





Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society

October 2008; Volume XIX, Number 6

#### P.H.S. Lunch and Learn Meeting – Wednesday, October 29, 2008

**Imperial Oil's Dominant Role in the Canadian Oil Industry** by Robert D. (Bob) Bott, Author and Director, Petroleum History Society

Imperial Oil Limited has been Canada's dominant integrated oil company since it was established in 1880 as an amalgamation of Ontario refiners. Initially Imperial tried to fend off John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Trust, but succumbed to the Trust in 1898. After the break-up of the Trust in 1911, Imperial became a subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey, and is now 69.6 per cent owned by ExxonMobil. Imperial has led many of the notable achievements of the Canadian oil and gas industry, specifically: sponsoring research that led to the process for desulphuring refined oil products the first cracking plant and many other advances in refining; the Norman Wells discovery in 1920 and the Leduc discovery in 1947, two of the most significant in industry history; extensive operations in South America from 1920 to 1948, and a tanker fleet supplying oil to Canada; lead partner in the Interprovincial Pipeline, the world's longest petroleum pipeline; and finally a major role in Alberta oilsands development, including the first commercial in-situ project at Cold Lake and a major interest in the Syncrude project. This will just be a brief overview of a history that could fill volumes. Much of the material will be drawn from Earle Gray's new history, *Ontario's Petroleum Legacy*, which Bott has edited, and from Mileposts, the 1989 corporate history of Interprovincial Pipeline, which Bott authored.

*Robert D. Bott* is a writer, editor and communications consultant who has written extensively about resource industries and resource economics for over 30 years. His publications range from policy papers to magazine articles and books. His scholarship on the oil industry includes content for *The Canadian Encyclopedia* (1985) and the award-winning, best-selling publication *Our Petroleum Challenge* for the Centre for Energy (1992-2004) and a companion historical volume *Evolution of Canada's Oil and Gas Industry* (2004). He is a director of the Petroleum History Society and recipient of the Society's Lifetime Achievement Award.

TIME:12 noon, Wednesday, October 29, 2008.NOTE LOCATIONPLACE:Telus Conference Room, North Entrance - Saddledome - Calgary Stampede GroundsCOST:Members \$30.00 and Guests \$35.00 (most welcome) (cash or cheque only)

# R.S.V.P. if you wish to attend to: Clint Tippett, 403-691-4274 or clinton.tippett@shell.com by noon Friday, October 24

Individuals who indicate that they will be attending but do not materialize will be considered "no shows" and will be invoiced for the cost of the luncheon. Individuals who do not R.S.V.P. cannot be assured of seating.

#### THE PETROLEUM HISTORY SOCIETY THE BULL WHEEL



**Next Board Meeting:** The Board will meet November 20 at the Glenbow Museum and Archives. Thanks to Treasurer Doug Cass and the Glenbow for their hospitality.

**Volunteers:** We are always on the lookout for people with the energy and dedication to help us grow and to undertake projects on the Society's behalf. Please contact Clint Tippett (691-4274), Doug Cass (268-4203) or Hugh Leiper (249-0707) if you would like to get involved.

**Next Luncheons:** We are seeking speakers and interesting subjects. If you are considering making a presentation, please contact Clint Tippett, President P.H.S., at 691-4274.

**Canadian Centre for Energy Information:** The P.H.S. has a "Content, Marketing and Traffic Partnership" with the Centre. This arrangement is an expression of the mutually beneficial cooperation that exists between our two organizations. Please see <u>www.centreforenergy.com</u> for more details. Of particular interest to our members is their on-line historical volume "Evolution of Canada's Oil and Gas Industry" that can be downloaded free of charge.



