

## 2011 Umatilla County Pioneer Days Royalty Queen Gilberta Lieuallen and Grand Marshal Don Lieuallen



### Gilberta Horn Sederburg Lieuallen

My paternal great-grandparents, Adam Wise and Elizabeth Looney Horn, took different routes to Oregon. Adam, the only one of six to leave home; left Logansport, Indiana in the early 1850's (supposedly to avoid the Civil War) and came west ending up around Jefferson, Oregon. There he met Elizabeth Looney, who had come west by wagon train to California and then north to Jefferson, Oregon. They were married in 1855 and had 13 children. My grandfather Ulysses Grant Horn (8th of 13) was about 11 years old when the family moved east and established a flourishing farm on East Birch Creek near Pilot Rock about 1881.

My paternal grandmother, Thressa Porter, was the daughter of Tom and Mary Gibson Porter. Tom and his family started by wagon train in Illinois with Mary's parents, John and Susan Humphrey Gibson, in 1878. Upon reaching Kansas, Mary had to stop due to the birth of a child. Tom and his in-laws continued going west through Salt Lake and then north to Sodaville, Oregon. Mary came later going from Kansas to Denver, Colorado where she took the train to San Francisco.

She then went by boat to Portland where Tom met her. They lived in Sodaville for a while before heading east with John Gibson to Umatilla County in 1882 and homesteaded on Ray Creek east of Pilot Rock. Later Tom moved his family to Pendleton so that the children could attend school and he became the sexton of the Pendleton Cemetery. Thressa was a school teacher when she met and married Ulysses Horn and they then moved to Stewart Creek, where they lived for 50 years.

My father, Wilbert Horn, met my mother, Emma Johnson, when she taught in a one room school on Stewart Creek. Emma's parents were Carl and Jennie Anderson Johnson. Her parents were Swedish immigrants. They came west by train from North Dakota about 1910 settling in the Stanfield area. My mother was the 2nd of 6 girls. It was her responsibility, when she went to school, to come home and teach the family (who only spoke Swedish) how to speak English.

I grew up on Stewart Creek attending Pilot Rock schools for nine years and then attending Pendleton High School where I graduated. I then attended Oregon State College where I graduated in Education. I taught for one year.

I first married John Sederburg and had two children, John Peter and Eric Sederburg. After my divorce, I met and later married my husband, Donald Lieuallen; when he came to my door while campaigning for my cousin, Irvin Mann. My daughter Karen and son Tom Lieuallen soon joined our family. My occupation besides teaching for one year was substitute teaching, driving truck during harvest and bookkeeping. I have just retired from about 30 years of being Recorder for the City of Adams.

Activities which I have participated in were 10 years of 4-H while growing up, President of the Adams Parent-Teacher Association while Adams still had a school, taught Sunday School for a few years and have held several offices while being a member of the Adams Ladies Club since 1968.

For recreation I read, quilt, genealogy, researching and compiling 6 volumes of Adams history books with another in the works. I have taken one trip to Sweden. Don and I have gone to Hawaii, taken a cruise to Alaska; and traveled to visit friends and relatives.

I do not have any memories of the Pioneer Reunion except, after 1968, I started to attend the Pioneer parade. I also typed the speech that J. T. Lieuallen gave in 1917 at the Pioneer Reunion and placed it in one of the history books.

## **Don Lieuallen**

My great-grandparents, William and Margaret Lieuallen, homesteaded southeast of what is now the City of Weston, in 1864. They had come along the Oregon Trail by ox team from Missouri. Margaret walked almost the entire 1,700 miles while pregnant with my grandfather, Tom. The homestead, along with other land that they acquired, remains intact. None of it has ever been sold; it has been passed on by gift or bequest to the generations that followed.

My paternal grandmother, Laura Ferguson Lieuallen, crossed the plains from Missouri by wagon train in 1878 as a girl of 3. Her parents, J.M. and Mary Ferguson, settled north of Adams on land now owned by Dave Tompkins. She recalled hearing the sound of hammers as the first buildings in Adams were constructed. The only part of the Ferguson property still owned by the family is a commercial building in downtown Pendleton.

Dorothy Straughan Lieuallen was my mother. Her parents, E.F. and Arizona Straughan, bought a hay farm in 1893 on lower Birch Creek, southwest of Pendleton. E.F. Straughan developed an irrigation system on the farm, which is now owned by Jim Straughan.

I grew up on the family farm 2.5 miles south of Adams; owned by my father, Otis Lieuallen. I graduated from Pendleton High School and Whitman College.

In 1968, I was married to Gilberta Horn Sederburg who had 2 sons, Peter and Eric, from a former marriage. Other children who later joined the family were Karen and Thomas Lieuallen.

My occupation has been farming. In addition to the land that lays east of the water tower at Weston, we also farm in the Adams, Athena, and south reservation areas. Crops that we presently grow are grain, green peas for frozen processing, and alfalfa hay.

Activities in which I now participate are the Whitman College Farm Committee, Kees Cemetery Board, and Adams Planning Commission. At an earlier time, I was a 4-H leader; and participated in the Triangle Little League for 20 years as a manager, umpire, and league president. I have served on the Pendleton Grain Growers board, and am a past chairman of the Umatilla County Soil and Water Conservation District.

For recreation, I ride a bicycle and attend school sports events at Helix.

I was asked if I have memories of long ago Pioneer Reunion activities. That I do. I used to attend the programs with my grandparents and parents up through the time that I left grade school. My most vivid memory is of each year hearing Clark Wood sing "Asleep In The Deep." And also I recall Tim McBride, who was almost as colorful as Colonel Wood; verbally present the treasurer's report.

*Thank you to Melanie Hall and Valley Herald Newspaper for the photo and biographies!*