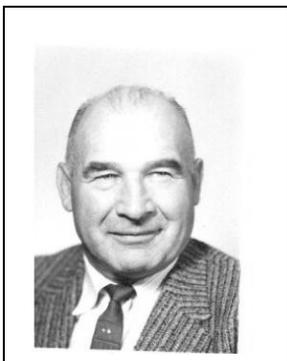


Verla Stoddard Lovejoy
Written by Dan Lovejoy, a son - 2008



Thorne Howard and Verla Stoddard
Lovejoy – 1958

Verla was born April 22, 1914 in Rexburg, Madison county, Idaho, the daughter of Daniel Stuart Stoddard and Jane Norwood Heaton Stoddard. She died 11 March 2008 in Idaho Falls, Idaho. She grew up in the forests of Island Park Idaho, where her father was a sawyer in the lumber industry. When she was four years old, 1918, while living at a sawmill near Hotel Creek she was stepped on by one of the big work horses used for hauling logs and was left with a highly visible scar on the left side of her forehead. She referred to this as her “forest trademark”. As a youngster, she spent the summers in the lumber camps and the winters in Rexburg, Idaho.

In 1922 her parents moved to West Yellowstone, Montana, where she worked as a “paper boy” during the time of the great depression. She told stories of watching the big trains come up into the West Yellowstone train station from the valley to the south. Her father worked as a sawyer in West Yellowstone until he started his own sawmill and moved it to the Boot Jack Pass area by Henry’s Lake, Idaho in 1927. She graduated from Madison High School in Rexburg, Idaho in 1931. Verla loved to dance and she attended many, many dances throughout the Snake River Valley and Island Park as a young lady.

A year after their marriage Verla and her husband Howard took a contract to cut and haul logs near Harte Lake in Yellowstone National Park. The logs were used in the construction of some of the early highway bridges in the park. Verla and Howard and their one year old son lived in a tent during the summer out in the woods. She recounted many interesting stories about encounters with the local bear population while living in this remote area. During the summer of 1937 Verla and her husband lived at the sawmill near Boot Jack Pass where Howard worked for her father. During this time frame the logs were hauled a short distance to the sawmill using horse drawn wagons.

In 1939 the Stoddard sawmill was moved to the Rea site near Mill Creek four miles west of Ponds Lodge. While at the Rea sawmill site Verla and Howard built a small cabin in which they lived during the summers. They loved their little cabin and they moved it to Swan Valley when the Reas sawmill burned down in 1960. They spent many enjoyable hours each summer making improvements on the cabin and just enjoying the peace and tranquility of the area.. Verla enjoyed planting trees and bushes around the cabin and numerous other tasks such as watering, pulling weeds and moving rocks. She especially enjoyed sitting the front deck overlooking the river and watching the birds and listening to music. Her favorites were Ray Price, Willie Nelson and Andre Bochelli.

Verla often told the story of her parents making the spring trip in the 1920s in a horse drawn wagon from Burton to Island Park to open the sawmill for the summer. The trip had taken two or three days with the family cow walking with the wagon and the entourage camping at night along the Snake River. She and one of her sons made several trips during the summers on 2006 and 2007 trying to determine the exact route of this spring wagon trip. They finally concluded the route had followed the old Great Bannock Indian trail and stagecoach trail up the Sadorus Hill Road just west of Ashton, Idaho. She and her son and daughter drove over the old road through the beautiful forest in 2007, bringing back many fond memories of her childhood.

Verla became the southern Idaho distributor for Vanda Beauty Counselor in 1950. She continued distributing that product right up until the time of her death in 2008. Verla and Howard enjoyed traveling and took many trips with the Beauty Counselor group to Florida, California and Hawaii. One of their very favorite trips was to Haines, Alaska on a ferry boat through the Inside Passage. They took this trip several times to visit their daughter who lived in Haines at the time.

Throughout her life she was an excellent seamstress and she made nearly every piece of clothing she ever wore. She delighted in teaching her daughter and granddaughters how to sew. She loved her Pfaff sewing machines and surgers, of which she had several. Although she claimed not to understand the current computer technologies, she became highly proficient in the use of the microprocessor- controlled sewing machines and the high technology capabilities they provided. One of her favorite pastimes was to shop for new materials and clothing patterns.

