



DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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Some Talented Dodges

Our New Zealand Dodges have really enjoyed their time in our great country. They are still here, and will be when you receive this Journal.

Ralph and Judy Dodge wish to thank all those who took part in making their stay here so successful.

As all of you Dodges know, there is a great and varied array of interests in our vast Dodge Family. No matter whom they visited, they managed to fit right in.

They enjoyed the Dodge Reunion at Hesperia, Michigan, where they were hosted by James and Cecelia Dodge of New Era. Judy said that she could pick out people who looked like Ralph's kin in spite of the fact that the two branches of the family are very distantly related.

Ralph's father, Walter, was 18 when he set off for New Zealand from Stockport, England. There he met Ralph's mother, and decided to call New Zealand his home.

Ralph and Judy sold their 105 acre dairy farm to their sons a few years ago, and now divide their time between New Zealand where their three sons live, and Australia where their daughter lives.

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Kip Dodge, son of Cmdr. Elliott Dodge of San Rafael, CA, Association Member, is a talented artist from Temecula, CA.

He has a dynamic, bold, and powerful painting style, and has already won a significant following among collectors of true fine art in both traditional and contemporary styles.

Kip has won over 20 regional art awards during exhibitions and solo shows, and has also gained notoriety in numerous publications and articles.

He was the front page feature in the Californian newspaper as "Temecula's Painter Laureate".

His art was selected as the poster for the Temecula Art Festival, 1997.

He has won many awards, and has sold numerous paintings, with one single major collector purchasing 7 paintings at one time.

John Dodge, a.k.a. J.J. the Clown, works as a patrolman on the city streets of Baltimore, MD. during the nighttime shift.

Then, at least three times a week, he makes the 45 minute drive to D.C.'s children's hospital where he visits the children as J.J. the Clown.

About 7 years ago, he made his first trip to visit a sick child in the hospital and that started him on his part time clown career.

Aside from the fun and games, his work as a clown also has a serious side.

He performs as part of a 50 person Clown Care Unit operated in 10 East Coast hospitals by New York City's not-for-profit Big Apple Circus, which requires that prospective clowns undergo a six-week training program.

John's wife, Cathy, says, "It takes a special kind of person to put aside death and sorrow. When John goes out of a room and washes his hands, he says he's mentally washing the sadness away."

"The fact that I can go into a situation and touch the soul", John says, "is a feeling hard to beat."

Brookie (Hirum) Dodge (Joe, Cyrus, Cyrus, John, Moses, Nathaniel, Joseph, Richard) was first child of Joe Dodge who perfected the hut system used by the Appalachian Mountain Club, a series of high-elevation hostleries manned by college-age stalwarts who packed enormous loads of supplies up the rough

trails to fuel the passing hikers.

Brookie was expected by his father, Joe, to pull his weight in the many duties at Pinkham Notch, NH. When he was 6 years old, he could take all the readings in Joe's weather station and operate the complex superheterodyne short-wave radio to relay them to the summit observatory of Mt. Washington.

Brookie had a career in civil engineering but also rose to breathtaking heights in sailplane competition, pioneered helicopter skiing in British Columbia, and was almost unbeatable in Masters ski racing. At the end of the 1977 ski season, he realized that he had entered 437 races and won more than 40% of them.

The 1950 World Skiing Championships were to be held in Aspen, Colorado. The Americans were Brookie Dodge, Buddy Werner, Bill Beck, and Ralph Miller. They had so little money that they were going to have to share uniforms.

They considered the matter. Brookie knew a tailor in St. Anton, Austria, so they went there and asked him if he had any material with some stretch in it. By the end of the 2nd evening, they had introduced

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SPECIAL BOOK SIGNING AT THE NEW ENGLAND DODGE FAMILY REUNION.

Those of you who have purchased the 1998 Dodge Genealogy may bring them to the NE Reunion where Col. Robert L. Dodge, book author and editor will sign your book. We will have a few copies there for purchase. You may also obtain a special edition book mark notating the signing of your book.

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10105 W. 17th Place
Lakewood, Colorado 80215
Tel. & FAX: (303) 237-4947

<http://www.dodgefamily.org>
E -MAIL: barbdodge@dodgefamily.org

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racing tights, and had changed the look of the sport forever.

