



OFA Bulletin

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Oberholtz	Uberholtzer	Overholser	Oberheuser
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Overhulster	Oberholser	Oberholtzer	

President's Column

First of all, on behalf of the entire Overholser Family Association, I offer our condolences and prayers to Barbara Ford's family members. Barbara passed away on November 3, 2007. On that day, a cloud of sorrow and deep shock descended over our entire Overholser family. We lost not only a dear friend, but a devoted researcher, keeper and publisher of Overholser genealogy. To say that Barbara Ford's OFA spirit was indomitable is an understatement. We will miss her very much. Secondly, our officers extend a very HAPPY NEW YEAR to all members. We hope that the year 2008 will be a very good year for each of you and we thank you for your continuing membership.

We fervently hope that on-going health problems, such as Spencer and Ruth Overholser and others are experiencing, will improve in 2008. An indomitable spirit certainly must permeate this organization because Spencer and Ruth, despite their confining situation, attended our 101st Reunion. That spirit, I believe, has been passed along by our forefathers who had the courage to pioneer in a strange new land.

Our 101st annual reunion last August was successful and old friendships were rekindled. A lot of genealogical data was exchanged resulting in several "new" genealogical discoveries. Although attendance was not as great as our 100th anniversary reunion, that was to be expected. However, I feel we can do better. Future plans when implemented, hopefully, will reveal that we can. More about those plans later. The Friday evening optional dinner at Yoders Restaurant, as always, was warm and informal. If you haven't attended one in the past, I strongly urge you to do so this year, if possible. Overall, our membership seems to be very pleased with having the reunion at St. John's Church in Earlville. Plans for 2008 call for using that facility again. Plans also call for future reunions to be somewhat innovative.

For example, the Overholser Mansion, in Oklahoma City, has been offered as a potential meeting place for a future Overholser Family reunion. Jim and Kathy Overholser visited that historical site last year and gave us an overview at our 2007 reunion. A number of members seemed really interested in looking into the possibility of holding a reunion there, possibly in 2010. I, for one, would not want to see our reunion leave Pennsylvania regularly but an occasional migration might

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**Overholser Family
Association Bulletin**

Vol. XXX No. 1 February 2008

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ALL CORRESPONDENCE
(CHANGE OF ADDRESS, RECORDS OF
RELATIVES, ETC.)

Please send to the Editor or
e-mail to ParadiseLiving@comcast.net

Wecome New OFA Members!!!

Melanie Overholt of Chandler, AZ

William O. Kehew

Jim Ford of Downingtown, PA (Barbara's son)

Ruth Runion-Slear, Hummelstown, PA

Cora McManis, VA, & her sister

The New Editor would like to express a great Thank You for the enormous contribution of labor & materials by Barbara Ford over the past two decades. Beyond the editing & compilation of the OFA Red Book, she has gathered thousands of hours of "O" heritage. Now it is up to the future generations to expand her work for others to enjoy. Please feel free to offer whatever gifts you have to help OFA grow.

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result in additional membership. There are Overholser Family groups around the midwest and west that would probably entertain attending an OFA reunion in Oklahoma City. Besides folks, the site is on Lake Overholser.

Another OFA reunion plan, targeted for 2009 and 2010, is more than just embryonic at this time. OFA Vice President, Dennis Oberholtzer, envisions a really exciting agenda for those years. He has already made contact with members of the Delaware Indian Tribe and the Mennonite Historical Society to calibrate the viability of the plan. As you may already know, the first meeting between Delaware Indians and Mennonite settlers took place in Pennsylvania. Dennis' plan calls for a reenactment of that event in conjunction with our OFA 2010 reunion. Delaware Indians, reenactors, and possibly a color guard unit from the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) would participate. The color guard would represent a Pennsylvania Colonial Militia unit. Thanks to Dennis for spawning this idea. I look forward to working with him in bringing it to fruition. Think about these tentative plans and give us your feedback on them. Your input is critical to us.

In conclusion, let me addure you that Barbara Ford's OFA genealogical records have been safely transferred to the residence of Dennis Oberholtzer, who graciously agreed to keep and maintain them. The transfer was made with the approval of the OFA officers. - Jack Sholl, President

OFA Bulletin going Internet: If anyone would like a PDF e-mail version of FUTURE issues, just E-mail ParadiseLiving@comcast.net.

