

"...y la familia?"

Volume 18, Issue 5

April/May 2014

*Needed for
Future Issues:*

*"Stuff" about
you and yours...*

Announcements:

*New baby
Engagement
Graduations
Promotion
New address*

***Upcoming
Events:***

*family parties
Reunions
Weddings*

***Article, Photos
and Fillers:***

*Nostalgic stories
Photos and art-
work*

*Original poetry
Vignettes on*

*your imme-
diate family
Favorite family
recipes*

*Cute things your
kids have
said*

*Funny stories
Prayer Requests*

Krause European Vacation



Belfast Botanic Garden



Steak and Guinness pie at the Crown Pub



Queen's College, Belfast



Magpie in St. Stephen's Green, Dublin

Inside this issue:

Krause European Vacation.....	1, 4
Needed for Future Issues.....	1
I Remember.....	2
The Way We Were.....	3
At This Time in Our Family History.....	3
Baby Update.....	5
Genealogy Update and Family Connections.....	5
Our Prayers Have Been Answered.....	6
Other Family News.....	6
2014 Family Reunion Information.....	7
Birthday and Anniversary Greetings.....	8

¿...y la familia?

I Remember... Yearbook Pictures by Norma Pettit

With the school year drawing to a close, senior portraits and school yearbooks are starting to make the scene. Here are a few high school photos from my collection, although half of these are not graduation pictures...



Top Row: Jimmy Merritt (RIP), Ruben García, Joi (De Nardo) Stenroos, Kathleen (Merritt) Caffey, and Carlos Rivera.

Bottom Row: Olga (García) Smith (RIP), Norma (García) Pettit, Michelle (Harrell) Fastenau, Roberto Rivera, and Marlynn (Merritt) Krause



During my senior year at Abraham Lincoln High School in San Francisco, senior portraits were taken at a photo studio, so on picture day at school, the seniors were the only students who didn't have to file into the gymnasium to get their pictures taken. Since students only had to say their name and grade, some of my friends and I decided to pull a prank. We gave phony names and said we were in the 11th grade. Our pictures with our funny names came out in the yearbook! One girl was "Shelly Beach," another was "Chris Cross," and a third was "Poly Gripp." My name was "Huelga de Uvas," and I was photographed proudly wearing my *Viva la Raza* and *Boycott Grapes* buttons in support of César Chávez' peaceful fight to better the living and working conditions of California farm workers, most of whom were Mexicans.

Regarding Abraham Lincoln High School, I might add that I was the youngest of a string of cousins and siblings to attend this high school: George Nicholson, Barbara (Conroy) Nicholson, Sasha (Atilas) Lovelace, and Olga, Ruben, and Joi. *Go Mustangs!*

The Way We Were...

More school pictures, but from the elementary and junior high (middle school) grades.



Meryem Merritt, daughter of
Anita (Rivera) and Bob Merritt
1963
12 years old



Bryan Finch, son of
Delia (Rivera) and Dave Finch
1968
6 years old



Eduard Rivera, son of
Rosita (Hernández) and Isi-
dro Rivera
1956—7 years old



Norma (García) Pettit
daughter of Ana (López) and
Oscar C. García
1966—14 years old

