



WOLFENSBERGER

Newsletter of the Wolfensberger Family Association

November 2002

Vol. 8, No. 4

Page 1

MAGGIE WOLFINBARGER REACHES 100



Margaret "Maggie" Wolfinbarger has a wide smile as she is wheeled into the party to celebrate her 100th birthday as the assembled guests sing "Happy Birthday" to her.

ATTENTION....WFA Members

Included with this issue of the WFA Newsletter is an insert that has a dual purpose.. Please find it now!

First, one side is a membership renewal form for the year 2003. If your membership expires this December, fill out the form and send it with your check to Larry Jones at the address shown on the form.

Next, the reverse side is the Official Ballot for the election of the WFA Board of Directors for 2003. Vote for your favorite Board members and send this Ballot to Larry at the same address. The WFA will then have a very successful year 2002.

Thanks for your cooperation! RLE, Editor

With the strains of "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU" being sung by family members and friends from her church, Margaret "Maggie" Wolfinbarger is wheeled into the room at the nursing home where she lives to celebrate her 100th birthday. This remarkable lady is the daughter of Peter Abraham and Susan Eliz. (Parrett) Wolfinbarger, born August 19, 1902 in Wagersville, Estill Co., Kentucky. She is a descendant of Peter and Susannah (Miller) Wolfenbarger, who was the son of John and Hannah (Summer) Wolfenberger, who was the son of Johannes and Anna Margaretha (Ensminger) Wolfersberger who came to America many years ago.

Her family and many church friends had a covered dish party with all kinds of delicious desserts, including a cake beautifully decorated with the greeting "Happy 100th Birthday, Maggie" brought by her sister Ora Kirby. WFA member Wilma Kircher, Maggie's g-granddaughter from Cincinnati, OH was there and provided the newsletter with photos and notes of this historic event. Ora Kirby, Maggie's sister, is a member of the WFA Board.

Maggie's church choir sang some of her favorite hymns and the children sang and played some of her favorite choruses. Others who have known Maggie for many years related incidents in her long life with lots of laughter and with a very sweet spirit. It is obvious that Maggie is doing wonderfully to be one hundred years of age. Maggie and her sister, Ora, have lived in Irvine, KY for many years. Maggie served as County Clerk there for 24 years. She has been a member of the Free Methodist Church for more than 70 years.

(cont. page 5)

**Wolfensberger
Family Association**
6400 Ann Arbor Terr.
Oklahoma City, OK 73132
405 721-4383
wolfensberger@cox.net

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Myrna Liddell

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W. Frank Wolfenbarger

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Max Wolfensberger

Robert Lee Wolfenbarger

Rudolf A. Wolfensberger

William W. Wolfenbarger

Wolf Wolfensberger

**HONORARY LIFE
MEMBER**

Heini Wolfensberger



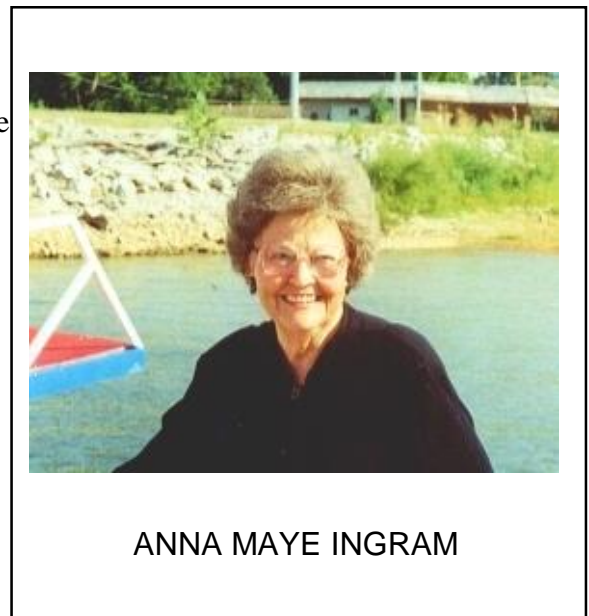
Larry's Corner

New Members, Reunions, and In Memoriam

Editor's Note: "Larry's Corner" in this issue is prepared by the Editor. Hopefully, Larry will be back in his regular spot in the February issue. RLE

ANNA MAYE (JONES) INGRAM Grove, OK - Anna Maye (Jones) INGRAM of Grove died Monday, September 30, 2002 at 6:10 p.m. at St. John's Medical Center of Joplin, MO, after a short illness. She was 78 years of age.