She loved to work in her garden and delighted in her many flowers, both insider her home and in her extensive garden. She was a gifted artist and enjoyed doing oil paintings and toll paintings with her artist friends. Her very dearest friend and art teacher was Tee Andrews. Another of her very favorite artist friends was Pauline Hurley. These three would gather weekly at one another's places and paint for hours. Verla ended up with numerous beautiful paintings framed and hung around her home and many, many completed canvases, unframed in her basement store room.

Verla took a very active role in helping with the farm work. She would drive the tractor pulling the hay bailer while Howard rode in the back on a slip and stacked the hay. She would drive the farm truck while the workers bucked the hay bails onto the truck. She would drive the truck when the potatoes were bucked onto the truck. It is widely felt that working in this dusty environment may have contributed to her emphysema, which plagued her during her last five years, causing her to require the use of oxygen and finally a nebulizer. After Howard died in 1974 Verla continued to live on the farm until the time of her death in 2008. Having to stay "tethered" on a fifty foot long oxygen tube around the house was a major inconvenience for Verla but it didn't slow her down. She continued with her many hobbies and would take her little portable oxygen pack out into the yard and work in her garden. She loved to cook and entertain her guests with delicious entrees. Among her favorite foods to prepare were Chinese noodles, Danish Kringle and "Cabble Cookies" (a large oatmeal cookie named after a one of her dear friends from her early sawmill days).

Verla requested she be buried in a simple pine wood casket. Her wish was granted when her son and grandsons built a beautiful casket for her burial. This was only fitting due to her long standing love for the forest.

—

Verla's father was Daniel Stuart Stoddard, born 19 November 1890 in Wellsville, Utah. He died July 8, 1984 in Idaho Falls, Idaho. His occupation was a sawyer in the sawmills. He spent his youth in Old Beaver, Idaho. He was an excellent horseman and had horses most of his life. Her father worked in the sawmills near Hotel Creek and Mill Creek for his father until 1918. In 1922 he spent two years working as foreman and yard foreman for the Yellowstone Tie and Timber Company in Yellowstone. In 1927 he started Stoddard Lumber Company at the Boot Jack Pass site in Island Park. He ran the Boot Jack mill until 1939 when they moved the mill to the Rea site. He ran the mill as general manager until it burned down in 1960 at which time he retired from the lumber industry and bought a farm just north of Idaho Falls. Her grandfather, Thomas John Stoddard, drove a stage coach for three or four years from Old Spencer to areas of Kilgore, Shot Gun Valley and to Yellowstone Park.

Her mother was Jane Norwood Heaton Stoddard, born 12 May 1895 in Chihuahua, Mexico in a small community called Cave Valley in the Sierra Madre Mountains. Her father, Christopher Beilby Heaton, had a molasses mill wherein he used the sugar cane he raised. Her father was killed in 1895 by some bandits he caught stealing molasses from his mill. He was buried in Dublan, Mexico near Chihuahua. Her father's brothers moved the family to Orderville, Utah in 1896. Her mother trained there as a nurse and midwife and moved to Torrey, Utah in 1899. Her mother married Thomas Robert Forsyth in 1902. In 1905 the family moved to Burton, Idaho where she met her husband, Daniel Stuart Stoddard. They were married in 1912. She died 5 Jan 1987 in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Verla's husband was Thorne Howard Lovejoy, born 16 August 1907 in Nampa, Idaho. He died July 13, 1974 in Idaho Falls. They were married 24 March 1934 in Farmington, Utah. Howard was a high school math teacher and athletic coach. They initially lived in St. Anthony, Idaho where Howard taught school and coached at the Idaho Industrial Training School. They subsequently lived in Rexburg, Rigby, and Lava Hot Springs, Idaho. They then moved to Adrian, Oregon and after one year moved to Nyssa, Oregon where they would spend eleven years. In 1955 they moved to Idaho Falls, Idaho. Howard ran the farm for Verla's mother and father and taught school in Idaho Falls. They spent winters teaching and coaching and summers working in the sawmills, until the Rea sawmill burned down in 1960.