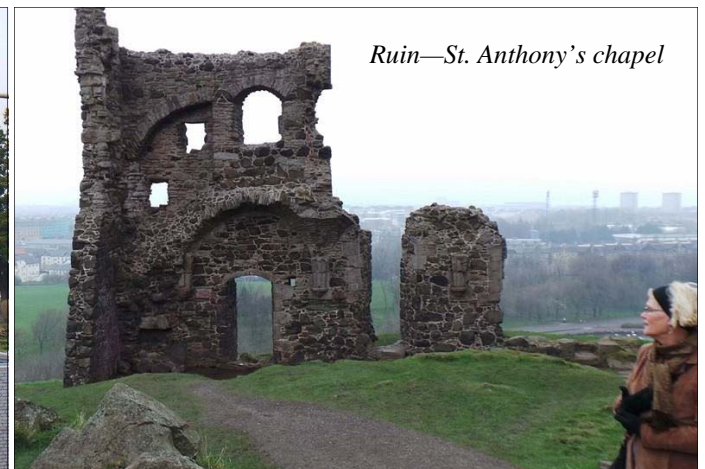
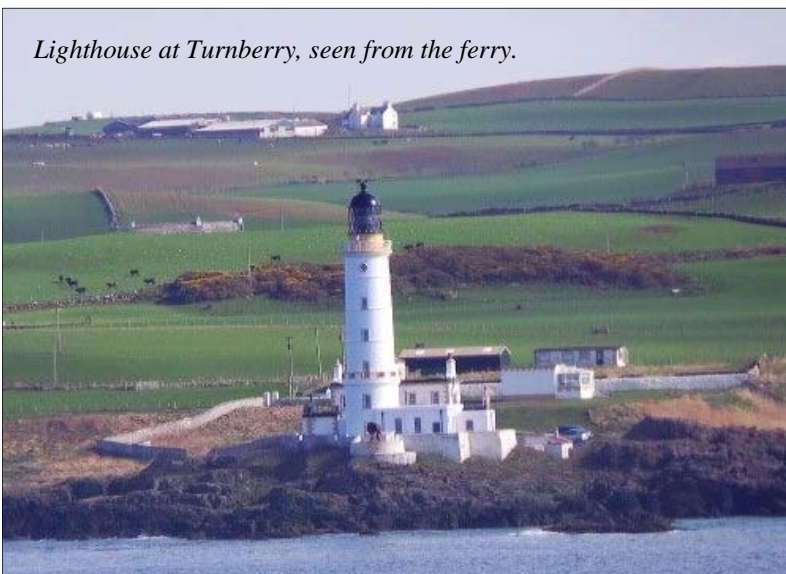
At This Time in Our Family History

- **April 3, 1875**—Pedro José Rivera Maldonado was born. He was a brother of our family patriarch, “Papa Flor.” Pedro only lived for 15 months, though, dying on July 10, 1876.
- **April 9, 1912**—Auntie Marie, baptized as María Perfecta, was born in Barrio Santo Domingo of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico. She was one of Papa Flor’s daughters and the matriarch of the Nicholson clan.
- **April 13, 1839**—María Inés Vilá married Marcelino de la Cruz. Her father, Pedro Vilá, was born in Cataluña, España. They were the grandparents of Papa Flor’s wife, Ana Cruz García.
- **April 22, 1946**—Oscar Cruz García of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico, married Ana María López Maldonado of Adjuntas, Puerto Rico. They were married in San Francisco, CA, and were the parents of Olga, Ruben and Norma.
- **April 22, 1986**—Florencio Rivera (“Guar”) died in Ponce, Puerto Rico.
- **April 23, 1995**—Oscar Cruz García died of emphysema in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He was 84.
- **May 5, 1909**—Máximo Cruz, father-in-law of Papa Flor, married his second wife, Genara Maldonado. He was widowed from his first wife, María Engracia García.
- **May 22, 1914**—Elena Sevilla was born. She was Tío Guar’s wife, and the mother of René, Roberto, Raúl, Milagros, Lilliam, Reinaldo, Luz, Heriberto and Edwin.

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Marlynn is the daughter of Anita (Rivera) and Bob Merritt and a granddaughter of family patriarch, Florencio Rivera. She and husband, Paul Krause, have been married for almost 44 years. Marlynn celebrated her birthday in Scotland on April 6th. These are just a few of the 1,000 or so pictures that Paul took on their unforgettable trip to Scotland and Ireland.



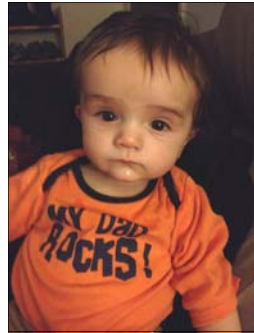
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Baby Update

Look how they've grown!



Jacob, son of Marina (Ramos) and Dennis Nelson, at 19 months old
Jacob's grandmother was Olga María (García) Smith, and his great grandparents were Ana (López) and Oscar C. García



Austin, son of Ryan and Anita Rivera, at 6 months of age



Leilani, daughter of Michelle (Cabán) and Jason Sua. This picture was taken in February, on Leilani's first birthday.



Iriana, daughter of Charice Rivera, at 17 months of age.