When they debuted the new tights in Oppdal, Norway just before the World Championships in Aspen, there were a lot of whispers about the American ballet dancers UNTIL their performance was seen on the slopes. In spite of uphill winds on a course which was totally above timberline, Buddy Werner won the race. Ralph Miller was 6th and Brookie finished 14th. The Europeans were dumbfounded. Brookie was a known slalom specialist. That event tests precision and control rather than outright speed. Brookie finished ahead of Austria's Anderl Molterer, the best downhiller in the world.

Brookie was the top American man at the 1954 World Cup Championships. He was 4th in the Olympic slalom of 1956 which was the top finish among all the Americans that year. If a protest had been allowed, it would have been 3rd place and the 1st Olympic medal ever won by an American.

In 1978, Brookie was 48 years old and was competing in the Northeast Soaring Championships. The heat was high enough to reach historic proportions, and one pilot had been killed just short of the finish.

Brookie was overtaken by heat stroke, and his sailplane dove straight into the ground.

The injuries he sustained were massive, and he was in Massachusetts General Hospital for 93 days.

Once he got back home, he refused to give up. When he couldn't walk, he swam. When he was barely walking, his son helped him on his bicycle and ran along steadying him until he found his balance. Soon there were bicycle trips to distant lands such as New Zealand, Japan, and the Alps. He also participated in hunting trips to the Rocky

Did you know that Robert Dodge (Samuel, Wilkie, Samuel, William, Tristram) was 5 mos. old when, during the Revolutionary War, his mother fled with he, and 4 other young children on a raft amid the yells of Indians and Tories. Their path was guided by the light from their burning house. His father, Samuel, was serving under Gen. Gates and was not at home during his wife's hour of trial. She and the children escaped to New York. *Tristram Genealogy, page 85, #15*

Mountains, Africa, and Alaska.

Now, when Brookie visits the great Ski centers, they stop to watch him, one of the greatest ski racers ever.

(Ed. note: The article about Kip Dodge was sent to us by his proud father Cmdr. Elliot Dodge of San Rafael, CA.

The article about John Dodge alias J.J. the Clown, was taken from People Magazine, March 2, 1998 which was sent to us by Norm Dodge, a DFA member.

The article about Brookie Dodge was taken from Yankee Magazine, February 1998. We subscribe to this magazine so we saw the article, but it was also brought to our attention by a number of other Dodge Family Association members.)

OUR COACH IS FILLING UP

As of September 7, twenty-one people had definitely said they are coming on the Dodge Historic Tours trip to England, Wales and Ireland in May 1999. This is the largest number ever committed for one of these trips so far in advance of the departure date.

As of now we believe that the limit will be 35, so any interested persons should get their name and deposit of \$250 per person in as soon as possible. A detailed brochure about our tour is enclosed with this mailing. For further information, or to ask questions, feel free to call us at (303) 237-4947, write us at 10105 W. 17th PL, Lakewood, CO 80215 or e-mail us at:

**barbdodge
dodgefamily.org.com**

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Ralph says that they live 6 months in each place and do not have winter.

Their time in New England was spent with Blanch and Wendell Day of Hamilton, MA, who chauffeured them to many places of interest. Ralph and Judy had a great time playing cards, dominos, and doing puzzles during the relaxing times. They even joined in the celebration of Blanche's Birthday with her family.

Sue and Joe Klein of Centerville, Ohio picked them up at the train station in Huntington, WV, and then they headed out for a trip through Amish country. Joe's 90 yr. old mother went along also and impressed Ralph and Judy with her vigor and eagerness to join in on everything.

Their visit with Faith and Joe Nelson and their 6 children in Gladstone, MO, was another success, and again, Ralph and Judy did puzzles, visited with the children, had a tour of Kansas City, and took a day trip to St. Joseph to see the Pony Express Museum and the home where Jesse James lived at the time of his murder. They SAW the BULLET HOLE in the wall.

Then the very game New Zealand Dodges, traveled with Faith, Joe and their family in a nine seat van from Missouri to Colorado via Dodge City, KS where they spent the night, visited boot hill, etc.

The next 10 days were spent with Earl and Barbara and others who arrived in Colorado for this special week before the Dodge Reunion.

Willard and Joyce Dodge took them back with them to Las Cruces, NM where they had another fantastic week.

A visit with Abigail and Donald Lawton in Portland, Oregon, and then Nancy and Leroy Laybourn in Federal Way, Washington, completed the official tour arranged for them.

BUT, they still had 2 weeks left on their train pass. Why not use it, thought Ralph. And as if traveling by Amtrak across America, sometimes requiring an all night ride, was not enough, they took off again after their visit with the Laybourns, to travel once more around our country.

