



# OFA Bulletin

*Published Semi-annually by the Overholser Family Association*

Winter 2016 ISSN 0742-8472 Vol. XXXVIII No. 1

Oberholtz	Uberholtzer	Overholser	Oberheuser
Overhults	VanHulser	Overhuls	
Overhalser	Overhalt	Atherholt	Obold
Uberholser	Overholtzer	Overholt	
Overhulster	Oberholser	Oberholtzer	

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear OFA Members,

Greetings and a “Happy New Year” to all of you. A special thanks should be given to Earline Oberholtzer and her sister-in-law for the excellent Quilting talk at our reunion meeting last August. We are working on a small field trip the afternoon of Yoder's meal this next reunion. We are still in the “suggestion phase” of our planning at present. We are also working on getting someone to talk on the subject of our first settlers with an emphasis on the journey to the New World and path to Lancaster County.

It's not too early to start planning to attend the 2016 Reunion. We always have such a great time and attending our meal at Yoder's Resturant on Friday night is becoming an OFA tradition! We will fill in the details in the next edition of the OFA Bulletin.

We have a new Treasurer, Geoffrey Martin. Please send all donations to his address in the Officers section of this bulletin. Thank You!

Stay warm and well this winter,

Yours truly,  
Michael Martin, OFA President

**We are now on FACEBOOK:**  
**Just type in Facebook: Overholser Family Association**

**Overholser Family  
Association Bulletin**

Vol. XXXVIII No. 1 Winter 2016

Editor - Dennis L. Oberholtzer  
49 Paradise Lane  
Paradise, Pa. 17562  
717-687-6950

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49 Paradise Lane, Paradise, PA 17562  
ISSN 0742-8472

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Please send all contributions to:  
**Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer**  
139 N 9th St #2L  
Brooklin, NY 11249

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Earline Oberholtzer  
49 Paradise Lane  
Paradise PA 17562-9654  
717-687-6950  
2008ofa.eeo@earthlink.net

**Welcome New OFA Members!!!**

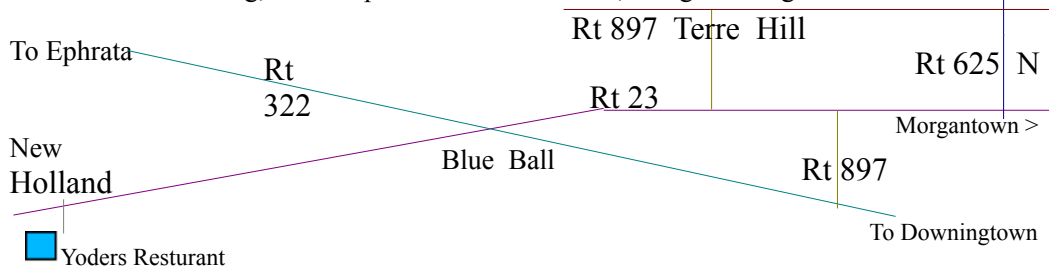
- Thomas & Sharon Ryan, CV Line
- Cathy Cook, Columbia MO, MC/MT Line
- Mark Steffka, Canton MI, Unknown O Line
- Todd Overholser, Lubbock TX, AV Line
- Mel Oberholtzer, Perry UT, JF Line
- Tom West Jr, Parker CO, CV Line
- Janet Uselton, MC Line
- Elizabeth Schafer,  
Abraham & Magdalena (Oberholtzer) Landis Line
- Jaden Overholt, MC Line
- Bob Molitor, Whiting NJ

**2016 REUNION**

The Reunion will be held **August 6th** St. John's Center United Church of Christ, Phone # 717-445-5622, east of Terre Hill on Route 625 where it was held in 2009. On **Friday night, August 5th**, we will meet at Yoder's between New Holland and Blue Ball for a 6:00PM buffet dinner and visiting. On **Saturday August 6th** we will gather from 9:00 to 10:00AM at the church. Call Carol at 717-225-4808 if you need more information.