CONTRIBUTORS

A special Thank You to the following contributors for the year of 2007:

Jack Sholl, Palm Desert CA	Ruth K Oberholtzer, North Wales, PA
Norman R Landis	Agnes O Greene
Geneva E Koons, Enon OH	Anne B & Harry T Foote, Portland ME
Jane O Elliott, Sacramento CA	Lyndon E Overholser, Olathe, KS
Reunion Cash \$119.	Ross G Gerhart III, Ambler, PA
Kim & Paul Weiler, Waynesboro, PA	Chet & Carol Carroll, Wheeling WV
John & Eleanor Weiler, Bethlehem, PA	Jim & Kathy, Greg Overholser, Roanoke VA
D Ernest Weinhold, Manheim PA	Harold M Kilheffer, Lancaster PA
Peg Overholt, Kilmarnok VA	Regina Overholt, Arlington VA
Darwin & Jean Overholt	Jake & Suzanne Street, York PA
Spencer & Ruth Overholser	Noah L Oberholtzer Jr, Leola PA
Paul & Naomi Pletcher, New Holland	Jean O Schaffer, Coopersburg PA
Juanita O Brown, Cookeville TN	Ludwig Berndt, Clovis CA
Joseph & Lucy Breitenstein, Topeka KS	Albert A Johnson, Stanton TX
Billie Joe Read, Bonduel WI	

\$80 Contributed for Overholser Mansion, OK books sent to OFA. If anyone would like a picture book on the history of Mr & Mrs Henry Overholser, let us know.

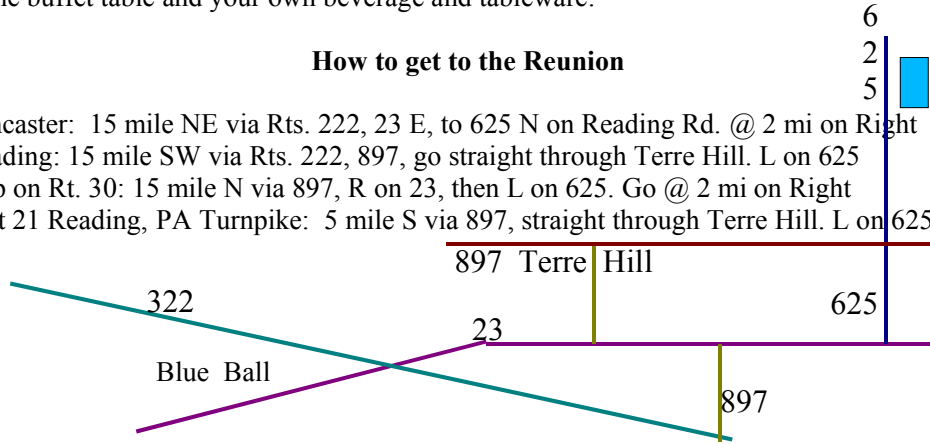
2008 REUNION

The Reunion will be held August 2nd at St. John's Center United Church of Christ, east of Terre Hill on Route 625 where it was held the previous two years. On Friday night, August 1st, we will meet at Yoder's between New Holland and Blue Ball for a 6:00PM buffet dinner and visiting. Be sure to notify Kim Weiler (address on back) in advance so they know how many to expect.

On Saturday August 2nd, we will gather at 10:30AM at the church. Please bring a hot or cold dish for the buffet table and your own beverage and tableware.

How to get to the Reunion

From Lancaster: 15 mile NE via Rts. 222, 23 E, to 625 N on Reading Rd. @ 2 mi on Right
 From Reading: 15 mile SW via Rts. 222, 897, go straight through Terre Hill. L on 625
 From Gap on Rt. 30: 15 mile N via 897, R on 23, then L on 625. Go @ 2 mi on Right
 From Exit 21 Reading, PA Turnpike: 5 mile S via 897, straight through Terre Hill. L on 625



Obituaries

Barbara (nee Babst) Ford April 7, 1922 - November 3, 2007

Born in Pittsburgh, PA to Chester and Katherine Law Babst, she is a descendant of [MC Marcus Oberholtzer](#) of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

She was sister to the late Chester Babst II, and is survived by a sister Anne Aufderheide of Pittsburgh. Barbara married F. Shelly Ford who preceeded her in death. Barbara has two sons, Jim Ford and his wife Elyse of Downingtown, PA, and Stephen Ford and his wife Rita of Omaha, Nebraska. She has six grandchildren. Barbara was a deacon of the Wallingford Presbyterian Church, and did volunteer work at Fair Acres Geriatric Center for 35 years. Barbara was OFA editor & geneologist for 20 years.

C. Roberta Hoffman 1926 - 12:30AM, July 11, 2007 81 Years, North Coventry Twp.

She descends from [AS1534 Howard Overholtzer & Laura B. Detweiler](#)

Born in Pottstown, Roberta lived on Miller Road. She was the widow of Samuel R. Hoffman, and the daughter of Emily Overholtzer and George Snyder. She is survived by two daughters, Bonnie D. McGrann, wife of Andre Kreitschmann of Lansdale; Trudy L., wife of William F. Balloge Jr. of Mertztown; brother Howard C. Snyder of Pottstown; two grandchildren, Thomas R. McGrann III and wife Karen of Langhorne, and Neaka L. Balloge of New York City. Also two great-granddaughters, Paige & Haley.

Roberta is buried in East Coventry Mennonite Cemetary.

Harold A. "Miney" Koons Sr. Nov. 17, 1920 Springfield - Mar. 27, 2006 Enon 85 Yrs.

