



HFFA NEWS

A Publication of the Heinrich Frey Family Association

Editor – Mike Speers

Published Quarterly –

Last week in February, May, August, and November

www.hfrey.org

From the Editor:

Hello Cousins, Kin, and Other Readers:

Many members noticed that on Feb. 27, 2012 there was a school shooting in Chardon, Ohio and recognized it as our hometown. Three students were killed, one paralyzed, one wounded, hospitalized and released, and one slightly wounded. It was a horrible tragedy. Hundreds of others are wounded emotionally and are trying to find a “new normal.”

Chardon High School is not where Rose and I were teachers. (We’ve been retired since 2000 and 1997 respectively but not in Chardon.) However, we felt the losses as if they were our own students. Thank you to those who wrote and asked about us.

An incident like this could happen anyplace and anytime. This time, anyplace was called Chardon. Hope it never happens in your place, anytime. It changes everything.

Sincerely,

Mike and Rose
Chardon, Ohio

From the President:

Dear Family,

I am hoping that everyone is looking forward to the onset of Spring in North America. It's an exciting time when flowers are blooming,

birds are singing and there is a renewal of Spirit.

I hope that everyone is doing reasonably well. If there is a problem that a member or some members are having, if you would like to share it with us, we would like to know about it. Feel free to contact our **Chaplain Lowell Fry**, or myself.

I have been informed by Mike Speers that we have nine new members in HFFA. I want to extend a very warm welcome to those new members and again you may contact me personally if you desire. Also, if you have genealogy questions, please contact **Charles Burgess**. He is our Historian and also a past president of HFFA.

I invite everyone to be thinking about, and maybe planning your vacation around our planned reunion in the St. Joseph/Kansas City, MO area in 2013. We will be planning some exciting things for you and will let you know what they are in future publications.

A word about genealogy. It has been said that genealogy plays an important role in how we view ourselves, our history, and the connections we have around the world. Along that line, both children and adults can benefit from knowing where they come from and from studying their genealogy.

Sincerely,

Gene Frye, HFFA President
Kansas City, KS

RECORD KEEPING

NEW MEMBERS:

Sisters:

Jane Ellen Benedetto

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Judith Ellen Smith

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1. Heinrich Frye / Anna Catherine Levering
2. Benjamin Fry / Christena
3. Benjamin Fry / Catherine
4. Christiana Fry / John Cartmell
5. Rebecca Cartmell / John Markley
6. Amos Markley / Mary Coyle
7. Emeline Markley / James Lennon
8. Anna Rose Lennon / James A Thomplins
9. Mary Thompkins / Richard G. Smith
10. **Jane Ellen Smith** / Nicholas Benedetto
10. **Judith Eileen Smith** / Jack Hayes

Sherry E. Morgan

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1. Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
2. Benjamin Frey / Christena
3. Joseph Frey / Ann Funk
4. Benjamin Fry / Mary Magdelene Secrist
5. Joseph Fry / Catherine Kackley
6. Eli James Fry / Leah H. Finley
7. Archibald A. Fry / Mary Nichol
8. Ida May Fry / Alonzo O. Harrison
9. Nanny Naomi Harrison / Henry T. Simmons
10. Virginia Elizabeth Simmons / Carl Youngs
11. **Sharon Elizabeth Youngs** / Arthur Grant Morgan

Alice M. Lindemuth

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2. Benjamin Frey / Christena
3. Samuel Fry / Christina Spear
4. Rebecca Fry / Henry Shepler
5. Sarah Shepler / Elijah Fry
6. Mary Ann Fry / John Peter Overhiser
7. George M. Overhiser / Fannie Sherber
8. Mary M. Overhiser / Bert Lindemuth
9. Robert Lindemuth / Evelyn L. Davis
10. **Alice Lindemuth**