She was born December 16, 1923 at Cement, Okla. to Luther Martin and Nannie Sylvania (Clanton) JONES. She lived in Grove for the past 16 years, moving from Oklahoma City, Okla. where she lived most of her life. She married Henry Clyde INGRAM August 30, 1941 at Oklahoma City. She and her husband co-owned L.M. Jones Company for 30 years and owned and operated the Terry Lynn Rentals in Oklahoma City. She retired from L.M. Jones in 1986. Mrs. Ingram was a member of the Latter Rain Baptist Church of Oklahoma City. She was Past Queen of the Daughters of the Nile of India Temple of Oklahoma City, president of the Women's Junior Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma City, president of the Traveler's Protective Women's Insurance Association of Oklahoma City, and in charge of the March of Dimes of Oklahoma City in its early years. She sewed special projects in her home with other ladies to benefit the Shriner's Hospitals, and served with several other organizations in Oklahoma City.



ANNA MAYE INGRAM

Survivors include: her husband Henry Clye INGRAM, Sr., of the home; one son, Henry Clyde INGRAM Jr., Tonkawa, Okla.; one daughter Terry Gayle HOLLIS, Houston, Texas; one brother, Lawrence "Larry" JONES, Oklahoma City; seven Grandchildren, William Todd MERRILL, St. Louis, Mo., Shaun Colby MERRILL and Tye Casey MERRILL, both of Grove, Tiffany Dawn MERRILL, Dallas, Texas, Chas. Edmond HOLLIS, Santa Monica, Calif., Amanda Sue

(cont. page10)

George Tillman Wolfinbarger

A Limb of the Tree in the Bitter Root Valley

For many of us who have an interest in our family, it is an exciting moment when we learn about another limb of our family tree. And it was so when WFA Historian and Past Pres. Larry Jones heard from Mrs. Amy Sue (France) Alford of Corvallis, Montana. Mrs. Alford is a descendant of George Tillman Wolfinbarger who was the son of William Walker Wolfinbarger. George was born near Washburn in Grainger Co., TN on September 13, 1853 and moved with his parents to Newton Co., near Neosho, MO. He married Estaina Bruin while in Missouri. They had several children before Estaina died. George married Adeline Hannon who was born on July 28, 1859 in Neosho, MO. They had eight children. George was the father of Ida, James, Tandy, John, Ole, Tina, William, Bertha, Jesse, and Letty.

They moved to Montana in 1888 and homesteaded near Darby. Darby is in Ravalli County which borders on Idaho on the far western side of Montana. This area is referred to as the "*Bitter Root Valley*". George retired from farming about 1930. Except for a brief time in California and Oregon, George and Adeline live in the Bitter Root Valley near Darby, MT until they died. George died in Woodside, MT at the age of 88 on July 27, 1944 and Adeline died in Hamilton, MT at age 85 on October 17, 1944. They are buried in Lone Pine Cemetery in Darby. George Wolfinbarger left 26 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren when he departed this life. We are indebted to Mrs. Alford for the several pictures we are able to display with this article. She also provided us with a family chart showing the Descendants of William W. Wolfinbarger and the obituaries of both Geoge and Adeline Wolfinbarger from the Hamilton, Montana newspaper. Amy Sue, born in Hamilton, MT, is the daughter of David W. and Susan (Schilke)

(cont. page 4)

Visit our Web Site!