He descends from [JL2153 George Overhalser & Martha Griest](#)

Miney became a flight engineer/gunner, flying over the Battle of the Bulge during WWII. He served a total of 32 years in the United States Air Force. He is survived by his wife Virginia (Zeller) Koons whom he married on October 10, 1942. He is survived by two sons, Harold & Nancy Koons of Foley, Alabama, and Steven & Koons of Medway; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

- Geneva E. Koons, surviving spouse of Charles E. Koons, brother of Miney.

Neil K. Oberholtzer d. August 28, 2007 @ 56 years Landisville, PA

- Lancaster Sunday News

Gwendolyn Ethel Overholtzer July 26, 1926 Caviness, TX - aft. sunset, July 2, 2007

She was the daughter of Willie Houston & Amos Lee (Wheeler) Ford.

Gwendolyn married Elvan Overholtzer on October 31, 1943, of [OVERHOLTZER CHURCH FURNITURE](#) and [AMERICAN LAMINATES](#). Both were baptized April 17, 1949 into the West Modesto District of The Old German Baptist Church by Howard Oyler. She is survived by husband Elvan, three children, Durand & Suzanne Overholtzer, Dwayne Overholtzer and Denise Overholtzer; 5 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, three brothers, Wayne Ford of Marina, CA, Wheeler Ford of Ceres, CA, Mahlon Ford of Modesto and one sister, Vertrilla Overholtzer of Modesto, a brother-in-law, Ralph Reynolds and a sister-in-law, Estle Young, both of Ceres, CA.

Gwendolyn was preceeded in death by one granddaughter, Marisa Overholtzer, one brother, Marzell Ford, and one sister, Dorthel Reynolds. We laid Mother aside in anticipation of the resurrection of the just - knowing those who sleep in Jesus, God will bring with Him when He comes to claim His own.

- Durand Overholtzer, Modesto, California, son of Elvan Overholtzer

BARBARA FORD - A GIFT TO THE OFA

- November 15, 2007

Barbara knew how to whittle. The several times I visited her at her home, I couldn't help being drawn to her talented sculptures setting about the house. It immediately reminds me of the quiet strength Barbara had flowing inside. Her whittling showed up in many aspects of her life.

When I first came to an OFA Reunion, I had only five generations back on my male line. I had information that my grandfather and great uncle had researched; but with my info was some incorrect "guessing". It was Barbara who taught me how to whittle away at the records that could not be "confirmed", in order to find "legal" proof of the material I wanted to call "my lineage". Without the guidance of Barbara, whittling away at my presumptions, I never would have gone on to find over 90% of my ancestors back ten generations.

I cannot help but believe that The Oberholtzer Book is one of the three best geneological foundation works on family ancestry.

Barbara has been such a great blessing to hundreds of OFA members. She began by whittling away at 32 Overholser lines, slowly and methodically verifying ancestral lines in order to weed out the false presumptions of her predecessors. Many of us cannot grasp the invaluable hours it takes to do such a task. And many of us do not have the time or resources it takes to tackle such a giant task. As one who has spent much time in the Library of Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, I cannot help but believe that The Oberholtzer Book is one of the three best geneological foundation works on family ancestry.

Barbara also knew how to whittle out two very fine young men. The Memorial Service in her honor revealed a solid strength of God's love instilled within two families. This kind of affection does not happen overnight, rather, it is carved by the careful hands of love. Jim and his wife Elyse shared both joyful and kind moments of their Mother. Stephen did also, as he was brought from Omaha to her departure rather unexpectantly, only prepared for helping Mother move to a Hospice.

It takes a strong person to stand up for what is true, while being kind and gentle to the one who thinks they are correct in their assessments of their family lines. Barbara had this rare ability. And it comes from whittling out a life that is pleasing to God, and beneficial to all those who come in contact with her. Barbara has been a true gift to the Overholser Family Association. She will truly be missed. And it will not be possible to fill her shoes. Most of us do not have the time it takes to accomplish her extraordinary feats. Her passing away without much pain in spite of failing health is a true testimony to her whittled life. May she rest in peace with our Saviour Jesus Christ.

- Editorial by DLO

2007 OFA REUNION MEETING MINUTES

On Friday night 8/3/07, we met at Yoders for our usual dinner. There were 21 people in attendance. After dinner, Jack Sholl shared the book that was sent to him by the curator of the Overholser Mansion in Oklahoma City. John Weiler gave a preview of the talk he will give at the reunion about Henry Clay Frick. Carolyn Kendall shared her topic for Saturday as did Dennis Oberholtzer.

On Saturday, the group began to gather at 10:00A.M.. They reviewed the pictures, books and genealogical charts.

We enjoyed an afternoon meal of various foods and a bountiful dessert table. At 1:15 we sang the Overholser Reunion song led by Ruth Overholser and accompanied by Ross Gordon Gerhart on the piano. Special recognition: oldest person Peg Overholt, youngest is James Oberholtzer, those living closest to the reunion, Paul & Naomi Pletcher, and living furthest Carol & Chet Carroll.