Sharon Czabafy

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1. Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
2. Henry Fry / Christina Tunis
3. Hans Martin Fry / Elizabeth Fry
4. Henry Fry / Catherine Snader
5. George Fry / Catherine Snyder
6. Curtiss Fry / Maria G. Eberly
7. Harry Walter Fry / Mary Ann Shupp
8. Gladys Fry / Isaac Senseing
9. Luther I. Senseing / Yvonne Strohn
10. **Sharon Yvonne Senseing** / Mr. Czabafy

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2. Benjamin Frey / Christena
3. Abraham Fry / Agnes Ann Young
4. James Fry / Nancy Spears
5. Rebecca Frye / Robert G. Anderson
6. James G. Anderson / Hannah McAdams
7. Nancy Anderson / Benjamin Franklin Stevens
8. Mary Elizabeth Stevens / Nelson D. Sweeny
9. Lillie May Sweeny / Lindell Lloyd Crump
10. Mary Frances Crump / Duncan Dalton Pritchard
11. **Christine Pritchard** / Mr. Lebeau

Judith Tuynman

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- 1) Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
- 2) William Frey / Anna Veronica Markley
- 3) Henry Frey / Anna Maria Buerstler
- 4) Anna Maria Frey / John Jacob Eyerly
- 5) Anna Maria Eyerly / John Seyfried
- 6) Emma A. Seyfried / George F. Speer
- 7) Catherine Elizabeth Speer / William H. Kinginger
- 8) Sarah Kinginger / Russel P. Horn
- 9) Elizabeth Horn / John Campbell
- 10) **Judith** Campbell / Thomas **Tuynman**
- 11) Meghan Tuynmna / Anup Hazra

Virginia Fry Santos

118 Chattanooga St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

- 1) Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
- 2) Benjamin Fry / Christena
- 3) Abraham Fry / Agnes Ann Young
- 4) James Fry / Nancy Spears
- 5) Benjamin Fry / Agnes Nancy Kellar
- 6) John A. Fry / Mary Jane Leighton
- 7) Luther Calvin Fry / Mary Alice Assay
- 8) Hervey Asay Fry / Augusta Maude Christie
- 9) Robert Luther Fry / Mabel Ruth Coulson
- 10) Bruce Coulson Fry / Mary Sue Kenny
- 11) **Virginia Sue Fry** / Rodrigo A. **Santos**

Connie Lee Royston

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- 1. Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
- 2. Benjamin Frey / Christena
- 3. Abraham Fry / Agnes Ann Young
- 4. James Fry / Nancy Speers
- 5. Rebecca Fry / Robert G. Anderson
- 6. James G. Anderson / Hannah McAdams
- 7. William C. Anderson / Anna E. Kile/Keil
- 8. Mary Ann Anderson / Edward L. Huber
- 9. Edward L. Huber, Jr. / Elsie A. Dresch
- 10. Alice Irma Huber / William c. Yanousek
- 11. Dennis Lee Yanousek / Linda Lee Royston
- 12. **Connie Lee Royston**

New Address

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Honors

Julia Olson

Our resident poet, Julia Olson, has had another poem published.

In recent weeks, Julie has been down in the Mississippi Delta teaching Art. She secured a good teaching position and will return next school year.

When You Are Alone . . .

When you are alone where does your mind go?

When the night is still and there are no sounds to hear,
Except the beating of your heart, what do you think about?
Where does your mind go when the moon shines brighter than the stars in the midnight sky?
Do your eyes even see me standing there in the shadows of your past?

When you are alone where does your mind go?

When the day is bright with the warm sunlight
And the birds are singing their songs of love across the golden meadows.
Where does your mind go when all that the world offers is laid before you?
Do your eyes even see me dancing to the rhythm of your beating heart?

When you are alone where does your mind go?

When the wind whispers my name do you hear it, does it echo through your mind?

Does it call out to you and give you strength in your weakest moments? Where does your mind go when the room is empty and everyone else has come and gone?

Do your eyes even see me holding your hand through all the lost moments of your life?

When you are alone where does your mind go... does it even know... that I'm only a breath away?