Canadian Centre for Energy Information

www.centreforenergy.com

**Petroleum History Stamps:** Keen-eyed hard copy readers will have noted that last month's issue of Archives was mailed with a Canada Post 52 cent stamp honouring the first commercial oil well and hence the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Canadian petroleum industry. The stamp depicts Charles Tripp and James Miller Williams against a backdrop of tightly spaced early oil derricks. This month's issue is accompanied by the sister stamp which honours the 1958 completion of the Trans-Canada natural gas pipeline. It features a masked welder amidst a shower of sparks from the large diameter pipeline that is being built. The pair of stamps was issued on May 2, 2008.

**Ernest C. Manning Book:** Brian Brennan has recently authored a book entitled "The Good Shepard: The Ernest C. Manning Story". It is published by Fitzhenry and is 256 pages with 16 photo inserts. The book covers Manning's entire life but is of particular note to those interested in petroleum history because the 1943 to 1968 span of his Alberta premiership encompassed the 1947 discovery of the Leduc Field and all the momentous changes that this event and subsequent upstream and downstream developments brought to Alberta. Price is \$24.95.

**Investigation in Progress:** It has been rumoured that a study has been made concerning the legendary 133 dry holes that Imperial is said to have drilled before the Leduc discovery. Stay tuned as the facts behind this widely quoted sequence of events are brought forward.

**Standard Oil breakup – Knowing the Pieces:** As is referred to in Bob Bott's talk abstract this month, the Standard Oil Trust was dismantled in 1911. While the major components of this giant company are well known – Exxon, Mobil, Chevron, Amoco and so on, there were actually 34 large and small companies created through this process. They were (from *Standard Oil – The First 125 Years* (Henderson, W. and Benjamin, S., Motorbooks International, pages 15-17):

1. Standard Oil of New Jersey (mid-Atlantic downstream, then Jersey, now-Exxon, inc. Standard Oil of Louisiana, Imperial Oil, Carter Oil and Gilbert and Barker Manufacturing)

- 2. Standard Oil of New York (NY and New England downstream plus overseas, Mobil)
- 3. Standard Oil of Indiana (mid-West downstream, Amoco)
- 4. Standard Oil of California (far West downstream, Chevron)
- 5. Standard Oil of Ohio (Ohio downstream, Sohio)
- 6. The Ohio Company (mid-West production)
- 7. The Atlantic Refining Company (Pennsylvania and Delaware downstream, Arco)
- 8. Continental Oil Company (Rockies downstream, Conoco)
- 9. South Penn Oil Company (Pennsylvania production)
- 10. Borne, Scrymser Company (petrochemicals)
- 11. Cheeseborough Manufacturing (medicinal petroleum products)
- 12. Washington Oil Company (Pennsylvania production)
- 13. Union Tank Car (petroleum transportation)
- 14. Buckeye Pipe Line Company (common carrier pipeline)
- 15. Vacuum Oil Company (lubricant manufacturing)
- 16. Standard Oil of Nebraska (Nebraska marketing)
- 17. Standard Oil of Kansas (Kansas production)
- 18. Standard Oil of Kentucky (south-central states marketing)
- 19. Colonial Oil Company (overseas production [how appropriate!]
- 20. Solar Refining (Ohio refinery)
- 21. Anglo-American Oil Company (overseas operating)
- 22. Waters Pierce Oil Company (Texas, Mexico and south-central marketing)
- 23. Prairie Oil and Gas (production and pipeline)
- 24. Galena-Signal Oil Company (lubricant manufacturing)
- 25. Indiana Pipe Line (pipeline operator)
- 26. Northern Pipe Line (pipeline operator)
- 27. New York Transit (pipeline operator)
- 28. South-West Pennsylvania Pipe Lines (pipeline operator)
- 29. National Transit (pipeline operator)
- 30. Eureka Pipe Line (pipeline operator)
- 31. Cumberland Pipe Line (pipeline operator)
- 32. Southern Pipe Line (pipeline operator)
- 33. The Crescent Pipe Line (pipeline operator)
- 34. Swan and Finch (lubricant manufacturing)

**Archives** is published approximately six times a year by the Petroleum History Society for Society members.

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Back issues are archived on our website at www.petroleumhistory.ca

Contacts: info@petroleumhistory.ca

President: Clint Tippett – <u>clinton.tippett@shell.com</u> 691-4274

Secretary: Peter Savage – <u>p2savage@telus.net</u> 249-3532

# An Oil Family's History: 140 Years of Black Gold

The following is the text of the presentation made by P.H.S. Director David Stauft to the Society luncheon on September 24 and is based on the talk Dave gave in Sarnia in the Spring. The Society would like to thank Dave for the talk and the paper. We consider it a model that may be followed by others wishing to pull together their family history.

