

Die Familie Von Dem Fange

SEPTEMBER, 1998

<http://www.vonfange.com>

Vol. 16, No. 2

1998 VON FANGE REUNION IN LINCOLN, KANSAS

Cousins From 13 States Flock to Kansas

by Erich von Fange


About a hundred Von Fange relatives from 13 states enjoyed a 2-day reunion organized by Mickey Suelter at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lincoln KS, July 25-6. Art and Erich Von Fange used video, slides, and pictures to introduce the gathering to their several hundred Dutch relatives. After the Sunday morning worship and a sumptuous meal, cousins swapped memories and pictures. Paul von Fange, publisher of the Von Dem Fange Newsletter, described his adventure of developing the newsletter from 1983 to the present. A 155-page family history handbook was offered as a fundraiser for this genealogy project. Erich von Fange presented a program on biblical archaeology on Sunday evening. States represented were: Kansas, Nebraska, Washington, Utah, Indiana, Michigan, Maryland, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California, Arizona, Colorado and Minnesota. The following attended the reunion, besides other guests. The Von Fange ancestors are indicated:

(C6 Johan Heinrich Von Dem Fange): Walter C & Helen Von Demfange;
Betty & Karen Steely.
(G3 John Toburen): Geneva & Paul



Family members enjoy the noon meal at the reunion in Lincoln, Kansas

Kelley; David, Felicia, Beth and Timothy Nichols.
(G6 Ida VF Meier): Phyllis Meier VF; Alvin Troeger.
(G8 Ernest Von Fange): Lawrence & Doris VF; Wavelyn, Lenora Schneider; Twila Crawford; Cathy & Ed Bruce; Luella & Patti Bell.
(G9 Jess Von Fange): Meta, Charles & Linda, Paul, Andy, Sue, Megan, Becky, Libby, Aaron, Chloe Hieber, Arleen Hitchcock; Ted & Verda, Art & Bettie, Erich & Esther, Paul, Michael VF; Dorothy Werner.
(G11 William Von Fange): Wilbur & Ruth VF.
(G12 Minna Pfortmiller):



Get your copy of the 155-page **VON FANGE GENEALOGICAL HANDBOOK** mailed to you postage paid with every donation to the VF Newsletter of \$20 or more! Make your checks payable to Paul von Fange and send requests and payment to 'Erich von Fange, 808 Savannah River Drive, Adrian, MI 49221'. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! These handbooks were printed only for the reunion - so order now!

REUNION PICTURES



The Cecil Von Fange Family



The post-rock post carved by Jess Von Fange, 1917 at the Von Fange homestead



Erich von Fange Presenting



The Hackmeister-Von Fange complimentary cream pitcher from Natoma, KS

Where Are These People?

Please help us find the following people - we need 42 new addresses out of the 375 we send the Newsletter. Also, check the web site for the latest addresses needed:

Jason Audemberge;
Daniel Barksdale;
Quentin Bassett;
Olga Behrman;
Jon Bell;
George Bode;
Peggy Sue Burton;
Carry, Corbin Cain;
Clara Claycamp;
Curtis Crawford;
Gary Deiter;
Kelley, Tammy
Eckelman;
Rachel Ellis;
Evelyn Fellwock;

Esther Fleetwood;
Ila King;
Clarence, Eugene Kruse;
Carol Manford;
Barbara Meyer;
Elizabeth Murphy;
Mary Nunn;
Martha, Steve
Obermueller;
Joyce Price;
Jerrell Thetford;
Dennis, Gregorie
Troeger;
Dana, Kevin Vogt;
Carl, Catherine, Gary,

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Lawrence, Paul & Hazel
Pftormiller; Viola Boomer.
(G13 Martha Meyer): Doris Brodin;
Al & Florence Winter.
(G14 Alvin Von Fange): Cecil
& Ardith VF; Mickey & Stan, Todd,
Travis, Tyler Suelter; Mabel
Donley, Ardith VF; Kristina,
Harvetta, Alan VF; Mariann
Padayao; Carl, Linda, Chris VF;
Cindy, John, Dacien Lyons;
Linda, Donny Heart; Brenda,
Mallory Wiggins; Rodney, Lisa,

(Continued on page 4)

Howard, Reinold Von Fange;
Eugene VonDemfange;
George Walter;
Beth Wever.

Die Familie Von Dem Fange

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The Zuroeveste Letters

Part XIV 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.

