



# TUSCANIA

**Brewer, Virgil Blaine**  
**1896 MO – 1952 CA**

BREWER VIRGIL BLAINE		XC17073135	
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Collection Guide	
Collection Title:	Virgil Blaine Brewer Papers
Collection Number:	MS 631
Get Items:	 No online items  <a href="#">Contact California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives</a>
Collection Overview	
<b>Description</b>	Time books and other working papers from the career of Southern Pacific fireman and locomotive engineer Virgil Blaine Brewer.
<b>Background</b>	Virgil Blaine Brewer was a fireman and locomotive engineer for the San Joaquin Division of Southern Pacific Railroad and a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen & Firemen's Bakersfield California Mt. Whitney Lodge No. 139. He was born on May 6, 1898 and began working for Southern Pacific in 1919. Mr. Brewer, who died in 1952, had a wife, Katharine and a son, Joe.
<b>Extent</b>	1 box
<b>Restrictions</b>	Copyright has not been assigned to the California State Railroad Museum. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Capital District Collections Manager. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the CSRM as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the reader.
<b>Availability</b>	This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to arrange for access.

<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8n87f5f/>

**BREWER** (Bakersfield) — Funeral service was held Monday for Virgil E. Brewer of 1525 Quincy Ave., former businessman in North Long Beach. Mr. Brewer was in business with his father, the late Joe Brewer, as Brewer & Brewer for 10 years before moving to Bakersfield in 1944. Surviving are his widow, Katherine; a daughter, Miss Virgie K. Brewer, and his mother, Mrs. Joe Brewer, all of Bakersfield, and two sisters, Mrs. Walter Magee and Mrs. J. F. Bagwell, both of Long Beach.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Friday 3 Oct 1952 p 5

Life:

### THE BOY SCOUTS.

Rev. W. J. Heys, Scout Master of Troop No. 1, Dexter, Mo., of Boy Scouts of America, passed through this city last Wednesday morning. They were returning from a two days camp on Castor nar Zeta. The boys under direction of their scout master, Mr. Heys "hiked" from Dexter to Castor river the first of the week. The boys carried their knapsacks and blankets and were in first class condition and appeared to have enjoyed their outing. The troop, or portions of it, have made several "hikes" this summer, one of them being to Arcadia where they camped a week.

Last Tuesday night their camp on Castor was considerably alarmed by what they thought to be a panther but the alarm proved a false one and quiet was restored after an investigation.

The scout master and his detachment paid their respects to the Vindicator and looked the office over, with which they seemed well pleased. The scouts on the hike to Castor were: Rolland Donaldson, Harold Estes, Carrol Norman, Virgil Brewer, Morris Sisler, Gregg Miller and Ralph Riddle.

This work is to be commended as giving the boys good healthy out-door exercise and many practical ideas of value.

"Bloomfield (MO) Vindicator" Friday 1 Sep 1911 p 1

Virgil Brewer of Dexter was here several days last week, assisting in opening the Model Store stock of goods. He is a bright young man and a good mixer, and we noticed some of our girls were quite interested when he was about.

"Missouri Herald" (Hayti MO) Thursday 12 Feb 1914 p 4

Virgil Brewer, a bright young fellow of Dexter, escorted little Joe Brewer back home last week and visited his uncle, Counselor J. R. Brewer, for a few days. Little Joe was warmly welcomed by his mother after his stay at Dexter.

"New Madrid (MO) Weekly Record" Saturday 27 Jun 1914 p 6

Stanley Hobson and Virgil (Goat) Brewer, the Corn Kings, arrived last Friday from Cairo, where they left Ray Sifton still on the job. They say "Big" Sifton is making corn flakes pay dividends.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 10 Sep 1915 p 3

Aquilla Greer, who is well known here, has joined the Aviation Corps and is now in training at San Antonio. In writing to his father this week he says that San Antonio is a vast concentration camp for all the Southwest, and that more recruits for the army are arriving daily than the city can take care of. That conditions are gradually getting better each day, and better facilities for handling the crowds. He writes that there is a great bustle in that city, and everything looks warlike in its initial preparations. Mr. Greer left here about a year ago. With Virgil Brewer for Bakersfield, Cal., and when the call for volunteers came he joined the Aviation Corps. If given a chance in air battles Greer will make a mark. He is a son of J. H. Greer.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 17 May 1917 p 8

**Dexterites in the Service**

J. J. Dowdy has the following names of Dexter men and youths who are now in the U. S. Army or Navy. If any of our readers know of others whose names are not recorded here, we will be glad to obtain them and publish them. Ray Webster and Edwin Gupton are already in France with General Pershing's troops, so we are informed.

Earnest Allen	Paul Montgomery
Jno. Bingham	Aubrey Heflin
Soley Bear	Jno. W. Brown
Robt. Burkhart	Guy Hite
Henry Camp	Ed Harwood
Harry Crouch	Clem Kitchen
Hardin M. Crowe	Dr. Frank LaRue
Henry D. Crowe	Ora Mitchell
Joe Chappell	Everette Montrey
Angus Day	E. M. Munger
Dr. W. C. Dieckman	Ralph Powell
Frank Edwards	Orville Oldham
Roy Ezzell	Walter Ruch
Fritz Fulk	Dewey Ragan
Vernor Fields	Geo. W. Rogers
Edwin Gupton	Herbert Slayden
Earl E. Grojean	And Smith
Aquilla Greer	Ray Webster
Ralph Grissom	Harvey Vancamp
Allen Umfleet	Wm. Connor
Virgil Brewer	

After the Dexter boys in Company "H" are in the regular service and the draft is filled, Dexter will have near a quarter of a thousand of her men folk fighting under the flag. We wager no town in Missouri can show more and better scrapping blood than little old Dexter.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 27 Jul 1917 p 1

# 300 Additional Men Called in Dist. No. 1

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**Must Report at Court House at 8 a. m., on Saturday, August 18; Makes Total of 806 Men Now Called Up**



Mastaneyez Martinez, Delano.  
 Glen A. Henry, 622 Humboldt St.  
 Virgil B. Brewer, 500 Oregon St.  
 Roy Bratton, Oil Center, Box 61.  
 Albert Ingles, Inyokern.  
 Bert Delcid, 1031 Inyo St.  
 Elonzo P. Davis, Jr., 2305 K St.  
 Wm. Haney, R. F. D. 6.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Tuesday 14 Aug 1917 p 3

Virgil Brewer, who left here a year ago for California, has joined the aviation corps of the army and is now in training at San Antonio

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 30 Aug 1917 p 8

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO REGISTRANTS**  
**UNDER JURISDICTION OF THIS LOCAL BOARD**

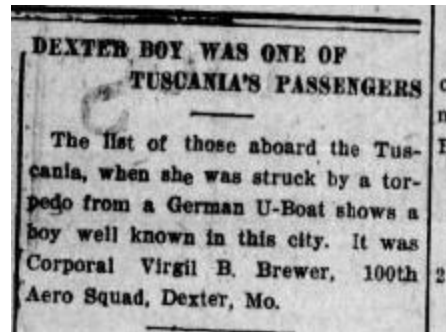
There has been mailed to you a questionnaire which you are required by law to execute and return within seven days from date hereof. Failure to do so constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by not to exceed one year's imprisonment; and such failure may also deprive you of valuable rights and result in your immediate induction into military service and trial by court-martial.

**KERN DISTRICT NO. 1.**

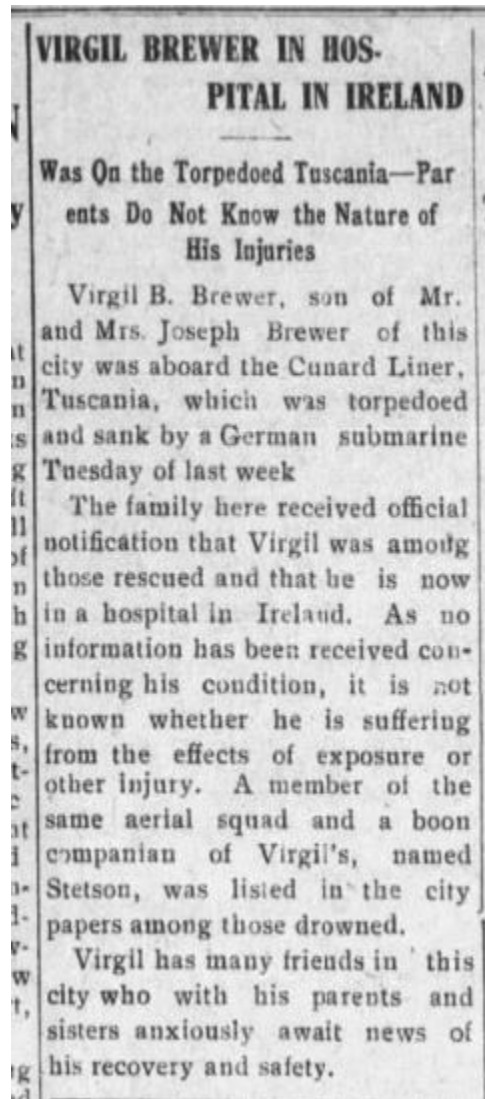
The following were mailed questionnaires December 18:

Uvin S. Ponton	Robert John Fox.
Melchior Merk	Sidney Howard Stover.
Miguel S. Eleano	Sacramento Cendejas.
Juan Avila	Mastaneyez Martinez.
Jose Bustos	Glen Edwin Henry.
Frank J. Pasquin	Virgil Blaine Brewer.
	Bravio Solino, or Sollrie.
	Wm. Marion Soncs.
	Harry G. Updike.

List continues – "Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 19 Dec 1917 p 8



"Daily American Republic" (Poplar Grove MO) Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 4



"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 14 Feb 1918 p 1



### Dexter Boy Safe

Late reports from the war department confirm the escape from death of Virgil Brewer, a former Bloomfield boy who was on the transport Tuscania, torpedoed by a German submarine and sunk off the coast of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer, parents of Virgil, lived in this city several years ago when he was but a small boy, yet many remembered him and when the first news reached here that he had went down with the transport, sadness prevailed in every home. This is the second Stoddard county boy that has encountered the deadly submarine, that first report gave as lost. The other being Joseph A. Cossairt, whose letter to a lady friend appears in this issue of the Tribune and who was on the U. S. Destroyer Jacob Jones which was sunk in the North Atlantic by a submarine, a full account of which, was given at the time in this paper.

“Stoddard Tribune” (Bloomfield MO) Thursday 14 Feb 1918 p 1

## Corporal Virgil Brewer

On Ill-fated Tuscania Which Was  
Torpedoed Last Week

### Saved, But In English Hospital

The English liner, Tuscania, on which were over 2000 American troops, was sunk by a submarine off the shores of Scotland, last week, as it was being convoyed thru the danger zone by units of the English navy.

The number lost was between 100 and 200 soldiers and crew.

On board the illfated vessel was Corporal Virgil Brewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer, of this place. He was with the aero squadron. For three days his family and friends here suffered much concern as to his fate, and were much relieved when Congressman Russell wired them that Brewer's name was among those who survived the treachery of the German's sub-sea boats. This news was hours ahead of the arrival of the afternoon dailies containing the list of survivors and confirming the Congressman's information.

But the papers stated Brewer was confined in a hospital in Ireland, and the extent of his injuries was not known.

Young Brewer is just past 21 years of age, and is one of the brightest boys in Dexter. He always possessed a plenitude of dash and daring, and was just the type of recklessly fearless youth to be at home among Uncle Sam's fliers.

It was a great relief to all of Dexter

Uncle Sam's fliers.

It was a great relief to all of Dexter to learn he had escaped the fate of "those who go down to the sea in ships."

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 15 Feb 1918 p 1

## MISSOURI BOY IS AMONG SURVIVORS

**Virgil Brewer, of Dexter, Found  
In Irish Hospital.-Was  
Among Missing.**

Washington, February 25.—Sixty-three survivors of the transport Tuscania, sunk by a German submarine February 5, still are in Irish hospitals, according to cable report announced by the War Department tonight.

None of the men is in serious condition and it is expected all of them will be discharged from the hospitals within a short time.

Forty of the wounded and sick men are at Londonderry, 19 at Ltrbe, 3 at Belfast and 1 at Dublin.

Among those at Larne are: Virgil B. Brewer of Dexter, Mo.; John N. Stinson, Smith Center, Kan.; Charles R. Pelley, Farrisville, Tex., Walter Villines Stephenville, Tex.

James Stephenville, Tex.

Among those at Londonderry are: Oscar McCollum, Lone Wolf, Okla.; Olan Kinkley, Ralston, Okla.; Silva Hensley, Boswell, Ok.; John F. O'Donnell, Hinton, Ok.; Elmer Holden, Fort Worth, Tex.; George R. Baker, Carter Valley, Tex.; Henry S. Burleson, R. F. D. No. 2, Mincon, Okla.; Lewis P. Carlyle, Someta, Tex.; Sam H. Eddins, Ladonia, Tex.; Mark T. Gibson, Batson, Tex.; James E. Gore, Fred, Tex.; Herbert D. Taylor, Santo Tex.; Roman Sandovtl, Florisville, Tex.

"Cape Girardeau (MO) Morning Sun" Tuesday 26 Feb 1918 p 2

### Virgil Brewer Heard From

The Brewer family here received word from the Adjutant General's office Tuesday that Virgil Brewer would be released from a hospital in Larne, Ireland within the next two or three days. Aside from the shock and exposure, Virgil seems to have escaped from the illfated Tuscania uninjured, and news of his early release from the hospital is very reassuring to his family and friends.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 28 Feb 1918 p 1

### Corp. Brewer Heard From

Sunday, Mr. Joe Brewer and family got word from both Congressman Russeli, of this district, and Congressman E. E. Dennison, of the Cairo district that their son, Corporal Virgil Brewer, was in a hospital at Larne, Ireland, slightly injured, but would be out in a few days.