#### ABSTRACT

This is the story of five generations in an oil business family over the past 140 years. Those involved include the author's great grandfather, John McDonald, his Grandfather, Francis David McDonald, his Mother and father, Flora McDonald Stauft and Jacob Lauer Stauft, the author, David Lauer Stauft, and his brother Peter Stauft as well as Peter's 2 sons, and David's three offspring, Timothy Lauer, Nancy Elizabeth, and Andrew James.

Every generation's work in the oil business has involved Imperial Oil Ltd and/or its predecessor Standard Oil. This is another unique aspect to the family history.

Great Grandfather, John McDonald, first came to Petrolia in 1867. He founded a boiler works there and also built a refinery under the name of the National Oil Works, which he sold to Standard Oil in 1898. His son Frank operated an oil producing property he acquired from his father. He sold his oil to Imperial Oil Ltd. and as a child the author remembers helping him with this process.

Frank's daughter, Flora, was a schoolteacher who went to Peru in South America in 1922 to teach in a school operated by International Petroleum, a subsidiary of Imperial. There she met and married Jacob L. Stauft, petroleum engineer working for the company. He was killed in a well completion accident in1934. She returned to Petrolia to raise their 3 children including myself.

The author and his brother Peter both became geologists and worked for Imperial Oil. His son Timothy and both of Peter's sons have also worked in the oil business.

The careers of the various family members have included all aspects of the business from exploration and production to refining, and administration. Crude oil, or Black Gold and its changing place in our world tie it all together.

# INTRODUCTION

This is the story of five generations in an oil business family covering approximately the past 140 years. Our great grandfather, John McDonald, our Grandfather, Francis David (Frank) McDonald, our Mother and father, Flora McDonald (Billie) Stauft and Jacob Lauer (Peter) Stauft, as well as myself, David Lauer Stauft and my brother Peter all were involved in the oil business in general and Imperial Oil Ltd specifically. My son Timothy Lauer Stauft is currently working for an oil company and Peter's sons Mark and John have both worked for Imperial Oil Ltd. at various times. Mark is a lawyer and also has a lot of business with various oil companies.

There is no doubt that the world in general has changed drastically since 1867 when Great Grandfather McDonald first came to Petrolia, a small but booming oil town in southern Ontario. Since that time practically every aspect of our lives has been revolutionized. At the same time some things, more specifically families and family relationships, have stayed and been consistent in their importance to us all.

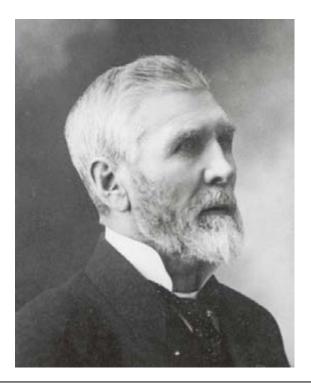
Most of the first 50 years of the century was documented by the author's mother Flora in her book "Back Fifty" which was published for the family in 1951. I have taken the liberty of incorporating some of her writings into various portions of this paper.

This paper is an attempt to preserve some aspects of those parts of our family's history with specific reference to our involvement in the oil industry generally and Imperial Oil Ltd. specifically. The lives of every generation have been directly and indirectly related to Imperial and its majority shareholder Standard Oil of New Jersey (SONJ).

Included in the Appendix are a number of specifically copied documents which record the history of the McDonald family, as well as a communication from a now deceased great aunt who provided information on the Stauft heritage.