Julia A. Olson

Parkers Prairie, MN

Frances Adams Unger, recently celebrated her 95th birthday. Many of us learned about her birthday from **Norm Schulze** and sent her a card. In return, she wrote each of us a long, personal letter in thanks for sending her a card. She also included a copy of page 55 from the **Jan.-Feb.,2011 National DAR Magazine**. On that page, she is honored as an **HONORARY CHAPTER REGENT** from the Fort Loudoun Chapter, NSDAR, of Winchester, VA. She was honored with these words:

FRANCES ADAMS UNGER, REGENT 1986 - 1989, AS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY CHAPTER MOTION FOR 37 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS & LOVING SERVICE & SUPPORT, 25 YEARS SINCE SERVING AS OUR 65TH ANNIVERSARY REGENT, IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED THE FORT LOUDOUN CHAPTER'S FIRST HONORARY CHAPTER REGENT.

Congratulations Frances from your friends in HFFA.

Our e-mail members learned about this award back in February. At that time some

requests came in asking for her lineage. I can provide those links but in it you will learn that she is not a direct descendant of **Heinrich Frey**. However, she has two links to HFFA via her cousins.

1. Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
2. Benjamin Frey / Christena
3. Joseph Fry
4. Benjamin Fry
5. Benjamin Fry / Judith Bean

It is Judith Bean's brother, **James Bean** who is the great grandfather of Frances. Later, in another generation or two down the line, Frances has another cousin, **Guy Frye** who marries into her side of the family. Guy Frye is the father of **Ralph G. Frye**, who's obituary was in our February HFFA Newsletter.

IN MEMORIAM

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Jane Frye Duddles, 85, of Cedar Falls, died Friday, May 11. She was born April 20, 1927, on a farm near Hughesville, Mo., daughter of Bert Scott and Laura Peithman Frye. She married Ralph T. Duddles on March 24, 1951, in Kansas City, Mo. He died in 1978.

Mrs. Duddles graduated from Smith Cotton High School in Sedalia, Mo., and also from Bob Jones University in Greenville, S.C. with a degree in education. She taught school in Oregon, worked in an office of the University of Minnesota Medical School, and served with her husband as a missionary for two years in the Belgian Congo with the Evangelical Free Church of America.

Survived by: a son, Thomas M. (Laura) of Warner Robins, Ga.; a daughter, Marilyn D. (Bruce) Baridon of Cedar Falls; 12 grandchildren, Candace (Jason) Gotwalls, Rachel (Neal) Hill, Sharon Duddles, Philip Duddles, Martha Duddles, Deborah Duddles, John Duddles, Luke Duddles, Elizabeth Baridon, Anna Baridon, Laura Baridon and Steven Baridon; a sister, Bernice Hallman of St. George, Utah; and two brothers, Robert Frye of Lee's Summit,

Mo., and Eddie (Gene) Frye of Kansas City, Kan.

Preceded in death by: three brothers, L. Bert, James and Richard Frye.

Jane is the sister of HFFA President, **Gene Frye**. She is the Aunt of HFFA Journal editor **Jon Frye**. She has attended many HFFA reunions and is a Charter Member of HFFA.

Marjorie E. Grundy, of Plainfield, Indiana passed away May 12, 2012 at the age of 95. She was born February 14, 1917 on the family farm "Glenwood" just west of Peoria, IL to the late Fred S. and Nira (Waugh) Frye.

She grew up showing award winning Aberdeen Angus and Dairy calves with two of her brothers.

She attended 1st thru 8th grades at the "Orange Prairie" one room school house, with about 30 students. Upon entering Peoria High School, her class size was over 300!

After graduating from Peoria High, she was hired by the Caterpillar Tractor Co. to play for their company baseball and basketball teams. To justify her position as a company team player, she was trained to operate a key punch machine and worked in payroll. She played for the "Caterpillars" for 4 years before leaving the company to marry Robert "Bo" Grundy in 1939. Her favorite sport was baseball, and she was their first baseman. In 1938 she was prominently placed in multiple pictures that ran in a "Life" magazine article on the "Caterpillars".