The Wolfensberger Family Association web site is now located at this address:

<http://members.cox.net/wolfensberger>

Our mailing address is still:

*Wolfensberger Family Association
6400 North Ann Arbor Terrace
Oklahoma City, OK 73132*

Our e-mail address is:
wolfensberger@cox.com

George T. and Adeline Wolfinbarger at their home in Darby, Montana in the Bitter Root Valley



GEORGE T. & ADELINE WOLFENBARGER
AT THEIR HOME IN DARBY MONTANA



PHOTO PAGE

Upper left: The Wolfinbarger family, from l. to r., James W. Shelton, Adeline Wolfinbarger, Hessi Hannon, George Wolfinbarger, Clarence Lutz, Pete Wolfinbarger (George's grandson) and Arzana Lutz about 1940 in Darby, MT.

Upper right: The children of John H. and Nellie (Greenup) Wolfinbarger about 1927 up West Fork, MT. Front row l. to r. Elsie Mae, Daisy, Elizabeth (Bessie), Donald Henry, Lorraine, and Ina LaVern. back row, mother and father.

Lower left: Children of George T. Wolfinbarger. From l. to r. Tina, Lettie Mae, John, Bertha, Bill, Joe at West Fork, MT family reunion about 1970

(cont. from page 3)

France and the granddaughter of (Bessie) Elizabeth (Wolfinbarger) and Walter M. France. Bessie was a daughter of George T. Wolfinbarger

**WOLFINBARGER REUNION
MONTANA**

by Larry Jones, Historian

It was during the last days of February of 2002 that I received an e-mail message from Amy ALFORD of Corvallis, Montana telling me that she was a descendant of our Wolfensberger family. Her lineage being a great-great grand daughter of George Tillman WOLFINBARGER. I called her immediately as I knew that the family of George Tillman WOLFINBARGER

(cont. page 7)

PHOTO PAGE
MAGGIE WOLFINBARGER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY PARTY



Upper Left: Ora Kirby (r.) and her daughter, Elizabeth Durbin join Maggie to enjoy her birthday cake.

Upper Right: Maggie shows her surprise as her birthday cake is placed on the table.

Lower Left: Maggie receives "Happy Birthday" greetings from her family members, Jerry Daniel , Phyllis Daniel , and Otto Kircher as her sister, Ora Kirby looks on.

Lower Right: Maggie is entertained by children from her church playing & singing her favorite songs.

Maggie's Birthday.. (cont. from page 1)

We are indebted to Mrs. Wilma Kircher, Maggies grand-niece (shown at right with Maggie), for the photos and information about Maggie Wolfenbarger's birthday event. Wilma, a WFA member and her husband Otto, live in Cincinnati, OH.

If you would like to send "Aunt" Maggie a Birthday greeting, her address is *Irvine Health & Rehab Center, 411 Bertha Wallace Dr., Irvine, KY 40336-9393.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAGGIE!



From the President's Desk.....

Interested In Supporting Your Family?

by Bob Wolfenberger, President, Wolfensberger Family Association

In this issue of the *Wolfensberger*, we include a ballot to elect members of the Wolfensberger Family Association Board of Directors to serve for the year 2003. It includes familiar names, including Larry Jones who helped found the association six years ago, and unfamiliar names of others who have recently volunteered to help run the organization. There is also a blank space for you to nominate yourself or others to the board.

Members have asked me how we select the board; others wonder just how much time is necessary to serve on the board. For those who might be interested in volunteering, let me try to answer these questions.

How do we select board nominees? Some members volunteer to serve, while others – who've contributed to the organization – we ask to serve. We look for people who have a desire to help build a family association with activities rooted in uniting the family, studying its history, and helping others to learn about our origins and ancestors.

You will note that some are members of our Swiss family who live in Europe. Heini Wolfensberger of Bauma, a lifetime honorary member of the board, helped introduce us to our Swiss heritage many years ago. I met Heini and his family some 40 years ago when, as a soldier soon to return to the U.S. from Germany, I first learned of our Swiss roots and first visited the site of our family's castle in Bauma.