#### HOW IT ALL STARTED – JOHN McDONALD

John McDonald, my great grandfather, was born in Scotland October 30, 1835, and was only four years of age when he lost his father and mother. Hence from a very early age he was dependent upon his own resources. His father, James McDonald, also a native of Scotland, died when in the prime of life, leaving his son not well provided for. On reaching young manhood John learned the trades of boiler making and shipbuilding, in which he was engaged prior to coming to Canada. He was one of the builders of the first iron vessel turned out at Belfast and was associated with leading firms at Leith in the same business. In 1857 he came to Canada and settled at Quebec, there following his trade for two years, and then went to Montreal and was connected with the construction of the Victoria bridge over the St. Lawrence river, one of the greatest railway bridges in the world. From Montreal he went to Galt, Ontario, as manager of the boiler works of Gouldie & McCullough, in which capacity he remained until 1865, when he moved to Chatham, where for one year he followed his trade, making portable steam boilers by contract for Hislop & Ronal, for the oil well business.



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Given this fact one might say that he was involved in the oil business from 1865. However in 1867 he settled at Petrolia and founded a boiler works there, which he conducted some five years. He also became involved in the producing of oil, going into this business extensively after disposing of his boiler plant to William Stephenson. I understand it was later acquired and operated by J. H. Fairbanks, who was an ancestor of Charles Fairbanks, a member of another historical family in the Petrolia area.

John Mc Donald was credited with being the first in the area to import tubing and casings for oil wells, and the first to have oil well casing made in England, also lap welded oil well tubing. He also owned 500 acres of fine farming and oil land in Lambton County much of which he later sold to his sons, one of whom was my grandfather. True to his business heart, he made sure that, even though most of the wells dried up shortly after he sold them the money owing had to be paid. More about this in the section on the author's grandfather, Frank McDonald. Not only did Mr. McDonald become one of the largest producers of oil in Petrolia, but he also was engaged in the refining business. He built a refinery, which he operated successfully for over twenty years, under the name of the National Oil Works, owning all the stock of that company. Mr. McDonald was also a large importer of oil well casings and other appliances of the oil business, and as an all-round oilman have been one of the most extensive in this field.

He sold his refinery in 1898 to the Standard Oil Company, which of course was the majority shareholder in Imperial Oil. Records show that he received a total of \$48,000 for the refinery, a not inconsiderable sum for those days. Being an entrepreneur at heart of course, family history tells us that John continued his involvement with the oil business and invested a large part of the proceeds in another oil venture, this time a PEANUT OIL venture in Africa, which didn't have quite the same success as his investments in Canada.

Mr. McDonald was married twice, his first, on April 20, 1857, having been to Catherine Donaldson, who was also native of Scotland. Mrs. McDonald died July 31, 1883, at the age of forty-nine years, and is buried in Hillsdale cemetery just outside Petrolia. Together they had ten children, one of whom was the author's grandfather Francis David McDonald who became a farmer and oil producer as documented below. On December 7, 1885, Mr. McDonald married his second wife Miss Jane Ann Stocker, who had worked for the family as a domestic. A not so positive story that is told in the family about Great Grandfather John refers to when they went to get their wedding license. Evidently John found it necessary to ask Jane what her last name was!! He obviously was not a really warm and caring person with others in his life, let alone his wife to be. However he was involved in the political life of Petrolia and served on both the town council and the school board. He died in 1913.

#### SECOND GENERATION – FRANK McDONALD

The author's grandfather Francis David McDonald was born in 1871 in Petrolia and died in 1953. He married Margaret Primmer in 1897 and they had 4 children, the second born being the author's mother Flora, who was born in 1900. There is an interesting little anecdote about the birth of their first child, Catherine. She was born exactly 9 months and one day after they were married! Some in the family were a bit shocked, but as grandfather said, at least it wasn't one

day less than 9 months! Frank, as he was known to everyone, got involved in the oil business as a young man when he agreed to buy one of his father's oil properties, located about five miles northwest of Petrolia. The property, which covered about 100 acres, was mostly bush when he bought it but according to family lore had about 34 wells on it. All were quite shallow by today's standards, about 500 feet, but they were all producing oil in 1898 when he acquired the land. The maximum production is not known at this time but it quickly declined and a number of wells had to be shut down. By the time the author came into the picture in the 1930's there were only 2 wells producing what was effectively colored water, using a jerker line system with a motor driving it, which was located midway between the two wells.