This was welcome information to them, as they had received no word from him since they had word he was saved when the Tuscania sank but was in the hospital, suffering of injuries.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 1 Mar 1918 p 3

A letter from Virgil Brewer to his parents announces that he has recovered from a very bad cold resulting from exposure at the time of the sinking of the transport Tuscania. He was in a hospital at Larne, Ireland for a couple of weeks. A cheeeful light was thrown into the hospital by a visit from two ladies from the U. S. who live at Larne. They invited Mr. Brewer and his fellow soldier suffers to their homes as soon as convalescent, and showered them with the kindest attentions.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 7 Mar 1918 p 8

### Virgil Brewer's Letter

Smiley Cottage Hospital,  
Larne, Ireland

Feb. 18, 1918

Dear Mother and all:

I wrote you a few days ago, but am still thinking of home. I was put in a hospital the day I landed here but am feeling fine. Everyone treats us so nice. Two U. S. A. ladies came to see us, brought grapes apples, papers and everything we wanted, also invited us out to their home. One was from St. Louis. I am sending clipping from the Belfast paper containing report of our ship. I was on this vessel. I had a sore throat when first landed and that got well and then came trouble with my ear, but it is about well now. I wired you the second day I landed here and hope you received it so as not to worry about me for I am being taken good care of here, and the people can't do enough for us. The Red Cross came to see us, brought candies, cigarettes, a scarf and a New York firm sent each of us \$2.00. It sure came in handy for all the boys, I think, lost all their money when the boat went down. I didn't have time to save a thing, money or clothing, as I was in the hospital on the boat when the shock came. I ran out and got the last life boat as it was about to float away. I pulled and worked till I had it back to the big ship and stayed until I got about 25 men in it and then we pulled

away and saw our ship go down and under. We were picked up a few hours later. When we saw land the next morning we began to shout " \* deleted \* " I was brought here. Everything is green here and looks so pretty, as you know when we left the U. S. A. there was 18 inches of snow and very cold.

I wrote all the folks in Tenn. and hope to hear from them after a while. I think it takes nearly a month to get the mail. We can get packages but I understand we can't send any.

I have talked to a few of the soldiers here and it seems to me they do everything backwards. All wagons and traffic go on the left side of the road, and we go on the right.

Have you heard from any of the Dexter boys and have any of them come over yet? I would like to know if Walter Ruch has come or not.

Take good care of yourselves<sup>and</sup> and write to me often.

With all of a son's love, I am,

(Corp.) Virgil Brewer,  
100 Aero Squadron,  
American Ex. Force

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 15 Mar 1918 p 1

**Russell Writes Virgil Brewer**  
March 21, 1918  
Mr. Ed P. Crowe,  
Dexter, Missouri.  
Dear Ed:  
I read with much interest the letter from Virgil Brewer, published in the Statesman, and immediately after reading it, wrote him a letter expressing my congratulations and the delight that we all enjoyed upon hearing that he was saved from the awful disaster when the Tuscania was sunk.  
I love to write our brave boys "over there" who have gone to the front to fight our battles and the battles of their country. I understand they are always pleased to receive letters from home, and I think we can well afford to give them that encouragement.  
I always read with interest in the papers from my district, letters from our boys whether in the Camps of our own country or at the front in France, and have taken occasion to write letters to several of them, after reading their letters.  
Yours very truly,  
Joe J. Russell

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 29 Mar 1918 p 2

The geography of the St. Louis Daily Republic is sadly out of date for they have no town of consequence in Southeast Missouri, but Charleston. All others of us are tank towns, flag stations and crossings where the engine whistles. All last winter the Republic was one rich joke because their Charleston correspondent seemingly copied articles from the newspapers of this section, dated them from Charleston, and Old Lady 1808 ate 'em up like real news when the stuff was from ten days to two weeks passe, but when Corporal Harrison visited Dexter, last week, and we raised \$4107 for the Red Cross in honor of his visit, Dexter couldn't get 30 word's about it in the Republic's columns. Last Sunday's Republic contained the letter of a soldier from Charleston now in France, in which he described in 7 inches unleaded 8-point how he ate and slept in France, and his photo capped the letter, but when Corporal

Virgil Brewer of Dexter, went down with the Tuscania, was rescued and after weeks in a hospital reported for duty as a flyer in France, and we sent his picture and about 50 words about it to the Republic, four weeks ago, it never saw the light, and we haven't had the photo returned tho return postage was sent with it. All the other papers of St. Louis seem to be aware of our existence, but the Republic—well as a local paper to St. Louis and a supplement to the Charleston weekly it is a glittering success.





This photo accompanies an article which includes a letter mentioning Virgil Blaine Dexter, but is not identified, and may well be the image of a letter writer  
"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 31 May 1918 p 4 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/581256271/>

## Corp. Virgil Brewer

### Writes a Very Interesting Letter From London, England

April 24, 1918

Dear Mother and All:

I just came back from London and found two letters for me—Gee, but a fellow loves to get mail. One was from Aunt Maryland and the other from Hon. J. J. Russell. As I have the afternoon off, will spend it writing to my friends and to you at home. I had a splendid trip through London, from the Eagle Hut Y. M. C. A. in a two-horse wagon, to the five oldest houses that withstood the fire that burned the town down; then to the old London Tower and all through it, and over the grounds. Up to see the Crown Jewels, saw the largest ruby in the world, the guns used hundreds of years ago and thousands of other things too numerous to mention. From this to the King's stables saw all his fine horses and the carriages he uses. Then from there to some of the buildings that were hit in a raid, also I saw parts of the first bomb that hit London. I saw a German Cross, went through St. John's Chapel where some of the old Kings and Queens are buried. I also saw the old block and ax they used to behead all that were condemned to death, and so many things I can't write in one letter. I got pictures of all of these, but find I can't send them so will save them and bring them when I come home.

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I wrote you yesterday, but after reading the Saturday Evening Post of the account of the Tuscania that Irvin Cobb wrote, you should have seen and heard what our boys said. He tried to make himself a hero. It is true we were close to them, but because we had a fast ship and they were so slow. He also stated that the torpedo was aimed at the ship he was on, if so, the torpedos would have had to make the figure 8 to get to us. He also said they drank a toast to the ill-fated Tuscania. Well, if he had been on it with us he could have drunk all the ice cold SALT water for his drink that he wanted. In 10 minutes after we were hit we could not see a ship. The British destroyers came back and pulled up on each side taking off those left on. They did wonderful work. I guess Irvin Cobb will be writing stories of the front line trenches after a while.

Be sure and send me some U. S. A. tobacco. I have a corn cob pipe from Missouri and it makes me think of home.

Give my regards to all friends and tell them this is the life, and that I am safe and well.

Your loving son,  
Corp. V. B. Brewer,  
100 Aero Squad, London, S. W. Eng  
Am. Air Hdqts, 35 Eaton Place

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 7 Jun 1918 p 1 -  
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/581256396/>

Thanks to Corporal Virgil B.  
Brewer for remembrance in the form  
of a post card from "Dear ol' Lunon,"  
where he's aviating for Uncle Sam.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 16 Aug 1918 p 3

**CORP. VIRGIL BREWER**

**Says Picture of "Father" Makes Him (Home) Sick**

Dear Mother and all:—

Well, I haven't much to do to-day, as it has been raining for the past three days.

I was up to see the home boys yesterday, Gee! I was glad to see them. They are a few miles North of us: Harris, Homer Howell, Jett, Fritz, Meridith Cox, Buchanan, and a bunch that I can't remember. They think they will go back to Germany.

I don't know what we will do.

One of our boys came back from up there and told us he met them, so I caught a truck at 8 in the morning, rode some of the way, and walked about 5 miles thru the rain. At last I found them. They all thought I was dead, as they had seen the report of our boat being sunk.

They are all well, and sure are happy to get back from No man's Land. I stayed one day up there with them. Glenn was in bed when I went in and he didn't know me for a while.

Meridith was working when I walked up on him and asked for a match. He started to give it to me, then looked up to see who it was. He sure was surprised to see me. I hadn't heard from him in over a month. A bunch of them are coming up Sunday to see me.

Oh, yes, Skelton is a captain now. I didn't get to see him, he was out of town. I would like to have seen him. I am going back up there the next time I get a pass.

I received some papers and a letter from you day before yesterday. Glad to know you are all well. I wish I were with you, and will be in a few months.

I stayed with Fritz several hours. They sure feed good and have good places to sleep. He had just received a box of tobacco from Earl. I look for my box in a couple of weeks. I hope to sail on his boat. I sure will "feed up" with him.

Miss Covington, I understand, is in Paris. Did you send me a package by her?

We had a new "Y" opened up yesterday.

I saw the Tracy boy from Frisco and knew him as soon as I saw him. So you received the money I sent you. Well, keep it for me, or use it as I said.

I am glad to know that papa did what E said he did in one of her letters. I thought that the best thing he could have done. I look at his picture every day and get so homesick I can hardly wait to get there.

(Yes, Corporal, and Charlie Biggs and Charlie Liles look at the original over a checker board, and it makes them sick too, but not home sick.—Editor.)

I never was home-sick before.

(Am going to eat dinner now, and will finish this afterwards.)

I am back now. You know we do everything on double quick time, even sleeping. We had steak, potatoes, bread and jam.

Last night, coming back, I stopped at a small town called "Siggy" and bought meat and potatoes and had an old lady cook them for us, and gave her 5 Francs, \$1.00. We go to all the small towns and get some very good feeds.

Here's hoping to get a few letters in a day or so. Hope Bruce gets well soon.

Love to all,  
V. B. BREWER.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 10 Jan 1919 p 8

### Letter From Homer Howell

Bancourt, France

Feb. 18, 1919.

Dear father:

I haven't received a letter from you for some time. Well papa I am well and hope you are the same. We passed in review before General Pershing and the Prince of Wales yesterday. Pershing said we were as fine a bunch of men as he had seen over here. I think we will be on our road home soon. We have turned in all our trucks and part of our horses. I sure will be glad when I can come back to dear old U. S. A. I sure am tired of this country.

Say papa Lieut. Walter Ruch was over here last Sunday. Virgil Brewer came over with him. Walter Ruch is in our Division 139th Infantry, and Virgil is in the 100th Aerial Squadron. They are both stationed near here. I am stationed at Bancourt, France. I sure was glad to see Walter and Virgil. Marion Hamontree was over to see us about two weeks ago. Well papa I hope everything is all O. K. at home. I must close for this time, hoping to

hear from you soon. I remain as  
ever your loving son,  
Homer Howell.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 20 Mar 1919 p 1

Word has been received here  
that Virgil Brewer and Tom Ken-  
nedy are soon to leave France,  
homeward bound.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 1 May 1919 p 4

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer received a telegram Saturday that their son, Corp. Virgil Brewer, had landed in New York. He came across the water on the good ship Louisville, and is expected to arrive in Dexter next Monday.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 4 Jun 1919 p 1

Virgil Brewer has landed in New York, so he writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer, and will arrive home the first of the coming week. He will be warmly welcomed by all his friends here, for he is a splendid boy, and has surely been to mill.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 6 Jun 1919 p 3

Virgil Brewer arrived home Wednesday from overseas. He was delous-demobilized at Camp Taylor, and lost no time getting home. He is looking the same old handsome boy who left here more than two years ago to help Uncle Sam hunt the hun. He shows no signs of having been on a sinking ship, and was real dry considering the denominational belief to which he leans. We welcome him home with a warm mit.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 20 Jun 1919 p 3

—If you want to sell or buy a second-hand auto, see **VIRGIL BREWER**,  
Dexter, Mo. 8-tf.

Mrs. Esco Barnett and two sisters, from Bernie, were here Wednesday shopping. They gave Virgil Brewer the “once over” while here.

“Dexter (MO) Statesman” Friday 27 Jun 1919 p 3

**Virgil Brewer has gone to Sikeston to accept a position as salesman in an auto sales room there.**

“Dexter (MO) Statesman” Friday 13 Jul 1919 p 2

Miss Erdel Brewer of Dexter spent a few hours in Sikeston Wednesday. She joined her brother, Virgil Brewer here and they went to Caruthersville to visit Attorney J. R. Brewer of that city.

“Sikeston (MO) Daily Standard” Friday 1 Aug 1919 p 8

Virgil Brewer of Dexter, recently employed by the Taylor Implement Co. left Friday morning for Bakersville, Cal.