We then began around the room and each person identified their line. Rev. John Weiler gave a talk about Henry Clay Frick of Pittsburgh who was a descendent of the Overholts of Bucks County. Rev. Weiler also shared that Edwin Watts, who wrote the Reunion Song, lived in Terre Hill and was a teacher. The school house is still there and has been converted into a residence.

Ross Gordon Gerhart reported that he sent reunion information to 128 newspapers.

Dennis Oberholtzer told a story about his family tree that was published in the PA Mennonite Heritage Magazine in July of 2007. This included some very funny and interesting stories about his ancestors. This magazine can be purchased at the historical society. You may also contact them through their website at www.lmhs@lmhs.org.

Carolyn Kendall told a story of the female side of her ancestry. She displayed many artifacts.

Jack Sholl told about Henry Overholser, who was influential in Oklahoma City. There is an Overholser Mansion that is now a museum and Overholser Lake in Oklahoma City today. Jack shared books that he recieved from the museum curator. If you would like one of these books, please contact Jack. He has a few remaining. (On stock at Dennis Oberholtzer's home)

Carolyn Kendall gave the treasurer's report.

Kim Weiler gave the secretary's report.

John Weiler motioned and Paul Weiler seconded to ask Jim Overholser to audit the books.

The next Reunion will be held August 2, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Weiler

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT AT OFA

The last couple years have brought a new mindset as to the future of the OFA. We have moved to **a more suitable building**, which is quite comfortable and expandable. We celebrated 100 years since the beginning of the Overholser Reunion. We are seeing the need to give better talks on family history. These changes have already begun to take shape.

As to the immediate future, several exciting events are being planned. In 2009 and 2010, the OFA is teeming up with the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society for a two year **300th Anniversary** of the first German settlements in Lancaster County. We hope that many will put one of these years on your calendar to travel here to take in some good immigrant history.

THE ROVING OFA? Yes, and several have declared their intent to travel every two to four years to other O family reunions around North America! It has been proposed to go to Oklahoma City in 2011 for a Reunion at the Overholser Mansion. Will Overholtzer has invited us to California sometime after that. And it would be fun to go to Canada! If this is something you would enjoy, please let the OFA officers know so we can plan better events.

Some **upcoming articles** in the Bulletin:

We are attempting to track down 1710 immigrant Matthew Oberholtzer, who bought property in Conestoga in 1735.

We will be seeking the family that built the Oberholtzer Woolen Mill near the mouth of the Pequea Creek in Lancaster County in 1888.

I am close to connecting AO Anna Oberholtzer and Jacob of Franconia.

And there will always be **a few surprises!!!**

Christian Oberholtzer of Hempfield is beginning to be enlightened.

Several immigrant female O's are being found, and with them are families and originating places in Europe. Cross-referencing these is becoming valuable.

Are there descendants of 1700's Earhart Oberholtzer's children of Dauphin County?

Making OFA computer friendly!

As I have been looking over Barbara Ford's vast inventory, I have noticed some major changes that can help to speed referencing future families. Barbara has done us a great service by separating files and coding them. Now those files need to be combined in the computer, in order to find all of an individual's records at the touch of a button. This is going to be a long task. To take the info as it is and put it on computer would be very detrimental, for the normal searcher would not likely know what he or she is looking at.

As for duplicating OFA files, the process will continue. The officers were seeking someone to store the duplicate files somewhere outside of Central Pennsylvania. Will Overholtzer, our past President from California has graciously offered, and Jack Sholl has accepted, Dennis seconded the motion. A special THANK YOU to Will.

Krey Family Brightening of the Krey (Gray) Family

by Dennis L. Oberholtzer, November 11, 2007

The Krey families are apparently from Krisheim in the Palatinate of Germany. They migrated to Germantown, Pennsylvania, from Kreyfield near Holland, in Northern Germany. The family settled on 306 acres in Germantown on February 25, 1702. -Pa. Mag., Vol II, Pg 267 ; Liber E 3, Vol 6, pg 32, Phila.

On May 23, 1708, a church was founded in Germantown having 52 members which exists to today (1931). John and Helena Krey are both named as members.

In the February 1997 edition of this bulletin, Barbara discussed (JF1)Jacob Oberholtzer's wife. She had a middle-of-the-night revelation! Deborah was a Krey and not a Haldeman! I remembered that I had a couple Krey family names in my genealogy. I can now confirm that Helena Krey was the first wife and Sytge Krey was the second wife of John Sr.. Krey is also spelled & pronounced Gray.

?1--1 Wilhelm Krey Settled Germantown between 1683-1709 - Rupp's 30,000 Names, pg 429

2--1 Jan (John) Krey born ca.1660 Will proved Mar.18,1720 at Philadelphia, PA

"[Jan] Krey was one of the earliest settlers in the Manatawny, or Great Tract of 22,377 acres. He bought 400 acres for 65 lbs British on August 24, 1714 from L.C. Sproggell of Philadelphia." - J. O. Gene.