Levi, son of Christina (Krause) and Adam Vail, at 7 months old
Levi's grandparents are Paul and Marlynn Krause, who recently traveled to Europe.

Mirra, daughter of Ruben and Lisa Quiñones, will turn 4 on May 1st. She is my precious granddaughter! Her great-grandparents were Ana (López) and Oscar C. García.



These two baby girls are great-granddaughters of René Rivera Sevilla.

Genealogy Update and Family Connections

In the Oct. 2013 issue I reported a connection made with a gal named María Feliciano, through Ancestry.com. Her husband, Cecilio, is a grandson of Cecilio Feliciano and Petronila Pacheco. I promised to keep you informed as I found out more information, and I now have a bit more info and some pictures to share. If you are a descendant of Otilia Pacheco and her children (Isidro, Tita, and Delia), these people are your blood relatives. Petronila Pacheco was Otilia's sister, and Petronila's son, Santos Feliciano (1929-1996) was married to María Correa Arroyo (the lady in blue in the pics below). She was born in Peñuelas, also. Santos and María had five children, who are pictured with her in the middle photo. From left, they are José, María, Wilson, Cecilio, and Santos. In the first photo, the gal in brown on the right is Mónica, daughter of Petronila's daughter, Angelina. The picture on the right is of Cecilio Feliciano, 1st cousin once removed to Isidro, Tita and Delia, and 2nd cousin to their children. Thank you to María Feliciano, bottom right, for sharing her family tree info with us.

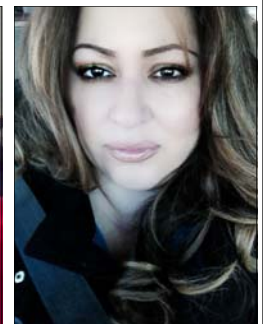
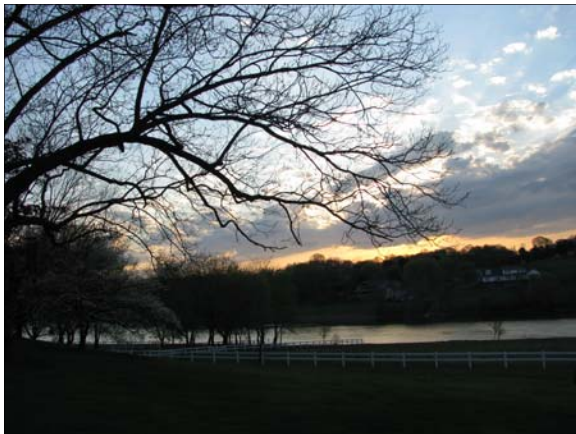


Photo Gallery: Joi's Visit to Victoria Nicholson's Bed and Breakfast, Persephone Farm Retreat



Along with her friend, Sue, Joi once again visited cousin Victoria Nicholson at her breathtakingly beautiful peaceful and calming bed and breakfast. Victoria, who always welcomes family, was as usual a most gracious host. She and Joi stayed up past midnight, just talking.

Our Prayers Have Been Answered

Praise God that **Jenny Oquendo** is doing very well following the surgery to repair damage done to her body when she was shot in a hold up a couple of months ago. Thank you to all who asked to have Jenny put on their church prayer chains. I believe in the power of prayer!

Another testimony of God's goodness belongs to cousin **Helen Correa**, who was recently told by her doctor that she looked wonderful and had a CEA level of 9. Helen just got back from a trip to Puerto Rico not long ago and is planning to return for the family reunion. ☺



One great prayer warrior that we have in our family is Tía Tita. Shown here with her husband of 65 years, José Lino Medina, Tía Tita says, "My blessings and constant prayers always for our *precious relatives*." She sends her love to all.

Thank you, also, to Tía Tita and Tío José for their \$50 contribution to "¿...y la familia? God bless you for your thoughtfulness. ❤️"

2014 Rivera Family Reunion in Ponce, Puerto Rico and a Southern Caribbean Cruise on Carnival

This year's family reunion is going to be a Southern Caribbean Cruise aboard the Carnival Valor, departing from San Juan, Puerto Rico on June 22nd and returning to San Juan on the 29th. The ports of call are St. Thomas, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Kitts, and St. Maarten. Randy and I have already booked our cabin on this cruise! Cousins **Papo and Ada** have stepped forward to offer their home in Ponce as the site for the potluck gathering on Saturday, June 21st. That way we can all be together at least one day since not everyone will be able to go on the cruise.