“Sikeston (MO) Daily Standard” Tuesday 12 Aug 1919 p 3



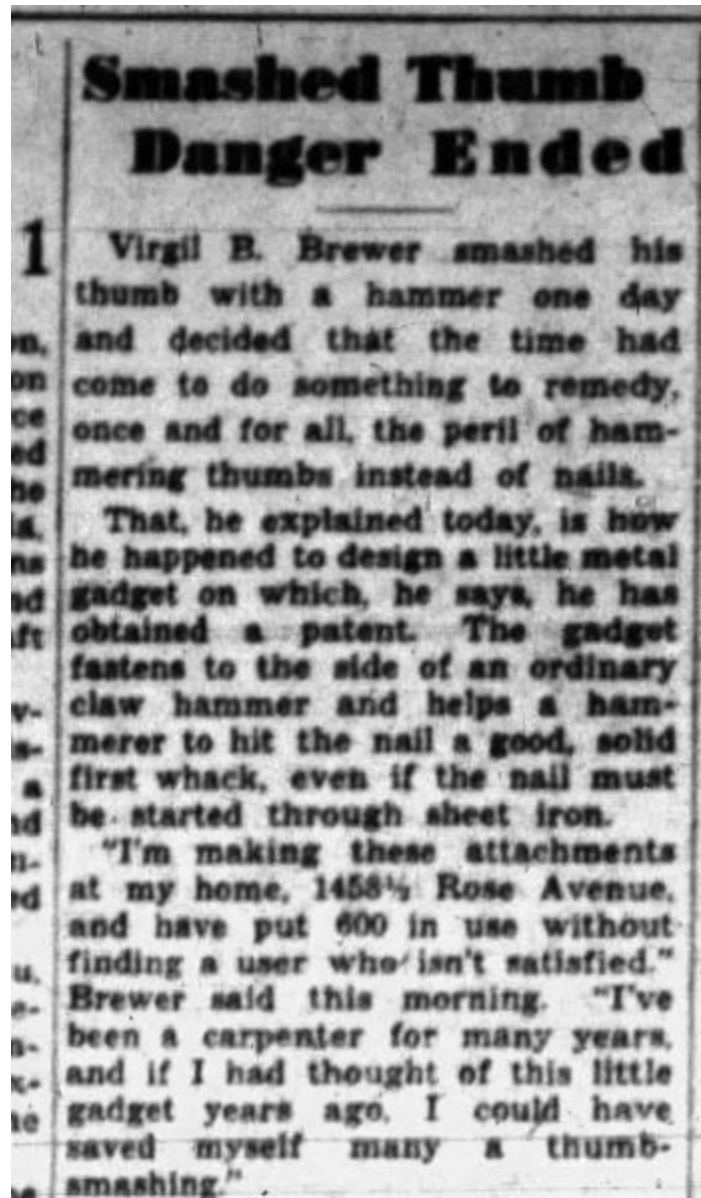
Virgil Brewer left for East Bakersfield, Calif., Sunday. He will resume his old position as locomotive fireman for the Missouri-Pacific Ry. The Brewer family expect to leave next month for a year's stay in the Golden state.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 14 Aug 1919 p 4

Virgil Brewer and mother, Mrs. Joe Brewer, are returning from a vacation at the southern beaches.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 14 Jun 1922 p 8





"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Thursday 23 Jun 1938 p 16

Wife Katherine Holland Brewer Saye:

Sallie and Katherine Holland of the Norris district spent Thursday with Verus Cash Wheeler.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Tuesday 4 Jul 1922 p 7

## DECEMBER HAS LARGE LIST ON – ROLL OF HONOR

One of the particularly gratifying features of the new semester's work at the Kern County High school and Junior College, is the large honor roll of last month, which has more names than any other honor roll since September. Each month the honor roll has added several names to the list, but the last month's total, 156, is the record.

Another interesting fact is that the honor roll for the entire semester is also gratifying in its size, and there were 119 pupils who succeeded in making an average of above 90 per cent in their studies for the whole semester which has just passed.

The new semester is in sway now at the high school, with the many new pupils adjusting themselves to the courses and taking up their work with interest.

Following is the complete honor roll for the last month, and the semester's roll:

Monthly Honor Roll

Holland, Ethel  
Holland, Katherine  
Holland, Sallie

Sisters on monthly honor roll – Sallie also on semester honor roll – “Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo” Friday 26 Jan 1923 p 3

# 150 STUDENTS ON HIGH HONOR ROLL

One hundred and fifty students of the Kern County Union High school qualified last month for the honor roll of the school. An average of 90 per cent is required in all studies. Through error last month the name of Miss Ilene Dennen was omitted from the roll although Miss Dennen made the required average.

Those whose names appear on the honor list for last month are:

George Harris, Beatrice Hassall, Osborne Hatch, Byron Hay, Lerelle Heyes, Thelma Hayes, Gladys Higgins, Isabelle Hoffman, Rowena Hoisington, Katherine Holland, Mary Holland, Sallie Holland, Beatrice Hoppen, Martha Hougham, Hugh Hubbard, Rosalind Huffaker, Sinclair Ives, Nancy Jenkins.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Friday 26 Jan 1923 p 3

# TWO HUNDRED TO RECEIVE HONORS

## Great Number of Students Will Graduate From High School This Year

The final tentative list of the graduates of the Kern County Union High School has been completed and consists of 200 names. This is the largest number of students ever to graduate from the local high school, and shows an increase of 55 over last year's list. A few names may be taken off on account of students failing to keep up their work between now and the end of the school year, but it is not probable.

Graduation day will be held on June 6, when the following will receive their diplomas:

Graduating Seniors of the Kern County Union High School, June 6, 1924:

Katherine Holland, Route 4, Box 93A.  
Mary Holland, Route 4, Box 93A.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 21 May 1924 p 2

## Splendid Cast In C. E. Comedy

FARCE GIVEN ON THREE NIGHTS  
TO FINANCE DELEGATES TO  
MOUNTAIN MEETING

For the benefit of helping defray expenses of local delegates to an annual conference of Christian Endeavor members at Mount Herman July 29 to August 5, "The Pill Bottle," a home talent comedy, is being staged in various centers in Kern County. Friday evening an audience of approximately 100 Bakersfield persons laughed at the farce, in which the following characters go through a series of mirth-provoking incidents: Bible woman, Lillian Bohna; outcast, Venzola Dale; Barbara Lane, Vera Hulsey; Mrs. Lane, Eula Leckliter; Mr. Lane, William Hulsey; Francis Tuttle, Venzola Dale; Jane, Daisy Harris; Helen, Dorothy Beardsley; Hindoo husband, No. 1, Lee Pryor; Hindoo husband No. 2, Raymond Spurgin; boy Hindoo husband, Loren Jacks; 12 patients, Dorothy Cure, Sallie Holland, Katherine Holland, Vesta Jacks, Lois Leckliter, Beulah Leckliter, Edna Kenny, Leota Edwards, Mary Baptie, Venzola Dale, Ethel Spurgin and Dorothy Stockton. The tabernacle corner, Thirteenth and H Streets, was the scene of the entertainment.

"The Pill Bottle" will be presented at Arvin tomorrow evening and at Taft Tuesday evening. Special music and other numbers fill out the program.

Among delegates who will attend the conference are Miss Ethel Spurgin, Miss Daisy Harris, Miss Lillian Bohna and Howard Weller, president of the Kern County Christian Endeavor Union.

\* \* \* \*

## Endeavor Group Sponsors Jolly Swimming Party

Several members of the Christian Endeavor of the First Christian Church enjoyed a swimming party and picnic last evening at Union Avenue Plunge. Tentative plans were made for another similar affair in the future. Those present included Katherine Holland, Sallie Holland, Eugenia Frazer, Ferrell Collier, William Frazer, Marjorie Dennis, Rex Carter, Dorothy Cure, LeRoy Campbell, Vera Hulsey, Oleda Simpson and Lee Pryor.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 21 Jul 1926 p 3

## Many Students to Share Class Party Tonight

Several friends of class members, particularly those home from various schools, will share a party to be given this evening by "The Gleaners" of the First Christian church at the home of their teacher, Miss Marianna Bohna, 229 Chester avenue. The class is comprised of junior college and business girls. Games and stunts are being arranged by the committee, including Miss Bohna, Miss Oleta Simpson and Miss Sally Holland. The Christmas-New Year's decoration motif will be used.

Among the students home for vacation who will be present are: Miss Dorothy Cure of the University of California, Miss Dorothy Beardsley of California Christian college, Los Angeles; Lee Pryor, of the same school; Miss Bonnie McLaughlin of Taft, who is in school in Los Angeles, and Miss Vesta Jacks of Broad-Oaks School for Kindergarten Teachers. Miss Katherine Holland, a teacher at White River, and several others from out of town will also be present.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Thursday 30 Dec 1926 p 3

**ROSEDALE TEACHERS**  
 The teachers at the Rosedale school for the present school year are: Mrs. Mary M. Branch, principal; Mrs. Margaret Herring, intermediate, and Miss Katherine Holland, primary.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 14 Sep 1927 p 4

**ENDEAVOR MASQUE PARTY SUCCESSFUL;  
 40 MEMBERS ATTEND**

Grotesque masques and eerie costumes characterized a party Friday night given by the Senior and Senior Intermediate societies of the Christian Endeavor of First Christian church at the home of Misses Sallie and Katherine Holland, corner of Palm and Third streets.

Jack-o-lanterns and festoons of Halloween draperies adorned the rooms; the menu was appropriate to the season as were also games played. The committee included Miss Maizie Harris and Mr. and Mrs. William Coker, the standing social committee of the Seniors, who were hosts.

Senior Intermediates will entertain next Friday night at the church. At Sunday night's meeting the Senior Intermediates helped to organize an adult endeavor, officers of which are James Harris, president; Mrs. Chester Ferrell, vice-president; and Mrs. Sallie Campbell, secretary-treasurer. Following the organization the intermediates served cakes and tea.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Sunday 23 Oct 1927 p 5



## C. E. Delegates Back From Meet

(Continued From Page Seven)

Bertha Palmer of Los Angeles and the Reverend Bash as pianists.

The girls' quartet of the First Christian Church of this city received second place in the state quartet contest which was held on Sunday afternoon. Four quartets competed.

Kern county also received second award in the state achievement program.

Alfred Kurie of Los Angeles was elected president of the state Christian Endeavor Union.

### Delegates

Delegates from the county were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mason, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Bender, Mr. and Mrs. Leo White, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wilson; the Misses Magdalene Newman, Elizabeth Agee, Maxine Moore, Irene Wilson, Erma Ware, Mary Esther Taylor, Eileen Snyder, Katherine Holland, Myrtle Haag, Eula Purtle, Lois Smith, Mayfred Dutton, Frances Wilson, Mildred Kearns, Elizabeth Crites, Jean Rench, Elsie Cooper, Lenna Lanier, Wilabel O'Dell, Betty Lou Townsend, Irene Williamson, Barbara Permenter, Mary Krohn, Doris Griffith, Ruth Wright, Thelma Mattison, Lucille Barnes; Mesdames Morene Preston, T. B. Smith, Ruth Shelton, Wendell Snoddy, Evelyn Thomas, A. W. Mattison; Messrs. Clarence Morley, Lyle York, Wesley York, Matthew Klopp, Robert Hartzell, Donald Bigham, Robert Tucker, and the Reverend Wade H. Barnes. Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Bird, formerly of Bakersfield and now of Oakland, were also present.

Christian Endeavor – "Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Wednesday 1 Jul 1936 p 15

## Surprise Feature of Kern Assembly

MAGUNDEN, Nov. 27.—A surprise feature at a family gathering on Thanksgiving day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Sterling was the betrothal announcement of Miss Sallie Holland to Gus Ergo.

Mrs. F. M. Sterling and her aunt, Mrs. L. D. Holland, entertained with a turkey dinner. Little ice cream turkeys, served for dessert, contained the surprise announcement. The wedding is scheduled to take place soon after New Years.

Miss Holland is the twin sister of Mrs. Sterling. She resides at 331 C street, Bakersfield, and is employed at the Peacock Creamery. Mr. Ergo lives at 310 G street. He is the proprietor of the Beale Park Grocery.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Holland, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holland, Mrs. Lucie Ansolabehere, Miss Sallie Holland, Miss Katherine Holland, Miss Elizabeth Perkins, Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, John Holland, Gus Ergo, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Sterling, Frankie, Lucille and Fay Sterling and Gwendolyn Holland.

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Saturday 27 Nov 1937 p 7

#### **Holland-Ergo Wedding**

At First Christian Church at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, Miss Sallie Holland and Gus Ergo were wedded by the Reverend Charles H. Hulme, pastor. The bride was given in marriage by her father John Holland and was attended by her sister, Miss Katherine Holland, maid of honor. The best man was Harley Pinzon. Ushers included Miss Oleta Simpson and Leland Holland.

The bride wore a white satin princess gown. Her long veil of tulle was caught to the head with a wreath of orange blossoms. Her bouquet was of white carnations, with ribbon shower. Her going-away costume was a navy blue crepe ensemble worn with blue accessories.

Wedding marches were played by Miss Elizabeth Perkins. Miss Eileen Snyder, soloist, sang "All for You" and "The Sweetest Story Ever Told."

A reception followed at the Holland residence, 331 C street. After a short honeymoon in the north the couple will be at home at 310 E street.

The maid of honor was attired in a rose taffeta gown and carried pink sweet peas.

The bridegroom is owner of the Beale Park Grocery.

\* \* \*

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 19 Jan 1938 p 10

### **Intentions to Wed**

Abraham D. Unruh, 20, and Eunice Ratziuff, 18, both of Shafter.

George Arthur Housel, 35, and Marie Violetta Haffner, 40, both of Taft.

Boyce Nichols, 21, and Faye Adkison, 22, both of Shafter.

Virgil Blaine Brewer, 42, Long Beach, and Katherine Holland, 33, Bakersfield.

Thess A. Peters, 21, and Lillian Elrina McBride, 17, both of Arvin.

"Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Saturday 13 Apr 1940 p 12

## MRS. BLANEY IS NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT OF CHURCH COUNCIL

The nominating committee selected Mrs. Lou Blaney as president of the Women's Council of the First Christian Church, it was disclosed at a recent luncheon and business meeting in Bethany hall.

Other council officers for 1948 will include: Mrs. Virgil Brewer, first vice-president; Mrs. Fred Kurth, second vice-president; Mrs. John Luther, secretary and Mrs. C. F. Martin, treasurer.

Mrs. L. D. Cryts was in charge of the business session. The nominating committee's report was given by Mrs. Ray Walt, chairman of the committee.

### Install Soon

Council and circle officers will be installed December 4 with Mrs. Grover Shackelford in charge.

Circle meetings were announced as follows: Esther Circle, Thursday at 1:30 p. m. with Mrs. H. H. Rosley, 2205 Lake street. Mrs. Eula Batey will preside. Devotions will be given by Mrs. W. B. Wilson.

Members are requested to bring rummage to the meeting.

Lydia Circle will meet with Mrs. J. W. Jacks, 300 I street, at 2 p. m. Thursday. Devotional chairman is Mrs. H. E. Ireland. Members are urged to bring items for Hazel Green School.

The home of Mr. Robert Hartzell, 807 Woodrow avenue, Oildale, will be scene of the Mary Circle meeting.

Martha Circle will meet with Mrs. C. H. Anderson, 328 West Belle avenue. A potluck luncheon will be served at noon. Mrs. Christine Jameson is in charge of devotions.