Jan Krey moved in 1702 to Bebbler's Twp. on Skippack Creek.

Jan & son William were Naturalized Sept. 28, 1709.

Jan Krey died between Feb.14,1719/20 and March 18, 1719/20.

1st m. Helena _____

It was not until 1674 that the British gained control of Philadelphia. And not until 1681 that William Penn was granted a Charter for the Colony. Philadelphia was founded in 1682. The Kreys arrived in America in the latter 17th century. They were some of the earliest settlers of Germantown, PA.

3--1 William Krey Oldest son of [Jan] Krey - d. prior to March 12, 1742

3--2 Peter Krey b.ca. 1686 - d. Aug. 20, 1756 Lived in Leacock Twp.

m. Margaret _____ - d. July 21, 1758

4-2 Mary Krey b. bef.1739 3 children

m. by June 4, 1765 Isaac Long 1742 - w.p. 1803 Manheim Twp.

5-0 Anna Long Mar. 11, 1766 - Dec. 10, 1845

m. "Blind" Henry Landis Dec. 5, 1760 - Feb. 22, 1839

3--3 Jacob Krey yeoman who moved to Lancaster County, PA

3--4 Maria Krey b c 1693 - m. Jacob Sensenig, immigrant

Jacob Sensenig was born in Switzerland. He arrived in Germantown in 1715, and remained a few years. Jacob & Maria got married about 1721, and in 1722 they homesteaded 155 acres in Earl Township, now Lancaster County. Michael was born the following year.

4-1 Michael Sensenig 1723 - Oct. 10, 1801

4-2 Mary Sensenig 1725- 1762

m. Michael Witwer ca.1714 - 1785 (his 2nd wife; 1st m.1739 Veronica Huber)

Jan Krey 2nd m. Sytge Updegraff Her 2nd m. Hupert Cassel

It should be noted here that another colonist by the name of Johann Anton Weber arrived in Germantown in 1711, and remained for a few months with Hans Op de Graeff until Weber leased land in Conestoga. This "Op de Graeff" is certainly the same as "Updegraff". This surname also turned up during my search in Martyrs Mirror. A Harmen op den Graff signed the Confession of Faith in Dortrecht on the 21st of April, 1632, Gregorian Calender. Is Sytge the daughter/sister of Hans Op de Graeff? Dirk, Herman, and Abraham Isaac op de Graff settled Germantown in 1683, six weeks after Pastorius, who set sail June 6, 1683 & arrived at Phila. Aug. 16, 1683.

"Worthy of remembrance is this: On April 18, 1688, Dirck Op de Graff, Abraham Op de Graff, Gerhard Hendrickson and Francis Daniel Pastorius sent to the "Friends' Meeting at Germantown" the first protest made in America against slavery, which was consummated through the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln, January 1, 1863." (Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy)

3-5 Deborah Krey b. prior 1708? -d. aft 1762

m. p. 1728 (JF1) Jacob Oberholtzer b. prior 1708? wp 2/11/1759 Salford Twp.

(JF2) Barbara Oberholtzer b Europe -d. Feb 3,1765

m. ca. 1729 Jacob Funk dp 6/14/1756

(JF3) Anna Oberholtzer b.ca. 1711 Europe

m. Mathias Stauffer

b. 1700/1704 Mannheim,GER -d. 1758

Oldest child in Christian Stauffer's will. He arrived in America ca. 1718 with both parents. He lived in Conestoga (Lancaster County) according to Quit Claim Deed 7/30/1756. In 1734 he received 150 acres in Earl Twp. He died there in 1758.

(JF4) Elizabeth Oberholtzer Europe -d. ca. 1806

m. Jacob Hackman d.ca.1778 Franconia Twp.

3--6 Susannah Krey styled spinster

3--7 Catharine Krey b. ca 1715 - 3/12/1807

m. Chistian Holdeman d. 11/23/1800 Salford Twp., Phila. Co., PA

3--8 John Crey Jr. - bef. May 24, 1750 Coventry Twp. yeoman

The Krey family is of Dutch origin. Swede immigrants settled the area of present Germantown from 1680-1700, prior to the immigration of German, Holland Dutch, and Huegenot settlers. It was named Germantown some years after the influx of Anabaptists from the Palatinate. -DLO; & Will Overholtzer

As early as March 10, 1682, William Penn had sold, through his agent, several 5000 acre tracts in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania to merchants of Crefeld, Germany. In 1683, Francis Daniel Pastorius, an agent for a number of German friends, bought 25, 000 acres, and upon these the town of Germantown was .. located.

- Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy, Pg 33

1. Herman Op den Graff b. Nov. 26, 1585 Aldekerk - Signed Confession of Faith, Apr. 21, 1632

m. Greitjen Pletjes

1. ___?Hans _____ Op den Graff

1. Abraham Isaac Op den Graff - _____ Germantown, PA

2. Dirk Op den Graff

3. Herman Op den Graff

2. ?Styge Op den Graff m. John Krey

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- Cassel Family History
- The Sensineys of America,
- Land Warrant Book # 76,
- Stauffer Family Tree,
- The Oberholtzer Book; Barbara Ford.
- Dennis Lee Oberholtzer Family Lines;
- PMH July 1991, Page 39
- Op Den Graff notes on PMH Oct. '94 Page 38
- Carolyn Wenger, Editor of PMH, Lanc. Menn. Hist. Soc.
- Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy, Pages 144-145, 40
- Op Den Graeff Families
- Long Genealogy
- Landis Genealogy
- Sensenig Genealogy

Additions/Corrections

Spouse's Family of CH3 Magdalena Oberholtzer, daughter of Christian, Gunsmith of Hempfield Township

- I--1 Peter Neukommet - EUROPE
- 1--1 Peter Newcomer SWI - Jan. 29, 1732; wp Feb. 3, 1733, in Conestoga 1724-25
- 2--1 Hannes (John) Newcomer - 1760 1718 Imm. to Leacock Twp.
John Newcomer is on the tax list of 1751 Hempfield Twp., Hance Newcomer, Collector
- 3--1 Christian Newcomer 1748 - 1805 Manor Twp, Lanc. Co., PA
m. Anna Summy - 1813
- 3--2,4,5,& 7 unknown
- 3--3 John Newcomer - ca. 1789 son of John from Hempfield Twp.
m. Elizabeth Gochenauer
- 3--6 Barbara Newcomer m. Abraham Brenneman
- 3--8 Abraham Newcomer - 1794 Mennonite Gunsmith, Conestoga
m. 1760 Anna Barr - 1787 dau of Andrew; her 1st m. _____ Miley
Coffin made June 21, 1787 - Johannes Backman Ledger 5 children
- 4--1 Christian Newcomer 1761 - 1806 Lampeter (~~dp 3/28/1798~~)
Inherited 212 acre from Abraham; he was sole executor.
m. Sept. 5, 1781 {CH3} Magdalene (Molly) Oberholtzer of Hempfield
dau of {CH} Christian Oberholtzer-Magdalena Eshleman
1790 Census has 4 male over 16, 4 male under 16, 6 female
- Magdalena (Witmer) Eshleman was the 6th child of immigrant Benjamin Witmer, dp 4/13/1785, widow of Daniel Eshleman (-d.1749), whom descends a son Benedict.
- Christian Oberholtzer made muskets for the Revolutionary War, contracted through the Joel Ferree Gunshop in Paradise, PA. The Oberholtzer Kentucky Flintlock had calipers of 45, 54, and others. It had a 40 inch round or octagonal barrel, with a full-length curly maple stock, and weighed 9 lbs. They included brass fittings, and were produced from 1775 to 1778 in Hempfield, Lancaster County.
- 2--2 Wolfgang Newcomer SWI - Mar. 1771
Bought 100 acres from Penns in Leacock Twp. 1738 7 children
Inherited Conestoga Twp. land., he was a carpenter.
1st. m. _____ Baer no issue 2nd m. Elizabeth Weber, dau Henry-Maudlin Kendig
- 3--3 Barbara Newcomer 1749 - 1820 m. Abraham Buckwalter 1740 - 1819
- 2--3 Peter Newcomer III (called Jr.) - 1755 Immigrated 1719, in Conestoga 1724-25
- OFA Book, Pages 282-283
 - Will G-1-249 Deed W 3 - 56 ; Will F-1-155
 - Virginia N. Lane, P.O. Box 343, Wayne, PA, (1977)
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 - The Newcomer Families of PA, Manley W. Mallett, CS 71 .N5412, 1983
 - All Those Newcomer Families of Maryland, Manley W. Mallett, CS 71 .N5411, 1982
 - Geneology of John Nave & Edna E. (Leiter) Newcomer, Joseph L. Newcomer, 1990
 - CH4 Barbara Oberholtzer m. Nov. 8, 1780 George Huber of Manheim Twp., Lancaster Co., PA

DNA TESTS PUT A NAME TO AN UNKNOWN TITANIC CHILD

Among the bodies recovered after the Titanic sank, a small child was found and since it was unidentified, it was buried with a stone which read "Erected to The Memory of An Unknown Child" by Canadian soldiers. A Maria Panula was in a boat with her son Eino while her other 4 children were in another part of the boat. After a two year study, researchers have filed their story which matches DNA remains of Eino. When the grave was opened, they found only a wrist and 3 teeth. That narrowed their quest to a 6 month old, a 7 month old and a 13 month old. Through DNA, Eino was identified. A relative was found in Finland and was asked if she wanted the remains returned there but she said he belongs to the people of Halifax who took care of him all these years. -
Barbara Ford

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

I found on the internet another interesting "family tree." I usually don't bother writing to the person who composed it but there were so many mistakes that I had to let him know his mistakes. Of course, he will probably ignore my corrections.