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*Barbara's
Byline*

In the last Dodge Journal, we featured an interview by the wife of Washington Dodge, Survivor of the Titanic.

The very day that we mailed out the Journal, we received in the mail, an article that was the story as Washington Dodge himself told it.

I decided to try the internet and see what I could find there about the Titanic disaster and I was amazed to find the following site:

<http://www.sfmuseum.org/hist5/dodge.html>

Here, we have pictures of both Washington Dodge and his wife, and ten options from which to choose, many of them dealing with the Dodges.

If you like history, you may use just the www.sfmuseum.org, to get to the museum's home page, and once there, the options seem limitless.

After I found this site, I decided to see what I could find with a generic search for museums in general.

The first thing that really took my eye was:

<http://wrightmuseum.org/index1.html>

Wright museum is located in Wolfboro, New Hampshire, and is: "dedicated to all those who helped secure the freedom of our country and now you can share in their victory."



August, 1998 at the top of Trail Ridge Road. From the left, front row: Bill Ragan, Judy Ragan, Barbara Dodge, Muriel Preston, Judy Dodge, Ralph Dodge. In the back from the left are: Ray Preston and Earl Dodge.

Another Military site: during our 'Dodge week' in August that preceded our Dodge Family Reunion on August 22, we went to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Col. Robert Dodge is on the Board of Visitation, and he very graciously arranged a very special tour for us.

The backdrop of front range mountains, their red soil and rock showing through the dark green of the evergreen trees, the bright blue sky above, the clouds ever changing as they do here in Colorado, from white puffy ones to dark ominous storm clouds, and then a few minutes later clear blue sky, makes this one of my favorite places to visit.

Seeing the young men in their uniforms, the beautiful setting that they have in which to live and study, can make one just a bit envious.

During the tour, we went inside one of the buildings where pictures were hanging along the walls of the wide halls. They were pictures that were commissioned by each class before that class graduated from the academy. Each picture was different and depicted the things that the particular class felt was important to them, however, the theme running through each picture, was the Academy itself, the setting of the mountains, sky and clouds, and always, there was some type of plane pictured. How romantic, I thought.

Then, we turned a corner, and were brought up short by a display case dedicated to those missing in action. In the display case were numerous bracelets with names inscribed on them of MIAs.

As we gazed somberly at this display, we noticed several bracelets with the same name inscribed on each, and that was for a 'Lt. Col. Ward Dodge, 7-5-67'.

This brought home to me the fact that the young men who go to this Academy end

up serving their country when they graduate and they may even have to give their life.

I think that whenever I go back to this place, I will always remember that fact. Look beyond the handsome young men, the smart uniforms, the impressive behavior, the beauty of the surroundings; look at the reason this place was built; to train some of the best of American young men to be ready when they are called to serve their country in foreign lands so that we, who are most fortunate to live in America, will not have to endure what others have had to endure: battles on our own doorsteps.

Barbara

Please notice that we have a new (and permanent) e-mail address:

barbdodge@dodgefamily.org

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This time, they are traveling with no stops to visit anyone. When they arrive back in California, they will spend the last remaining week with Bill and Judy Ragan of Simi Valley. Bill and Judy are the ones who met them at the LA Airport when they arrived and they will also see to it that Ralph and Judy get delivered there in time to get their flight back home.

They are a delightful couple and we certainly hope that we see them again, either here, in England next May, (they are thinking of coming on our tour), or in their own country, New Zealand.

We in the Dodge Family Association want to express our gratitude to those members of our vast family who were able to host Ralph and Judy and make their stay a very special time.

In the words of Ralph, "It's been a fantastic way to see the country. You're hosted by families, and you get to know the people and the country. It has been a great experience."



**GENEALOGICAL
HELP COLUMN**

David Dodge, 12 Park Lane, Big Flats, New York 14814 has received information from the National Archives that proves his grandfather was John Reese Dodge who died in 1881 in Pierce City, Missouri. This information has given David a list of other names for which he would like information.

Jane (Jennie) Magill Dodge Fickel - remarried widow of John Reese Dodge, last known in Guthrie, Oklahoma Territory, in the early 1900s.

Mrs. Charles (Sarah) Magill, mother of Jennie, last known in Tidioute, Pennsylvania in 1889.