Marjorie became a housewife and successfully raised four children. After moving back to the farm, Marjorie quickly became involved in everyday farm life. The farm had 1000 chickens, 3 milk cows and 8 bee hives. Everyday she washed, candled and crated over 300 eggs, from the milk she made butter, cottage cheese and whipped cream, and from the bee's, she extracted the honey and filled quart jars with and without honeycomb and made bee's wax cakes. All of these products were for sale.

She also maintained a large garden for the family and canned everything from green beans to tomatoes. She froze rhubarb, persimmon pulp, peas and corn, and made pickled beets.

Her work didn't stop there; she even had her own tractor. Initially a 1952 Vac Case, which was later upgraded to a 1963 John Deere 3010. She spent her fair share of time in the fields, and also drove the grain truck to the elevator during harvest time.

In her spare time, she somehow found time to sew, knit and do needle point, for which she won first prize at the Indiana State Fair. She was a member of the Wa-Pe-Ke-Way Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Heinrich Frey Family Association, the Indiana Nut Growers Association and was a volunteer at Hendricks County Hospital.

After the family stopped farming, she and her husband traveled extensively throughout the US, and Canada visiting long time friends and made many more friends along the way, eventually wintering in Brownsville, Texas for 10 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert "Bo" Grundy; a sister, Marian Jackson; and 3 brothers, Robert, Warren and Willard Frye. Survivors include children, James Grundy (Diane), Joel Grundy (Margit), Kathleen Grundy Knuth (Don), Dennis Grundy (Patricia); 9 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Marjorie is a Charter Member of HFFA. Her daughter **Kathy Knuth** is also a member.



We offer our thanks to Jane Duddles and Marjorie Grundy for being part of HFFA since it's inception. Let's hope that those of us who are newer members can continue the legacy that our Charter Members have given to us.

THE FIRST CONFEDERATE FLAG

by **Joyce Barr Balsley**

This is about my great great grandmother, **Elizabeth Arnold Barr**, wife of **Hugh Barr** of Winchester, Va. and mother of **Robert Burns Barr** who was married to **Virginia Frye**.

According to **Captain James M. Haymaker**, the idea of a flag grew in his mind in April of 1861 and he was determined that it be raised in Winchester, VA. He enlisted the help of the widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Barr, known as "**Aunt Betsey**" in this project. She and her daughters sat up late into the night sewing the material until a representation was made of the beloved emblem under which her sons fought for four years. She was in her mid 50's at the time. They all lived in Winchester and were supporters of the Confederacy but did not own slaves.

A local merchant donated the bunting to use. **Issac Hollingsworth** donated the 50 foot pole, which Captain Haymaker and **Mr. Windell** cut in the woods. **John Higgins** spliced the pole and **Camillious Baker** gave the rope and pulleys. **Captain Haymaker** dug a 5-foot hole at the corner of Main St. and Rouss Ave. where the pole was planted and the flag was raised with the assistance of **John Henry** and **Sneedan Seabright**.

The Friendship Fire Co. of which Captain Haymaker was a member, stood guard as there was some opposition to this project. However, a large crowd of Southern Sympathizers assembled about the pole and cheered as the flag floated in the breeze.

Hardly had the flag been raised when the first Confederate troops that visited Winchester came marching down Main Street. It was a Georgia regiment and then they saw the flag, they were excited. They brought the news that Virginia had seceded.

That night, speeches were made in front of the Taylor House by **Gov. F.M.M. Holliday** and a Georgia Major extolling the heroism of the young flag raiser and the virtues of the women who made the flag were eloquently referred to. The soldiers then marched to the

camp near town and Mrs. Barr and her daughters were compelled to review the troops amid cries of "God Bless you, Aunt Betsy."

This flag was the first national flag of the Confederacy. The design was adopted in 1861. The pattern featured a white stripe sandwiched between two red stripes and a blue square in the upper left corner contained stars for each state that had joined the Confederacy, a design similar to the U.S. flag.