Each well had a tripod derrick over it, which was used whenever one had to do any type of "workover". This usually involved "changing the cups" which meant that you had to hitch one of the farm horses to a cable which through the top of the derrick and pulled out the pumping rods which were in 30 foot lengths. At the bottom of the rods (+/- 500 feet) was a set of leather cups, which provided the pumping mechanism as the rods went up and down. They had to be changed every few months. The author's "job" was to drive the horse that quickly became so accustomed to the process that he could be controlled by voice commands from grandfather. Once a year or so one had to "change the pump" which meant not only pulling out the rods but also the larger pipe in which the rods operated. This job required a team of 2 horses to pull, which was a bit more complicated. However between grandfather and grandchild it was worked out. Recognize that at that time the author was 10-15 years old.

Another important step in the process was getting the oil to market. The system for separating the oil from the colored water that came out of the ground was very simple. It involved pumping the fluid from the well into a "tank" which was set in the ground and had no bottom. The oil and water separated, the oil floating on top, and the excess water soaked into the ground beneath the tank. Every few weeks or months one would pump the oil, which had accumulated on top into a "tank wagon", hitch up the horses, and haul the oil to the Imperial Oil pumping station, which was located 2 ½ miles away at Marthaville on the 12<sup>th</sup> Line, or LaSalle Road as it is now known.

Once again Imperial Oil was an important part of our family's life. In the earlier days there was a lot more hauling of oil to the pumping station than what later, but nevertheless it was an important part of the job of making ends meet on the farm. It certainly was in no ways enough to support the family but in earlier days it was more important in the family's life. Grandpa tried a number of other things to make money. Like his father he was an entrepreneur at heart so he was not limited to the oil business or simple farming in his ventures. On of these involved clearing a part of the bush land and starting a peach orchard. Some good salesman sold him on the idea of putting a little field, which was well protected in three sides and was high land, into peach trees. Whether there was exceptionally cold weather or not those few winters the peach trees never bore a good crop and before many years died and had to be pulled out and destroyed. He then planted tomatoes in that field for the canning factory. The author's mother, Flora, remembered picking many bushels of tomatoes. They sold them for 27 cents a bushel, delivered to the canning factory. Another time the Fruit Growers Association took over the apple orchard, sprayed, pruned, and picked the apples. Grandmother Margaret (Maggie) always insisted that at the end of the season they owed the Fruit Growers money. He also tried setting up a gravel pit in a part of the "bush". This was a good venture but obviously it had a limited life.

After World War 2 he tried raising chickens on a commercial scale in partnership with his son using the son's post war DVA (Department of Veterans Affairs) grants. Unfortunately this project

required more time and effort than either was willing to contribute especially since Grandpa was now in his seventies and George was more interested in drinking with his ex-army buddies than raising chickens. So it went, good times, bad times, but they always managed to make ends meet and were never in debt for long. The farm itself was a marginal venture but somehow he was able to raise 4 children and send 3 of them for post secondary training. Catherine became a nurse, Flora became a teacher, and the youngest Margaret went to Business College and subsequently worked for a local bank. All family memories of "the farm" and life on it are positive. Although not a shining example of oil industry success, Grandfather Frank still typified the "take a chance" type of person that made the oil industry what it is today.

