

Die Familie Von Dem Fange

19

SEPTEMBER, 1993

Vol. 11, No. 2

Reunions, Trips and More Reunions!

by Erich A. von Fange

REUNION AT WHITE CREEK IN

Saturday, June 26, 1993, was a happy time for more than 40 of the von dem Fange descendants at St. John's, White Creek IN. We thank Marybeth Glick and her daughter Lisa, Taletha Arnholt and Marietha Enzinger for making the arrangements. After a delicious lunch in the Parish Hall, Erich von Fange talked to the group about events and discoveries on our family history. The focus, of course, was seeing on film our ancient home town of Ueffeln, Germany, courtesy of Arthur W. Von Fange who made a video of the trip to Germany a year ago. Thanks to all who brought documents, changes of address, and other information to the gathering. As always, however, the very best part of the whole day was the rare and precious chance to visit with each other in the place where so much of our family history began.

HONG KONG AND CHINA ANYONE??

Esther and Erich von Fange are co-hosting a 19-day tour of Hong Kong, a Yangtse River cruise and the rest of the best of China next April. Interested? Please call or write for full information. (517) 423-6567, or 517 S. Occidental, Tecumseh MI 49286.

REUNION IN LINCOLN KS SEPT. 19, 1993

All the Von Fange cousins are warmly invited to the Parish Hall at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lincoln KS, at 1:30 pm on Sunday, September 19, 1993. Call any cousin there for more details. The Germany trip will be featured in photos, slides, and video, along with good visiting. Erich von Fange of Tecumseh MI will share with the gathering about our ancient Ueffeln hometown. Since Pastor John Mehl there has



The Holiday Inn in Goshen IN welcomed 50 descendants of Justinus (Jess) Von Fange from 7 states and Ontario on the July 4 weekend for a grand reunion.

left for mission work in Russia, Erich will also give a combined devotion and presentation on 'Genesis and the Dinosaur' at 8:00 am.

OUR NEW LOOK!

by Erich A. von Fange

Thanks to a kind offer from David and Felecia Ann Nichols (G3) we are sporting a new experimental look for this issue of the Newsletter. As a partner of Burroak Insurance, Inc., David is involved in bulk mailings to the insurance industry. He has offered to send out this issue of the Newsletter from Indianapolis. We have provided him with the copy for the Newsletter and the mailing list on a disk. He sets up, prints, seals, addresses, stamps, sorts, and mails the copies in one fantastic operation, thus saving not only considerable money as a bulk mailing, but also a number of tedious steps for each mailing. This is our debugging issue. Next issue we will report to you all how it went and where we go from here. In the meantime, we offer out sincere thanks for David and Felecia for taking on the publication of this issue. If all goes smoothly, we hope to get back to our original goal of sending out two or three issues a year. Ideas about this family history project from any of our readers are always welcome.

Von Dem Fange Family Portrait



NETHERLANDS UPDATE

by Erich A. von Fange

We were very pleased to receive more news from our Holland cousin, Gerard van der Fange. He is the seventh of a family of twelve children whose ages range from 29-47. Both parents are deceased. Gerard thinks he has about 150 relatives in Holland. His earliest ancestor was Johann Rolff Von dem Fange, born 1682 or 1683 and lived to the age of 80. His son, Johann Gerd (another form of Gerhard) emigrated to Haarlem where he died in 1787. Immigration officials translated the name as VAN DER VANGST. We thank Gerard for sending us copies of family documents, and we hope to do more exploring with him of our common Ueffeln roots in the future.



Next time you visit the zoo in Rhenen, a village between Utrecht and Arnhem in Holland, you can see your 'cousin' Gerard VanDer Fange in action as attendant there. He sends greetings to his cousins in America!

Where Are These People?