Max Wolfensberger was instrumental in helping plan the September 2001 dedication of the site of the castle, which led to a memorial stone, picnic area and hiking path to the hilltop site of the castle. He was our contact in Switzerland who also set up our temporary Swiss bank account to pay our share of costs. And he helped plan a luncheon that brought

together Swiss, European and American family members after the dedication.

Rudi Wolfensberger, who lives in Solothurn, a walled city north of Berne, Switzerland's capital, created and produced a CD depicting the event and filling in much of the family's Swiss history, which dates back to the 1300s. Members who ordered the CD have a permanent record of the dedication as well as links to the family's influential role in helping to create modern Switzerland.

Other board nominees include Larry Jones, whose commitment to building a sense of family led him to found the WFA years ago, and Myrna Liddell, who recently translated the only printed history of the family from German into English. Bill Spargur, another representative of the Sparger/Spargur branch of the Wolfensberger family, has been the secretary of the association almost since its founding. Wolf Wolfensberger, a Syracuse University professor who was born in

(cont. page 7)

Wolfenberger Reunion in Conroe

The following e-mail was received from Larry Jones after he had attended this reunion:

"I attended a family reunion in Conroe, TX on 28 Sept 2002. It was a reunion of the Wolfenberger family that has been held in Bastrop in previous years except for last year when it was also held in the Houston area. The reunion was held at the home of Sandy and Ken HENDERSON at 10111 Champion Forest Loop, Conroe, TX. Sandy is the daughter of Charles WOLFENBERGER who lives in Houston, TX. The food was plentiful and good. The beef brisket bar-b-que was the best I have ever tasted. There were 18 to 20 persons in attendance."

Montana Reunion... (cont. from page 3)
was the long lost branch of the William Walker WOLFENBARGER family. The family that I and others had searched for years only now to have them find us through the internet, and contact me. Both Amy and I were very elated for this find.

This George Tillman WOLFENBARGER was a brother of my grand mother Nancy Lucinda WOLFENBARGER. (You will notice the difference in spelling of the surnames of this brother and sister which was not too uncommon in that day. About half of the children of William Walker WOLFENBARGER spelled their surnames as their father and the others spelled it as WOLFENBARGER.) (Those that might be interested may receive a free 10 page copy of the descendants of George Tillman WOLFENBARGER by contacting Larry JONES).

In a telephone call to Amy that evening she told me the Wolfenbarger Family of Montana was having a reunion on 12, 13 and 14 of July. I immediately showed my interest as I had never met any of the George WOLFENBARGER family. I traded my flight tickets to Switzerland from last year for tickets to Missoula, Montana. I arrived in Hamilton, Montana on Thursday evening. Friday morning Amy accompanied me in the Bitter Root River Valley where we visited some of the areas where George WOLFENBARGER had settled. This is one of the most beautiful areas that I have seen. South of Hamilton we went up the West Fork of the Bitter Root River where George and his family had lived until his death and where he made his living hunting, trapping and fishing and a small amount of farming. There on the West Fork of the Bitter Root River is the Village of Darby. George is buried in the cemetery at Darby. Amy and I placed a family medallion on the head stone of George Tillman WOLFENBARGER.

The reunion was held in Lincoln, Montana which is about 80 miles ENE of Missoula. The attendance at the reunion was about 115 family members. I hope that they will have another family reunion in Montana during the year of 2004 and that I will be able to attend.

From the President's Desk...

(cont. from page 6)

Germany, is another longtime board member who is a student of family history.

Many members are retired or no longer active; others are raising families or still employed. So if you have some time, plenty of interest in family history, we're interested in knowing who you are. Chances are we can use your skills now or in the future.

We also invited newcomers to join the board, including Barbara Jackson from Nebraska and Gretchen Doll from Texas. We try to make our board broadly representative of the areas where many members live. And of course, we search for talented and committed women members, to make our board more broadly representative. And we're always interested in hearing from people who want to serve.