Two other couples, friends of ours, are also attending the reunion. All six of us are spending a week at Palmas del Mar, at a timeshare procured by one of the couples, Richard and Randi Wood. The other couple is Dave and Laura Friestad, who along with Richard Wood have been trying to learn some Spanish in preparation for this trip. They are very excited about meeting *la familia* and getting to know our beautiful Puerto Rico. I'm including their pictures below so that you can get familiar with their faces, greet them by name when you see them, and show them true Rivera love and hospitality. Richard and Randi are pictured with us on the left, and Dave and Laura are on the right with Mickey and their granddaughter.

*Este año la reunion familiar va a ser abordo un crucero que viajará al sur del Caribe, en el barco Valor de Carnival, saliendo de San Juan el 22 de junio y regresando el 29. Los puertos que visitaremos son St. Thomas, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Kitts, y St. Maarten. ¡Randy y yo ya hemos reservado nuestra cabina en este crucero! **Papo y Ada** han ofrecido su casa en Ponce como el lugar para la reunión informal del 21 de junio. De esa manera podemos estar todos juntos por lo menos un día ya que todos no podrán ir en el crucero.*

Dos otras parejas, amigos nuestros, también van a estar en la reunión. Nosotros seis nos vamos a quedar en Palmas del Mar por una semana, en un "timeshare" procurado por una de las parejas, Richard y Randi Wood. La otra pareja es Dave y Laura Friestad, quienes junto a Richard Wood han estado tratando de aprender un poco de español en preparación a este viaje. Están locos por conocer a la familia y a nuestro bello Puerto Rico. Estoy incluyendo sus fotos abajo para que ustedes se puedan familiarizar con sus caras, saludarlos de nombre cuando los vean, y demostrarles el verdadero amor y la hospitalidad Rivera. Richard y Randi están con nosotros en la foto a la izquierda, y Dave y Laura están a la derecha con Mickey y su nieta.



“¿...y la familia?”

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Visit us on the Web at www.ylafamilia.org.

Birthday Greetings

Michael Barnes (51) - April 1	Emilio Meléndez (59) - April 21	Nicholas Rivera (24) - May 5	George Nicholson (69) - May 27
Emilio Maldonado (83) - April 1	Liliana Marie Tokar (2) - April 21	Kaliana Grace Maskell (1) - May 6	Lucas R. Pettit (28) - May 29
Michael A. Feliciano (48) - April 3	Vic Stenroos (66) - April 22	Ted Reinke (77) - May 13	Stephanie (Krause) Thompson (37) - May 29
Catherine Rivera (37) - April 5	Dalie Delgado (22) - April 23	Isidro Rivera (95) - May 13	Cristina Cruz (11) - May 30
Dustin Cavino (23) - April 4	Naiome Campos (10) - April 23	Roberto I. Rivera (63) - May 16	
Wilma E. Roig (29) - April 6	Raymond L. Cavino (15) - April 25	Ryan Reinke (18) - May 12	
Marlynn (Merritt) Krause (66) - April 6	Hayli Frosheiser (18) - April 26	Helen Correa-González (52) - May 12	
Tiana J. Rivera (19) - April 6	Daniel Campos (20) - April 27	Alexis Valentín (29) - May 17	
Ana V. Pettit (29) - April 8	Luz E. Sánchez (8) - April 28	Kirstin Frosheiser (42) - May 21	
Tom Smith (76) - April 13	George Rivera (41) - April 29	Riley Hargraves (12) - May 22	
Jayden Daniel Valentín (3) - April 14	Mirra Noemí Quiñones (4) - May 1	Heriberto Rivera (27) - May 26	
Elieñith Dessus (26) - April 21		Ada I. Rivera (37) - May 26	

Anniversaries

Jana and Orlando Rivera (5)
April 12

Carmen (Feliciano) and
Maximino Carrasquillo (39)
May 16

Cathy (Rivera) and
Eric Montalvo (17)
May 24

James and Erika Frosheiser (7)
May 26

Marlynn (Merritt) and
Paul Krause (44)
May 30