freud knew what he was talking about.

Julie Baker (2010-11-19 04:47:59)

I found this online: 1817 Both this rose and *R. multiflora carnea* were painted by Redouté in France and both are frequently found in early Texas gardens. By the effort that it took to transport them through the intervening miles, those early settlers have left their own testimony about the need for beauty in even the most rugged human existence. 'Seven Sisters' is named for the variety of colors that can appear in each cluster of flowers, ranging from carmine through purple, mauve, pink, and cream as the flowers fade.

Julie Baker (2010-11-19 04:56:29)

and this: when they bloom, it is a riot! they bloom in groups of seven, are soft pink and about as big as the tip of your thumb.

Christina Rowland (2010-11-19 10:42:42)

Oh....I thought they were named for my Seven aunts.....

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-19 10:56:02)

I, being one of "seven sisters" really loved them. I don't know why they dug them out and got rid of them. Does anyone know? Last night at Ruby Tuesdays I had "Seven Sisters" wine with my meal. I just feel like that's MY wine! Being one of seven sisters is the most wonderful gift that Mother and Daddy gave us...our brothers are wonderful too...but you don't hear of "five brothers" roses or wine...ha ha

cleo (2010-11-19 12:07:20)

Thank you Naomi. How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood, when fond recollections present them to view.

Jane (2010-11-19 21:33:29)

They are so pretty but didn't they have a lot of stickers for little fingers and toes?

Julie Baker (2010-11-20 12:07:18)

I think you might be on to something there. Maybe the grandchildren

were getting hurt by them.

Julie Baker (2010-11-21 10:46:46)

"One day in retrospect the years of struggle will strike you as the most beautiful."– Sigmund Freud

Just a Sample (2010-11-22 04:13)

In a rather round about fashion, I have a sample from the CD of the Men's Group at Honey Creek that Danny was telling us about a few weeks ago. I sent an email to Cousin Sam, and he got in touch with his nephews, the *ances, and shortly thereafter Chance Sommerer had a shiny new mp3 in my mailbox that I can share with the rest of you.

On My Father's Side –HoneyCreek Men's Group

Lloyd (2010-11-23 18:40:45)

We should record the sing-a-long next 4th of July.

Aunt Bea (2010-11-27 20:05:01)

Aunt Bea says, send more music folks, lots of it. Remember to prepare a skit for over the 4th of July 2011. Try real hard kids. Love to all, try for first prize.

cleo (2010-11-23 18:15:33)

Well this was sure a nice suprise! I love that song.I never dreamed the day would come when I could listen to music on the sommerer web site. Thanks

cleo (2010-11-30 07:49:35)

Hi Jane, most of mine are gone.I ate them. Lolly was telling me about cookies made with butter drying out and crumbling. I know that the fact that these were made with butter was what was making them so good, but I was wondering if they would be just as good if I used half butter and half margarine. I am going to try it the next time. I still have about a gallon of the other cookies.

Jane (2010-11-30 00:58:07)

Not sure where to post this. I made the ice box cookies for Thanksgiving. Used the light B Sugar. I thought the recipe a little dry. Not like most cookie doughs so added some milk to it. Took longer

to bake. They turned out ok. Noone complained but for all other experimenters. Try it the way it was posted. Even if it appears dry it probably doesn't need extra liquid but I would use large eggs in it. (Experimenters either make it better or regret it)

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-29 21:47:04)

That was a good idea Mahlon, putting the ice box cookie dough in bread pans. If I make more I will try that. I had enough hickory nuts for one batch. They turned out real good I thought. I also used light brown sugar, I will try the dark brown next time. Thanks for telling us that. My family didn't eat many of them, I guess they held no memories for them. That's ok though, that leaves more for me! ha We had Sam, Danny and Doug's family here on and off from Thursday to Monday morning. Katie came Saturday evening and left Sunday afternoon. Josh came Sun. afternoon and left Monday. and Sam's family left Sunday morning. Hazel and Kenny Braun also came for Thanksgiving supper. It was a fun and blessed weekend. For several years now, we have a talent show, after the meal on Thanksgiving. Each of the grandkids who take part in it receive five dollars each. A grand prize is then offered to the best talent from the ages 0-12, and from the 13- on up age group. Joseph won the older age, he played several songs on the violin, and did really well. John and Leah, and Gracen and Anna also won first prize's which was an additional 5 dollars! John sang Three Men on the Mountain, played his harmonica, and his fiddle, Leah played her fiddle and was the bell ringer, for John and Joseph when they played jingle bells on the violin. Anna and Gracen, sang songs and acted one out. Anna played the piano. They were all so cute. Whitney, Lance, Chance, and Hance didn't practice anything, but I made them sing a song, They sang the doxology in three part harmony, They did a good job for not practicing. I lost another guinea, we don't know what happened to this one. I have 6 left. This is my Thanksgiving story, and I can't remember what we did this past year, other then cook, wash clothes and chase guineas. I love you all.

Mahlon (2010-11-29 17:51:48)

I want to thank everybody who added information about the ice box cookies. I took the recipe and made it six times bigger for 270 cookies that are about 3"x6". I made them in the bread pans and sliced them 1/4" thick and they turned out good. I added more hickory nuts. You should use dark brown sugar but I only had light brown. This weekend the kids ate them and I didn't see any leftover pieces laying around. We were blessed with 59 of our family here for the weekend. Some of the family went to their homes close by to sleep. That still left us wall to wall in beds on the floor. We all had a good time. Friday night we filled them up with home made chicken noodle soup and Debbie's desserts plus Sherri's new eclair square dessert plus who knows how many dips and etc. Saturday morning was a buffet breakfast and that night we had tacos. FOOD FOOD FOOD! Lots of card playing and kids exploring and playing outside. Our surprise guests were Jane and Aunt Bea on Saturday afternoon. We looked at lots of pictures and reminisced. Sunday morning they all packed up after breakfast. They cleaned house and left us to ask "what happened here?" It was lovely! Just FYI...Debbie has her own home now and is decorating for Christmas. Remember her birthday is Dec 3. FYI again...as far as the website is going - we are enjoying hearing all your comments and perception of things that happened in our family. Some of them we just took for granted everybody knew. More has been discussed on this website than at any reunion we've had. Love you every one!

cleo (2010-12-01 09:37:40)

I am going to church at noon with my friend Elizabeth and then we go to Steves to eat and then we go shopping . I hope I see some butter flavor somewhere. I hope I remember that I need butter flavor. Thanks Christina

Christina Rowland (2010-11-30 13:30:10)

Aunt cleo...you should try using the butter flavored crisco.....I use it in my chocolate chip cookies and it is yummy!

Julie Baker (2010-11-30 09:29:43)

She sent a bunch of them to Scott. Then shared the rest with Sarah and I!

Julie Baker (2010-11-30 16:23:44)

Be sure to submit Debbie's new address to the website!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-24 14:56:52)

Lets all put pressure on Uncles to tell us their stories about the coon hunting Labrador and make a CD with the sing along songs as well. Add in some interviews mixed in with the stories and songs.

Pete Sommerer (2010-12-26 09:04:01)

If anyone thought that snickerdoodles were good or lepcuchans (sp?) were the best or chocolate chips..... YOU NEED TO TRY DAD'S HICKORY NUT COOKIES. They are simply the best cookie EVER. I would have loved to been there when he was baking them with a glass of milk to keep an eye on things.

Julie Baker (2010-11-24 16:21:22)

sounds like a job too big for anyone but iLloyd!

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-22 21:38:59)

To update you on Calvary High school. A Dedication/Blessing with be on Dec 5th at 2PM. If we use it for school before the 5th then they will have blessing of the building before the start of classes that morning. We are planning an open house for sometime next spring. This school has been blessed by our family members that have helped out in many ways. We have 51 or 52 students now and will get 2-3 more at the start of the spring semester. Over 1/2 of our student body is freshman. The *ances will graduate in a class of 7 in the spring. Hance will start there in the fall of 2011. Love to all. Danny

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-22 21:33:11)

Thank you for putting the song on the website Jr. Jesus was between the ages of John Robert and Hance when he was with the bible schol-

ars answering those questions. I bet they were shocked. I love those pictures of the roses. Keep them coming. I wish our uncles would record us a tape of the ole coon hunt'n Labador shorties. Maybe we could have a story time on friday night at HP for some those great stories??? When I tell my kids that I went hunting on the Coon Hunting Labador they look at me like I have lost my mind—whats left of it anyway.

Julie Baker (2010-11-22 18:41:07)

Very very nice...

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-22 11:15:50)

That is my favorite song on the CD. I had never heard that song before. It is beautiful!