How can you make your interest known? If you're a member of the WFA, you're welcome to nominate another association member or yourself for the position in the attached ballot. Contact one of the board members at a reunion or family event and tell them of your interest. Or tell any officer. We try to attend family reunions to meet members with a strong interest in their family history. **How much time is required?** Not a great deal of time – unless you want to manage a project or develop a family history. We meet quarterly in a telephone conference call, which we ask you to join from home. There's no cost to you for the call. If you're writing a family history or want to manage a project, obviously, more time is called for. We also look for people with special skills: writing histories, sharing knowledge of interesting family figures, or preparing CDs, print publications or videos. Maybe handling finances or keeping records of meeting is your favorite activity.

A family association is what we want to make of it. We're proud of being an international family with a distinguished heritage in the U.S. and abroad. And we'd like to hear from you if you're interested in making the Wolfensberger Family

Policies of Wolfensberger Family Association

Editor's Note: The following Amendment to the Policies of the Wolfensberger Family Association was approved by the Board at their regular meeting October 19, 2002 and are thereby added to the Policies published in the November 2001 WFA Newsletter. RLE

Definition of terms:

Project: Any Policy which requires funds be sent from the membership to purchase or pay a service or product.

Primary-Source Provider: original provider/producer of the "project".

Liaison Contact Intermediary: "project" director who is a member of the association.

"Cause": Conduct detrimental to the Association and/or its members, misuse of Association resources, use of the Association membership list for activities not approved by the Board of Directors, or other inappropriate activity which is detrimental to the reputation of the members of the Association and/or the Board.

Policy #1:

The Executive Committee shall consider any project and vote as a committee, via email, or by other means as approved by the President. If approved, projects shall be presented as a Policy to the Board of Directors, for vote as specified in WFA Policies.

Policy #2

Any project adopted by the Board of Directors of the Wolfensberger Family Association, shall require the following:

1. All monies collected for any project supported by WFA shall be "received by" the Treasurer, and all expenses supported by receipt documents shall be "paid out" by the Treasurer as specified in the Policies of the Wolfensberger Family Association.

Policy #3

Any project which requires payment for work rendered, shall have on file the following prior to Executive committee consideration:

1. Record of primary-source provider, including name, address, and phone number shall be presented to the President of the Association, and a copy shall be sent to the Treasurer.
2. Detailed description of projects to be rendered.
3. Written Bids shall be received from the primary provider/s prior to consideration for projects, regardless of liaison contact intermediaries, i.e., project director.

Policy #3A:

4. Written notice shall be given directly to the interested parties that "the Board, individually and collectively shall be held harmless and not liable in the regard of any failure on the part of the supplier or any liaison intermediaries. Further, the Board will retain the right to sue for legal fees, and incurred expenses, in addition to lost monies, if the Executive Committee so recommends. Such written notice shall be signed by the "provider", the "intermediary", the Treasurer, the President of the association." Notice shall be given in the newsletter or by other written means to those who order such products or projects.

Policy #4

The President, only in conjunction with the Executive Committee, shall be empowered to remove any member of the Board of Directors at any time during the fiscal year of the Association. Such action shall be based on "cause", with the President's vote to be deemed as 2 in the case of a tie vote. Such a Policy to remove Board membership will be presented to the Board of Directors, after the Executive committee has voted. The Board of Directors will then vote on the Policy as specified in the Policies of the Wolfensberger Family Association.



**CWO Robt. L. Wolfersberger,
(USAF Ret.) Visits Texas**

The Editor of the WFA Newsletter, Richard "Buzz" Evans, (shown above left) recently had the pleasure of a visit to Houston of CWO Robt. L. Wolfersberger, USAF Ret. (shown above right). Bob Wolfersberger was featured in the May 2001 Newsletter in an article about his being chosen to take part in the filming of a History Channel documentary about the "Bataan Death March" at the beginning of WW II and his experiences as a POW in the Philippines and Manchuria during the war.

