

# Overholser Family Association



# Bulletin

---

Published semiannually by the Overholser Family Association

---

AUGUST 1979

VOLUME I NUMBER 2

---

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As I sit down to write this column for Vol. I, No. 2 the annual reunion is only about a month away. A couple of months ago I was very confident that we would have quite a substantial number of new faces at the reunion and that quite a few would drive from out of Pennsylvania. Our treasurer Mr. Robert Oberholser of Freehold, New Jersey has had a number of letters since our last reunion wherein people who have not attended a reunion before have stated that they expect to attend this year. Likewise, I have received similar indications. Now, with present gas problems I'm wondering whether any of you from some distance have changed your plans; I hope not, since you made these plans long ago and the supply of gas has usually been good along the turnpikes.

In this issue of the bulletin and at least for Volume II the system for the identification of the descendants of immigrant Samuel will be the same as was used in Vol. I, No.1, i.e., the immigrant Samuel is I Samuel, his son is II Martin, his grandson is IIIMartin, etc. I Samuel is Samuel Oberholtzer who arrived on the ship Molly at Philadelphia on September 30, 1727.

Again, I will put forth a plea for either an editor to take over this bulletin or at least for editorial assistance; desirably someone who has had editorial experience.

Hope to see many of you at the annual reunion at Terre Hill, Penna. on the 25th of August.

## MINUTES OF 2nd ANNUAL REUNION

Aug. 1, 1907

"Members of this association assembled at the home of Mr. S.O. Frantz, Rohrerstown, to the number of 135.

After a short address by the President M. L. Overholser, there was an address by Mr. Edwin M. Overholser of Boston concerning the coat of arms of the family a copy of which was shown to the company.

Mr. Willis O. Frantz followed with an address which dealt with the causes leading to the emigration of the Oberholtzers to Pennsylvania.

We were then favored with a vocal duet by Mr. Reuben Overholser of Pittsburg and Mr. John Overholser of Phila.

Letters of regret were read from Mr. Levi Overholser of Russell, Kansas and Mrs. Ida Hull of Russell, Kansas.

Dr. M.W. Hurst then gave interesting information concerning the purchase of a mill property near Brownstown in 1797. The general opinion following this address was that Mr. Martin Oberholtzer was born in Millersville, Pa.

Mr. Samuel Watts followed with interesting reminiscences of Martin Oberholtzer.

A motion to appoint a committee of three to look into the ancestry of Martin Oberholtzer was passed and Mr. E.M. Overholser, Mr. Willis Frantz and the secretary were named as the committee.

The same officers were reelected: M.L. Overholser, Pres., Chas. E. Overholser Sec'y, J.L.W. Weiler, Treasurer."

OVERHOLSER FAMILY ASSOCIATION  
BULLETIN

Volume I - Number 2

Editor  
J. Spencer Overholser

Copyright ©1979 the Overholser  
Family Association, P.O. Box 106,  
Oley, Pennsylvania 19547

MORE RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

(Though this column does not involve immigrant Samuel or his descendants it should be of interest to anyone interested in Oberholtzer Genealogy. --Ed.)

The Genealogy of Christian Overholtzer (Oberholtzer) (1740-1819) is almost complete and is to be published in book form after some additional compilation.

Research has been made of records in Adams, Berks, Lancaster and York Counties, Pa., of Frederick and Carroll Counties, Md., of Decatur and Mt. Ayr Counties, Iowa, as well as in the Genealogical Libraries of Harrisburg, Pa., Cleveland, O., Des Moines, Iowa, Bluffton Mennonite College, Bluffton, O., and the Mennonite Historical Library of Lancaster, Pa. Services of professional genealogists in Lancaster and Gettysburg, Pa. have also contributed information. Tax records, church records, and several years of the Federal Census records have been researched.

The book will have a complete index and a numbering system which will be easy for the reader to follow.

Presently nothing is known of the very early life of Christian Overholtzer. Did he come from Germany as family tradition states or was he born in Pennsylvania as two of his children reported in 1870 and 1880 Federal Census for Liberty Township, Adams County, Pa.?

----- Submitted by Grace Overholtzer Milligan, 7511 Oak Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64114

(Mrs. Milligan has been conducting research on several branches of the Oberholtzers, Overholts, Overholsters etc. for many years. From the above report it appears that she is close to having her material published on her Christian. --Ed.)

\* 73rd ANNIVERSARY REUNION Aug. 25, 1979  
Terre Hill, Pa.

11:00 Registration, viewing charts, etc.