Please help us find the following people - we need new addresses:

Joni Gail Abell;	Daryl Obermueller;
Jason Aufdemberg;	Kenton Reinert;
Brice, Mark, Quentin Bassett	Teresa Rippe;
Patti Bell;	Arvella Robinson;
Karen Collier;	Arvella Smith;
Rachel Ellis;	Jerrell Thedford;
Lona Hauck;	Barry, Curtis, Duane, Lyle, Patricia Von Fange;
Janis Henkel;	Gary Vondemfange;
Vicki Jones;	Edna Wilson.
Kathy Lyerla;	
Cindy Lyons;	
Anna, Chris Meier;	
Barbara, Glen Meyer;	

TWINS IN THE VON FANGE RELATIONSHIP

by Erich A. von Fange

At the suggestions of Viola Pfortmiller Boomer (G12), the mother of twins, Warren and Larren, we made a quick pass through some of our records to see if there were other sets of twins in the relationship. This seemed like a great idea since we too are the parents of twin daughters, Lois von Fange Balsman and Ruth von Fange Vore. There are many records we did not have time to check, so please send us the names of other twins in the relationship that we did not include. Here are the other twins we located in the records thus far (total of 11 sets). We did not always have married names available.

(G6) Kathy and Karen Henkel;
Karl and Kirk Troeger; Jeffrey and John Troeger
(G8) Barry and Bruce Von Fange
(G9) Lois von Fange Balsman and Ruth von Fange Vore
(G12) Warren and Larren Boomer
(G15) Roxanne and Patricia Obermueller
(G19) Marietha Enzinger and Teletha Arnholt
(G27) Twin daughters of Benjamin Walter
(G30) Roy and Ruth Meyer
(G31) Elizabeth and Evelyn Kruse



The Zuroeveste Letters

Part VI in a series

This continues an ongoing look at the letters of Johann Heinrich Zur Oeveste, a German immigrant arriving in the 1830's, the same time as our ancestor Gerhard Von Dem Fange. The text of these letters is provided courtesy of MaryBeth Glick, Columbus, IN.

Ohio, About April, 1835

Dear Parents, Brothers and Sisters:

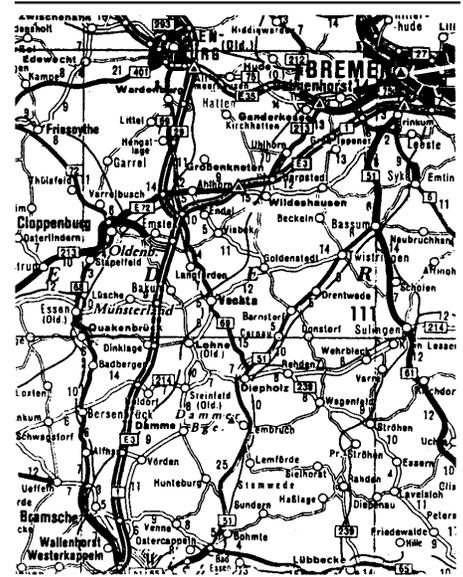
To my great joy I have received your letter of August 10 in the best of health from the bearer. I note from it that you are well and content, which is a great joy for me. I would have written to you long ago if I had not been on a journey during the last winter. But shortly before my leaving I wrote a short letter and sent it along with Arndt Muller's letter in which I indicated my health and whereabouts. You must not think that I am no longer concerned about you, my dear parents. That is not the case. I will not forget Germany and my dear relatives. You are always in my heart and it is my greatest joy when I hear from you. I must tell you that I was on a trip for three months. On March 30 I arrived here in good health. We traveled on the Ohio River to the Mississippi, 1200 English miles southward from here and worked at Vicksburg on the railroad where in the future steam-wagons will travel. We earned \$20.00 plus food. But the food and sleeping arrangements were not as one would wish. Here in this region cotton grows very well. It is planted every year and grows on bushes which look almost like potatoes. Each farmer here has his negroes as slaves. Every day many negroes came here to the city which were publicly sold on the market. There are here more black than white people. But the negroes are all slaves and are sold from one hand to the other. In this area there still many wild Indians. They live by hunting and some go about almost naked and had only a cover hanging around them; and a big knife on their side. Their faces are brown, but not as the negroes. This area is too warm for white people in the summer. Most of them again leave during the summer. The winter here was not severe. Several mornings one could see a little ice. Half of March was already warm, - like you have it in the middle of summer. The woods were already in full bloom. The land was uneven. Cotton is the main crop of the people. Only in a few places did one see potatoes and corn. Most of the houses stand on pillars 4 feet above the ground because of dampness and unhealthfulness. Most of this region is covered with woods and timber is here in great abundance. I cannot write more of that region.