Bob was in Texas to attend an Air Force squadron reunion in San Antonio and visit friends in Houston. During his Houston visit, Buzz took Bob and his friends on a tour of Houston's Second Baptist Church, where he is a member. This church, one of the largest with a membership of over 30,000, features a Worship Center that seats approx. 7000, a Family Life Center and a K-12 school. They had lunch in the church's restaurant, Jane's Grill.

After his Houston visit, Bob travelled to Pennsylvania to attend his 55th High School Reunion at Windber High School. Windber is located in Somerset Co., PA and is near the site of the United plane crash as a result of being taken over by the terrorists. Bob graduated from Windber High School in 1937 and enlisted in the Army Air Corp in 1939.

WFA MEDALLIONS

Our Founder and Past President, Larry Jones has advised that he soon will place another order for the beautiful pewter metal medallions that was offered to our members late last year. These medallions are suitable to mark your ancestor's grave to show they are descendants of the Wolfensberger family. Made with a flat back, they may be firmly attached to grave marker or headstone with a suitable adhesive. And, of course, they would have other uses such as a desk paper weight. These medallions are made of pewter metal to the same size and shape as the family badge you received when you joined the WFA.

If you missed out on the medallions when they were offered to the members late last year (and shipped earlier this year) or if you wish to obtain a few more of them, contact Larry Jones by mail at:

Larry Jones, WFA
6400 N. Ann Arbor Terrace
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

by phone: 405 721-4383

by e-mail: wolfensberger@cox.com

Tell Larry how many medallions you wish to purchase and where you want them shipped. When Larry receives the medallions, he will ship your order to you with an invoice billing you for your order. If you are not completely satisfied return them to Larry and pay nothing. If you find the medallions satisfactory, send your check to Larry at the address shown above or on the invoice. The cost of the medallions will be no more than \$20.00 each and may be less if a sufficient quantity is ordered to qualify for the volume discount offered by the manufacturer.

Mark your ancestor's grave with one of these beautiful pewter medallions!

LARRY'S CORNER....(cont. from page 2)

GRIMLEY, Eldorado, Kans., and Bradley Trey INGRAM , Tonkawa, Okla.; and two great grandchildren, Austin Colby MERRILL and Sadie Lynne MERRILL, both of Grove. One daughter, Deanna Lynne Wise preceded her in death. Funeral Services will be held Thursday, October 3, at 11:00 a.m. at the Paul Thomas Funeral Home of Picher, Okla. The Rev. Ronald Peak and Paul Ingram Thomas will officiate. Interment will be in the Welch Cemetery of Welch, Okla. Pallbearers will be Tye Merrill, Shaun Merrill, Todd Merrill, Austin Merrill, Chas. Hollis and Trey Ingram
(from the Wed., October 2, 2002 *The Grove Sun Daily* of Grove, OK.)

Editor's Note: Anna Maye was a charter member of the WFA and was a grand daughter of Nancy Lucina Wolfenbarger. RLE

NEW MEMBERS

Terry HOLLIS,((Wolfenbarger) Houston, TX
James L. WARD, Wolfenbarger, Old Town, ID
Betty A. STREETER, (Wolfenbarger) Graham, WA
Dian MOONEY, (Wolfenbarger), Victor, MT
June M. VANCE, (Wolfenbarger), Great Falls, MT
Velda VIAL, (Wolfenbarger), Hamilton, MT
Donna ANDERS, (Wolfenbarger), Quanah, TX
William P. McCART, (Wolfenbarger) Hamilton, MT
Russ VANASPEREN, (Wolfenbarger), Rosebud, MO
Bonnie K. WRIGHT, (Wolfenbarger), O'Fallon, IL
Rodger F. ESPY, (Wolfenbarger), Burlington, IA
Peter WOLFENBERGER, Zumikon, Switzerland
Dennis B. SPARGER, Jr., Tracy, Calif.

Wolfensberger

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**WOLFENBERGER
FAMILY ASSOCIATION**

10903 Holly Springs Drive
Houston, TX 77042-1310

FIRST CLASS MAIL