### Circle Thursday

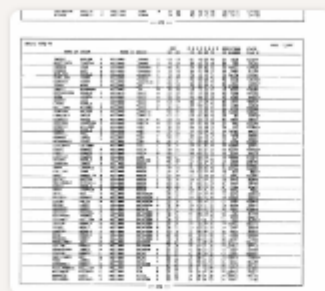
Mrs. Hazel Bond of 1917 South I street, will be hostess to members of Naomi Circle Thursday at 2 p. m. and Ruth Circle will be received at the home of Mrs. Jack Barker, 2328 Cedar street, at 2 p. m.

Deborah Circle will meet with Mrs. Elizabeth Young, 1001 Q street, at 8 p. m. Friday. The Reverend Celia E. Smith will be guest speaker.

"Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Monday 10 Nov 1947 p 6

## Katherin Holland

in the California, U.S., Marriage Index, 1960-1985



[Order document](#)

[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

### Detail Source

Name Katherin Holland

Gender Female

Birth Year abt 1907

Age 72

Marriage Date 22 Jul 1979

Marriage Place Kern, California, USA

Spouse Name Roy F Saye

Spouse Age 75

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/8505894:1144?tid=&pid=&queryid=8d3760ea-1137-4d74-90c8-b034819d0ad2&phsrc=cPx20856&phstart=successSource>

## Bakersfield Is Scene of Rites

Miss Katherine Holland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Holland of Bakersfield, became the bride of Virgil B. Brewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer of 5845 Walnut Avenue, in rites solemnized April 19 in the Junior chapel of First Christian Church, Bakersfield. Officiants were Rev. B. B. Baird, resident pastor, and Rev. Charles H. Hulme of Altadena. A small guest company of relatives and friends witnessed the rites. Pastel shades were used in floral decorations of the chapel.

Miss Elizabeth Perkins was maid of honor and Walter McGreg, best man. Miss Frances Chamberlain, organist, provided atmospheric music.

The bride wore a dress of blue crepe with rose and navy accessories. Miss Perkins was gowned in rose with white accessories. Their corsages were of roses.

The couple will make their home in Bakersfield, where Mrs. Brewer was a teacher in the Lowell School. Mr. Brewer is connected with the Southern Pacific Company.

## Roy Frank Saye

in the California, U.S., Death Index, 1940-1997




[Order document](#)  
[Add or update information](#)  
[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	Roy Frank Saye
Social Security #	443106661
Gender	Male
Birth Date	14 Aug 1903
Birth Place	Louisiana
Death Date	25 Jan 1991
Death Place	Orange
Mother's Maiden Name	Morrow

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/6509205%3A5180>

## Katherine Holland Saye

in the California, U.S., Death Index, 1940-1997




[Order document](#)  
[Add or update information](#)  
[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	Katherine Holland Saye [Katherine Holland Holland]
Social Security #	558660409
Gender	Female
Birth Date	31 Dec 1906
Birth Place	Virginia
Death Date	3 Mar 1989
Death Place	Kern
Mother's Maiden Name	Hall
Father's Surname	Holland

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/6509198:5180?tid=&pid=&queryid=ff615ec3-56a0-4a8f-bd21-de6fe017f5d5&phsrc=cPx20853&phstart=successSource>

**Katherine Saye**  
in the U.S., Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Volume 2



Detail	Source
Name	Katherine Saye
Birth Date	31 Dec 1906
Address	888 N Red Robin St
Residence Place	California, USA
Zip Code	92669

[https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/378442731:1732?tid=&pid=&queryid=98418acd-fe53-4f87-a11f-f13a33328ebb&\\_phsrc=cPx20894&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/378442731:1732?tid=&pid=&queryid=98418acd-fe53-4f87-a11f-f13a33328ebb&_phsrc=cPx20894&_phstart=successSource)

Daughter:

**DAUGHTER TO BREWERS**  
Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Brewer announce the birth of a daughter, Virgie Kay Brewer, March 22, at Mercy Hospital. The baby is the first in the household. The mother was Miss Catherine Holland, a former teacher here.

Birth of Virgie Kay Brewer – "Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Monday 27 May 1944 p 8

**BAKERSFIELD**

**BALON**—To Mr. and Mrs. Martin George Balon a daughter, Patricia Ann Balon, March 27.

**BANTA**—To Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robert Banta a son, Paul Robert Banta, Jr., March 22.


**BENSON**—To Mr. and Mrs. Paul Louis Benson a son, Baby Boy Benson, March 22.

**BREWER**—To Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Blaine Brewer a daughter, Virginia Kay Brewer, March 22.

"Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Tuesday 25 Apr 1944 p 11

## Virgie Kay Brewer

in the California Birth Index, 1905-1995



🛒 Order document

Detail	Source
Name	Virgie Kay Brewer
Birth Date	22 Mar 1944
Gender	Female
Mother's Maiden Name	Holland
Birth County	Kern

[https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3074797:5247?tid=&pid=&queryid=219c76ae-836e-4a8b-a9b0-cc62e92bd439&\\_phsrc=cPx20870&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3074797:5247?tid=&pid=&queryid=219c76ae-836e-4a8b-a9b0-cc62e92bd439&_phsrc=cPx20870&_phstart=successSource)



# Unique Set, Lighting Mark 'Summer, Smoke' Production

Theater goers who attend the Bakersfield College players' production of Tennessee Williams' "Summer and Smoke" on Jan. 10, 11 or 12, will be in for quite a few surprises because of the uniqueness of set and lighting design demanded by the play.

The college technical director, Miss Susan Stockbridge, says, "'Summer and Smoke' is an interesting show because of its challenge to the director and designer. This challenge consists of delicately blending and balancing the technical aspects of light and sound effects to enhance the moods created on stage by the actors."

tion staff is that of advertising and programs. Program cover design is done by Richard St. Hilaire while posters and other ad display work is completed by art students Becky Kruge and Andy Ramiriz.

These are some of the many students who register in the college theater lab and contribute their energy and talents to bringing theater to Bakersfield patrons. Their efforts in "Summer and Smoke" can be judged on the nights of Jan. 10, 11 and 12 as the curtain rises at 8 o'clock. Tickets for the general public

are \$1 and may be reserved by calling FA 4-5232 or purchased at the box office on the evenings of the performance.

The honors for playing the lead roles in "Summer and Smoke" have gone to Genevieve Mills and Peter Douglas.

Genevieve will play the role of Alma Winemiller, the young but spinsterish blue stocking daughter of a minister whose search for spiritual love ends in tragedy. In conflict with her is Dr. Johnny Buchanan (to be played by Peter Douglas) who believes

see BC PLAY—page 13

the actors."

Undoubtedly, "Summer and Smoke" is a play in which the back stage efforts must coordinate with the onstage actions. This responsibility lies in the hands of a group of well trained college students who form the technical crew under the direction of Miss Stockbridge. A leading figure in this effort is the stage manager, Dianne Beeler, who will supervise the actual running of the show. Working closely with her is the assistant director, Susan Holmes, who spends many hours at rehearsal prompting, cuing, and doing sundry other jobs.

Many other students are required to carefully coordinate the behind the scenes activities such as: The lighting crew consisting of John Engstrom and Mike Woods; properties crew, Tami Schafer and Lucy Parker; special effects, Mike Baker and robe and makeup staff composed of Jodi Henry, Peggy McClure, Nancy Seigler, Barbara Smith, and Jolene Stewart.

Another specialized area needed for the production of "Summer and Smoke" is the use of many sound effects which will be handled by Floyd McNulty, under the supervision of Robert Chapman.

A third division of the produc-

---

**from page 11**

only in the flesh and physical but discovers that the human anatomy is not just composed of "pink flower petals."

Don Anderson plays the righteous Rev. Winemiller, father to Alma, while his wife (a woman who neurotically lives as a child) is played by Virgie Brewer. Judy Latham plays the sensuous and unhappy Rosa Gonzales who compete for Johnny's love. Her father in the play will be portrayed by Pete Reyes. Jo Bratton will appear as Nellie, a vivacious and charming young girl who loves both Alma and Johnny.

"Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Friday 21 Dec 1962 p 11 & p 13

**LEAVETAKING**

Eliza Gant (Virgie Brewer) has words of advice for her son Eugene (Tom Baginski) as he sets out to find his place in the world. Scene is from "Look Homeward, Angel," dramatization of Thomas Wolfe's novel, which will play Wednesday through Saturday at Long Beach State College.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Sunday 8 Dec 1963 p 84



East Bakersfield (CA) High School 1961 yearbook - [https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/587817055:1265?tid=&pid=&queryid=35a11d77-f736-4302-850d-95c187fa431c&\\_phsrc=cPx20874&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/587817055:1265?tid=&pid=&queryid=35a11d77-f736-4302-850d-95c187fa431c&_phsrc=cPx20874&_phstart=successSource)

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD  
DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE PRIMARY MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR, AND THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL  
ELECTION FOR THE CHARTER AMENDMENTS MEASURES "D", "E" AND  
"F", HELD IN THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD ON THE 26TH DAY OF  
MARCH 1996.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bakersfield  
as follows:

SECTION 1.

That the City Council does hereby find, determine and  
declare as follows:

a. That pursuant to applicable law, a Primary  
Municipal Election was held in the City of Bakersfield on the  
26th day of March, 1996, for the purpose of electing a Mayor; and

b. That said election was held and conducted in  
conformity with all applicable provisions of law; and

c. That pursuant to direction of the City Council, the  
County Clerk of the County of Kern has heretofore conducted a  
canvass of the results thereof and has filed with said City  
Council a certificate relating thereto which has been examined  
and is hereby accepted by this City Council; and

d. That the City Council does hereby accept the  
canvass of record of said elections as certified by said County  
Clerk, attached hereto as Exhibit "A," and does hereby resolve,  
determine and declare the results of said General Municipal  
Election as follows:

MAYOR

Bob Price	-	31,996
Virgie Witte	-	3,779
Jose Quirarte	-	1,818

e. That the City Council does hereby declare the  
following person to be elected to the Office of Mayor:

Bob Price



Bakersfield city

<https://docs.bakersfieldcity.us> > WebLink > DocView

## RES NO 51-96

... **Virgie Witte** - 3,779 Jose Quirarte - 1,818 e. That the City Council does hereby declare the following person to be elected to the Office of Mayor: Bob Price ...

Lost in election for mayor of Bakersfield, Kern CA – undated

<https://docs.bakersfieldcity.us/WebLink/DocView.aspx?id=2144&dbid=0&repo=CITYRECORDS&cr=1>

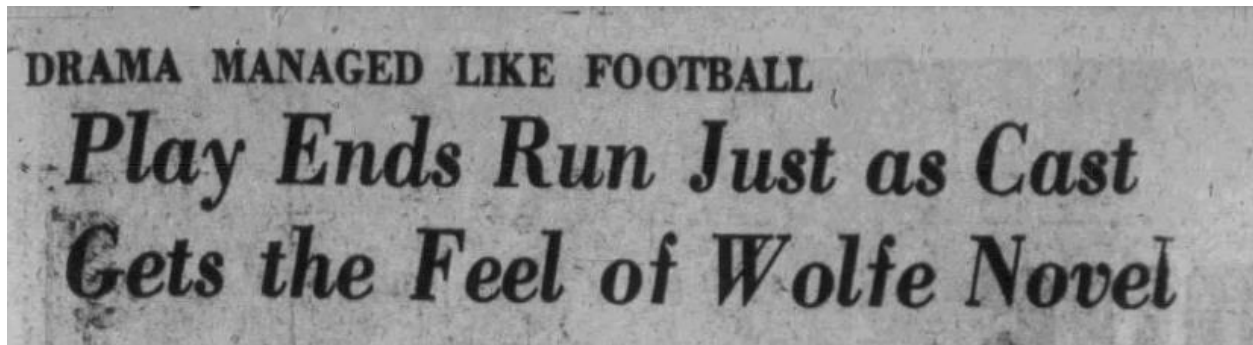
### Board Member; Arvin Union School District MORE...

- Fausto Sanchez ..... 1177 votes **63.35%**
- Virgie Brewer Witte ..... 678 votes **36.49%**

**County Results as of Dec 6 2:08pm, 100% of Precincts Reporting (658/658)**  
**72.7% Countywide Voter Turnout (214,747/295,106)**

**Statewide Results as of Dec 6 4:02pm, 100% of Precincts Reporting (24035/24035)**  
**75.9% Statewide Voter Turnout (12,572,735/16,557,273)**

Unsuccessful election for school board in Kern County CA - 2 Nov 2004 -  
<http://www.smartvoter.org/2004/11/02/ca/kr/school.html> -





By **SAMUEL A. BOYEA**

Thomas Wolfe is all universality—or nothing.

To attempt to capture this universality in four or five performances produces a hardship on even professional actors, the lineaments of Wolfe's torrential lines being what they are.

However, since local college drama departments must, like neanderthal college football teams, "breed" king-sized audiences every time out or become de-emphasized, one can forgive Long Beach State College drama department's ridiculously short run of Wolfe's "Look Homeward, Angel" as adapted by Hollywood writer, Ketti Frings.

\* \* \* \*

Excerpt:

In that production it was Jo Van Fleet as the mother, Eliza Gant, who "presided" over the production. At State, Virgie Brewer does everything required of her at the surface level of the role. But she does not "get" (or perhaps she scorns) Eliza's frank obsession with buying and selling as the essence of human commerce—as opposed to the unprofitable and less utilitarian world of the artist sharply symbolized by the life-death struggle of her stonecutter husband, W. O. Gant, (played with a flourish of several styles by Stephen De France). So as the boarding house "proprietor" of a rambling, decaying institution complete with colorful Dickensian characters, Miss Brewer offers us a rather antiseptic kleenex to earn our compassion when the gustiness of a calculating Dixieland earth-mother of nine born and six raised children would have commanded it.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Sunday 8 Dec 1963 p 84

## Staff

Martha Hunt  
editor  
Dean Middour  
business manager  
Robert Bennace  
Virgie Brewer  
Virginia Brown  
Stephanie Coker  
Joyce Dawson  
Jim Foster  
Robert Griffith  
Jim Haynes  
Diane Healy  
Jodi Henry  
Marshall Hughes  
Joan Kahler  
Penny Kellogg  
Patti Kokinos  
Tom Matychowiak  
Kent Miller  
Marilyn Nobles  
Don Ober  
Rosalie Platzek  
Ed Udell  
Margaret Williams  
Richard A. Jones  
adviser

Bakersfield (CA) College yearbook 1963 - <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/317443004%3A1265>

The letter from the older single male extolling the virtues of younger women merely reinforced my belief that there are darn few men, just mostly varying degrees of little boys.

