

**“The Sound of Music”: Fact or Fiction  
Real Story of the von Trapp Family  
“Sound of Music” life still rings for Trapps**

Rupert said the von Trapps did not reap any huge royalties from the film. “We were invited to the opening in New York, but we bought our own tickets,” he said with a laugh.

Werner von Trapp, and Eleonore, now Mrs. Hugh Campbell, live within a few miles of each other in Waitsfield, about 30 miles south of Stowe.

Werner runs his dairy farm, with the help of three of his six children, and weaves rugs. Eleonore is a homemaker, the mother of seven girls. She loves to cook and sew.

Werner said he was pursuing a cello career in music school, an interest which he had to abandon when the family began to sing professionally. When the group broke up, he taught

music at a private grade school in Reading, Pa., and worked there as a bus driver and a janitor.

Like Rupert, Werner remembers the hard work involved in the family’s singing career. He said there was a “lot of strife within the family because of the constant rehearsals and the endless stays in buses and hotels.



Today, at 72, Maria’s ‘still a problem.’