12:00 Noon Covered Dish Luncheon\*

1:30 Invocation-Rev. John Weiler

Minutes-Paul Pletcher

Treas. report-Robert Oberholser

Self Introductions

Necrologist's report- Robert  
Oberholser

Genealogical reports-

Henry Oberholtzer-IVSamuel  
IIIChristian

Lorraine B. Neikirk-IVDaniel  
IIIMartin

Robert Oberholser-IVChristian  
IIIMartin

Spencer Overholser-IVJohn  
IIIMartin

Other reports, reminiscences, etc.  
from the floor

Reunion Song-Ruth Overholser, leader

Old Business

New Business

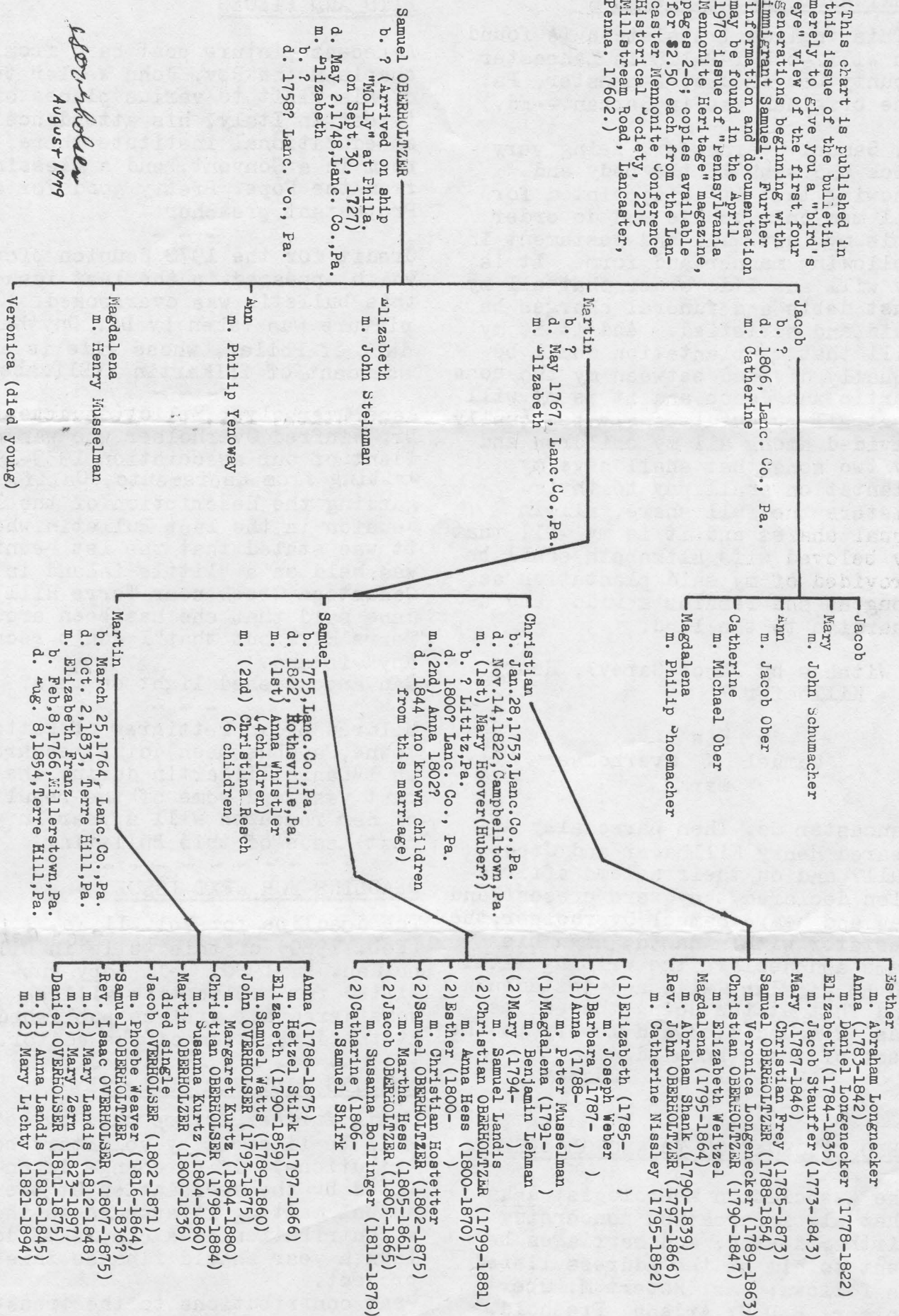
Election of Officers

Benediction-Rev. John Weiler

\*Please bring one or two hot or  
cold covered dishes, your own  
drink and tableware.

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

(This chart is published in this issue of the bulletin merely to give you a "bird's eye" view of the first four generations beginning with immigrant Samuel. Further information and documentation may be found in the April 1978 issue of "Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage" magazine, pages 2-8; copies available for \$2.50 each from the Lancaster Mennonite Conference Historical Society, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, Penna. 17602.)



IMMIGRANT SAMUEL'S WILL

(This English translation is found in Will Book Y-2-118 in Lancaster County Courthouse, Lancaster, Pa. The original was in German.--Ed.)

I, Samuel Overholzer, being very sick and weak in the body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die and do order this my last will and testament in following manner and form. It is my will and I do order that all my just debts and funeral charges be paid and satisfied. And it is my will that my plantation shall be equally divided between my two sons Martin and Jacob and it is my will that all my estate shall be equally divided among all my children and my two sons that shall have my plantation shall pay to their sisters the full share, all in equal shares and it is my will that my beloved wife Elizabeth shall be provided of my said plantation as long as she remains a widow and a guardian to the land.