Life at Schubert's... by Aunt Bea (part 1)

(2010-11-24 04:46)

Down at Schubert's, daddy built mom a sink safe (or cabinet). He never painted or varnished it. The pump was green and the pipe went straight down into the cellar. At Schubert's, the cistern was kind of right outside the cellar somehow and we need to ask Vernon how daddy managed getting it into the cellar... I don't remember. We could pump water into the sink and it didn't freeze up like the outside pump in cold weather. The pump outside was a chain device like ours was on the Stressnor place. The cistern was under the porch room, so the water was usually cold. And when the summer heat melted the butter and soured the cream, we put them (I don't remember how) down into the cistern to keep them from spoiling. That was before daddy bought mom the coal oil refrigerator. I remember the frige was full of gallon jars full of cream before we made butter on Friday. Daddy would get ice at the Schubert service station to put around the butter on Saturday while we peddled it. We also had cooked cheese made on Friday. The cheese curds were soured and allowed to ferment on a shelf in the kitchen. It stank very badly. If someone came, Mom took down one of the pans of cheese and stirred it in the presence of the guest so that they didn't think the smell was of baby diapers. Mom was a very resourceful person...bless her soul!

Jane (2010-11-28 15:34:27)

Uncle Lloyd says you started the washer with your foot. The new motor cycles you don't start with your foot. When David and Glenn Miller had motorcycles you pumped them with your foot but the newer models you don't do that to.

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-25 11:30:35)

Thank you Aunt Bea for the neat story, please keep them coming. Someone in this family should write a book of all these stories and others. We are all thankful for each of you. Danny, Denise, Whitney, Chance, Lance and Hance

Danny Sommerer (2010-11-25 11:39:07)

Grandma used to tell me (to get me to eat her homemade cottage cheese) that I should stir it into my mashed potatoes cause thats what Uncle Lloyd did. She said "look how big he got by doing that." I always wondered if any of that was true?? You know, Grandma sure could tell some whoppers, ie., the hobo in the upstairs so the kids wouldn't go upstairs. She used to say (to get us to do something we didn't want to do) "When I was a boy I would do that...." Can anyone else have any good whopper stories that Grandma told them? Danny

Julie Baker (2010-11-25 14:53:32)

Your right! She did used to say she was a boy!!! I always wondered about that too!!hahaha

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-24 16:51:59)

It was my job (when I was little) to keep the ice box full of coal oil. Mother's wash machine also ran on coal oil. She had to start it like one would start a motor cycle. Sometimes it gave her trouble but most of the time she got it going. Later on (when we got electricity) the kids must have bought her a new maytag ringer washing machine. It was wonderful!

Happy Thanksgiving (2010-11-25 04:11)

Happy Thanksgiving everyone. I'll let you take it from here.

Julie Baker (2010-11-25 07:15:11)

Warmest wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving to each one of you. We celebrate separate now but our hearts go back to the times we were together! I found this poem that reminds me of Thanksgivings at grandmas. I was going to try to write one myself ...but this one is so good I'll use it. It's kind of long but says it all. Thanksgiving (Edgar Albert Guest, 1881-1959) Gettin' together to smile an' rejoice, An' eatin' an' laughin' with folks of your choice; An' kissin' the girls an' declarin' that they Are growin more beautiful day after day; Chattin' an' braggin' a bit with the men, Buildin' the old family circle again; Livin' the wholesome an' old-fashioned cheer, Just for awhile at the end of the year. Greetings fly fast as we crowd through the door And under the old roof we gather once more Just as we did when the youngsters were small; Mother's a little bit grayer, that's all. Father's a little bit older, but still Ready to romp an' to laugh with a will. Here we are back at the table again Tellin' our stories as women an men. Bowed are our heads for a moment in prayer; Oh, but we're grateful an' glad to be there. Home from the east land an' home from the west, Home with the folks that are dearest an' best. Out of the sham of the cities afar We've come for a time to be just what we are. Here we can talk of ourselves an' be frank, Forgettin' position an' station an' rank. Give me the end of the year an' its fun When most of the plannin' an' toilin' is done; Bring all the wanderers home to the nest, Let me sit down with the ones I love best, Hear the old voices still ringin' with song, See the old faces unblemished by wrong, See the old table with all of its chairs An I'll put soul in my Thanksgivin' prayers.

Jane (2010-11-28 15:27:49)

Uncle Lloyd says Happy Thanksgiving to each and everyone of you. We had a great after Thanksgiving party. The Pit game was going for over 4 hours and it was fun hearing all the young voices.

Aunt Lolly (2010-11-28 00:00:22)

Just a sad note to pass on. The house on Cedar Row (Aunt Nora and Uncle Henry's place) burned down last night. The roof of the kitchen area was fallen in, and all the rest of the house is standing, but will have to be torn down it looks like. Also the people who lived there before they both died, had cut down all the row of cedars that Uncle Gus and Mother had planted. Mother was 5 years old at the time. She always said that she carried the water, to each tree that Uncle Gus planted. It makes me sad to see all the changes that are happening. Happy Thanksgiving to all our precious family everywhere.

Julie Baker (2010-11-28 09:52:38)

what a tragedy. I loved seeing those trees. That's how I identified the house was by the trees. Both gone now.

Heidi (2010-11-25 23:27:00)

Oh, so sweet of you Lloyd! Did you see me FB message on the Sommerer page? Happy thanksgiving to everyone! Hugs and kisses to all of you! What a great family we have! May the good lord continue to bless all of us year after year!!

Washed Woolens in Gasoline (2010-11-29 04:43)

You might recall entry number 116 from Grandma's Diary that everyone found so interesting:

Dec. 16, 1923 – At home all day. Washed woolens in gasoline.

Evidently this was a fairly common practice, but was maybe not such a good idea. This video is from 1941. It will start playing at the right segment when you click on it. Or you can play it from the start if you want.

[EMBED]

Naomi Vetter (2010-11-29 14:44:09)

I wonder how sheep kept their wool clean...or just didn't. I wonder how people in the 15th century and other "agos" kept wool clean. I wonder how those dry cleaning sheets that you can purchase to put in the dryer to clean our woolens work and not catch fire.

Julie Baker (2010-11-29 11:36:07)

wow! I still couldn't get past the smell! I'm glad she never blew up anything while washing. And she never got hurt doing it.

1.6 December

Uncle Vernon's Story (part 4) (2010-12-01 04:07)

You've heard parts of this story before from other people, but I'm going to publish everything, because I think it's important to hear how different people remember things. –Lloyd

The first seven children were born at the first place where Daddy was born and raised. Mom's first child was born in August of 1917 and her last child was born in May of 1943 –that's twenty-six years of child bearing. He purchased it from his dad. The condition of the sale from Grandpa to Daddy was that he, grandpa, had a room in the house for as long as he lived. As the family grew, Daddy and Mom needed more room, so an additional room was added. While times were good, Mom and Daddy also had electricity put into the place (gas driven generator).

They then lost it [the house] when the depression hit. Uncle Bill Meyer and Aunt Yetta took it over when Daddy lost it. Grandpa Sommerer stayed in the house with the Meyer family, but later he came to live with us at Schubert. Later he moved to Aunt Margaret's house where he died.

Since uncle Herbert Sommerer was crippled, grandpa Sommerer gave him a college education and he had a good job after graduating, but he had farming in his blood, so grandpa Sommerer again helped him [This time by helping him to] buy the Ivan place which he walked away from when the depression hit. And [he] got lost from the family until about some time in the early forties the Jefferson City Sommerer's got word that he was in a hospital in St. Louis. So he was bought to Aunt Dora's who took care of him except for a short time when he lived with us on the seventh

place.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-02 19:08:59)

I'm not sure how long the ban went into effect, but it finally ended in 1998 or maybe 1999. When was the first reunion at Heit's Point?

cleo (2010-12-02 09:15:41)

I was trying to figure out why you would be banned from the family reunion, so I went to my dictionary and looked up what it ment to be banned, and there is no such word in my dictionary. Are you sure you were banned.(I hope I spelled this right)

Danny Sommerer (2010-12-01 22:10:43)

Lloyd Jr., If we didn't ban Pete from the family reunion for voting for Demo's Clinton, Kerry and Obama (Our Big Assed Mistake America) we could never ban you!!! Ha Ha

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-01 22:40:08)

I always wondered how, if any way, our family would have been any different if there had not been a depression.

Christina (2010-12-02 00:58:46)

I think he is referring to the February reunions that were just one day and were hard to make it to because of the terrible weather in Nebraska.....maybe he meant to say stranded from instead of banned!

Christina (2010-12-02 00:59:44)

Maybe Grandma and Grandpa would have had MORE kids! That would have been fun!