According to **Catherine Wright**, Curator of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA. the Confederacy had three national flags. The first looked too much like the American flag so halfway through the war, a mostly white pattern was adopted. it was white with a red vertical stripe on the end. State militias also had their own battle flag.

The "rebel flag" as we know it was actually a battle flag. Mrs. Wright said there was really not a typical Confederate flag and the Museum of the Confederacy contains 550 flags that date from the Civil War. Union soldiers who captured a Confederate flag received a medal of honor. After the war, the Confederate Troops were supposed to surrender their flags to the War Dept. but some refused so there are quite a number of them still out there.

Information from **Cynthia Burton** of "The Winchester Star", an article by **James M. Haymaker** that appeared in the "Winchester Virginian" March 27, 1861, and **Catherine Wright**, Cuator of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Va

Joyce Barr Balsley
Stuarts Draft, VA

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit;
Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

– The Corncob Philosopher

ESKIMO AUNTS

by **Alice Lindemuth**

My father always wanted to go west. In 1938, after graduating from The Ohio State University, he drove to Seattle with family friends for the summer and hitchhiked back through the southwest and south to return to teach in Ohio.

The next year, he moved to Seattle heading for Alaska. Instead, he volunteered in the Army, and was stationed at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, WA. After that, he was stationed in the Aleutian Islands, so he made it to Alaska anyway.

He volunteered at a Baptist Orphanage on Kodiak Island and decided to adopt two Eskimo girls (he was still single at the time). Since he was not quite able to care for them, he wrote to his parents in a small town in northwest Ohio and asked that they take them until he was able.

He hardly needed to ask, they were overjoyed and immediately requested that he send "the little girls." Due to a problem with a natural-born sister, my grandparents had to adopt them quickly. Thus, my father's little girls, became his legal sisters and they are my aunts today!

**Alice Lindemuth,
New Rochelle, NY**

THREE DEATHS IN THE CARTMELL FAMILY

by **Mike Speers**

When **Jane Benedetto** and **Judith Smith** joined HFFA, see page 2, I became interested in Coshocton County Ohio, where they were from originally. In my reading I learned about **Rebecca Cartmell** who had suffered three deaths in her family.

Her first husband, **John Markley** was stabbed to death in 1816. Her brother, **William Cartmell**, was shot to death in 1825. Her son **Joseph Richards**, was killed

after being hit by a stone following a fight in 1868.

Rather than rewrite the stories, I'll provide the exact wording found in the history books of the time. I think you'll find the language and use of words very interesting.

From **History of Coshocton County, Ohio: it's Past and Present, 1740 – 1881.**

N. N. Hill, 1881.

About the husband of Rebecca Cartmell, John Markley:

"[George] Arnold terminated his career in this county . . . by fatally stabbing John Markley, on election day, and escaping to parts unknown." p.307

"About 1808, Adam Markley came in from Maryland with a large family - eight sons and four daughters. John Markley, who was killed at an election at Coshocton in 1816, by George Arnold, a noted rough from what is now Bethlehem Township - was a member of this family. This murder was the first one committed in Coshocton county." p.473

From **Historical Collections of Coshocton County Ohio.** William E. Hunt, 1876.

"George Arnold and John Markley having previously had one or more altercations, the former, on an election day in 1816, in Coshocton, approached stealthily and plunged a knife into the latter, causing his death in a little while." p. 180

About the brother of Rebecca Cartmell, William Cartmell:

"He was shot from his horse, while carrying the mail, at a point just beyond the line of Coshocton County, in what in those days was called "the Wilderness," near by a station on the Marietta and Cleveland railroad, a few miles south of New Comerstown, now called Post Boy." p. 178

About the son of Rebecca Cartmell, Joseph Richards:

"Joseph had been in a saloon, and some words had passed between him and a man

named Ward. Richards had left the place and crossed the street, when an injury was received (either from a stone thrown, or as a consequence of a fall directly after being hit with a stone), that caused his death. This occurred in the fall of 1868." p. 179

1. Heinrich Frey / Anna Catherine Levering
2. Benjamin Frey / Christena
3. Benjamin Frye / Catherine
4. Christina Fry / John Cartmell
5. Rebecca Cartmell (1794 - 1876)
md 1810 1) John B. Markley (1788 - 1816)
md 1825 2) Abraham Richards 1790 - ?)