So he and others can't bear the thought of sharing their wives with children. It's out of the question to ask them to share themselves with children. The idea of a grown man considering himself the rival, with a child, for a woman's attention is nauseating and ridiculous. . . .

Far too many women define their femininity in terms of the presence or absence of a man in their lives. They wonder, "What's

wrong with me that I'm not loved?" instead of asking themselves, "What's wrong with them that they can't love me (or anyone else)?"

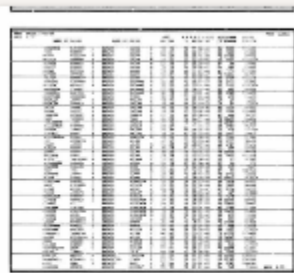
As for me, I will fill my life with good things that make it pleasant. If no man fits into that category, so be it. Like the spinster told her well-meaning friends, "I've got a parrot with filthy language, a dog that makes a mess and a cat that stays out all night. What do I need a man for?"

**VIRGIE BREWER**  
Bakersfield

"Los Angeles Times" Friday 21 Mar 1986 p 96

## Virgie K Brewer

in the California, U.S., Marriage Index, 1960-1985



Order document

Add or update information

Report a problem

### Detail Source

Name	Virgie K Brewer
Gender	Female
Birth Year	abt 1944
Age	20
Marriage Date	8 Aug 1964
Marriage Place	Kern, California, USA
Spouse Name	Robert D Morrison
Spouse Age	19

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/6913036%3A1144>

## Virgie K Brewer

in the California, U.S., Divorce Index, 1966-1984



Detail	Source
Name	Virgie K Brewer
Spouse Name	Robert D Morrison
Location	Kern
Date	Jan 1971

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3943353%3A1141>

## Robert D Morrison

in the U.S., Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Volume 1



[Add or update information](#)

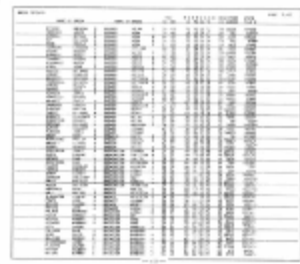
[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	Robert D Morrison
Birth Date	17 Feb 1945
Residence Date	1993
Phone Number	7582390
Address	910 Birch Ave
Residence	Wasco, CA
Postal Code	93280-1718
Second Phone Number	758-2390

[https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/225518574:1788?tid=&pid=&queryid=f44b8dff-04e2-4c59-85df-6d48ca5f419d&\\_phsrc=cPx20886&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/225518574:1788?tid=&pid=&queryid=f44b8dff-04e2-4c59-85df-6d48ca5f419d&_phsrc=cPx20886&_phstart=successSource)

## Virgie K Brewer

in the California, U.S., Marriage Index, 1960-1985



A thumbnail image of a marriage index document. It shows a grid with multiple columns and rows of text, likely containing names and dates. The text is small and difficult to read, but the layout is typical of a printed index.

 Order document

 Add or update information

 Report a problem

### Detail Source

Name Virgie K Brewer

Gender Female

Birth Year abt 1945

Age 28

Marriage Date 11 Feb 1973

Marriage Place Kern, California, USA

Spouse Name Owen A Kearns

Spouse Age 31

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/8363927:1144?tid=&pid=&queryid=ae55699e-07d3-4f11-affb-bf1cb028fa6c&phsrc=cPx20872&phstart=successSource>

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

## OWEN KEARNS RECEIVES 2021 JIM CHAPMAN AWARD



Owen A. Kearns, a Hall of Fame publicist, administrator, journalist, and respected figure on the California racing scene for 50 years, was announced as the recipient of the 2021 Jim Chapman Award for excellence in motorsports public relations.

The Chapman Award is considered by many as the highest honor in racing public relations. It is named in memory of Chapman, the legendary PR executive and innovator, who worked with Babe Ruth and was named Indy Car racing's "most influential man" of the 1980s. Chapman died in October 1996 at 80 years old.

The announcement was made by Michael Knight, chairman of the selection committee, and one of Chapman's closest friends. The award is determined by a vote of national media members and is authorized by the Chapman family. PR representatives from all forms of motorsports are eligible for consideration. For the 2021 award, a "veterans committee" subset of the full panel nominated and voted for those either retired or active in a limited capacity.


"I know Jim would be delighted because Owen works in the 'old school' manner Mr. Chapman perfected during his iconic life and career," said Knight, the inaugural Chapman Award recipient in 1991 and now award rights-holder. "He'd also smile because both were newspaper reporters and editors, a business Jim revered."

<https://www.performanceracing.com/magazine/industry-news/11-03-2021/owen-kearns-receives-2021-jim-chapman-award>



## Virgie Kay Brewer

in the Nevada, U.S., Marriage Index, 1956-2005



[Order document](#)

[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

Detail	Source
Name	Virgie Kay Brewer
Gender	Female
Spouse	Kenneth Allan Witte
Marriage Date	3 Sep 1989
Marriage County	Douglas
Recorded Date	8 Sep 1989
Recorded city	Carson City
Instrument number	99607M

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/7254480%3A1100>

### September 2021 Volunteer of the Month: Ken Witte



*By Noreen Walton, American Red Cross volunteer*

Community service has been a way of life for Ken Witte, September 2021 Volunteer of the Month, for as long as he can remember. "I guess I come by community service naturally," Ken explains. "My grandfather and dad were very active in community affairs." Ken remembers stories of his maternal grandparents delivering American Red Cross blood supplies in New York. His parents volunteered with the Red Cross in Taft, outside of Bakersfield. And before joining the Red Cross of San Bernardino County, Ken and his wife Virgie volunteered with the Red Cross in Kern County and Long Beach.

A born multi-tasker, Ken serves in many roles as a Disaster Cycle Services volunteer. A Disaster Action Team (DAT) Leader and Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP) Manager, Ken trains and inspires Red Cross teams and "ensures clients receive access to the resources they need to recover." In addition to the hours Ken spends recruiting and training DAT and TEP volunteers, he found the time and energy to personally respond to 60+ fire incidents, including home fires and wildfires, in 2020. "With the Red Cross there's never a dull moment ...and you never know what's going to happen. You have to be trained and ready," says Ken.

Ken's enthusiasm for the Red Cross is contagious and he sees potential volunteers just about everywhere he goes. "University clubs, high school honor societies...usually their members have a community service requirement. What better place to earn those hours than with the Red Cross?" He remembers one especially powerful volunteer recruitment experience. "We responded to a home fire. A family of five had lost their house and everything in it. When I met with the father to discuss the financial support we would be providing for his family, he told me how grateful he was for Red Cross support, that we had taken a great weight off his shoulders. And then he immediately asked, 'What can I do for the Red Cross?'"

Detail-oriented, able to always put the mission first, a very patient trainer...these are just some of the well-deserved phrases that describe the work and commitment of Ken Witte. Thank you, Ken, for your dedication to the mission of the Red Cross.

<https://www.redcross.org/local/california/southern-california/about-us/news-and-events/news/volunteer-of-the-month-ken-witte.html>

On Sunday, June 4, Soroptimist International of Rim of the World honored three local women at their annual Making a Difference for Women Luncheon. The event, held at the Lake Arrowhead Country Club, spotlighted the recipients of three different awards: The Live Your Dream Award, the Violet Richardson Award, and the Ruby Award.

Soroptimist was formed in 1921 in Oakland, California with the belief that education was the best way to help women grow and achieve. At the time women were not permitted to join service organizations such as Rotary or Kiwanis. The name, loosely translated from the Latin, means "best for women." Today, the five federations that make up Soroptimist International have over 25,000 members and supporters in more than 120 countries around the globe.

Virgie Witte, president of the local chapter, said, "By 2031, we want to award \$15 million to half a million women to help them live their dream." She said other recipients of the Live Your Dream Award are now an RN, a teacher, a social worker, and a motorcycle mechanic! The award is targeted for education for women in challenging circumstances.

[https://www.mountain-news.com/news/soroptimists-make-a-difference-for-women-at-awards-luncheon/article\\_dec51ed8-056a-11ee-b26f-bfcf3640c095.html](https://www.mountain-news.com/news/soroptimists-make-a-difference-for-women-at-awards-luncheon/article_dec51ed8-056a-11ee-b26f-bfcf3640c095.html)

Father:

**BREWER, JOE**—Funeral services for Joe Brewer, 88, who died Saturday at his home, 1521 Quincy street, will be held at 2 p. m. Tuesday at the Hapson Mortuary with the Reverends W. B. Wheatland and Hollister Miller officiating. Interment will be in Greenlawn Memorial Park. Surviving Mr. Brewer are his son, Virgil, Bakersfield; daughters, Mrs. W. G. Magee, Bakersfield; Mrs. J. P. Bogwell, Long Beach; and three grandchildren. Mr. Brewer resided 26 years in Bakersfield, coming here from Dexter, Mo., where he was an elder in the Christian Church.

“Bakersfield (CA) Californian” Monday 12 Feb 1945 p 13

### JOE BREWER

Joe Brewer, 88, of 1521 Quincy street, Bakersfield, died February 10 at his home. He was born in Portland, Tenn., and came to California with his family 25 years ago from Dexter, Tenn. He settled in Long Beach, where he lived 15 years at 5845 Walnut avenue. He operated a chain of grocery stores in North Long Beach for a number of years, and was well known in that section.

He was an elder of the First Christian church in Dexter and became a member of the First Christian church here upon his arrival. He is survived by his widow, a son, and two daughters, one of whom, Mrs. S. J. Bagwell, lives at 5919 Walnut avenue here.

Funeral services were held at the chapel of the Hopson mortuary in Bakersfield on February 12, with the Rev. W. H. Wheatland officiating. Interment was in Green Lawn cemetery, Bakersfield.

"Long Beach (CA) Independent" Thursday 15 Feb 1945 p 8

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer spent the Fourth with relatives and friends near Pine Bluff, Ark., and returned home Monday. Joe says Missouri is the best state west of the Mississippi river, and he wouldn't give Stoddard county for the whole state of Arkansas. J. M.

"Bloomfield (MO) Vindicator" Friday 13 Jul 1894 p 2

Joe Brewer, the all around business man and jolly good fellow sold his residence last week to J. C. Evans and moved to Dexter. On Saturday he bought Rev. J. H. Tiller's residence in this city, and will move back here again. Glad of it, we can't well spare Joe.

"Bloomfield (MO) Vindicator" Friday 4 Aug 1899 p 3

#### Runs Across A Wild Cat.

Joe Brewer is the Cotton-Belt agent at Idalia, eight miles north of Dexter. He frequently spends the night in the city with his family and returns to his work early next morning. On last Tuesday morning he left his Dexter home before daylight and while walking along the railroad toward Idalia he noticed some object coming down the track. He supposed it was a dog until it got within a few yards of him, when he discovered it was a large wild cat. Joe's hair stood on a end for a moment, but he went right along as if he never saw the animal. The cat took one look at Joe and bounded off into the forest. Joe now avers that it was his good looks that caused the animal to change its course, and that he never knew a

End of article is cut off – "Bloomfield (MO) Vindicator" Friday 21 Dec 1906 p 1

Joe Brewer is the Cotton Belt agent at Idalia, eight mile north of Dexter. He frequently spends the night with his family in this city, returning to his work early the next morning. On last Tuesday morning he left his Dexter home before daylight and while walking along the railroad track towards Idalia he noticed some object coming down the track. He supposed it was a dog until it got within a few yards of him when he discovered that it was a large wild cat. Joe's hair stood on end for a moment, but he went right along as if he never saw it. The cat took one look at Joe and bounded off into the forest. Joe now avers that it was his good looks that caused the animal to change its course, and that he never knew a real handsome man to be molested by any beast of prey. —Dexter Messenger.

“Ripley County Democrat” (Doniphan MO) Friday 28 Dec 1906 p 1

Cotter Bros. Company, of Cairo, Ill., wholesale dealers in fruit and produce, have opened up a branch here in the Fisher building and your popular friend, Joe Brewer is in charge.

“Dexter (MO) Statesman” Friday 22 Oct 1915 p 3

Sunday Joe Brewer's family pet and pup, Fifi Hiki, was standing in the middle of Stoddard street calculating how long before it couldn't again be crossed without aid of an airship, and he failed to hear or see an auto approaching. Said auto hit said pup squarely amid-ship passing over one of his legs, breaking it into at several places. It may be several days before the pup is able to take active control of his mundane affairs.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 25 Feb 1916 p 4

We are authorized to announce  
 JOE BREWER,  
 as a candidate for Recorder of Stoddard county, subject to the decision of the Democratic primary election, to be held on Saturday, April 2, 1902.

"Bloomfield (MO) Vindicator" Friday 28 Feb 1902 p 2



To-night, Joe Brewer and family leave for Bakersfield, California to reside. Joe says Bruce was entertained by all the dogs in town, Thursday night, they coming to give him a farewell bow-wow. Well, there's more than the dogs sorry to see this fine family go. Joe Brewer himself is no beauty, but somehow he makes a cornfield full of friends wherever he goes, and Mrs. Brewer and the children are far more popular than the old man. Here's a sincere farewell to the whole bunch including even Bruce. Hope they'll get so homesick they will be trailing back before many moons.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" Friday 12 Sep 1919 p 2

\* \* \* \*

**FROM SANTA BARBARA**

After spending a week visiting with relatives and friends in Santa Barbara and southern beaches, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer have returned to this city.