(To be Continued . . .)

thing of interest to us:

"Special recognition was given to members of the "Familie von Fange" at the festival celebration gathering. They came here from the United States especially to take part in the celebration. The ancestors of this family emigrated to America from Balkum (and Ueffeln) in the 19th century."

Harold recently met Pastor Mark Loest in Brownstown IN who was very interested to learn that the pastor at Ueffeln spells his name the same way. It would be interesting if they are related. We may hear more about this. Harold is a member of the German Genealogical Society of America and keeps us updated on new possibilities for searching out family history. A promising new tool is the CD-Rom disk. We can order a search for our family name or any other family name in all of Germany for rather modest fees. For example the fee is \$2.00 for each locality in Germany where the name von dem Fange appears in a telephone directory. Imagine trying to do that on your own. Who will sponsor such a search? This could be interesting.



Ueffeln is too small to be included on most German maps. Here it's in the lower left corner.

Die Familie Von Dem Fange

The VON FANGE Genealogical Newsletter

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HAROLD AND MABEL

by Erich A. von Fange

We thank Harold and Mabel (Von Fange) Tormoehlen, who sent us seven wonderfully illustrated newspaper pages which described the 700th anniversary celebration at Ueffeln. They were collected by Harold's distant cousin who lives in Koln (Cologne), Germany. Mabel (G18) is the daughter of Fred Von Fange, the son of John D. Von Fange. One of the articles mentioned some-

Thanks for Your Letters...

Your comments and suggestions are most welcome!

Viola Boomer - Portis, KS

... Give my best regards to your dad, Erich. I have many fond memories of our times at Natoma, KS. I'll await the news in the next letter. [Vi also enclosed a donation, a family report, and names/addresses of her 6 children. Thanks!]

Harold Tormoehlen - Brownstown, KS

"Thank you again for another issue of the "Von Fange Genealogical Newsletter." It was very interesting to read about "The Dutch Connection" and also the "Y'all Come to White Creek, IN" on Saturday, June 26, 1993. WE'LL BE THERE!" [Also enclosed a donation, ordered the book '700 Jahre Kirchspiel Ueffeln-Balkum', and sent 2 address changes. Thanks Harold!]

Tomas Kelley - Memphis, IN

"Please continue to send the Von Fange Newsletter to me. I enjoy them very much." [Also sent a change of address.]

George Bode (G32) - Roswell, NM

George is eager to correspond with any descendants of Herman Christian Von Fange, and his wife Minnie Sophia Bode, that is, G24 (Edwin Von Fange) and G25 (Emma Von Fange Ellerman) relatives. You can reach him at 505 S. Kentucky Ave., Roswell NM 88201.

Geneva Kelley - Columbus, IN

Sent us a comprehensive list of addresses we needed and a number of new names to add.

Theodore Von Fange - Seward, NE

Sent complete data for his family.



A rare photo of Gerhard in his old age, probably when he was living with his son, Herman Christian, or later with his youngest daughter Elizabeth Charlotte.

Contributions Support the Cost of the Newsletter...Thanks!

Each newsletter costs approximately \$150 to publish. Thank you to the following generous family members who have contributed to make this and future newsletters possible:

*Viola Boomer
Harold & Mabel Tormoehlen
Geneva Kelley
Lois von Fange Balsman
The June Indiana Reunion*

If you feel you can help support a future issue, please send your check of any amount made out to: Paul von Fange

The VON FANGE Genealogical Newsletter

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FIRST CLASS