Verla's siblings included sister Phyllis Stoddard Call of Idaho Falls, Idaho; sister Norma Stoddard Whipple (deceased 28 Nov 2007), and brother Dan Heaton Stoddard of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Verla's five children, 22 grandchildren 43 great grandchildren and 4 great, great grandchildren include:

Dan Howard Lovejoy, born 24 Dec 1934 in Rexburg Idaho (Barbara Elfriede Edelgard Snyder Lovejoy born in Boston, Massachusetts 15 September 1934). Dan and Barbara's children include:

Carlton Owens Lovejoy, born March 1, 1959 and wife (Nancy)
Timothy John Lovejoy, born May 18, 1962 and wife Cindy
Quentin

Billy Brent Lovejoy, born March 23, 1937 in Rexburg, Idaho, wife Nancy Jo Slade Lovejoy.
(Billy died 29 January 1996 in China.) Billy and Nancy's children and grandchildren include:

Howard Francis (Tug) born 7 Oct 1958, wife Lorri Ann Hemming born 13 March 1963
Married 23 Jan 1982

Carley Ann 5 September 1982
Sean Howard 13 November 1983
Wife: Kelly Suzanne February 16 1985, md 11 December 2004
Children: Adrianna Arella 2 November 2 2002
Brooklyn Shay 4 July 2005
Michael Scott 24 May 1985
Hayley Nannette 16 May 1989
Children: Camdyn Linnea Lovejoy 13 March 2008
Cody James 29 May 29 1992

Shawna Jo (Dobie) born 9 May 1960, married David Carron
Christopher John 20 Feb 1983, md Tressa 30 Jun 2007
Stephen Daniel 6 May 1985
Courtnei Linae 22 Jun 1988
Jared Spencer 14 Oct 1992
Jordan Kimball 20 Jun 1998

Linnea Tani Lovejoy 21 Apr 1962

Lorraine (Rabbit) Lovejoy-Evans 5 Dec 63 married Eric Austin Evans 5 Oct 1963
Married 8 Aug 1992

Michael Brent born 9 Mar 1965 married Lynelle Pond 30 Mar 1996

William (Willie) Slade born 23 Mar 1968 married Deborah Hess 14 Aug 1991
Nancy 6 Aug 1992
Alandria 3 Apr 1995

Ralph Kent Lovejoy, born 3 Nov 1939 in Rexburg, Idaho (Linda Storer Lovejoy). Kent and
Linda's children and grandchildren include:

Christian Kent, born December 1964, wife Shawna
Emily
Elizabeth
Sara

James Bond, born September 11, 1966, wife Rachel
Alexandra, born April 4, 1991
James Dylan, born October 21, 1992
Porter Kent, born April 20, 1995

Noelle , born May 27;, 1968, husband John Gardner
Travis/Trevor, born February 18, 1992
Madeline/Tanner, born September 1993

Isabel, born June 1998

Suzanna, born June 24, 1970, husband Steve Hyde
Mitchell, born October 10, 1991
Jarem, born December 1992
Caden, born August 1995
Analyse, born August 1997

Matthew Howard, born November 1973, wife Laurel
Ethan Matthew
Abigail Gretchen
Carter Raymond

Andrew Gayle, born November 1973, wife Danielle
Jordan Andrew
Braydon
Michaela
Carson

Peter, born May 1975, wife Kim
Hannah
Katie
Madison

Megan, born May 28, 1980, husband John Garner
Aiden John
Dallon Mark, born June 2003
Olivia Jane, born July 2005
Kensey Grace, born May 1, 2007

Samuel Spencer, born July 2, 1982

Patricia Jane Lovejoy Bendz, born March 9, 1944 in Rexburg, Idaho, husband Jon Bendz. Pat and Jon's children and grandchildren include:

Jason Alan, born July 21, 1964
Patricia Ann, born July 19, 1967
Chance Kobie, born November 14, 1995
Joaquin Alexander, born July 21, 1969

Michael Dudley Lovejoy, born May 31, 1950 in Ontario, Oregon, wife Charlene (Charlie). Mike and Charlie's children include:

Jason Levi Levine
Jessie Sloane, born December 22, 1980
Bella, born November 11, 2000