\* \* \* \*

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" Wednesday 14 Jun 1922 p 8

Mother:

**BREWER** — Mrs. Georgia L Brewer, 84, of Bakersfield, died Monday in Long Beach. A former resident of Long Beach she had lived in Bakersfield 10 years. A native of Tuscaloosa, Ala. She was a member of the Church of Christ. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Nell Maagee and Mrs. J. S. Bagwell, both of Long Beach. Service will be in Bakersfield Thursday at 10 a. m. in the Green Lawn Memorial Park Chapel. Spongberg Mortuary wil direct the arrangements.

“Long Beach (CA) Independent” Wednesday 29 Apr 1953 p 22

## Joseph Brewer

in the Tennessee, U.S., Marriage Records, 1780-2002



[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

### Detail Source

Name	Joseph Brewer
Gender	Male
Marriage Date	21 Jun 1891
Marriage Place	Carroll, Tennessee, USA
Spouse	G L Harris

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/39422%3A1169>

Mrs. Joe Brewer and daughter, Mrs. Nell Magee, left Wednesday for McKenzle, Tenn., in response to a telegram telling them of the serious illness of Mrs. Brewer's brother, Rush Harris, at that place.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 1 Aug 1918 p 8

After a two months' visit to her former home in Tennessee, Mrs. Joe Brewer returned Saturday night.

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" Thursday 19 Sep 1918 p 10

• • •  
Mrs. Magee Hostess

Mrs. W. G. Magee, 1610 Williams street, entertained at her home Wednesday evening in honor of the first wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Morris, 2516 H street, who returned early this week from Long Beach. The party took the nature of a miscellaneous shower and the honor guests received a number of gifts.

Mrs. Joe Brewer of Long Beach, a guest of the evening, is here for a 10 day visit with her daughter, Mrs. Morris and with Mrs. Magee. Mr. and Mrs. Magee have enjoyed frequent short trips in the south and in the mountains and last week they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Adams, at their summer place on Cedar creek. Present on this occasion to honor Mr. and Mrs. Morris were:

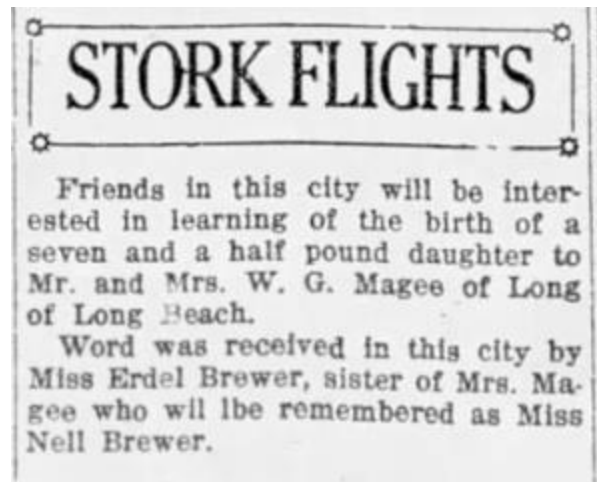
Mesdames—

H. E. Barnett	F. M. Spears
Harry Wilson	Gilbert Venables
Joe Brewer	Miss Betty Magee

• • •

"Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Friday 21 Aug 1925 p 3

Siblings:




Sister Nell Ray Brewer Magee (1892-1987) – “Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo” Tuesday 9 Oct 1923 p 3






“Dexter (MO) Messenger” Thursday 17 Apr 1919 p 4

## Nell Ray Magee

in the California, U.S., Death Index, 1940-1997



-  Order document
-  Add or update information
-  Report a problem

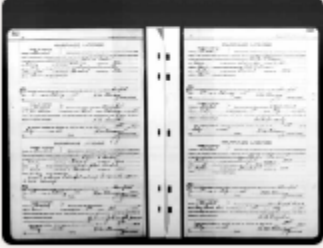
Detail	Source
Name	Nell Ray Magee [Nell Ray Brewer]
Social Security #	553168461
Gender	Female
Birth Date	7 Apr 1892
Birth Place	Missouri
Death Date	22 Sep 1987
Death Place	Kern
Mother's Maiden Name	Harris
Father's Surname	Brewer



<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/4531556:5180?tid=152024622&pid=242357416341&queryid=84362504-3155-4985-8d49-4efa9ba47847&phsrc=cPx20782&phstart=successSource>

## Nell R Brewer

in the Missouri, U.S., Marriage Records, 1805-2002



[Order document](#)

Detail	Source
Name	Nell R Brewer
Marriage Date	7 Feb 1915
Marriage Place	Dexter, Stoddard, Missouri, USA
Spouse	Walter G Magee

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/506053096%3A1171>

On Wednesday of last week, a reception was given at the home of the bride-to-be where was announced the engagement of Miss Neil Brewer, the charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brewer, to Mr. Walter McGee, of Cairo. Mr. McGee is due congratulations, while The Statesman throws the prettiest of posies, each accompanied by a best wish, for Miss Brewer.

“Dexter (MO) Statesman” Wednesday 27 Jan 1915 p 3

**MAGEE —** Walter G.  
formerly 5865 Walnut.  
Funeral pending. Sur-  
vived by wife Nell;  
daughters, Lawanda and  
Betty, Bakersfield.

Walter Goff Magee – “Long Beach (CA) Independent” Tuesday 7 May 1968 p 36

• • • • •  
**TO LONG BEACH**  
Miss Erdel Brewer plans to spend  
the week-end in Long Beach visiting  
with her mother, Mrs. Joseph Brewer.  
• • • • •

Sister Erdel V. Brewer Morris Sproule Bagwell (1894-1973) – “Bakersfield (CA) Morning  
Echo” Friday 17 Aug 1923 p 3

Miss Erdel Brewer, who is at-  
tending the Cape Girardeau Busi-  
ness College, spent last week end  
here with her parents, Mr. and  
Mrs. Joe Brewer.

“Dexter (MO) Messenger” Thursday 11 Jul 1918 p 10

Miss Erdel Brewer, who is stenog-  
rapher for the Ostner Mercantile Co.,  
at Diehlstadt, Mo., was home for a  
week's end visit with the family of  
her father, Joe Brewer. She re-  
turned to Diehlstadt Monday.

“Dexter (MO) Statesman” Friday 27 Sep 1918 p 2

**LICENSED TO WED**

**GRIDLEY-MILES**—In Visalia, August 18, 1924, Henry Allen Gridley, 23, and Elsie Clara Miles, 16, both residents of Berros, San Luis Obispo county, consent of the young woman's mother being given.

**MORRIS-BREWER**—In Visalia, August 19, 1924, Frank James Morris, 26, and Erdel Brewer, 25, both residents of Bakersfield.

**GALEZ-CRUZ**—In Visalia, August 19, 1924, Joe Galez, 26, and Mary Cruz, 19, both residents of Exeter.

"Fresno (CA) Morning Republican" Wednesday 20 Aug 1924 p 6

• • •

**Brewer-Morris Nuptials**

News has reached Bakersfield of the marriage of Miss Erdel Verdelle Brewer and Frank J. Morris, which took place Tuesday at Visalia.

Mrs. Morris is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brewer of Long Beach and a sister of Mrs. Walter G. Magee, 1610 Williams street. The bride came to California five years ago with her parents from Dexter, Missouri. She is a graduate of Moothart college, at Cape Girardeau, and appeared on musical programs for the Red Cross during the World war. She is a member of the Business and Professional Woman's club of Bakersfield.

Mr. Morris, who came to live in Bakersfield four years ago, is associated with the Studebaker garage. After a short motor trip to northern points, they will return to make their home in Bakersfield.

• • •

"Bakersfield (CA) Californian" Wednesday 20 Aug 1924 p 4



## Wife Sues to Have Decree Set Aside in Odd Tangle

Alleging that her husband had come to her on two separate occasions and begged for reconciliations since he first instituted a suit for divorce in 1928, and that they were living together early in this year when he obtained a final decree, Mrs. Erdel Brewer Morris yesterday afternoon filed a petition to vacate the judgment granting him a final decree.

In her petition she alleges that shortly after he filed his first suit there was a property settlement in which both waived all rights. Be-

fore the case was tried, according to the complaint he begged for a reconciliation, which was effected, but that he changed his mind again, August 12, 1930, and gave her \$300 which he "falsely" alleged was all there was left of the community property. An interlocutory decree was granted in November, 1930, but at his request another reconciliation was effected.

The petition states that the plaintiff never knew the final decree was granted until she found it in his pocket accidentally while they were still living together.

"Long Beach (CA) Sun" Saturday 2 Sep 1933 p 7

**Felony Warrant —** Harold D. Sproule, 36, was arrested in a downtown hotel by Detective F. L. Oberg and Special Officer J. P. Davison last night and is being held in the city jail for San Francisco police who teletyped they hold a felony warrant charging Sproule with issuing worthless checks.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Tuesday 5 Mar 1935 p 11

**SPROULE—MORRIS.** Harold D. Sproule, 38; Verdell B. Morris, 34.

Marriage license — "Los Angeles Times" Tuesday 30 Jul 1935 p 11

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L93H-7L5H?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AK8JK-JDD&action=view>

# G-Men Question Kidnap Suspect At Santa Rosa

Prisoner Resembles Man  
Sought As Slayer Of  
Mattson Boy

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 14. — (INS)—The far-flung net of G-men and state police, engaged in a search for the kidnap-slayer of Charles Mattson, stretched down the Pacific Coast today as California officers quizzed one suspect and took an active hand in searching for three others.

At Santa Rosa, Calif., a man closely answering the description of the fiendish "Tim" who battered to death his little victim is held incommunicado while G-men from San Francisco question him.

The suspect identified himself as Harold D. Sproule. He admits a long criminal record dating back to Sing Sing Prison, where he served time in 1923.

Sproule was arrested in a Santa Rosa hotel by Sonoma County deputy sheriffs after a merchant who had cashed a check for him became suspicious.

Sproule's long nose, resembling the "hook nose" description of the kidnap-slayer, first aroused the merchant's suspicions.

When Sheriff Harry Patteson and Deputy John Ellis broke into Sproule's room he said:

"Well, boys, I guess I'm in a bad jam."

Sproule is 5 feet 7½ inches tall, weighs 135 pounds, has brown hair and brown, slanting eyes, and is left-handed.

The description of the kidnaper as broadcast by the Tacoma police is:

"Hook-nosed, left handed, about 45 years old, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches

## **Long Police Record**

# **EMPLOYEE BARED AS EX-CONVICT**

*Legal Notice by Wife  
Reveals Bad Check Series*



**HAROLD DALE SPROULE**  
*In Confidential Post Here*

Behind an innocuous looking legal notice published here yesterday, it was revealed that a well known Richmond district real estate firm is employing, in an important confidential capacity, a man with a long police record.

He is Harold Dale Sproule.

His record clashes with the law came to light when Mrs. Erdel Brewer Sproule, 912 Nile street, Bakersfield, published a notice that she would not be responsible for debts contracted by her husband, Harold Dale Sproule.

### **POLICE TELL RECORD.**

Sproule's record, as disclosed by the police bureau of identification here, is as follows:

In April of 1920, according to a clipping from the American Association of Bankers Journal, Sproule was introduced at the New York City Bank by the son of a director, deposited a large, fictitious check drawn against the United States National Bank of Vale, Ore., and drew one check against the deposit.

He was traced back to Washington, D. C., where police wanted him for several bad checks; then was arrested in Columbus, Ohio, and returned to Washington for prosecution.

**SENT TO SING SING.**

What happened there was not set forth in the record, but the next entry shows Sproule was sentenced to Sing Sing prison for a year on March 3, 1923, for obtaining money under false pretenses.

On April 15, 1928, he was sentenced in Chicago to six months in the house of correction and fined \$25. In March of this year he was arrested in Long Beach for bad checks, and three days later was arrested in Los Angeles on a similar charge.

The record said Sproule was known also under the alias of J. J. Kelleher.

"San Francisco Examiner" Sunday 27 Oct 1935 p 9

**5      LEGAL NOTICES**

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NOT responsible for any debts contracted by my husband, Harold Dale Sproule, Erdel Brewer Sproule, 912 Nile st., Bakersfield, Calif.

"San Francisco Examiner" Sunday 27 Oct 1935 p 57

## 'In A Jam'



Harold D. Sproule

## G-Men Question Kidnap Suspect At Santa Rosa

### Prisoner Resembles Man Sought As Slayer Of Mattson Boy

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"Well, boys, I guess I'm in a bad jam."

Sproule is 5 feet 7½ inches tall, weighs 135 pounds, has brown hair and brown, slanting eyes, and is left-handed.

The description of the kidnaper as broadcast by the Tacoma police is:

"Hook-nosed, left handed, about 45 years old, 5 feet, 7 or 8 inches, 145 pounds, swarthy complexion heavily bearded.

Sproule has a heavy beard. He had just shaved when he was arrested.

When taken to the Sonoma County Jail in Santa Rosa, Sproule was so nervous he could not light a cigarette.

Among Sproule's effects was a sheaf of sex literature, heavily underscored, and hotel letterheads and soap bars from places in Seattle, Portland and Vancouver, B. C.

The No. 2 suspect being hunted by the California police is an ex-convict, Fred Orrin Haynes, 48, whose long slightly-hooked nose, and a boast he assertedly made to a Los Angeles woman friend, caused G-men to seek him for questioning.

Helen Barber, serving a year term in the Los Angeles County Jail for a burglary in which the Southern California police are convinced Haynes was involved, informed Los Angeles officers Haynes planned to kidnap a Glendale physician's son last December.

Haynes was discharged from Folsom, October 6, 1934, after serving three and one-half years for receiving stolen property. It was his second time. He previously served time in San Quentin for burglary, being paroled in 1926.

The other two suspects wanted for questioning are James F. Donovan, 23, and Robert L. Peterson, 36, ex-convicts of San Quentin Prison.

"Sacramento (CA) Bee" Thursday 14 Jan 1937 p 4



## Suspect Cleared

With one suspect at Santa Rosa definitely cleared of any connection with the kidnap-murder of 10-year-old Charles Mattson, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents still maintained their "hold" order on a San Rafael suspect in the crime yesterday.