MIKE SPEERS, CHARDON, OH

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Feb. 2012 \$5671.33

Deposits: \$1341.35

Expenses: \$1370.27

CURRENT BALANCE

May, 2012 \$5642.41

Notable expenses since the February Newsletter Report include \$1200 for the next issue of the Journal and \$98.37 for the February Newsletter.

Notable deposits include 31 paid memberships \$775 and the selling of back issues of the Journal \$566.35.

(My basement is getting much lighter, thank you very much.)

Mike Speers, Treasurer HFFA

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

- The Corncob Philosopher

Our Cousin, the Olympian

by Mark Friden

My background in sports is somewhat 'eclectic'. Or maybe 'diversified' is a better word. From the time I was a small child growing up in Northern Illinois, I was ice skating every winter.

Eventually, I wound up taking lessons and then competing in figure skating. I was never the best jumper, so I didn't do much as a singles skater. But I did manage to get a few seasons under my belt in Pairs, before finding my niche in Ice Dancing.

I always liked having a partner with me on the ice, and enjoyed the testing and competition for years. Then, as some skaters do, I morphed into becoming a figure skating judge, accountant, and referee, all at low levels.

I found the sport to be very elitist, a reputation it still has to this day. It was difficult to advance as an official, but I still loved the sport and all the friends I had made through it. Almost every year, I would attend the United States National Championships, and the World Championships. It was great fun to do all the travelling, seeing the sights and catching up with friends from all over in the process.

It was my connections in figure skating that got me a job in 1983 as the Technical Consultant to ABC Television for their broadcast of the National Championships. In those days, figure skating was on TV tce a year - Nationals and Worlds. There were no "made for TV" specials and no professional competitions to speak of. Like other networks, ABC had tons of people on staff who knew every competitor, rule, venue, coach, and statistic for things like the NFL, NBA, NHL, and a few other sports. But with skating on TV twice a year, they hired someone like me to give them technical insight.

I did such a good job for them in 1983 that when the competition ended, the Producer said to me, "Of course you'll be with us next year, too, right?" I said, "You mean for Nationals in Salt Lake City?" and he said,

"Yes, that - and the Olympics." I was stunned! In 1984 I spent a month in Sarajevo at ABC's expense, working rink-side at the Winter Olympics as one of two technical consultants for figure skating. I was right there, in the ABC booth next to the ice when **Scott Hamilton** won his gold medal, when British Ice Dancers **Torvill and Dean** won their gold medals with their history-making program to "Bolero", and when **Kitty and Peter Carruthers** won their silver medals in Pairs.

I also did shifts in the Research Room, where every fact was checked and double checked before the "talking heads" on TV would say anything. Remember, the internet was truly in its infancy back then - no laptops, no computers, no iPods. ABC used the basic technology of the day to create their own 'computer' that stored bios and stats on every athlete and every event in every sport. Much of what we did was still done "by hand".

One of the reasons they wanted me to work at the Sarajevo Olympics was my language background. I had majored in linguistics in college, and had minors (and some degree of fluency) in German, Russian, French, Spanish, Italian, and - Swahili (a degree requirement). One day, when a blizzard wiped out all the outdoor events, my voice was heard on television in America doing a simultaneous Russian-to-English translation of an interview with a Soviet figure skating official. When I got home, friends reported recognizing my voice on the air!

Backtrack a few years. Towards the end of my competitive skating career, I got the itch to get into a different sport - much different. Rodeo. I had lived for years in Salinas, California, home of the California Rodeo, one of the "Big Four Rodeos" (along with the Calgary Stampede, Pendleton Round-Up, and Cheyenne Frontier Days).