Julie Baker (2010-12-01 18:26:37)

He must mean he was band because he wasn't born yet. Is that it? Or did you ever bring a dog?

cleo (2010-12-01 11:38:29)

In reply to Vernons article I am so glad you wrote this. and I wish you would write more.I hope someday you can respond to Bea's article about the water works at Schuberts.I am looking forward to more of your memories. I hope you are preparing for telling your coon hunting in the Labador stories at the family reunion at Heits point this summer. THANKS

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-01 14:44:29)

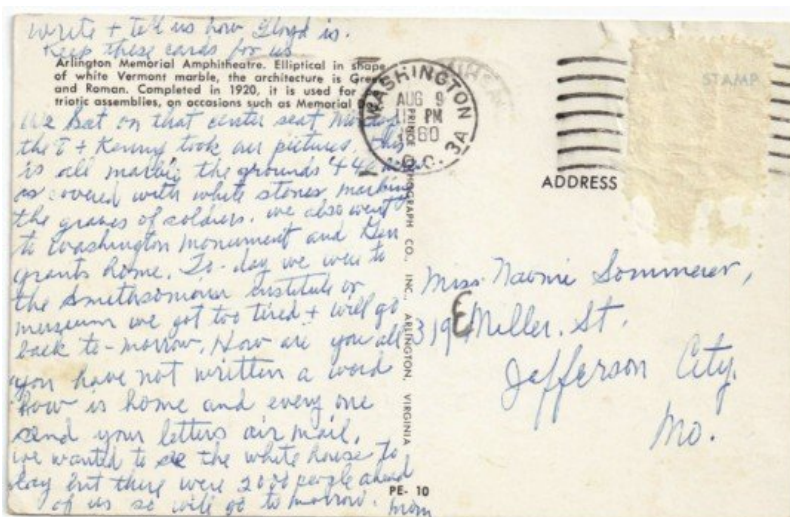
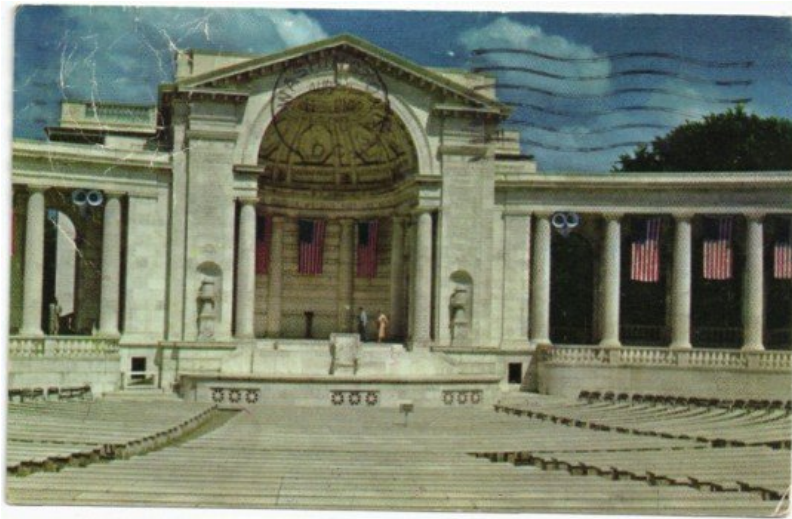
I do have a lot more stories from Uncle Vernon, Aunt Naomi and to a somewhat lesser extent Aunt Bea, Uncle Mahlon and Aunt Lillian. Some of them are from the book of memories that was produced while I was still banned from the family reunion (Christina typed them up for the website). Many of the ones from Aunt Naomi and Uncle Vernon are from longer documents that they made. I'm splitting them up into smaller chunks to give us a chance to talk about each part. I still don't have much from Aunt Cleo, Aunt Lolly or Uncle Lloyd.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-01 16:19:12)

When were you banned from the family reunion? I'm glad I never knew about that. I would have been very upset. Love you to much.

Photo Friday -Postcard from Grandma & Grandpa (2010-12-03 04:13)

Anne Miller sent in some post cards that Grandma & Grandpa sent back from when they went out to visit Aunt Elizabeth and Uncle Justin while they were living in Washington D.C. She even went to the trouble of transcribing them for us. Thanks Anne.



Addressed to:

Miss Naomi Sommerer, 319 Miller St Jefferson City, MO

Postmarked:

Washington, DC Aug 9, 1960 11 PM

Text:

Write + tell us how Lloyd is. Keep these cards for us

We sat on that center seat Monday the 8 + Kenny took our pictures. This is all marble the grounds 446? acres is covered with white stones marking the graves of soldiers. we also went to Washington Monument and Gen Grant's home. Today we were to the Smithsonian Institute or museum we got too tired + will go back tomorrow. How are you all you have not written a word how is home and everyone send your letters air mail. We wanted to see the White House today but there were 2000 people ahead of us so will go tomorrow. Mom

Cleo (2010-12-07 16:45:35)

He wasn't that young when Mother and father went to Washington DC, but I was 4 when i ran the farm, all by myself(that's my coon hunting in the Labrador story.

Jane (2010-12-06 19:19:32)

Lloyd was home taking care of the farm. Maybe when he gets home he can tell that story. Elizabeth was a very good tour guide. She had a tour all planned out for Cleo,Julie, Lloyd and I. I'm sure she gave Grandma and Grandpa a wonderful tour of Washington, D.C.

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-03 22:00:39)

I am glad to see the address of where Cleo lived when I stayed with her in the summer (I was working in Jeff City and going to MU at the time) and I fondly remember that cute apartment.

Christina Rowland (2010-12-06 13:34:38)

Why did Grandma want news about Lloyd?

cleo (2010-12-05 07:35:09)

Anna , thank you. That made my day. I wanted to say that I lived in 3 different apartments that I rented from Tom strong on E. Miller Street. I also rented a apartment from Julius Heisinger that was about 4 houses down the street in the same block. That was the last place I lived before I built my house, With the help of Tom Strong and Elmer Goldhammer. I loved that place and I think Julie did too. It had 2 large rooms and a bath and a porch and a yard. Julius Heisinger and wife and Tom Strong and wife and Elmer Goldhammerand wife were angels in disguise I think. Elmer Goldhammers wife was the one who took Tom Strongs origional plans and drew up my house plan from the origional one. Naomi lived with Lolly and I (before Lolly got married)At the last apartment I rented from Tom Strong. I dont really remember but she said she did. Lolly would remember.That was When I got my job back and came back to town with Julie.She was a baby. The apartment at 319 Miller street is the one I rented from Tom Strong that we all loved so much, where mother addressed this letter to Naomi.

cleo (2010-12-05 07:55:09)

I am so sorry I made a big blooper. I ment to say the house at 319 Miller street was rented from Julius Heisinger and wife. I can't remember her name now. I paid 35 dollars a month to live there. That was how I was able to save money for the house. The new expressway had been built and Central Trust Bank went up across the street. I knew I had to get out of there when Julie started school because of the expressway. Tom Strongs wife ask me if I made any difference which Lutheran church I went to. She said they owned a lot out by the Faith Lutheran church,and that is how I come to be living here. We moved in to the house right before school started when Julie went to kindergarten to west school

Julie Baker (2010-12-05 09:28:32)

I remember that place !!! The first room was a kitchen / living room combination. the 2nd room was a big bedroom. Then there was a bathroom. The front of the house was Mr Heisinger's office. We en-

tered from the side. There was a nice covered porch too. I remember sitting in the bathroom on my potty chair when I found out what Aunt Lolly was thinking about naming her baby; and was singing the Davey Crocket song! I was so glad he would be named after someone I knew!haha

Christina (2010-12-04 21:59:39)

We went there too on our family vacation in 2009! Here's a picture of Declan sitting in the chair <http://www.flickr.com/photos/41763387@N04/5232579487/>

Julie Baker (2010-12-03 13:08:14)

Someone took off the stamp! I was looking for the tac hole from being Hung on the devider. I guess it was to early for that. The devider was grandma's message center!

Mahlon (2010-12-08 20:16:59)

I always looked at my parents as being old. But they weren't that old. In 1940 Mom would have been 42 years old. After someone in Adolph Probst's family got married we were at their house about where Trinklins is now and those crazy old people were out there doing the old hoe down square dance. You can't leave any grass growing under your feet when you do that. Maybe they really weren't so old after all. Lillian was right they were good dancers. She had 14 years before I was born. She had some good years before the depression hit. Lloyd was seven years old when I went into the service. Dad had him drive the tractor because Dad didn't know how to do it. Didn't know where to beat the tractor if it went wrong.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-09 09:59:41)

Not too much ever went wrong with that brand new Allis Chalmers tractor! ha ha Dady would spend hours working on it for some reason, mostly when it was milking time. I never could figure that out. He took good care of it. I was the first one to get to drive the tractor after they unloaded it in the barn lot. It was beautiful! I climbed on the tractor, and the guy said, do you want to learn how to drive it?

