



## THE DODGE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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*From the desk of Faith Dorothy Dodge Nelson  
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Growing up in the household of Earl F. Dodge, a man who was six times a third-party candidate for President of the United States, I naturally developed an interest in politics. Election nights became a party of sorts as we indulged in popcorn and root beer while watching the returns roll in. I've carried on the tradition of political interest in my own family; in fact, this year I served for the first time as a poll worker, an experience which filled me with civic pride.

As my father's daughter, I have lived through many disappointing elections and should now be able to take a loss in stride. If I confess, however, that I was in a foul mood the day after the polls closed, you will know who I voted for. My generally good nature was replaced with a black mood, I'm ashamed to admit. Fortunately, my family put up with me. Encouraged by my husband, Joe, Jesse (our son who is away at college) phoned me to cheer me with the announcement that he would be home for Thanksgiving.

After the crisis of the stock market, the government bailout, and a disappointing election result (for me, at any rate), I'm glad to have Thanksgiving to look forward to. I love the historic roots of the holiday, as well as the inherent meaning. Perhaps because my ancestor William Dodge came to America in 1629, only nine years after the Pilgrims, I feel a connection to those brave souls. They left all that was familiar for the possibility of better life and religious freedom. Expressing gratitude to God for his blessings instead of bemoaning the hardships they suffered serves as an inspiration to those who would wallow in self-pity. Again and again, I have found gratitude an antidote for the self absorption to which I am prone. Instead of worrying about the future's uncertainty, I can choose to remember the good gifts I already enjoy, such as healthy children, a good husband, a lovely home (even if the roof needs to be replaced), food in the pantry, blankets on the bed, and clothes in the closet.

Of course by the time you receive your Dodge Family Journal, Thanksgiving will be over and Christmas will be on the horizon. Actually, I observed my first Christmas decorations about the end of July, but I ignore anything relating to the holidays until at least November, and preferably until after Thanksgiving dinner is in the oven when we enjoy the luxury of spreading the ads all over the floor, trying to spot any day-after-Thanksgiving bargains that justify getting up at 5:00 a.m. In our family, the two days after Thanksgiving are given over to unpacking Christmas decorations, hanging garland and bows along 200 feet of white picket fence, and finding the perfect tree.

I could easily write a book on the joys and craziness of Christmas. Carols, festivities, and gathering with friends and families are delightful; however, finding meaningful gifts and filling stockings for eight children on a budget is no easy task. Our family calendar is full of celebrations, and each son or daughter has a favorite home-made cookie that is of utmost importance. Sometimes we travel to Denver to spend the holidays with our family there. That involves wrapping presents early enough to load them in the van (along with suitcases, gloves and boots). After a whirlwind visit, we head home with all the presents unwrapped, plus a few more besides, courtesy of grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Although I sometimes yearn for more simplicity this time of year, I always feel a little sadness when the holidays are over. It helps me to put things in perspective when I go back to the reason for the season.

*"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him 'Immanuel', which means 'God with us.'"* MATTHEW 1:23

This December, may you and I both take a little time to reflect on the cause of the celebration. Merry Christmas and may God grant you a blessed New Year. *Faith Dodge Nelson*

*P.S. For Dues due form and other interesting information, look on the other side of this letter.*

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**Below are nicknames and the Proper names associated with the nickname. In researching genealogy, so often the name given in a census, or other records, is a nickname. Our thanks to Linda Scott for sending the link to this list. We have included all of the male names here. We will start the female list when the January/February Journal is published. It probably will take 2 Journals since we are putting it on the back of the cover letter.**

Nickname	MALE Proper Name	Nickname	MALE Proper Name	Nickname	MALE Proper Name
Abe, Abram	Abraham	Frank	Francis	Mal	Malachi, Malcolm
Alec, Alex	Alexander	Fred	Frederick, Winifred	Nat, Nate	Nathaniel
Arch, Archie	Archibald	Gene	Eugene	Ned	Edwin, Edward
Augie	August	Gus	August	Newt	Newton
Bart	Bartholomew	Hal	Harold,	Obed	Obediah
Bat	Bartholomew	Henry		Ollie	Oliver
Bert	Albert, Cuthbert	Ham	Hamilton	Paddy	Patrick
Bige	Abijah	Hank	Henry	Pat	Patrick
Bill, Billy	William	Harry	Henry, Har-	Pleas	Pleasant
Bob, Bobby	Robert	old		Quill	Aquilla
Cager	Micajah	Hiley	Hiram	Riah	Zachariah
Chan	Chauncey	Hy	Hiram	Rias	Zachariah
Chris	Christopher	Ike	Isaac	Rich	Richard
Chuck	Charles	Jack	Jackson,	Rick	Richard
Con	Cornelius	John		Rob	Robert
Cuddy	Cuthbert	Jake	Jacob	Rye	Zachariah
Cy	Cyrus	Jed	Jedediah, Jeduthan	Sandy	Alexander
Dick	Richard	Jeremy	Jeremiah	Si	Josiah, Cyrus
Dirch	Derrick	Jerry	Gerald, Jeremiah	Tad	Thaddeus
Dob, Dobbin	Robert	Jude	Judah	Ted, Teddy	Theodore
Dyer	Obediah	Judy	Judah	Tiah	Azariah
Eben	Ebenezer	Kiah	Hezekiah	Theo	Theophilus
Ed, Eddie	Edward, Edmund	Kit	Christopher	Tony	Anthony
Eppa	Epaphroditus	Lazar	Eleazer	Virg	Virgil
Fanny	Nathaniel	Larry	Lawrence	Zack	Zachariah
Fate, Fayette	Lafayette	Lig, Lige, Lije	Elijah	Zander	Alexander
Finney	Phineas	Lou, Louie	Louis	Will, Willie, Willy	Wiley, William

The brand new 2 volume set of the **TRISTRAM** Genealogy **SHOULD** be in our hands by the end of the year and **POSSIBLY** by Christmas. Those who **PRE-ORDER** this set, will also receive a CD of the genealogy. We are only offering this to those who **PRE-ORDER**. If you wish to receive the 2 volume TRISTRAM Genealogy and the accompanying CD, then be sure to use the form below and order right away. We need to have your order **BEFORE** the end of this year, in order for you to be able to take advantage of this offer. This genealogy is a great accomplishment on the part of our Norman Dodge and Jim Bailey. It contains all of the genealogy that was in the 1st TRISTRAM genealogy by Robert Dodge, the 2nd genealogy, published in 1904, by Theron Royal Woodward, plus the many thousands of names added to various lines, along with new lines for which there was no information until recent years. Thousands of hours were spent making sure that it is as correct as possible. There probably will never be another TRISTRAM Genealogy printed. **TRISTRAM DESCENDANTS, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS ONE TIME OFFER!**

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