My ice dancing coaches (and my partner) said I was crazy. The coaches flat out forbid it! They said that if I should get injured around livestock, I wouldn't be the only one who couldn't compete, that my partner would be sidelined, too.

But, as luck would have it, the following year my partner retired to get married, and then

my job transferred me to Alaska, and when I came back the following year, my coaches had retired, too. I decided it was not worth it to try to resurrect a fading career in figure skating.

In rodeo, I started rough stock classes and immediately got into bull riding and steer wrestling. I tried calf roping, too, but recognized that, while I was not very good with a rope, my build and size made me an ideal candidate for steer wrestling. I stayed with bull riding because I loved the adrenaline rush of it. Bull riding, after all is the premier event of any rodeo! However, starting this sport late in life, I had to set modest goals. I competed on a few different circuits, and entered what are called "Jackpot Buckouts" where one winner takes all the prize money. I enjoyed competition in rodeo, but realized that I couldn't keep doing it forever.

So, I started training to become a Rodeo Judge. After testing and going through the certification process, I started out on some smaller circuits. In no time at all, as I made a name for myself as being very fair and impartial, rodeo associations would invite me back, year after year, at their expense. At one time, I was judging as many as 14 rodeos a year, in places from Calgary to Denver to Houston and Oklahoma City to Tucson to Kansas City and Minneapolis. I even worked rodeos in non-traditional venues like Chicago, Seattle, and Washington, D.C.

At the start of my career as a Rodeo Judge, I was still with ABC television covering figure skating for a few more years. One time, when a reporter at Nationals heard that ABC had someone working for them who was a former ice dancer and presently a bull rider, he interviewed me for an article in his paper! But after five years of working for ABC for one week each year (Sarajevo was the exception), I did a season of college football for them, and then 'retired'.

I continued to follow skating, and traveled to the competitions, but the **Nancy Kerrigan-Tonya Harding** debacle in Detroit in 1992 was the beginning of the end.

At about the same time, I retired from rodeo judging, having done that for about a dozen

years. The Salt Lake City Olympics figure skating judging scandal in 2002 did me in. That was when I relocated back to my roots - the Adirondack Mountains of Upstate New York.

There is no rodeo in the mountains of Northern New York, and I wasn't about to go back to figure skating. I wanted to be involved in a new sport. I chose luge, almost out of the hat.

Where I live is only 70 miles from Lake Placid, winter sports capital of the USA. I contacted the USA Luge office and started training to learn about the sport and how to officiate luge.

If you are not familiar with luge, it is the sport where the 'sliders' go down the ice-covered track on a sled, lying on their backs, feet first. There are events for men in singles and doubles and for women in singles only. In most venues around the world, luge races are contested on a combined track that bobsledders also use. In the USA, there are only two artificial, refrigerated tracks: the one at Mt. Van Hoevenberg just outside Lake Placid and the other is at Park City, Utah, built for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games.

Living so close to Lake Placid allowed me to work at more races than most officials, and build up experience more quickly. I was certified as a National Judge two years later. Then, a few years after that, I became an International Official - also called an "FIL Official" or "FIL Judge" (FIL is the international acronym for the sports worldwide governing organization).

Sometimes people will ask me, "How can you be a Luge 'Judge'? What is there to 'judge'?" This is true; luge is not a subjective sport - the fastest time wins. But officials are needed to run and control every aspect of every race: weigh-ins, the draw for starting order, accumulating and maintaining the times and statistics, etc. In a sport that is ruled by gravity, there could be a myriad of possible ways for a dishonest slider to gain an advantage over his competitors. We weigh the athletes and their sleds, we check the temperatures of their runners (think about it: a warmer blade will go faster on ice

than a colder one!), and perform a variety of measurements on the sleds themselves.

Officials are also need to serve on the Jury, should there be a protest over any situation or decision. We have Race Secretaries, Start Leaders, Finish Leaders, Race Directors, and other officials. But this is only scratching the surface!