Witness by Jacob Carey?, Henry Killhafer

his  
Samuel X Overholzer  
mark

Lancaster Co. Then personally appeared Henry Killhaver and Jacob Sull? and on their solemn affirmation declared they were present and saw and heard Samuel Overholzer, the testator within named, sign his name and declare the writing within to be his last will and testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound mind and memory to the best of their knowledge.

2d May 1748

SEND INFORMATION TO NECROLOGIST

The association necrologist asks that all information concerning births, deaths, and marriages be sent to him at the address listed as follows: Mr. Robert M. Overholzer, R.D.2, Ardena, Freehold, New Jersey 07728.

BITS AND PIECES

A recent picture post card from our chaplain the Rev. John Weiler tells of his visit to various places of interest in Italy, his attendance at an educational institute there, his room in a Convent, and a blessing from the Pope. Pretty good for a Protestant preacher!

Credit for the 1978 Reunion picture which appeared in the last issue of this bulletin was overlooked. The picture was taken by Dr. Daythal Kendall of Phila., whose wife is a descendant of III Martin IVElizabeth.

Jane Overholser Elliot (daughter of Dr. Winfred Overholser who was president of our association 1939-1956) writing from Sacramento, Calif. regarding the description of the 1906 Reunion in the last Bulletin, wherein it was stated that the 1st Reunion was held on a "little island in the Conestoga Creek near Terre Hill". Jane said that she has been around Terre Hill but that "I don't recall any" island.

Can anyone shed light on this?

Mildred Brown Pettigrew of Pottstown, Pa. has been doing research on IVDanielIIIMartin during the past year and some of the results of her research will appear in the next issue of this Bulletin.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

The deadline for Vol. II, No. 1, (Feb. 1980) of this Bulletin will be Jan. 5, 1980. All copy submitted for publication will be considered but will be published at the discretion of the editor.

MAILING LIST FOR BULLETIN

Until further notice this Bulletin will be financed by voluntary contributions. If no change is enacted by the association at the annual meeting it appears as though a contribution of a couple of dollars a year should finance this project.

Send contributions to the treasurer, see page 5 for address.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- August 27, 1977 - August 24, 1978

Receipts

8/27/77	Balance		\$142.53
8/27/77	Collection (1977 Reunion)		38.00
7/11/78	Contribution - D. Overholser		10.00
7/28/78	" B. Layton		10.00
7/28/78	" Henry O.		5.00
8/4/78	" Mrs. Robson		5.00
8/18/78	" Royal O.		3.00
8/21/78	" Ruth Beloor		5.00
8/21/78	" Grace Detwiler		10.00
8/24/78	Interest		7.47 236.20

Expenses

8/27/78	Printing		9.82
8/31/78	Rental(Terre Hill Park-1978)		10.00
5/22/78	Stamps		26.00
5/22/78	Printing		20.73
7/21/78	Subscription		5.00
7/26/78	Stamps		30.00
7/26/78	Printing		16.50
8/16/78	Rental(Terre Hill Park-1979)		10.00
8/24/78	" "		5.00 133.05

Balance 8/24/78 103.15

-----  
 TREASURER'S REPORT -- August 24, 1978 - March 15, 1979

Receipts

8/24/78	Balance		\$103.15
8/26/78	Collection (1978 Reunion)		93.25
11/2/78	Contribution - Grace Milligan		1.00 197.40

Expenses

9/4/78	John L.Overholt(for Xerox copies)		10.00
2/16/79	Everton Publisher(for O. Assn.listing)		2.00
3/8/79	Stamps		30.00
3/12/79	Printing (Vol.I, No.1 of BULLETIN)		48.76 90.76

Balance 3/15/79 96.64

(The above treasurer's report, as submitted by the treasurer, is included in this issue in response to the discussion at the last annual reunion regarding the financial situation of our Association. The report, if included in future issues, will be less detailed. Any contributions will be accepted by the treasurer, Mr. Robert M. Oberholser, R.D.2, Ardena, Freehold, New Jersey 07728).

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCHERS

III Christian

IV Samuel - Henry Oberholtzer, R.D.1, Summitville, Ind. 46070

III Martin

IV Daniel - Mildred Brown Pettigrew, 816 N. Evans St., Pottstown, Pa. 19464

III Martin

IV Christian - Robert M. Oberholser, R.D.2, Ardena, Freehold, New Jersey 07728

III Martin

IV John - J. Spencer Overholser, P.O. Box 106, Oley, Penna. 19547

OFFICERS

President - J. Spencer Overholser, Oley, Pa.

1st Vice Pres. - John L. Oberholser, Narvon, Pa.

2nd Vice Pres. - Harold Barr, Lancaster, Pa.

Corresponding Sec'y - Elizabeth Oberholser Frey, Freehold, N.J.

Recording Sec'y - Paul Pletcher, New Holland, Pa.

Treasurer - Robert M. Oberholser, Freehold, N. J.

Chaplain - Rev. John R. Weiler, Easton, Pa.

Overholser Family Association

P.O. Box 106

Oley, Penna. 19547

*Overholser Family Association  
P.O. Box 106  
Oley, Penna. 19547*