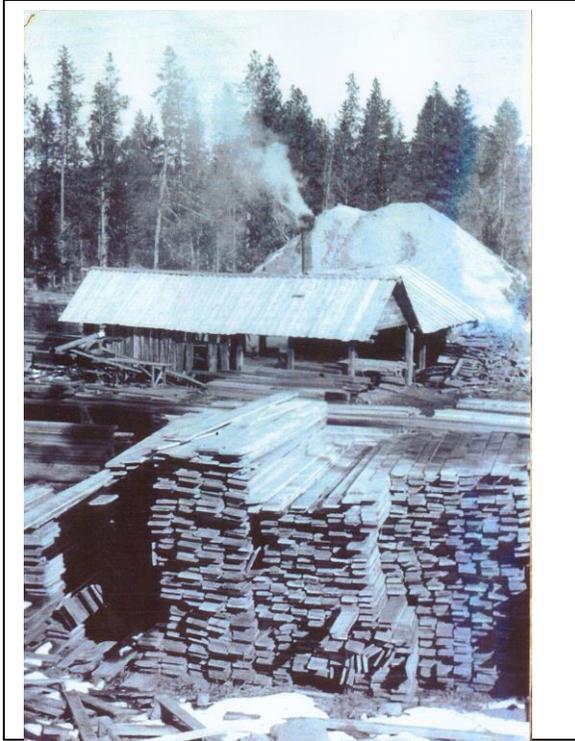
Family Pictures



Howard Lovejoy - 1935



Verla Stoddard
Lovejoy - 1935



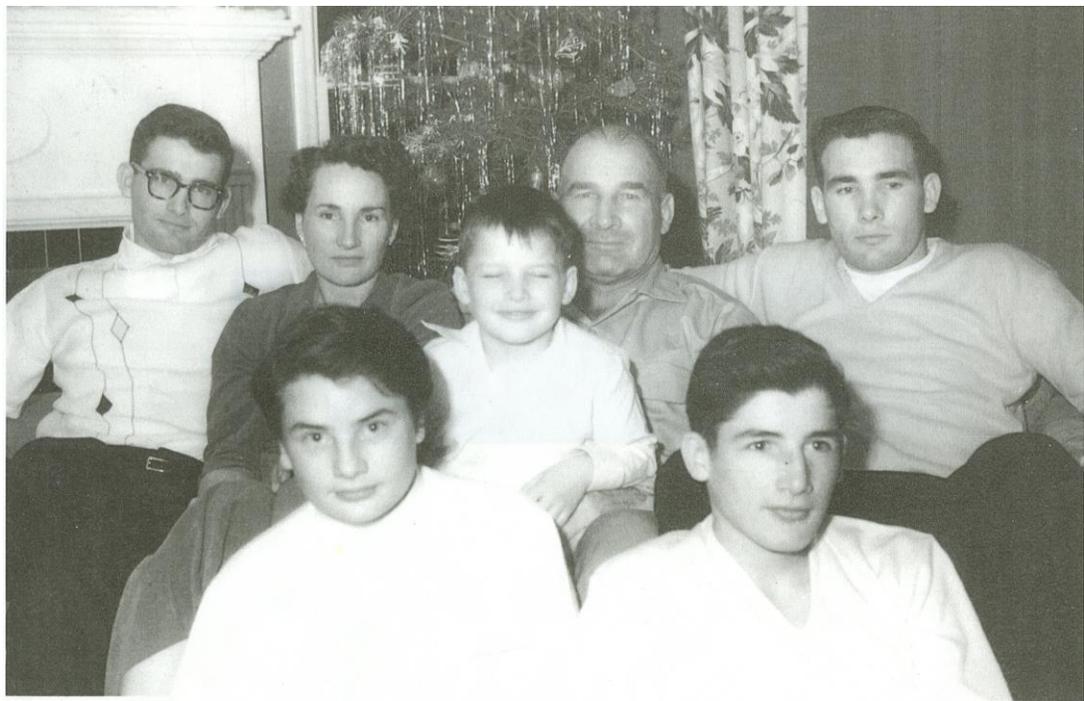
Sawmill at Boot Jack Pass - 1935



Verla and Howard hauling logs into the Boot Jack sawmill - 1935



Rea sawmill - 1945



The Lovejoy family (from left): Dan, Verla, Patricia, Michael, Howard, Kent and Bill - 1953



The Lovejoy family (from left): Patricia, Kent, Howard, Michael (in front), Verla, Bill and Dan (Turp) - 1958



Verla doing her toll painting in her hobby room at age 93 - 2008



Verla and her siblings (from left): Verla Stoddard Lovejoy, Dan Heaton Stoddard, Norma Stoddard Whipple and Phyllis Stoddard Call - 2007