I said yes! He showed me all the gears and what to do. Mother and Dady didn't holler at me and tell me to get down, so I did what the man said and drove around the barn yard. It was wonderful! After that Daddy would let me drive once in a while. I was between 13 and 14 years old I think. I will never forget the first time we saw Mother and Dady dance. It was at a 4-H party. Us kids just about fell through the floor. They were good!!! Wouldn't It had been nice if they would have taught us to dance? The way Daddy always talked about dancing, we thought it was a grave sin!

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-07 09:46:21)

More like 12 years Lloyd Jr. 4 sounds more impressive!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-07 07:25:00)

Remember, he was 4 years old when he had to take care of the farm by himself... I'm sure he told us that...

Aunt Naomi's story (part 5) (2010-12-06 04:10)

Another neighbor we became good friends with is Evelyn Shellabarger. She and her parents lived on the farm north of ours. When they moved in we tried to guess what Evelyn would be like, before we met her.

We decided (from what we could see of her across the fields) that she was blond, beautiful and very rich. We named her "Gloria" because that name would be befitting to a blond, rich girl. We were right, she was rich and beautiful, inside as well as out. We fast became good friends.

She was sandwiched right between Lolly and I –Lolly one year older and I one year younger than Evelyn. We had so much fun together. Evelyn made our mundane life so much more bearable and fun. Her dad let her drive his car. This was practically unheard of in our community – a teenage girl driving! The Shellabargers came from the state of California but originally were from Mexico, Missouri. Evelyn was very smart and very popular in school. She was interested in everything and everyone. She could do anything. She helped her dad remodel their house and helped in the fields just like a son would. Their two older sons had big farms around Mexico, Missouri. I guess Evelyn had to do the work the boys would have done.

Evelyn and Lolly planned a surprise birthday party for me on my 16th. They took me to the Triangle Café to get a milkshake. That was my birthday present from them. When we got back to the house, the house was full of friends. I was so shy and embarrassed I ran upstairs to my bedroom and didn't come down until 20 minutes later. I had a lot of fun and got some wonderful gifts. A boy friend came all the way from Centertown to the party. That was a long way to go back in those days.

Christina Rowland (2010-12-07 17:08:45)

I never knew there was a pond over there.....go figure!

Jane (2010-12-06 19:25:51)

The Callahan's moved in when Dad and I were in Chicago. They still live there. Did you get in on fixing the orchard fence with Mel?? Not sure who did that. Probably Aaron and Andrew. Maybe Lloyd.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-06 19:52:46)

When the Smith's lived in the house, They remodeled it. It had a nice big kitchen and a small bedroom. I don't know if it had a bathroom. I was in the house one time when they ask me to milk their goat, while they were gone for a few days, They were really nice people. It was such a shock to us when she drowned herself. I think she suffered from depression. After she died, He left. Dennie and Birdie Spalding lived in the house for a while. When Shellabargers bought the place, Evelyn and Mr. Shellabarger added on to the bedroom making it a large living room, and added two big bedrooms with a bathroom between them. It was very nice. I ask Evelyn one time how she knew how to build a house, she said,,," any darn fool can build a house! oh, ok I said. Later when we built our house, I found out it wasn't that easy. Walter Popp was the first person I know of who owned the farm. He probably lived in the log cabin.

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-06 16:18:30)

Yes, that is it, Christina. Some of the other kids better know the history of that house. I think someone told me it originally was a log cabin built onto time and again. Lolly, I'll bet knows how much of it they added on, and Lloyd would know if it had been added onto after Shellabargers and Callahan's left. When the Smith's lived there, we children learned for the first time about people committing suicide. Mr. Smith's wife evidently had a mental disorder, and she drowned herself in the pond down below the barn.

Rachel (2010-12-06 16:11:25)

That was 5 questions, right in a row. One might think that you were

trying to get nine of them so that you could ring the bell!! (To most of you this will make no sense whatsoever. To those of you who know, she's looking to trade 4,4,4!)

Christina Rowland (2010-12-06 13:37:25)

When you say North, do you mean where the Callahan's farm is now? The barn you can see to the north of Grandma's house (above the spring pasture)? Was that the original barn? The house over there looks like it was built in the 50's or 60's, was there a farm house over there? What did it look like?

Christina Rowland (2010-12-07 13:03:30)

Surprisingly, this game was the first time I actually HEARD Anna's true voice.....she and Brittney were rivals for who could be loudest!

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-07 12:42:29)

Thanks for explaining that! Don't you just hate it when the same people/person wins ALL the time?!! I've been trying to beat Deanne at a game of Scrabble for as long as she has been my daughter-in-law, and I CANNOT!

Rachel (2010-12-07 11:31:04)

The 4,4,4 and other numbers are in reference to a game that a small group of us played over Thanksgiving at Uncle Lloyd and Aunt Jane's house, called "Pit." You trade cards, trying to get all of one kind (9) to win. Since Christina started with 5 questions, I was joking that she needed 4 more to complete her set. And in the end, Sam or Brittany ALWAYS won!

Julie Baker (2010-12-07 00:02:25)

I never knew about the woman drowning herself. I do remember hearing talk about the other neighbor hanging himself in his barn.

Julie Baker (2010-12-07 00:00:10)

game

Julie Baker (2010-12-06 23:59:46)

hummm,maybe it's some kind of card came????

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-06 23:09:33)

Okay....I'm not going to be able to sleep tonight wondering what 2,2,2,3,3,3, and 4,4,4, mean! What in the world do those numbers mean. Does everybody know but me?

Christina (2010-12-06 22:15:39)

2,2,2,NO, 3,3,3.....forget it Brittney won!

Things I remember about Theresa & Adolph Sommerer... by Aunt Sis (part 1) (2010-12-08 04:45)

Things I (as a young child that is) remember about my parents, Theresa & Adolph Sommerer. They were always doing something. They were going to School meetings at Honey Creek or East Union School where Adolph learned his 3 R's. Theresa & Adolph still have those school mates as their best friends. I remember box suppers, Halloween parties at school, lots of music. Theresa & Adolph loved music programs and Adolph saw to it that new teachers were anxious and able to put on such plays with rousing music on many occasions. These same schoolmates whose children are still our good friends, would meet at each others home for wonderful meals & dancing. I still remember being sent to bed and wake up about 11:00 pm, in my nightie I sat on the stairs and watched them dance, and laugh and have such fun. The electric lights were all on downstairs. Very few folks had electric lights in 1920, that is a lovely spot in my heart, when I try to remember, "did Mom & Dad ever have fun?" You bet they did!

cleo (2010-12-09 20:51:41)

I always felt bad for Sis that she was shoved out of the nest at such a early age. Now I think maybe she was the lucky one. She didn't seem to have the same memories that I have.

Julie Baker (2010-12-10 06:56:21)

I get excited for Fridays! Not because it the end of the week but because I cant wait to see a new Friday Photo on the Sommerer website!

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-08 21:04:13)

I wish I could have been alive then when they seemed to have so much young at heart fun. I never saw them like that, but did see them enjoy their friends in the community and their older children when they came home and their wonderful grandchildren (we had the great ben-

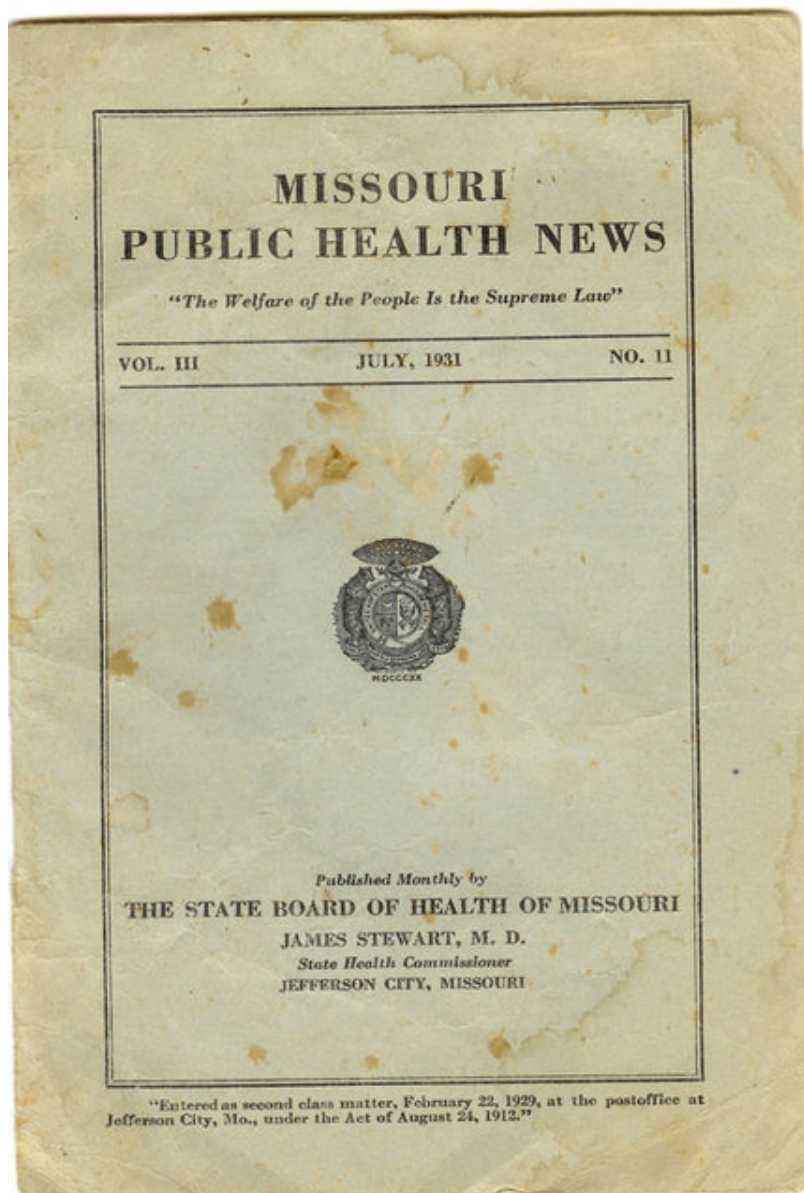
efit of having those children to play with (and lock in the outhouse hee hee)so I guess born early or late in the line up there were benefits.