Cincinnati, October 31, 1839 (continued)

Dear Parents, Brothers and Sisters:

Several times the Germans have tried to have the laws in the German language which would be to their own interest, but until now they have not achieved their purpose. The Germans are so strong in this city. Surely there is no other city in all of America like this. The German Lutherans built a beautiful church this summer which they call the North German Lutheran Church. These are all Low-Germans who have separated themselves from the High-Germans who come mostly from the southern parts of Germany. There are three German Lutheran churches here, a German Catholic church, and a Jewish Synagogue. I cannot tell you exactly about the English churches, how many and how many different sects there are. There are many Americans who have no religion. Some are baptized when they are grown up. Many let their children learn but without religion and let them have their choices when they are grown. This is a free country and everyone can believe and think as he wishes. And this is also the reason why there are so many sects, of which one in Germany knows nothing. But I say, remain with what you have learned and what has been committed to you.

Now I know nothing more to write to you about my circumstances. Write to me and tell me how things are with you. Write me about how things are with regard to the war and whether changes have taken place. A greeting from D. Pardieck and let Cof. Pardieck know that his wife gave birth to a healthy son three months ago. And please be so good and greet the Schumackers at Hemke(?) from Franz Schumaker that he is quite well.

Finally I greet you all, my relatives and friends, Father, Mother, brothers and sisters.

Johann Heinrich Zur Oeveste in Cinc

And when you write again, address it as before. Then I will surely receive it.

ERICH'S MAILBAG

Alma Buck, Colorado Springs, CO
"Thanks for the wonderful newsletter. I always enjoy reading it. Please find enclosed a small contribution toward its publication."

Our cousin, **Gerard Van der Vange**, who lives in Doorn, Holland, ordered 5 copies of the Von dem Fange Handbook as soon as he heard about it on the Von Fange page on the Internet.

Harold and Mabel Tormoehlen (G18), longtime researchers for our family history, sent greetings and good wishes for the Kansas reunion.

Karen M. Steely (C6) and her mother, **Betty R. Steely**, enjoyed the KS reunion. They are descendants of Gerhard's cousin, Johan Heinrich VonDemfange, who moved to Kansas City soon after arriving in Cincinnati. Karen gave us a 116-page printout of her study of our family, and we will be working through this information for

many months. Thanks, Karen!

Mickey Suelter (G14) presented us with anniversary booklets of St. John and St. Paul, Lincoln KS. They contain important information about the early years of our cousins in KS and we will write about this in future newsletters. Many thanks, Mickey.

A BIG HUMBUG! Have you received a notice for a book to be published with YOUR name in it for only \$34.50 or \$49.00? Don't bite. These books simply print a bunch of general stuff about your former country, such as Germany, and then they give a little computer printout of some Von Fanges or your other name. A big waste of money.

Our Dutch cousin **Henni van der Vange**, the Spike City lady who met us at the Amsterdam airport, sent her fond greetings to her American cousins. After slow recoveries from hip replacements, she hopes to be traveling again in the near future.

Walter and Verl Von Fange, Columbus IN, sent us pictures and clippings of the Rubber Duck Derby. As a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club of Seymour, 10,000 numbered rubber duckies were floated down the Von Fange Ditch in Seymour to determine prizes. (How much more fame can we Von Fanges stand?) There is a proposal for a \$3 million improvement for the Von Fange Ditch.

Phyllis Meier Von Fange sent us a beautifully worked out list from a great computer program of the 116 descendants of Harold Lorenz Meier (1903-1992). These cousins form part of the G6 clan. Harold's mother, **Ida**, was the eldest child of William VF who brought his family to Lincoln KS in 1888.



The Von Fange Genealogical Newsletter Team gets together for the first time at the 1998 family reunion in Lincoln, Kansas. From left to right, David Nichols, printing and distribution; Paul von Fange, publisher and editor; Erich von Fange, writer; Linda Von Fange, layout.

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Jill, Ross VF.

(G15 Frieda/Ted Obermueller): Louis & Mildred Obermueller; Harold & Lorene Buttenhoff.

(G20 Marie Aufdemberge Kruckenberg): Marilyn & Royce Crawford.

(G23 Eleanore Aufdemberge Suelter): Sheri, Wendell, Seth, Sam Suelter.

(G29 Otto Von Fange): Roy, Gail, Joy VF; Clarence & Dee VF; Mike & Lisa Feldkamp; Velma Wachs.



The Charles Hieber Family



The Phyllis Von Fange Family



The Children of Jess Von Fange: Erich, Dorothy, Ted, Meta and Arthur



Scenes from the 1998 Von Fange Family Reunion in Lincoln, Kansas

Contributions Support the Newsletter...Thanks!

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

The following family members contributed to this and future issues:

Alma Buck	Betty Steely
Harold & Mabel Tormoehlen	Velma Wachs
Lester & Lois Walter	Lorene Buttenhoff
John & Judith Rucker	Luella Von Fange
Lawrence Pfortmiller	Twila Crawford
	Victor Suelter

The VON FANGE Genealogical Newsletter

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