# THIRD GENERATION – FLORA McDONALD STAUFT

Flora McDonald was born on Sept. 06, 1900, on the farm outside Petrolia where she lived throughout her childhood and teenage years. Following high school in Petrolia, she attended Normal School in London, ON and became an elementary school teacher. She died in 1974 having raised 3 children essentially on her own. She also, like her father, took some big chances in her life, not the least of which was moving to South America as a single person in 1923 to work as a teacher for International Petroleum, which at the time was a subsidiary of Imperial Oil Ltd.

In the early 1950's she wrote the story of her life growing up in Ontario and living in Peru where she met her husband and had 2 of her 3 children before he was killed in an accident on a well site. This document is still treasured by her family. The following paragraphs are based largely on her descriptions of life at that time.

After the First World War, times were hard and it must have been quite a struggle for Frank and his wife, Maggie to put their children through school but both believed in education and they did it somehow. Flora went to Normal School in London, Ont. and became a teacher. Her first school was a country school about five miles from Petrolia. It was a small school, less than twenty pupils. The salary was \$625 a year. She taught there two years and then came to Petrolia and taught in 1922 and 1923. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Dunlop, a couple of Petrolia people who had gone to Peru to the oil fields there made a major change in Flora's life. Mr. Dunlop was manager of the refinery at Talara, Peru. They were up on vacation for four months every three years and in the course of a conversation with the McDonald family, he mentioned that they needed a teacher for the children of the employees of the International Petroleum Co. in Talara, Peru, then a subsidiary of Imperial Oil. Flora was interested and after investigating she decided to apply for the position. George, her brother, was also interested and applied to go to Peru to work in the oil fields. They were both accepted and on July 9th, 1923 left Petrolia and sailed for Peru July 12th from New York. They sailed on the Santa Ana, a Grace line boat, part freight, and part passenger. It was a ten-day trip and for a person who had never traveled any farther than London it was a thrill right from the minute they left Petrolia.

For once in her life (according to her), Flora was popular, not because she had suddenly become glamorous but because she was the only single girl on the boat and there were several young men who were going to Peru and Chile. She felt a bit disappointed when she looked at Talara the morning they were to land. However, that did not last long. When the launch came out to take them in, there were several people from Petrolia on it and they certainly made everyone welcome. She never felt lonely again. Her contract as teacher was for three years at 125 dollars

a month. She paid \$25 a month for room and board and as there was very little to spend your money on in Talara. She managed very nicely.

She met her husband to be Peter the first year she was in Talara. He was a petroleum engineer from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His name was Jacob Lauer Stauft but he was nicknamed Pete when he went to school and only his family called him Lauer. Occasionally his father called him Jake. They had a wonderful time for two years. Flora came home when her contract was finished in July 1926, with the understanding that when Peter could arrange to have a few weeks off he would come to New York. It all happened as planned except that his boat was a day late and they were married February 9th instead of the 8th as planned.

Mrs. Stauft and Edna, Peter's sister came from Pittsburgh to the wedding as well as a couple of Flora's aunts who lived in the area. The wedding took place in the First Presbyterian Church in New York. They visited in Pittsburgh and Petrolia and then returned to Peru.

Life in Peru was easy going and happy. Servants were plentiful and one could have a cook, a nursemaid and a gardener for very very little, so that everyone had at least two. Flora had learned to speak Spanish well enough to get along, although she never did learn to think in Spanish as Peter did. He had had a position in Mexico for a short time after he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh and had lived with a Mexican family and that is where he learned to think in Spanish and speak it fluently. Their first-born son, Peter, was born on April 2, 1928, and Barbara Berkey arrived on February 17, 1932.

On March 1st, 1934 Peter and some other engineers went out to a gas well that had been shut in for some time with the intention of opening it up for production. The valve blew out and Peter and Al Farmer, a very close friend was both killed. They only lived a few hours and never regained consciousness. Somehow the next few weeks passed. Flora left Peru March 10th bringing Peter's body to Pittsburgh to be buried. She came on to Petrolia arriving April 2nd, Peter's sixth birthday. She stayed at the farm until May and then went to her sister Catherine's in Caro, Mich. Her third baby was born June 27th, 1934, David Lauer. On the advice of a lawyer in Imperial Oil Ltd., a somewhat unlikely source for that type of legal counsel, she sued the company for damages related to her husband's death and was awarded sufficient funds that she never had to go to work to support herself and the children. She raised all three and gave them all the post-secondary education they needed. During this time they lived in Petrolia. She died there in 1974, having lived what she considered to be a full life, loved by all those who knew her.