Christina (2010-12-08 22:44:53)

We should have a square dance at heit's point next year....anyone know how to call?

photo friday -health record (2010-12-10 04:31)

My dad sent this in a few weeks ago. I read through it and thought to myself, "Things were different in 1929."



A Cole County Family With An Exceptional Health Record

Six Nine-Point Children and a Blue-Ribbon Baby in One Family



Six Nine-Pointers and a Blue-Ribbon Baby in one family.

All of the seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Sommerer, Route No. 4, Jefferson City, meet the health standards set by the State Board of Health of Missouri. The six older children were awarded their Nine-Point buttons this year and the baby, Anna Beatrice, age two years, has received the blue ribbon awarded by the State Board of Health to children under four years of age, whose physical condition and habits meet prescribed standards. These children have all received their smallpox vaccinations,

been immunized against diphtheria and birth certificates secured for the three older children since June, 1930. The correction of physical defects in this family has included considerable dental work and the removal of diseased tonsils in two instances.

Miss Hetty Joach, Cole county nurse, is justly proud of these children and has suggested that she would like to enter them against other Nine-Point and Blue-Ribbon families in a state contest for championship honors.—R. L. L.

Children are far more easily led to strive for better posture in sitting or standing through an appeal to rivalry or pride than through a discussion of the anatomy of the vertebra.—L. A. Averill.



Six **I** Nine-Pointers and a Blue-Ribbon Baby in one family.

Put your mouse over the photo to see the numbers

1. Uncle Felix
2. Uncle Vernon
3. Aunt Lillian
4. Aunt Bea

5. Aunt Elizabeth

6. Aunt Margie

7. Uncle Bud

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-12 21:06:13)

We also bought flour in material sacks, They were pretty.

Rachel (2010-12-10 10:13:28)

Can anyone share what being a "Nine-Pointer" entailed? What were the 'criteria' or 'standards' that were measured?

Mahlon (2010-12-11 18:36:20)

No, Mom went to the feed store with Dad to get the feed. She picked out the pattern on the feed sack for material to use. I know it for a fact because when I went into the service in 1950 I wore the prettiest boxer shorts. Margie them for me a year or so before. All the guys admired my shorts. I still wore them.

Julie Baker (2010-12-13 11:57:11)

I cant figure out how to post under prayer requests. Would like your prayers for safe travel for Shawn who is flying overseas tomorrow at 2:45. He is going to spend Christmas and new years with Scott in England.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-11 18:50:11)

Is aunt Bea's name really Anna Beatrice?

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-11 19:55:16)

Anna Beatrice (Bea) made me a feedsack dress. The way she sewed it up, it had a pig in the pocket (from the feedsack logo stamp). I loved that dress. I wish I still had it.

Cleo (2010-12-11 21:02:46)

When your aunt Bea went to town to work she didn't want to be called Beatrice (which was what we called Her) Our father didn't believe in nick names. She told people her name was Anna and that is the name she was known by with people who she worked with and newly made friends at home she was Beatrice until she got older and then some people started calling her Bea. I still think of her as Beatrice. Her official name is Anna Beatrice Sommerer Putnam... hate spell check it always tells me that Sommerer is wrong

Jane (2010-12-11 22:27:55)

Dad says they put chicken feed in the feed sacks. They bought the brand in material sacks not paper or gunny sacks. What a cute thing, a pig in a pocket. The other kids must have made over that dress.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-11 12:25:25)

I think it had to do with, If a child had all his immunization up to date, his hearing checked, is teeth looked after, ect. he was considered to be a 9 pointer. That child could then march in the health parade, which was a big thing back in the days gone by. The health nurse from Jeff. would come to our school maybe several times a year, to check each one of us over, to see if we needed dental work or eye glasses. She would talk to us about things to do to keep us healthy. Each morning after we said the pledge of allegiance, the teacher would walk up and down the rows of desk, to check each of the childrens teeth, hands, faces, fingernails, to see in we were clean, We had to have a handkerchief on our desk. If we passed this inspection. we were given a good grade for the day. Before we had tooth brushes, we had to clean our teeth with our fingers dipped in baking soda. Mahlon bought us each a tooth brush when he came home on furlow from the service, That was the first one I remember having, also he bought us each toothpaste. That was a really wonderful thing. I was probably 11 years old. It is no wonder we all had such bad teeth. Love you all.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-11 09:31:26)

I couldn't find any information about nine-pointers or blue-ribbon

families. I think it must be something like points on a buck. Does anyone know? Is it in that book?

Julie Baker (2010-12-10 08:14:06)

1 Felix or Vernon? 2 Felix or Vernon? 3 Lillian 4 Bea 5 Elizabeth 6 Margie 7 Bud

Julie Baker (2010-12-11 13:26:06)

look at their dresses. They are all made out of the same material! Makes me think of little house on the prairie or the Waltons when the mom goes to the store and buys a bolt of material and makes everything out of that material!

Julie Baker (2010-12-11 13:12:34)

wow.

Julie Baker (2010-12-11 13:18:27)

Aunt Elizabeth, uncle Bud, and Aunt Margie look a lot like they did as adults! I think this is one of the very few pictures I've seen of Lillian as a child! Elizabeth and Lillian look so different!!! I guess one took after grandpa and the other took after grandma!

Jane Maloney Putnam (2011-03-27 15:07:09)

This is totally groovy (60s)ha! I have a Blue Star mother-in-law, boy that just puts me way up on some list. This has been a nice way to spend Sunday afternoon :) Thanks ya all

Jane Maloney Putnam (2011-03-27 15:09:12)

So can anyone whip up another pair of boxers for dear 'ole Uncle Mahlon. That is too funny.

Armed Forces Page (2010-12-13 04:18)

Did you know that there's an Armed Forces Page on the black menu at the top of the site? Don't bother checking it out. There's nothing there. But maybe we could do something about that. Do you know a Sommerer who was or is active in the armed forces? Post the information that you know and maybe someone will compile it together for that page –I'm looking at you, Debbie.

I'm also looking for someone who would be willing to put this information together. I don't even really know what should go on it. The address of people who are currently on active duty? Years of service? Branch of the service? Name, rank and serial number?

Anyone have an opinion?

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-13 09:54:13)

Vernon has some wonderful stories as a military policeman during the war trials. He has a photo taken with Tojo who was executed and convicted along with 4 other leaders. I WISH we could get those stories from Mary Jane or Vernon!!!! Did you know he was proposed to by a Japanese lady (or maybe by her father).....these stories are untold to most of the family and it just breaks my heart!

Marylynn (2010-12-13 19:46:56)

Mahlon started a listing of those he knew who had served. Of course it's just a list of 23 people who he knew had served. Need more info on it.

Shawn flying to England (2010-12-14 07:30)

Julie Baker writes:

We would like your prayers for safe travel for Shawn who is flying overseas tomorrow at 2:45. He is going to spend Christmas and new years with Scott in England. And for everyone else who is traveling over the Holidays.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-14 12:56:25)

That is so wonderful! The Lord bless you and keep you Shawn. Have a good time with your big brother. We love you both. Merry Christmas. Have fun and come back safe.

Christina (2010-12-15 19:27:14)

What fun! I think I need to go visit Scott!

Julie Baker (2010-12-15 20:00:15)

He would love it!! He loves visitors and wont be there much longer soooooo book a flight!

Heidi (2010-12-16 14:38:09)

Is Scott coming home soon?

Julie Baker (2010-12-16 15:02:20)

His time there will be up sometime in May.