In 2009, I put my name in the hat to be selected as one of the Luge Officials for the Vancouver Winter Olympics. As it worked out, I was not selected, but I am still very active in the sport. Every year I officiate at our National Championships, but have also worked at the World Championships, Junior World Championships, and at every World Cup race held in Lake Placid over the last eight years. One year I was even in Altenberg, Germany for a World Cup race!

I enjoy races such as New York State's Empire State Winter Games, where younger kids are just starting out and getting their feet wet. We also have races at other age levels.

So now it is 2012, and we are thinking ahead to the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. I plan to get my name in for that event, too. Maybe I should start brushing up on my Russian!

Mark Friden
Star Lake, NY

The Winter Olympics are two years away but if Mark gets chosen as an official in the Luge, we'll let you know right away. – ed.
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This issue of the HFFA Newsletter is a little longer than past issues. I hope you found the stories interesting. My thanks to Gene Frye, Julie Olson, Joyce Barr Balsley, Alice Lindemuth, and Mark Friden for their contributions.

We welcome our nine new members to this association of cousins. We hope you learn a lot about family history and the people whom you can call "cousin."

We especially grieve the loss of two Charter Members. May God Bless Us All.

CATCH-UP TIME:

Since I have an extra page in this issue and no more stories to share from the members, I can catch you up on some things.

In the previous Newsletter, Feb. 2012, we had an appeal from **Dick Bell** about being able to follow the route taken at the 2000 Reunion in Morgantown, PA as well as the 2011 Reunion in Winchester, VA.

Thanks to **Fannie Frey** we received the turn by turn directions given to the bus drivers at the 2000 Reunion. Thanks to **Charles Burgess** we received his notes about the things he wanted to say and the things he wanted us to see along the route at every stop.

Dick and **Sue Bell** have driven the route and are now working off of Charles' notes to see the significance of each place where the buses stopped.

Eventually, Dick hopes to present a detailed itinerary with GPS coordinates so that anyone can trace the route and learn about our family history in Roxborough, PA and Montgomery County and anywhere else the buses took us in 2000.

He'd like to do the same with the route taken by the buses at the Winchester Reunion last year.

In the same newsletter mentioned above there was a plea to clean up and provide some needed headstones at the **Frey Cemetery at Frey Fort**.

President Gene Frye tells me that there isn't anything to report yet about this project. As the HFFA Treasurer, I am sure that our Association can provide at least \$2000 in support of such a project. Perhaps even more if needed. Many of you have told me that you are willing to make a contribution to this project. Please contact **Gene Frye** to help get this underway.

Now I'm looking to the next Newsletter which will come your way in August. If you have some stories to contribute please send

them to me. Here are some ideas that might get you to write something and send it on for others to read.

What or who got you interested in family history?

Have you found something interesting about some ancestor?

What "brick walls" have you run across? Perhaps someone in HFFA has scaled those walls and can help.

What sources have you found to be valuable in your family research?

Have you found some errors or confusion in things published by HFFA that you think should be corrected?

All we need is a couple of paragraphs and you are done. Nothing fancy or detailed, just a basic story. C'mon, you can do it. Let's hear from you. If not, then the August issue will be nothing but filler taken from the internet. Please help me out. Help us all out. Thanks in advance.

Mike

By all means, marry.
If you get a good wife, you'll become happy;
if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.

- Socrates

I was married by a judge.
I should have asked for a jury.

- Groucho Marx

Don't worry about avoiding temptation.
As you grow older, it will avoid you.

- Winston Churchill

See what I mean? Help us out, send your story. - Mike

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\$25 dues are paid annually in January.

Dues and address changes should be sent to **Marti Frye** at address above. Dues may be paid for multiple years. Make checks payable for \$25.00 (per year) to HFFA. Membership is on a calendar year basis. New members are asked to send a copy of their direct line from Heinrich Frey. Membership includes four issues of the Newsletter and two of the Journal each year.