#### FOURTH GENERATION – PETER STAUFT, DAVID STAUFT

**Peter** was the first born of Flora and her husband. Although born in Peru he came to Canada with his mother at the age of 6 in 1934 and spent the rest of his life in Canada, except for some temporary assignments working in the USA for Esso. The first few weeks in Petrolia were difficult for Peter in that while in Peru he spoke more Spanish than English, especially with his friends at school. He quite literally entered a whole new world in Canada.

Peter's entire working career was spent with Imperial Oil Ltd. After graduating from University of Toronto as a Geological Engineer (B.A.Sc.) in 1950, he joined Imperial's office in Chatham Ontario as a junior geologist. From there he steadily progressed in the Exploration/Production Department of Imperial until his retirement in 1983 as Senior Vice President – Exploration. His

career involved all aspects of the exploration and production business from field work in the frontier areas to exploration research in the company's regional offices to senior executive management when it was in Toronto. Peter died in 2006.

Throughout his career, which involved the discovery and development of a number of major oil and gas fields in Western Canada, he was dedicated to the company and the oil business as well as his family of course. He was well respected by all he did business with as a man of integrity and open to creative and innovative methods of exploration and geological interpretation. In this respect he continued the tradition of the family in being open to all sorts of new ideas just as his forbearers had been. Peter and his wife Shirley had two sons, Mark and John who will be mentioned later in the comments on their generation.

**David** is the youngest in the Stauft Family having been born in 1934, four months after the death of his father, Jacob Lauer (Peter) Stauft. He followed his brother Peter to the University of Toronto for a similar degree in Geological Engineering, graduating in 1955, and joined Imperial Oil Ltd. as a well site geologist.

A decision in 1962 by the company that they needed computer oriented geologists sent David to Calgary for two years training as a computer programmer. Imperial Oil was a pioneer in the use of computer technology in the exploration business. At the time the Oil and Gas Conservation Board of Alberta was recording all current well information on 80 column punched cards, but after printing their monthly reports were disposing of the cards in the garbage. Imperial offered to take them instead, and that was the beginning of the world's first comprehensive computer-based Well Database System. David was to be trained to write programs and retrieve that well information for mapping and other uses in the exploration process.

Unfortunately two years was a bit long, in that instead of becoming a computer-oriented geologist David turned into an exploration oriented computer expert. He spent the rest of his career working in that area with a number of different companies, as well as working in a consulting and/or contracting role on his own and in a small consulting practice. Most of his employers and clients have now disappeared or merged with other companies. These include Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas, Wascana Energy, Canadian Occidental, PanCanadian Petroleum, as well as the consulting firms of SB Geological Consulting and Stauft Management Ltd.

David retired in 2003 but has kept busy since, writing family history and generally enjoying life.

# FIFTH GENERATION – TIMOTHY STAUFT, MARK STAUFT, JOHN STAUFT

The current generation of the family includes offspring of both David and Peter. All of the above named persons have worked in the oil business although only Timothy is currently fully employed in that world.

Mark and John, both sons of Peter, worked for Imperial Oil at the beginning of their working lives. Both have since moved on to other areas, Mark as a lawyer in Calgary with several clients directly involved in the oil business, and John as an IT engineer in Victoria.

Timothy is an engineer responsible for the Canadian operations of AuxSable, which is a petrochemical company based in Chicago. He is in the process of setting up a plant in Alberta, which will process light end hydrocarbons to produce petrochemical products.

Editor – Dave's brief summary remarks could not be fitted in. Sorry!