Julie Baker (2010-12-15 18:18:52)

Now that he is in England his brother has told him the mystery trip he has planned for him while he is over there. It was a surprise so I couldn't tell you until Scott told him! He is going to Rome Italy tomorrow for 4 days and 3 nights!!!!

Julie Baker (2010-12-15 06:43:18)

Shawn arrived safely! PTL!

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-15 07:29:17)

Hooray. I hope he remembers to bring me back something.

Life at Schubert's... by Aunt Bea (part 2)

(2010-12-15 04:48)

When there were chickens big enough to butcher, we all picked pin feathers by a 100- watt light bulb that was left in the basement (we had a basement and a cellar). When we were done, we had to store the light bulb again so no one would know we used it. The chickens were packed in ice also. I was too little at that time to peddle. We would set on the front porch and wait for our daddy to come home. We could see the highway from there and watched for our daddy's car. Mahlon and I would play under the lilac bush with little cars. We made roads and little stick houses. We had little toys that came out of Cracker Jack boxes that we got at the Sunday school picnic. Daddy would give us a nickel to spend at the picnic. In the summertime, I suppose that was our high point. The picnic had prisoners from Algoa Reformatory playing music all day. That was a highlight also. Once, my family got in the Buick and left. The car being full, I was left stranded there. They came later and got me. That was a low time for me to remember. In the olden time, if you had \$1.00 that was 20 nickels. I thought my daddy was so rich when he let me have one every time I ask.

Lauren (2010-12-15 21:57:30)

I wondered the same thing.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-15 23:47:08)

I was too!

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-15 17:11:01)

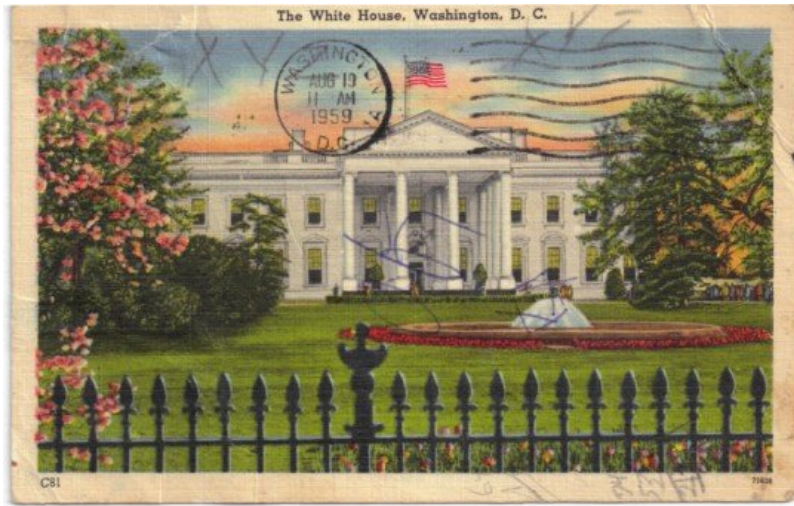
I love hearing these stories about the family (one-half of it) at Schubert, and I always thought the house at Schubert was so grand! Luckily we have some video of it with Mother and Elizabeth talking about it. Keep the stories coming Bea!

Christina (2010-12-15 19:26:33)

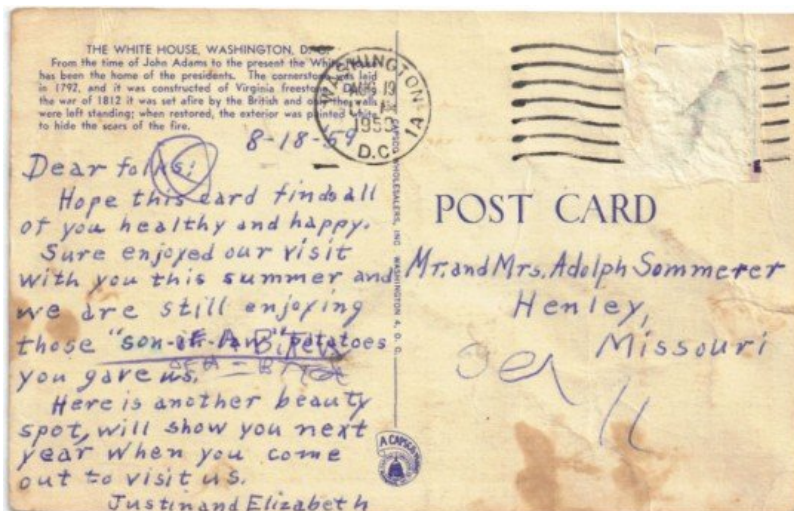
who were they hiding the fact that they used the light bulb from?

Photo Friday -Postcard from Aunt Elizabeth (2010-12-17 04:19)

Another postcard from Aunt Elizabeth and uncle Justin. Anne Miller sent this in.



[click to enlarge](#)



[click to enlarge](#)

Addressed to:

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Sommerer Henley, MO

Postmarked:

Washington, DC Aug 19, 1959 11AM

Text: (Definitely my Grandpa Justin's handwriting here)

8-18-'59

Dear Folks:

Hope this cards finds all of you healthy and happy. Sure enjoyed our visit with you this summer and we are still enjoying those "son-in-law" (someone has written over this text and revised it to "son-of-a-Bit**", but the original was "in-law") potatoes you gave us. Here is another beauty spot, will show you next year when you come out to visit us.

Justin and Elizabeth

Cleo (2010-12-18 17:22:58)

I was racking my brain to think of a reason they were referred to as son-in-law potatoes. I think Lolly came up with the good answer. I was also thinking Justin may have been unlucky enough to get in on the digging of those potatoes, and of course those were the best to eat, those newly dug small potatoes. I wish I had some. I try every year to grow a potato or 2 and I never get more then i plant.

Julie Baker (2010-12-17 10:26:32)

What is a son-in-law potato?

Maryllynn (2010-12-18 21:06:32)

Dad had a contraption he made to grade the potatoes by size. It was kind of like a long box with moveable slots. You poured in the potatoes and the small ones fell through. The potato grading box is probably still in the smoke house. These small ones needed to be canned or used before the good ones since they wouldn't keep well. Dad called his son in laws and told them to come and get them. He wouldn't deliver. What was left was soon boiled in the huge cast iron pot on a fire outside. Every morning we'd throw out three or four gallons for the chickens to eat. The chickens loved the soft cooked

potatoes. By the way we stored a lot of potatoes. We'd plant three or four hundred pounds in the spring. The cellar was probably 20 feet long and from the door to the south wall was potato storage. The potato shelf was four feet wide and 18 inches deep and 20 feet long. It was piled as high as we could get it with good potatoes. Some were sold and some were traded and we ate the rest. When Lloyd hurt his foot in 1946 we took in a couple hundred pounds of potatoes and some other garden produce and milk products to help pay for his treatment. Anything the hospital would take we put toward the hospital bill.

Julie Baker (2010-12-19 05:43:20)

Now we know why he called them as son-in-law potatoes! Thanks!

Jane (2010-12-19 21:18:12)

Lloyd says Justin wrote the card because he always printed everything. He also says in his lifetime they never boiled them and gave to the chickens. They always gave them to the son-in-laws. Happy Birthday Lloyd. Hope you feel better

Christina Rowland (2010-12-17 10:45:19)

Maybe Uncle Justin really enjoyed potatoes?

Anne (2010-12-17 12:51:20)

I wanna know who "altered" the name of the potatoes?

Anne (2010-12-17 13:12:30)

At first glance, I just saw the amended potato description; I wondered if it was a commentary on how difficult they were to grow. Searched the Internet and couldn't find anything about a variety of potato, called "son-in-law". Maybe this was an inside joke; I will talk with my dad about it.

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-17 16:33:44)

It doesn't look like anyone's handwriting that I can recognize. How funny, and I guess the devil just made someone do it!

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-18 10:22:36)

I think the son-in-law potatoes,were the small potatoes, that were everyone's favorites. You could boil them, and then peal and fry in some bacon grease or butter, with spices. they were so good and Justin liked them, Mother and Dady probably sent those home with Justin each summer.

CSI: Honey Creek (2010-12-20 04:03)

See, I told you there was someone in the window! But who are they?



Some of these people?



Or maybe some of these?



What do you think?

Cleopha Howard (2010-12-22 17:27:40)

Hi Mark it is good to hear from you. I want to comment on that picture in the window. Do you people see the same thing that I think

I see? I see a person in the plaid shirt standing and lookin toward the right. Then i think I see a taller person in a white shirt to his right but standing close by him. Then I think I see a short persons arm and I think this has to be the arm of a third person ,a shorter boy standing in front of the person in the white shirt. comment please

Christina (2010-12-21 21:22:04)

Happy Birthday Kathy!