Harold D. Sproule, 38, an ex-convict, was arrested in Santa Rosa because of his close resemblance to "Tim" — the kidnaper-killer—and was held for several days while G-men checked his alibi. He was ordered cleared of suspicion yesterday by Wayne Listerman, F. B. I. head in San Francisco.

Sheriff Harry Patteson of Santa Rosa notified Los Angeles authorities who "want" Sproule on a forgery charge.

In San Rafael, Ronald Abbott, 35, remained in jail under Federal orders while agents checked his recent activities. His photograph and fingerprints have been sent to Tacoma. Abbott was arrested, asleep in an automobile on the outskirts of San Rafael, with \$4,000 in stocks and bonds in his possession.



## Gardena Elks Honor Press On October 13

Representatives of seven newspapers in Gardena and adjoining communities will be honored the night of October 13 as part of the observance of National Newspaper Week when the Gardena Elks Lodge No. 1919 will



HAROLD D. SPROULE

be host to a dinner for them, be  
Gardena Elks Exalted Ruler Har-  
old D. Sproule said yesterday.

Guests of the local lodge will  
be press representatives from the  
Gardena Valley News, Gardena  
Tribune, Torrance Herald and  
Press, Hermosa Beach Review,  
Redondo Reflex, Hawthorne Ad-  
vertiser-Press and the Compton  
Herald-American.

Main speaker for the dinner,  
to be held in the Western cafe  
at 7 p.m., will be Al Santoro,  
sports editor of the Los Angeles  
Examiner.

National Newspaper Week is  
(Continued on Page 2)

"Gardena (CA) Valley News & Gardena Tribune" Thursday 7 Oct 1954 p 1

**SPROULE, Harold D.**, age 73, of 437 E. 3rd St., died Friday. Survived by daughter, Anita Burkes of Downey; 2 sisters; 5 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren. The first Exalted Ruler of Elks Lodge No. 1919 of Gardena, California and carried card No. 1 in this lodge. Memorial service, will be held Wednesday, 8 p.m., at the Elks Lodge in Gardena, directed by B. W. Coon Funeral Home, Long Beach.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Monday 24 Jan 1972 p 28

afce.  
**GEERS-MORRIS** — Joseph Geers, 39, Missouri, resident of St. Louis, Missouri and Virginia Morris, 35, Missouri, resident of San Francisco.

? – 10 years too young – "San Bernardino (CA) County Sun" Tuesday 15 Feb 1938 p 19

## Two Drivers Held After Accidents

Craig W. Isaacs, 24, of 1138 Gardenia Avenue, received face cuts last night when his car collided with one driven by Joseph Geers, 37, of 51919 Walnut Avenue. The collision occurred in the 1200 block on West Anaheim Street. Geers was booked on investigation of driving while intoxicated, police reported.

Address matches – “Long Beach (CA) Sun” Tuesday 5 Apr 1938 p 2

### G

.....Geers, Mrs Erdel B, 5919 Walnut av .....	housewife, D
.....Geers, Joseph, 5919 Walnut av .....	salesman, D
.....Granath, Carl S, 5867 Cerritos av .....	painter, DS
.....Granath, Mrs Marie M, 5867 Cerritos av .....	housekeeper, DS
.....Grisham, Mrs Merle M, 5950 Brayton av .....	housewife, D
.....Grisham, Opal F, 5950 Brayton av .....	oil worker, D

CA voter registration – Los Angeles CA, 1938 - [https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/28777805:61066?tid=152024622&pid=242357312017&queryid=a4178cda-d28e-4bae-8e69-c63e72b6e65d&\\_phsrc=cPx20811&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/28777805:61066?tid=152024622&pid=242357312017&queryid=a4178cda-d28e-4bae-8e69-c63e72b6e65d&_phsrc=cPx20811&_phstart=successSource)

**Geers Jos (Verdell) h5919 Walnut av**

Long Beach CA city directory 1938 - [https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/200051098:2469?tid=&pid=&queryid=e0103546-30fd-40a5-855e-d0d50bc3a39a&\\_phsrc=cPx20826&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/200051098:2469?tid=&pid=&queryid=e0103546-30fd-40a5-855e-d0d50bc3a39a&_phsrc=cPx20826&_phstart=successSource)

**DIVORCES GRANTED.**  
LONG BEACH COURT  
GEERS—V. Geers from Joseph Geers.

“Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram” Tuesday 22 Oct 1940 p 22

## Verdell Geers

in the California, U.S., County Birth, Marriage, and Death Records, 1849-1980



[Add or update information](#)

### Detail Source

Name	Verdell Geers
Gender	Female
Event Type	Marriage
Marriage Date	23 Jan 1945
Marriage Place	Unknown, California, USA
Spouse	John F Bagwell


<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/576645%3A61460>




**BAGWELL, Erdel Verdell.** Died October 19. Survived by sister, Mrs. Nell Magee. Private cryptside service Wednesday, a.m. Sunny-side Memorial Gardens with Dr. Hugh M. Tiner officiating. Family suggests gifts to the Heart Fund. Holton & Son Mortuary directing.

"Long Beach (CA) Independent" Tuesday 23 Oct 1973 p 15

## John F Bagwell

in the California, U.S., Death Index, 1940-1997



-  Order document
-  Add or update information
-  Report a problem

Detail	Source
Name	John F Bagwell
Social Security #	490142844
Gender	Male
Birth Date	25 Mar 1898
Birth Place	Missouri
Death Date	6 May 1952
Death Place	Los Angeles
Mother's Maiden Name	Way
Father's Surname	Bagwell

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/303994:5180?tid=152024622&pid=242015131141&queryid=184f4a45-5440-423c-8dbb-47df079a3c3a&phsrc=cPx20795&phstart=successSource>

**BAGWELL—John F. Jr., age 54, of 5919 Walnut. Funeral services Tuesday 2:00 p.m. at Spongberg Mortuary Chapel. Rev. Earnest Beam officiating. Entombment Sunnyside Mausoleum.**

“Long Beach (CA) Independent” Monday 12 May 1952 p 33



**BAGWELL** — Memorial service for Sgt. John F. Bagwell, III, USMC, who was killed in action in Korea Oct. 16, will be Thursday at 2 p. m. in Spongberg Chapel. Chaplain Wendell Wheeler will officiate. Entombment will be in Sunnyside Mausoleum. A native of Missouri and a former employee of the Press-Telegram, he is survived by his mother, Mrs. Verdell Bagwell, of Long Beach; a son, Larry Bagwell, Charleston, Mo., and two aunts, Mrs. Josephine Vieth and Miss Mayme Misfeldt, both of Cape Girardeau, Mo.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Wednesday 22 Oct 1952 p 18

## John Bagwell Rites Planned

Mrs. John F. Bagwell Jr., 5919 Walnut Ave., whose son, Sgt. John F. Bagwell III, was killed in the recent action at Bunker Hill, with the First Marine Division in Korea, has been notified by the government that his body has been returned to the United States.

Spongberg Mortuary is in charge of funeral arrangements not yet completed.

Sgt. Bagwell, an only child, was wounded in Korea last February 13 and later returned to duty.

Bagwell, a graduate of Wilson High School, and alumnus of City College, formerly was employed in the circulation department of the Press-Telegram.

Mrs. Bagwell was widowed two months ago when her husband, who was in the hardware business here, collapsed and died. Her brother, Virgil Brewer, formerly in the grocery business here died of a heart attack in Bakersfield, two weeks ago.

"Long Beach (CA) Independent" Sunday 12 Oct 1952 p 48

## Widow Two Months, She Loses Son

Mrs. John F. Bagwell Jr., 5819 Walnut Ave., widowed two months ago when her husband collapsed and died, was notified today that their son, Sgt. John F. Bagwell III, 26, had been killed in action in Korea.

The young Marine Corps ser-



SGT. JOHN F. BAGWELL III

geant was with the First Marine Division and is believed by the mother to have been killed in the recent Bunker Hill action.

Sgt. Bagwell was the only child of the Long Beach couple. He was wounded in Korea last Feb. 13 and later returned to duty.

Young Bagwell was formerly employed in the circulation department of the Press-Telegram. He was graduated in 1947 from Wilson High School and attended City College until he enlisted in the Marine Corps in June, 1949. He trained at Parris Island, S. C. and at Camp Pendleton and went to Korea a year ago.

Sgt. Bagwell's late father was in the hardware business here. His mother is now secretary of a Long Beach law firm.

"Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram" Tuesday 26 Aug 1952 p 13

### Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave ([www.findagrave.org](http://www.findagrave.org))

NOK = next-of-kin

**Name: Virgil Blaine Brewer**

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 100th Aero Squadron, 7th Squad - corporal

Serial number: 249,939

Entered service from: Dexter, Stoddard MO

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Virgil B. Brewer



Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": mother Georgie Brewer, Dexter MO

Returned from war on: "Louisville" May 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Virgil B. Brewer

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: mother Mrs. Georgia Brewer, Dexter MO (cpl, 100th Aero Sq)

World War I draft registration (1917): b. 6 May 1896 Idalia MO; res: 600 Oregon, Bakersfield, Kern CA. Single, Fireman, Southern Pacific, Bakersfield CA.

National Tuscania Survivors Association 1939 roster:

World War II draft registration (1942): b. 6 May 1896 Idalia MO; res: 1525 Quincy St., Bakersfield, Kern CA. NOK Mrs. Katherine Brewer of same address. Southern Pacific fireman, employed at 700 Sumner St., Bakersfield, Kern CA

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 11 Aug 1917

Discharged 16 Jun 1919

Address: 301 South St., Long Beach CA

Rank/unit: corporal, 100<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, 800 Demo [Demob] Group

#### Birth & death:

Born: 6 May 1896 Idalia, Stoddard MO

Died: 28 Sep 1952 Kern Co. CA

Find A Grave record: 13999079, presence on Tuscania noted in text

Burial location: Bakersfield, Kern

Cemetery: Greenlawn Cemetery & Mortuary

Tombstone:

Father: Joseph (Joe) Brewer, 22 Oct 1856 (or 1855) Robertson Co. TN – 10 Feb 1945 Bakersfield, Kern Co. CA.

Son of Henry Clay Brewer & Eliza Jane Blaine.

Obituary: "Bakersfield Californian" 12 Feb 1945 p 13 – Joe Brewer, age 88, d. 10 Feb 1945 at his home at 1521 Quincy St. Funeral 13 Feb, with interment in Greenlawn. Survived by son Virgil Brewer (Bakersfield) & daughters Mrs. W.G. Magee (Bakersfield) & Mrs. J.F. Bagwell (Long Beach). A resident of Bakersfield for 26 years, moving from Dexter MO where he was an elder in the Christian Church.

Buried in Greenlawn Cemetery & Mortuary, Bakersfield, Kern CA.

Find A Grave: 116381662

Mother: Georgia L. Harris Brewer, 27 Apr 1869 Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa AL – 27 Apr 1953 Long Beach, Los Angeles CA.

Obituary: "Long Beach Independent" 29 Apr 1953 p 22 – Georgia, age 84, of Bakersfield, d. 27 Apr 1953 in Long Beach. A former resident of Long Beach, she lived in Bakersfield for 10 years. Born Tuscaloosa AL. Member Church of Christ. Survived by daughters Mrs. Nell Maagee [sic] & Mrs. J.S. Bagwell, both of Long Beach. [son Virgil had died the previous year] Buried in Greenlawn Cemetery & Mortuary, Bakersfield, Kern CA.

Find A Grave: 116381705

Parents' marriage: 21 Jun 1891, marriage of Joseph Brewer to G.L. Harris on 21 Jun 1891 Carroll Co. TN.

Spouse: Katherine Holland Brewer Saye, 31 Dec 1906 VA – 3 Mar 1989 Kern Co. CA.

Daughter of John Asa Holland (1880-1947, F: 13999085) & (Malissa) Ethel Hall (1883-1934, F: 13999082).

Bakersfield city directories list her at 1525 Quincy in the 1960s & 1970s (through 1979); she is a teacher then as she was before her marriage. She was active in Christian Endeavor. In the 1937 Bakersfield CA city directory, residing at 331 Holtby Rd., were J. Asa Holland (chauffeur) – J. Asa Holland Jr. – Kath Holland (teacher, Lowell School) – Sallie Holland (bookkeeper Peacock Dairies).

Katherine Brewer married Roy Frank Saye on 22 Jul 1979 in Kern Co. CA. Her birth year was estimated at 1907; she was age 72.

Roy Frank Saye was born 14 Aug 1903 in Goldonna, Natchitoches Parish LA & died 25 Jun 1991 in Orange Co. CA. He was the son of Allen Tilton Saye & Mary Cordelia Morrow & is buried with wife Ella (nee Salyer) Earp (1902-1978), whom he married 6 Nov 1926 in Caddo Co. OK. Roy Saye is buried in Loma Vista Memorial Park, Fullerton, Orange CA, F: 143531995.

Buried in Greenlawn Cemetery & Mortuary, Bakersfield, Kern CA. Her tombstone is inscribed "Beloved Katherine / Servant of the Almighty."

Spouse Find A Grave: 13999075

Marriage: 19 Apr 1940 in the First Christian Church junior chapel, Bakersfield, Kern Co. CA. "Bakersfield (CA) Californian" 13 Apr 1940 p 12 – marriage license: Virgil Blaine Brewer, 42, Long Beach & Katherine Holland, 33, Bakersfield CA.