This was the family of Jacob Oberholtzer (JF1) who he has married to Susanna Schuler and his parents as Jacob Oberholtzer and Ann Fry. He continues with 11 children, and he has two belonging to the Jacob Oberholtzer (JB) line in Berks County and one from the Marcus Oberholtzer line (MC).
-Barbara Ford

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SL, JL	Chaplain	Rev. John R. Weiler	526 Wood St. Apt. 424, Bethlehem, PA 18018 Nelljwl@aol.com

THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS

Continued from August 2007 Bulletin Page 7

- IC347 Alameda Elizabeth Overholt 6/13/1850 CAN-3/14/1928 IA
m 2/20/1871 John Randall 2/19/1839 Scot.-9/30/1917 IA, both bur Oakwood Cem, Iowa
- IC3471 Arthur Randall d age 3
- IC3472 McKercher J. Randall c 1873 IA-5/9/1918 IA
- IC3473 Claus James Randall 10/5/1882-1/23/1957
m 5/13/1905 Mary B. Hart 6/28/1883-3/3_/1962
- IC348 Alameda Emma Overholt b 8/1854 IA m 10/21/1874 Wesley Hill b 7/1852 NY
- IC3481 Edith Hill b c1876 IA m [-?-] Finly dp 1900
- IC3482 Harry W. Hill b 2/1882 m Mary E. [-?-] b c 1895
- IC3483 Vernon Hill 3/1889-5/1975 MT m Mattie [-?-] b c1894
- IC3484 Irie Hill b 12/1887
- IC3485 Ray C. Hill b 7/1890
- IC3486 Lawrence A. Hill b 8/1892
- IC349 Sarah A Overholt c 1844 CAN-3/1866 IA (should be child #3)
m 11/15/1860 Samuel Waters 5/26/1833 IRE-4/20/1926 IA
- IC3491 George Waters 11/9/1861-5/30/1919
- IC3492 William J Waters 3/9/1863-11/17/1939
- IC3493 Elizabeth Waters b 11/8/1864
- IC3494 Thamos A Waters 3/19/1866-4/30/1919 m Cora Bell [-?-] b 11/1873
The order of (IC34) Jacob Overholt's children is from the book and not by the birthdates which were found later.
- IC415 Mahlon Doan m 2/10/1854 Rebecca Vasfinder b 2/10/1837 ONT
- IC43 Catharine Swartz 3/19/1806-7/13/1878 m William Lamb 8/21/1798-5/18/1888 Ontario
- IC431 Charles Lamb b 1840 Ontario
- IC432 William Lamb 9/22/1841-6/27/1913 Ontario
- IC433 Mary Lamb 1/8/1843-5/3/1921 Ontario
- IC434 Melinda Lamb 1853/55-1934 Ontario
- IC44 Samuel Swartz m Catherine Hoover
- IC441 Gideon Swartz b 1829 Ontario
- IC442 Joseph Swartz b 1833 Ontario
- IC443 Neri Swartz b 1838 Ontario
- IC444 Anna Swartz b 1840 Ontario
- IC445 Elizabeth Swartz b 1843 Ontario
- IC446 Priscilla Swartz 11/10/1842-12/15/1914
- IC447 Darius Swartz 6/19/1847-12/13/1907 m Sarah Yager [IC493]
- IC448 Labon Swartz b 1849 Ontario
- IC45 Jacob Swartz m Mary Null
- IC451 Lydia Swartz b 1836 Ontario
- IC452 Anna Swartz b 1839 Ontario m Joseph Sherk b 1835
- IC453 Elizabeth Swartz b 1844 Ontario
- IC454 Peter Swartz b 1846 Ontario
- IC455 Charlotte Swartz b 1848 Ontario m Robert Thompson b 1844

OFA Treasurer's Report
7/19/06 - 7/18/07

	<u>Savings</u>	<u>Book Fund</u>	<u>Checking</u>
Balance 7/19/06	\$2,122.28	\$9,632.21	\$41.39
<i>SUMMARY</i>			
7/19/06-7/18/07			
<i>INCOME</i>			<i>Total</i>
Contributions	\$1,538.00		
Purchases		\$610.93	
Interest Credited	<u>11.01</u>	<u>57.50</u>	
	\$1,549.01	\$668.43	\$2,217.44
<i>EXPENSES</i>			
2 Bulletins + postage <small>*Aug \$420.72 expense not cleared</small>	\$708.72		
2006 Reunion	\$789.95		
2007 Reunion	\$100.00		
General Expenses	<u>\$165.92</u>	<u>48.52</u>	
	\$1,764.59	\$48.52	\$1,813.11
Transferred to checking to pay fund expenses	\$1,874.64	\$48.52	\$1813.11
ENDING BALANCE	\$2,217.37	\$10,273.64	\$151.44
Current balance compared with 7/18/06	\$95.39	\$641.43	\$110.05

Of interest:

31 contribution checks recieved beyond the Reunion collection (as compared with 43 in '05-'06), average contribution was about \$27.00

Average cost of Bulletin + postage = \$354.36, for 300 Bulletins, or \$1.18/Bulletin (last year, it averaged \$1.03/Bulletin)

87 people attended the 100th Reunion Celebration last year. The collection that day totaled \$838, helping to offset total costs of \$1068.95. Several others made special contributions in advance, or later. This year's Reunion costs approximately \$156.80

A NEW OVERHALT FAMILY FOUND!