Mark Sommerer (2010-12-22 14:39:11)

That's right cuz, "plaid shirt guy" (in elvis costello specs) - is Scott(crew-cut boy in aquamarine polo shirt) and my Dad Felix. These pics are all circa 1965-1967 at the Honeycreek Family Reunions. Best Regards to All. -Mark (tall boy in yellow polo shirt)

Christina Rowland (2010-12-20 10:42:31)

The plaid shirt guy could be Uncle Felix, but it could be the spouse of one of the sisters. There isn't a picutre of the husbands and wives.... The world may never know.

Thunderbolt (Sauerkraut) Cake (2010-12-22 04:30)

Here's another one from Aunt Elizabeth's recipe book. Anne Miller sent this in. When you send a recipe in, send in a photo too.

Thunderbolt (Sauerkraut) Cake (I included this one, especially, because I think it sounds revolting and am interested if anyone in the family has eaten or currently makes it- blahk!)

1 pkg Duncan Hines Chocolate Cake mix- Not Devil's Food
Follow directions on box for mixing

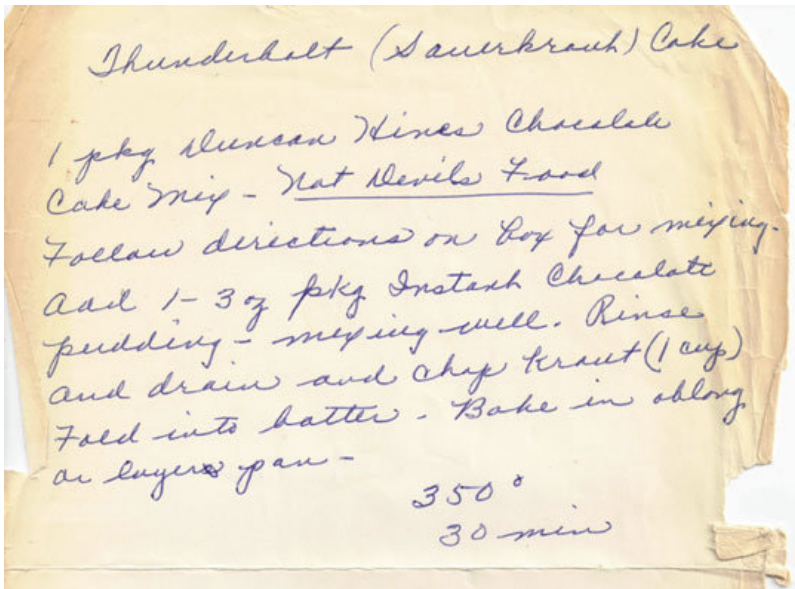
Add 1-3 oz pkg Instant Chocolate pudding- mixing well.

Rinse and drain and chop kraut (1 cup)

Fold into batter- Bake in oblong or (not sure what this word is) pan-

350 degrees

30 min



Cleopha Howard (2010-12-22 17:39:27)

When I ate the saurkraut cake I couldn't tell it had saurkraut in it. It seemed like a waste of time to go to all that trouble, If it just taste like same old chocolate cake. It was one of those fads and it didn't stick around long. The layer pans or usually round and in 3 different sizes

Julie (2010-12-22 18:17:58)

sounds like a good way to get your kids to eat spinach! Mix it in a chocolate cake and they will never know!!!! haha Would it make eating chocolate cake healthy????

Christina Rowland (2010-12-22 10:23:35)

I made a zucchini cake once that actually turned out pretty good....I imagine, with all that chocolate (and the fact that you rinse the kraut) that you don't taste it all that much.

Aunt Lolly (2010-12-23 10:40:39)

Happy birthday Doug!

How to get a Gravatar (2010-12-27 04:15)

paste instructions here...

What they're searching for (2010-12-27 16:00)

One of the things that you can take a look at in the stats for a website is what people search for when they find your website. In the case of our family website, these are the things that people typed into search engines like google, yahoo and bing to find SommererFamily.com:

- sommerer family
- chance sommerer
- sam sommerer
- sommerer
- homestead pickers
- rachel sommerer
- teresa sommerer
- mary beth vetter
- sommerer family website
- adolph and theresa sommerer
- hugo folkemer
- adolf sommerer
- liz sommerer
- judy greer
- adolph sommerer
- naomi vetter
- beth vetter

- anna sommerer
- cailey logan
- gavin ichtist
- amelia glenn
- good enough for who its for
- dorotea sommerer
- danny sommerer
- bumbley bumble
- sommerer family history
- ollie ollie income free
- lloyd sommerer
- sommerer history
- peter sommerer
- peeover game fair
- julia baker lunch box
- sommerer reunion
- declan rowland
- doodle bugs insect calling
- ollie ollie incomefree
- chubby pups oregon julie baker
- sommerer house
- sommerer family tree

- johann wilhelm sommerer
- james sommerer
- samantha sommerer
- adolph m sommerer
- heidi lock
- tracy vetter allen
- marybeth vetter jefferson city
- theresa appolonia
- heits point review
- sommerer genealogy
- paul rowland kansas city
- sam sommerer who works at immanuel lutheren school in st charles
- flicker bea putnam photos
- marjorie beck
- remember things about grandma house
- good family website
- doodlebug hill
- christina sommerer
- derrick vetter
- sommerer jeff city
- ralph lance sommerer
- carol sommerer

- herbert sommerer
- lauren sommerer
- christina sommerer rowland
- julie baker movie
- mary sommerer
- sommerer family blog
- christy vetter
- lance and chance sommerer

Most of those make sense, but some of them are a little odd. Search for Good Family Website and we come up on the first page. But not for the reason you might expect.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-29 10:42:09)

It's the odd combination of the title: sommerer FAMILY WEBSITE and the tag line: GOOD enough for who its for.

Julie Baker (2010-12-27 17:53:22)

Search for Good Family Website and we come up on the first page. But not for the reason you might expect. What reason??

Julie Baker (2010-12-27 17:50:26)

chubby pups oregon julie baker julie baker movie julia baker lunch box Chubby pups???? I guess I am being stalked! Our dogs are hefty but they are not puppies and no where near Oregon!ha At least they are on the wrong path to find me...yep I am in Qregon...keep looking for me there!! LOL

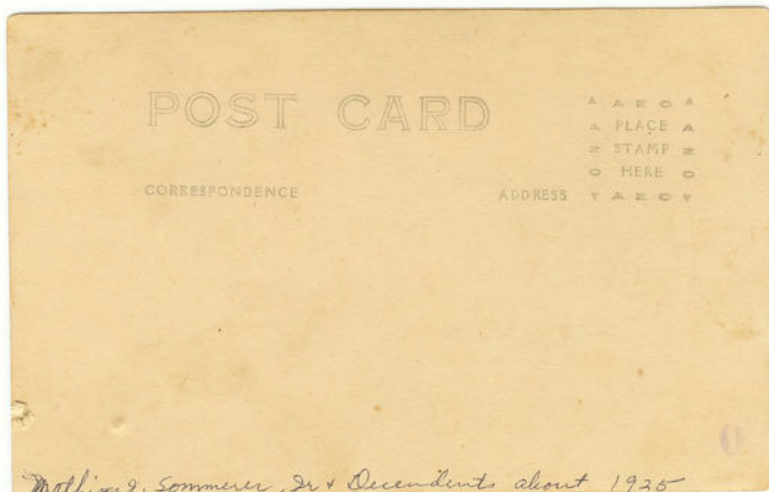
Photo Friday -Who's Who 1925 edition (2010-12-28 04:16)

My Mom, Aunt Jane, sent in this photo. It is another picture from Pearl Erhardt. Five points for each person in the photo that you can name.



[Click to enlarge](#)

I think the back of this one is interesting too...



Okay, lets see if we can fill this in...



Put your mouse over the photo to see the numbers

1. Viola Ehrhardt
2. Dora (Sommerer) Erhardt
3. Norma Ehrhardt
4. .
5. Yetta (Sommerer) Meier
6. .
7. .
8. .
9. .
10. Rosena Canora (Sommerer) Fischer
11. Irma (Fischer) Metzner

12. Herbert Ehrhardt
13. Theodore Erhardt
14. .
15. Bill Meier
16. Ernest Fischer
17. Johann Mathias Sommerer, Jr
18. Adolph Mathias Sommerer
19. Theresa Appolonia (Ehrhardt) Sommerer
20. Margaret (Sommerer) Keisler (not Kriessler?)

Sherie Fischer Krause (2010-12-25 17:16:24)

Wow, that's the same picture I put on Facebook Sommerer page. Number 16 is my grandfather Ernest Fischer and Number 10 is my grandmother Rosena Canora Sommerer. Next to her number 11 is Aunt Irma Fischer Metzner, who will be celebrating her 95th birthday in January.

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-29 10:58:47)

So, we've got all of the adults identified except for the mysterious #20. Anyone have a clue about the children? Does anyone know where this photo was taken? Also, was it just the thing to print the backs of photos so that they could be mailed like post cards back then?