The following children of John Reese and Jennie Magill Dodge:

Charles S. Dodge, b. c. 1856

Mrs. Melvin (Cora) Dodge Beaver. B. C. 1859. Last known in Salida, Colorado, in the 1880s

Jean Dodge _____? probably b. 1860-67 or her daughter Mabel Maxwell, b. 1884, last known in California, 1940s and 50s.

John R. Dodge b. 1868. Last known in Pierce City, MO 1881

Nellie E. Dodge Dooley b. 1871. Last known in Missouri or Oklahoma, c. 1885-90.

Myrtle Dodge b. 1877. Last known with mother (Jennie Dodge Fickel) in Guthrie, Oklahoma, 1889.

Both **David Dodge**, (above) and **Harry Erwin, 13121 Applegrove Lane, Herndon, VA 20171**

e-mail: herwin@osf1.gmu.edu are still searching for ancestors of Walter (Raleigh?) Dodge b. 1799, m. Mary Reese who were the parents of John Reese Dodge and Eliphlet Dodge

Robert Dodge, 615 - A Hind Iuka Dr., Honolulu, Hawaii 96821 - e-mail: rdodge@hawaii.edu (Artful Dodger) is looking for information on: ancestors of John Dodge who was in the Civil

After a scenic ride from Lakewood to Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mountain National Park, appetites needed to be appeased. Makings for sandwiches and drinks had been brought along in coolers, and now was the time for breaking them out.

Enjoying the picnic along with Stellar jays, magpies, and squirrels were (from the left): Earl Dodge, Ron White (our driver for the day), Muriel and Ray Preston (England), Ralph and Judy Dodge (New Zealand), and Bill and Judy Ragan, (Simi Valley, California)

War and died from war wounds about 1868 in Bushnel, Illinois. His wife was Louisa (Louise) Meyers who later married George Lemmon. John and Louisa Dodge had one son born July 1, 1861 - Thomas Josiah Dodge.

Duane Dodge, P. O. Box 259, Pomona Park, IL 32181-0259 Tel: 904-649-6122 E-MAIL:

dadj@hotmail.com is looking for information on Solomon P. Dodge, born about 1820/21, Lincoln County, Maine - died 5/6/1894 in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Married Mahala Jane Barter 3/31/1844 and had 9 children all in Boothbay and Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

Debra Dodge, 1815 Keys Place, Abbotsford, B.C., Canada, V2S 5G9

requests information on relatives and ancestors of her father and grandfather. Her father's name was Clarence Theodore Dodge (Ted), b. 7-9-1909 in either Dauphin Manitoba OR Tilsonburg, Ontario and died 10-28-1954. He had four sisters and one brother: Claire, Naida, Gertrude, Anna, and Pete. Debra's grandfather's name was William Dodge who married a woman with the last name of 'Kinney'. He died at age 94 in Vancouver B.C.

Martha T. Johnstone, 62 Babcock Drive, Rochester, NY 14610-3305, knows only of her direct Dodge ancestor, Darius Dodge, b. Vermont or New Hampshire in 1816. Does anyone have any information on any Darius Dodge from this area of the country?

Dodge Family Association is looking for information on a Trustram Dodge b. 2/27/1822 in Eastern Canada, d. 12/29/1905 and is buried in Greeley Cemetery, Delaware County, Iowa. His

OB says "Born in Canada, In his early manhood, his home was in Vermont and later in Illinois. He leaves to morn, his wife Adaline of 54 years, and a brother in Wisconsin." His parents were John & Phoebe Dodge. Trustram married Adaline in 1851. They had at least one son called 'Bert' who was active in the M.E. Church, and Mayor of Coleburg, Iowa for a time. If anyone has information about this 'Trustram' please contact us here at the office.

ALSO - does anyone have information on George Dodge, (b. Vermont?) a Brevet Brigadier General during the Civil War? He died in the 1880s in California and was temporarily buried there, and later brought back east for permanent interment, possibly in Massachusetts. **WHERE** is he buried?

DIRECTORS CHOSEN

Those voting by mail ballot recently re-elected Blanche Dodge Day of Massachusetts, Frederick E. Dodge of New Hampshire and Norman E. Dodge of Washington to the Board of Directors of the Dodge Family Association for the 1998-2001 term.

Others on the Board include President Everett J. Dodge, Vice Presidents Robert L. Dodge and Frederick J. Dodge, Secretary-Treasurer Earl F. Dodge, Virginia Dodge Murphy and Faith Dodge Nelson.

The 1999 Annual Board meeting will be held at the Miramar Marine Corp Air Station, Miramar, California on Saturday, January 23.