- 1--1 Ulrich Neukomet - w July 26, 1777, probate Aug. 10, 1787 Hellam Twp., York Co.
m. Magdalena 7 children
- 2--1 John H. Newcomer 1773 York Co. - July 12, 1843
1st m. Sarah A Overhalt - d. Mar. 20, 1832 8 children
Moved to German Twp., Fayette Co. in 1808, bought 133 & 230 acres
- 3--1 Uriah Newcomer m. Elizabeth Messmore
- 3--2 John Newcomer
- 3--3 Samuel Newcomer Jan. 11, 1811 - Sept. 4, 1894
m. Elizabeth Ache
- 3--4 Nancy Newcomer m. Simon Snyder
- 3--5 Elizabeth Newcomer m. Charles Brownfield
- 3--6 Joseph Newcomer Jan. 5, 1822 - June 7, 1881
- 3--7 David Newcomer 1824 - May 15, 1898
- 3--8 Abraham Newcomer m. Martha Stewart
2nd m. Fanny _____ no issue

Note: Sarah is not connected to anyone we know. If you have a connection, please let us know.

- References:
- Will Book G-201, Memorandum Book G-203
 - The Newcomer Families of Pennsylvania, Manley W. Mallett, 1983
 - All Those Newcomer Families of Maryland, Manley W. Mallett, 1982
 - A Geneology of Henry, Christian & Peter, sons of Wolfgang, Alexander and Margaret Newcomer, CS 71.N5414, 1889a
 - Geneology of John Nave & Edna E. (Leiter) Newcomer, Joseph L. Newcomer, CS 71.N5416, 1990
 - Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society
 - Is Sarah possibly a daughter of CA6 Christian Overholser & Sarah of Adams Co., OFA Book, Pg 287 ?

60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Dick & Gwen Lucas celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on September 6, 2007. They were married at Laidlaw united Church in Hamilton, Canada. They have two daughters, Marian and Kathy, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Gwendolyn descends from Staats Overholt 1743-1820 and Susannah Hunsberger 1748-1834. Her mother was Jessie Overholt who married Daniel Orr. Dick & Gwen were regulars at the OFA Reunions for years, and Dick made hand-made gifts for many a traveler. CONGRATULATIONS!



Left to Right, 1st Row: Earline Oberholtzer, Eleanor Weiler, Jack Sholl, Darwin Overholt, Naomi Pletcher, Peg Overholt, Spencer & Ruth Overholser,
 2nd Row: Jean Schaffer, John Weiler, Carol Carroll, Jean Overholt, Paul Pletcher, Elaine Gerhart, Regina Overholt, Kim Weiler; 3rd Row: Dennis Oberholtzer (with grandson James), Chet Carroll, Susanne Street, Kathy Overholser, Gordon Gerhart, Harold Kilheffer, Carolyn Kendall, Paul Weiler; 4th Row: Jake Street, Jim Overholser, Greg Overholser, Ernest Weinhold, Daythal Kendall, John Meyer; not pictured: Noah Oberholtzer Jr., Joan Sholl
 Picture by Joan Sholl, & Cathy Overholser

Sixty-six years later

1929 Reunion Notes: "We decided to consider the matter of publishing a history of the Overholser family."

In 1995, it was published.

(I might add to Barbara's humour, that without her, Spencer Overholser and Will Overholtzer it never would have been accomplished.) - Ed.

Additional Obituaries

Elva Brown Oberholtzer, 90 years, New Holland, PA passed away on Wed., Nov. 28, 2007. She was the only child of Ivan M. & Anna K. Brown Oberholtzer; [SL2467 Christian H. Oberholtzer](#) She is 1st cousin once removed of Dennis L. Oberholtzer, Paradise, PA.

Elva is the last surviving member of her family.

Wilmer Stauffer Oberholtzer, July 27, 1924 - Tuesday Dec. 4, 2007, Brickerville, PA

He and his wife Della (Landis) co-owned [Oberholtzer Greenhouse](#) from 1967 - 1985. A Gideon of the Lancaster North Camp & life-long member of Hammer Creek Mennonite Church, where he taught Sunday School and was a superintendent and trustee. [SL2467 Christian Hess Oberholtzer](#)

Wilmer is the editor's uncle. He is survived by 1 daughter, 8 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren.

THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK

A Foundation book of Oberholtzer imigrants and unestablished lines.

\$29.50 + \$3.50 S & H. PA residents add \$1.77 Sales Tax.

Make check out to: Overholser Family Association

and mail to Carolyn O. Kendall, 1617 New Holland Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601

Overholser Family Association

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Paradise, PA 17562