Lloyd Jr. (2010-12-30 09:46:02)

I sent a message to Tim, and he responded with that information. He suggested that I talk to Pearl.

Julie Baker (2010-12-29 22:13:41)

20 is Grandpa's sister Margaret. I think.

Julie Baker (2010-12-29 22:21:43)

found this on the sommerer facebook site: Tim Ziegler: Theodore and Dorothea are my Grandparents. Norma Ehrhardt Ziegler is my Mother. In Theo's arms is my uncle Herbert. standing next to Dora is my aunt Viola. Leaving the baby in Dora's lap to be my mother Norma. Mom was born in June 1923, so I would say sometime in the fall? so # 1 is Viola and #3 is Norma Zigeler.

cleo (2010-12-30 10:05:56)

I am going to try this again. I messed up the last time. Aunt Margaret is number 20. Tim Ziegler has stepped up and helped out by naming his aunts and uncles and his Mother 1. Viola our cousin and his aunt, as Viola Ehrhardt who married Otto Tichelkamp. Number 3 is Tims mother and my double cousin Norma Erhardt Ziegler. She married Everett Ziegler. Number 12 is Herbert Ehrhardt. All of these people have passed away. Herberts Wife, Virigina is alive and well and lives at Honey Creek. Our mother and their father were brother and sister. Our Father and their Mother were brother and sister. We often refer to ourselves as double cousins

cleo (2010-12-25 21:08:40)

Pearl wouldn't have been born yet. One should be Viola and one Herbert and one should be Norma. Pearl was in the same grade as Margie and I dont think Margie is on that picture.

cleo (2010-12-25 21:16:39)

Sheri can you tell the family about Aunt Rosie and Aunt Margaret and how Aunt Margaret came to raise Aunt Rosies baby when she died. I believe that Irma is our oldest living relative.

Julie (2010-12-25 03:55:04)

19 is Grandma

Cleo (2010-12-25 06:47:30)

No 2. Aunt Dora Sommerer Erhardt No. 5 is Aunt Yetta Sommerer Meier 10. Aunt Rosie Sommerer Fischer (husband Ernest Fischer)

20. Aunt Margaret Sommerer. 19. Theresa Ehrhardt Sommerer 20. Adolph Sommerer 17. Grandpa Sommerer. 16. Ernest Fischer 15. Uncle Bill Meier, 13. Uncle Theodore Erhardt.

Julie (2010-12-25 09:48:58)

I am gonna guess that #1 is Pearl!

Julie (2010-12-25 09:55:05)

These people are mentioned in grandmas diary. It's Good to put a name with a face. Could 4,6,and 8 be Elizabeth, Lillian and Buddy?

Naomi Vetter (2010-12-30 12:17:36)

Felix is 6 and Bud is 8. 4 doesn't look like Elizabeth, but may be. Where is Sis?... What do you think, Cleo?

Julie Baker (2010-12-26 18:20:12)

I think grandma looks a lot like Aunt Margie in this picture.

Cleo (2010-12-30 18:04:19)

I am guessing but I think maybe Elizabeth is the dark haired girl number 4 and Lillian is number 6 and bud is number 8 and i don't know about Felix maybe he is not born yet????

Aunt Lolly (2011-01-03 09:28:40)

Four has got to be Elizabeth, Looks just like Johnnie did when he was little, and six is Lillian, eight is Bud, and nine is Felix!

Sherie Fischer Krause (2011-04-24 18:25:34)

Sorry Cleo, I just saw this. Yes, my grandmother Rosina "Rosie" Sommerer Fischer had 10 children. My father "Herbert John Fischer" was her second born. Rosie died after her last child, Rosina, was born. Since her 1/2 sister Margaret didn't have any children and Grandpa Fischer has 9 other children to care for, they gave Rosina to Aunt Margart to raise. There are only 2 of the Fischer kids alive today: Aunt Irma Fischer Metzner (95 living in St. Louis, MO) and Uncle Ernie Fischer (unmarried and no children). He wa the youngest be-

fore Rosena. My grandmother Rosie, we believe had a blood condition called Protein C Deficiency, which probably caused her death by blood clot. It is passed on genetically. My son has it, I have it, I believe my dad had it and his mother Rosie and her mother Leona Ehrhardt before her. My dad died at 57 and I believe it was a blood clot.

Sherie Fischer Krause (2011-04-24 18:28:19)

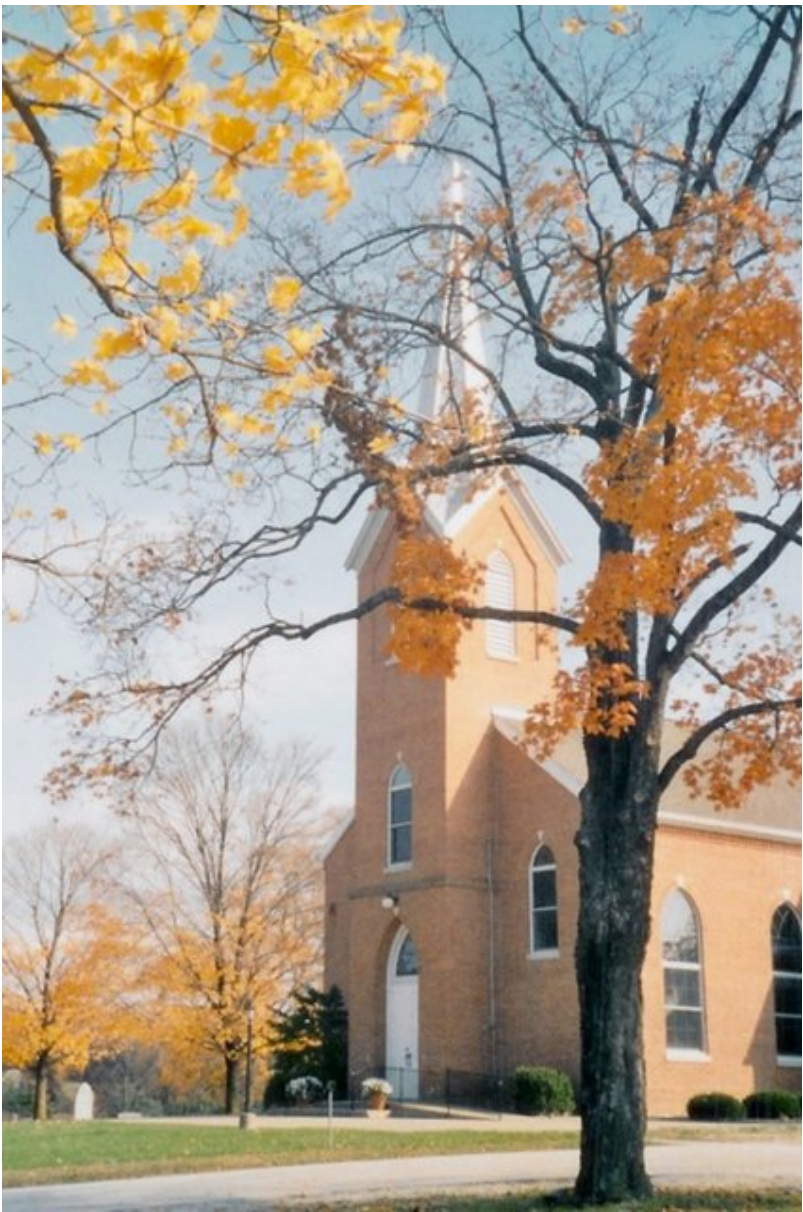
Lloyd, number 20 is Aunt Margaret Sommerer Keisler

Photo Friday -Honey Creek (2010-12-31 04:08)

We're running out of Photo Friday pictures. What sort of photos are we looking for? It doesn't really matter. We're not proud. We'll post anything. You can send more to editors@sommererfamily.com.



Immanuel Lutheran Church at Honey Creek (click to enlarge)



Immanuel Lutheran Church at Honey Creek (click to enlarge)

How many of your were baptized, confirmed or married here?

Aunt Lolly (2011-01-06 19:29:12)

This Friday the old parsonage will be bull-dozed down. It is a sad remembrance. It was such a lovely old house.

Julie Baker (2010-12-31 17:03:26)

until you get some more pictures in maybe you could put up the movie about the "Places" The houses grandma lived in with her telling about each one!

Jane (2010-12-31 17:04:48)

The parsonage is being removed at this moment. For those of you who remember it, there will be a new building there before to long. 5 in my family were confirmed there. I will let them tell you who they are. 3 were baptized there. It looks like the weekend of the fall festival.

Julie Baker (2011-01-01 00:16:34)

HAPPY NEW YEAR SOMMERER FAMILY!

BlogBook v0.4,
L^AT_EX 2_ε & GNU/Linux.
<http://www.blogbooker.com>

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