Children:

- Virgie Kay Brewer Morrison Kearns Witte, 22 Mar 1944 Bakersfield, Kern CA - Birth "Bakersfield Californian" 27 Mar 1944 p 8 – Virgie Kay, daughter, b. to Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Brewer, their 1<sup>st</sup> child, in Mercy Hospital. Mrs. Brewer (former Miss Catherine Holland) was a teacher here formerly. - Virgie Kay Brewer married Robert D. Morrison on 8 Aug 1964 Kern Co. CA. Robert was age 19. He was born 17 Feb 1945 in OK. In 1950, he was listed as the stepson of William L. Chariton (30 OK, a café manager) & Ada M. Chariton (28 OK). Robert D. Morrison was age 5, b. OK. On 3 Sep 1971 in Kern Co. CA Robert married Martha A. Hendricks.- Divorced Robert D. Morrison in Kern Co. CA in Jan 1971. In the 1971 Bakersfield CA city directory, Robert D. Morrison & wife Virgie K. lived at 1521 Quincy St. - Virgie K. Brewer married Owen Austin Kearns Jr. on 11 Feb 1973 Kern Co. CA. Owen was the son of Dr. Owen Austin Kearns Sr. & Helen Atherstone. He graduated from the U of MO. He had divorced wife Mollie Mosher in Kern Co. CA in May 1972. – Married Kenneth (Kenny) Allan Witte, son of Philip & Leah Witte, on 3 Sep 1989 in Douglas Co. NV. Known as Virgie Kay Witte as of 2007, residing in Arvin CA.

Siblings:

- Nell Ray (Nellie) Brewer Magee, 7 Apr 1892 Idalia, Stoddard MO – 22 Sep 1987 Kern Co. CA (also found as Anaheim, Orange CA). Wife of Walter Goff Magee (1888-1968, F: 130695193) whom she married 7 Feb 1915 in Dexter, Stoddard MO. Buried in Greenlawn Cemetery & Mortuary, Bakersfield, Kern CA. F: 130695164
- Erdel Verdell (Verdelle) Brewer Morris Sproule Geers Bagwell, 29 Jan 1894 MO – 19 Oct 1973 Los Angeles Co. CA. – Erdel Brewer married Frank James Morris, obtaining a marriage license in Visalia, Tulare CA on 19 Aug 1924 & marrying the same day. He was age 26, she age 25, both residents of Bakersfield, Kern CA – In the 1930 census for Long Beach, Los Angeles CA, Frank J. Morris (29 WA, parents b. WA, age 22 at his 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, a garage foreman, lived at 2032 ½ Locust Ave. with wife Erdel V. Morris (32 MO, father b. TN, mother b. AL). Although Frank sued Erdel for divorce in 1928, he twice tried to reconcile, paid her \$300 on 12 Aug 1930 claiming it was the total of her property settlement, got an interlocutory divorce in Nov 1930 and kept it secret from Erdel until a copy of the decree fell out of her pocket. This made the news in Sep 1933; she had returned to living with Frank earlier in 1933 believing they were still married. They divorced in Nov 1933.. - When she married on 3 Aug 1935 in Los Angeles Co. CA, her name was listed as Verdell B. Morris, age 34, b. MO, resident of Long Beach CA, daughter of Joseph Brewer & Georgia Harris, married Harold Dale Sproule, age 38, b. OR, son of Andreas L. Sproule & Ella Dale, resident of San Francisco CA. By Oct 1935, the marriage was rocky. “San Francisco Examiner” 27 Oct 1935 p 9 (with the ad in question on p. 67 & Sproule’s photo on p.9] reported “Employee Bared as Ex-Convict” – What looked like an innocuous legal notice that Mrs. Erdel Brewer Sproule, 912 Nile St., Bakersfield, was not responsible for her husband’s debts led to the realization that her husband, Harold Dale Sproule, had a long police record. He is currently employed in a position of trust in a well-known Richmond district real estate firm. In Apr 1920 was introduced at New York City Bank as the son of a director & he deposited a fictitious check drawn on the US National Bank of Vale OR & made a withdrawal. He was traced to Washington DC, where he was wanted for several bad checks, and then arrested in Columbus OH, from where he was returned to D.C. He was sentenced to Sing Sing Prison in NY for 1 year on 3 Mar 1923 for obtaining money under false pretenses. He was sentenced 15 Apr 1928 in Chicago IL for 6 months. In Mar 1935 he was arrested in Long Beach CA for bad checks & 3 days later in Los Angeles on similar charges. His alias is J.J. Kelleher. Harold had several wives: 1920 Elizabeth McPhail (Nova Scotia, Canada), 1940 Zelma R. Kensinger, 1930 Grace M. Candida, 1969 Dorothy E. Schmidt. Then he was arrested in Santa Rosa CA in Jan 1937 on suspicion that he had killed a 10-year-old boy but was cleared as a suspect in the sensational case of Charles Mattson. – Harold Dale Sproule, born ca. 1899, died 21 Jan 1972 CA. He had become “respectable.” In the 1937 Long Beach CA city directory, Erdel V. Morris, stenographer, lived at 485 ½ Rosa Ave. - Married Joseph Geers in 1938. In the 1938 CA voter registration for Los Angeles CA, Joseph Geers, salesman & Mrs. Erdel B. Geers, resided at 5919 Walnut Ave.; both registered as Democrat. In the 1939 Long Beach CA city directory, Mrs. Erdell Geers lived at 5919 Walnut Ave. In the 1940 CA voter registration, Mrs. Erdel B. Geers, housewife, Democrat, lived at 5919 Walnut

Ave. In the 1941 Long Beach CA city directory, Mrs. Urdell Geers lived at 5845 Walnut & worked at Wendt-Sonia Company. In the 1943 Long Beach CA city directory, Mrs. Verdell Greers lived at 5919 Walnut Ave. - V. Geers is reported as receiving a divorce from Joseph Geers in Oct 1940. She is listed as "Sears" (or a misreading of "Geers") in the 1940 census, living with parents Joseph & Georgia & brother Virgil B. Brewer in Long Beach, Los Angeles CA as of 9 Apr 1940, status: married. There are several men named Joseph Geers in southern CA at the time. - On 23 Jan 1945 in CA, Verdell Geers married John Frederick Bagwell Jr., 2 Mar 1898 Charleston, Mississippi Co. MO – 6 May 1952 Long Beach, Los Angeles CA. "Long Beach Independent Press" 12 Oct 1952 p 47 – Mrs. John F. Bagwell Jr., 5919 Walnut St., Long Beach CA, received word that the body of her son, Sgt. John Frederick Bagwell III, has returned to the US. Her only child [actually her stepson, as he was the son of John Frederick Bagwell Jr. & Virginia Springer], , he was killed serving in the US Marine Corps in Korea. She was widowed 2 months ago when her husband died – her brother Virgil Brewer, formerly in the grocery business in Long Beach, died of a heart attack in Bakersfield 2 weeks ago – and now her son, b. 13 Oct 1925, Long Beach, has been killed. John Frederick Bagwell III's Find A Grave record is 75452143. John Jr. had married Virginia Springer, daughter of Erving & Anna Springer, on 7 Feb 1925 in Benton, Scott MO; John III was born 13 Oct 1925 in Diehlstadt, Scott MO & died 16 Aug 1952 in Korea. Both John Bagwell Jr. & Erdel are buried in Sunnyside Cemetery, Long Beach, Los Angeles CA.

- One sibling died between 1900 & 1910 census

#### Notes:

##### Wartime:

"Bakersfield (CA) Morning Echo" 19 Dec 1917 p 8 – notice about draft that questionnaires are being mailed & must be returned within 7 days – one to Virgil Blaine Brewer

"Dexter (MO) Messenger" 14 Feb 1918 p 1 – Virgil is in hospital in Ireland, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brewer of this city. Family received official notification that he was rescued & is now in the hospital. A member of the same squadron & his "boon companion" named Stetson was drowned. [no man of this name on passenger list]. His parents & sisters are worried.

"Dexter (MO) Statesman" 15 Feb 1918 p 1 – Corporal saved, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Brewer of Dexter. Three days with no word, until Congressman Russell wired them he was safe. This news came ahead of the arrival of the afternoon dailies. Confined in Irish hospital. Just past 21 years old. "one of the brightest boys in Dexter". "He always possessed a plenitude of dash and daring, and was just the type of recklessly fearless youth to be at home among Uncle Sam's fliers."

Hospitalized in Larne, Ireland, following sinking

"Caruthersville (MO) Democrat-Argus" 26 Feb 1918 p 2 - Virgil Brewer, former resident Dexter MO, in Irish hospital. Nephew of attorney J.R. Brewer of Caruthersville, who tried to convince Virgil to join the Navy, "but it seems that would not provide him the action he wanted," so he joined the aerial service.

"Dexter Statesman" 1 Mar 1918 p 3 – On Sunday (24 Feb), Joe Brewer got word from Congressman Russell of this district & Congressman E.E. Dennison of the Cairo district that corporal Virgil was in a Larne, Ireland, hospital, slightly injured but would be out soon. No word had been received since the family originally heard he was in the hospital.

"Dexter Messenger" 7 Mar 1918 p 8 – in letter to parents said he had very bad cold due to exposure when rescued & was in a Larne hospital for a couple of weeks. Two women from the U.S. who live in Larne visited the hospital & invited Virgil & a fellow soldier to their homes after their convalescence "and showered them with the kindest attentions."

"Dexter Statesman" 29 Mar 1918 p 2 – Joe J. Russell wrote Ed P. Crowe (the editor) that after reading Virgil's letter in the "Statesman," he was much interested & then wrote Virgil a letter expressing his congratulations & delight that Virgil was rescued

"Dexter Statesman" 31 May 1918 p 4 – Editor complaining that the "St. Louis Daily Republic" had run an extensive letter from a soldier in France, but when Corporal Virgil Brewer was on the Tuscania & in the hospital before becoming a flyer in France, the 50 words & his photo sent to the St. Louis newspaper were ignored, no story was run & the photo has not been returned. A photo of a soldier is the adjacent column, with no caption. Is this Virgil? See below.

Post-war:

Obituary:

"Bakersfield [CA] Californian" 30 Sep 1952 p 25 - Virgil Blaine Brewer, age 56, res: 1525 Quincy St., Bakersfield, railroad engineer for Southern Pacific, b. 6 May 1895 "Vandolia" MO, lived in Bakersfield 37 years. Member Rexland Christian Church, a Mason, Board of Locomotive Engineers. Survived by wife Katherine, daughter Virgie, mother Mrs. Georgia Blaine (all of Long Beach) & 2 sisters: Nell Magee (Long Beach) & Erdel Bagwell (Long Beach). Funeral 1 Oct 1952, interment Greenlawn.

Social Security Number: 700-14-9558

Censuses:

1900 Liberty township, Dexter, Stoddard MO

Joseph Brewer, 44 TN, Oct 1855, parents b. VA, married 10 years, grocer

Georgie, 30 AL, Apr 1870, parents b. TN, gave birth to 3 children, 3 are living

Nellie, 8 MO, Apr 1892, at school

Erdel, 6 MO, Jan 1894, at school

Virgil, 4 MO, May 1896

Joseph's brother-in-law: William N. Harris, 25 TN, Dec 1874, single, salesman, grocery  
& female servant Fannie Wood

1910 Dexter, Stoddard MO - 222 Stoddard St.

Joseph Brewer, 52 TN, parents b. US, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, married 18 years, commercial  
salesman, grocery

Georgia, 38 AL, parents b. TN, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, gave birth to 4 children, 3 are living

Nellie R., 18 MO

Erdel V., 16 MO

Virgil B., 13 MO

1910 Fairfield, Henrico VA – future wife Katherine – conducted 15 Apr 1910

John A. Holland, 30 VA, parents b. VA, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, married 7 years, carpenter, house

Ethel M., 26 VA, parents b. VA, in 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, gave birth to 5 children, 5 are living

Mary, 6 VA

Sallie, 6 VA

Helen D., 5 VA

Eliza C., 3 VA [i.e. Katherine]

Thomas M., 10 months VA

1920 Bakersfield, Kern CA – 1119 Baker St.

Joe Brewer, 63 TN, father b. NC, mother b. TN, salesman

Georgie Brewer, 50 AL, parents b. TN

Nell McGee, 27 MO [daughter], bookkeeper

W.G. McGee, 32 IL, parents b. IL, contractor, building [son-in-law]

Erdel Brewer, 24 MO, single, stenographer, office

Virgil Brewer, 22 MO, single, salesman, automobile

1920 Manchester, Chesterfield VA – 9<sup>th</sup> St. Rd. – future wife Katherine

John Holland, 40 VA, parents b. VA, carpenter

Ethel, 36 VA, parents b. VA

Sallie, 16 VA

May, 16 VA

Katherine, 13 VA

Asa, 8 VA

Frank, 5 VA

& Francis Witles, 80 VA, housekeeper, houses

1930 Long Beach, Los Angeles CA – 5845 Walnut Ave.

Joe Brewer, 72 TN, parents b. VA, age 40 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, merchant, groceries

Georgia L., 61 AL, parents b. TN, age 29 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage

Virgil B., 32 MO, single, merchant, groceries, WWI veteran

1930 Bakersfield, Kern CA – future wife Katherine Holland  
 John A. Holland, 50 VA, parents b. VA, age 22 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, carpenter, lumber mill  
 Ethel M., 46 VA, age 19 at 1<sup>st</sup> marriage  
 Sallie, 26 VA, bookkeeper, creamery  
 Catherine E., 23 VA, teacher, public school  
 John A., 19 VA, machinist, railroad  
 Frank M., 18 VA, machinist, auto shop

1940 Long Beach, Los Angeles CA – conducted 9 Apr 1940  
 Joseph Bowers, 8e TN  
 Georgia L., 70 AL  
 Virgil B., 42 MO, single  
 Erdel Sears [i.e. Geers], 44 MO, married

1940 Bakersfield, Kern CA – 331 Holtby Rd. – conducted 6 Apr 1940  
 Roomers:  
 Katherine Holland, 33 VA, single, grade school teacher  
 J. Asa Holland, 28 VA, single, machine helper, railroad  
 Living with L. Duncan & Jennie V. Holland, their son Leland, a sister of the head of household & another roomer.

1950 Bakersfield, Kern CA – 1525 Williams  
 Virgil Brewer, 53 MO, locomotive engineer, railroad  
 Katherine, 42 VA  
 Virgie, 6 CA

**TUSCANIA**