**How to get to the OFA 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



**OVERHOLSER FAMILY ASSOCIATION**  
**109<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion**  
**August 1, 2015**

The 109<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the Overholser Family Association convened at St John's Center United Church of Christ on Saturday, August 1, 2015. Twenty-five people were in attendance.

The day began with a social time and lunch and a group photograph.

Michael Martin, President, welcomed the group and introduced Cathy and Fred McKenna, who are new members from Connecticut. It was noted that Jim and Kathy Overholser could not attend due to illness. John Shinpaugh was congratulated on his return to good health and welcomed back after missing last year's meeting. The passing of Ernest Weinhold was announced and Dennis Oberholtzer spoke about his extensive genealogical work on the Brubacker lines.

Carolyn Kendall, Treasurer, reported a balance in the savings account of \$3,054.87, book account \$12,381.52, checking account \$80 and special account (luncheon) \$2736. These balances do not reflect expenses from this weekend. Sixteen donations have been received since the last reunion. A basket was passed to receive donations. There are five OFA books remaining in stock.

Carol Carroll reported that the OFA Facebook site has 92 followers who have "liked" the page. Every time a posting is made to the page, those people see it. She urged members who are on Facebook to share OFA postings to increase the audience for our Facebook page and draw in younger people to the organization.

In the absence of Kris Overholt, John Shinpaugh reported news on the website. He said that the website was established to share family information among relatives. Recently, a request was received from a non-profit organization asking that we post a like to their website. John felt that the association should have a policy of not allowing links to other websites unless they are another Overholser group. Carolyn made a motion, Dennis seconded and the motion was passed. If individuals making such a request are not satisfied by being told the OFA policy prohibits such links, they can be referred to an association officer.

Dennis asked the group to consider making a donation to the Mennonite Historical Society to thank them for loaning us the 1841 Oberholtzer coverlet on display at the reunion. After discussion, Dennis moved and Scott Fischer seconded a donation of \$200 to the society. We will ask that the donation be used for preservation of Overholser family materials housed at the society's headquarters.

New Business

Carolyn Kendall said that, having been treasurer since 2001, she has been looking for someone to pass the job on to. She nominated Geoffrey Martin to serve as treasurer. Scott Fischer seconded the motion and all approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and a program on heirloom crafts and their care was presented by Earline Oberholtzer and other family association members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Carroll, Secretary

## REUNION EVENTS

Following the business meeting, a program on Overholser family heirlooms was presented by Earline Oberholtzer. Earline thanked family members who brought quilts and other items to display at the reunion. One coverlet was loaned to the group by the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society. From the family of Kathryn Stauffer, it was made in 1841.

Barbara Bernhardt brought a coverlet that her parents had used on their bed. It was not dated, but had belonged to Barbara's grandparents.

Suzanne Street displayed a Bonnet Sue quilt which had belonged to her grandmother, Ella Oberholtzer. No other information was known about it.

Several items were shared by Jean Schaffer. One quilt was made by her grandmother for her parents as a wedding gift in 1941. A second Jean's grandmother made for her from feed bags and scraps in the late 50's or early 60's. Another similar quilt was made in the late 60's or early 70's. The collection also included the first afghan Jean ever made and a redwork quilt she made for her grandson.

Earline showed a book containing pictures of Overholser quilts, one a "crazy quilt" from 1892 and another made for a dowry. Earline's mother's first quilt was a sampler, with each block a different pattern. The names of family members have been embroidered onto the quilt over time.

Earline demonstrated the correct way of folding and storing a quilt: fold in half with the pattern side in, then in thirds length-wise. The quilt should then be rolled and stored in a pillowcase, never in plastic. Quilts that are coming apart can be saved by cutting out the intact portion and binding the edges.

A final item shown was a crocheted piece by Lizzie Witmer of the Lord's Prayer.

## ATTENDEES at OFA Reunion August 1, 2015

Dennis and Earline Oberholtzer, Paradise PA  
Michael Martin, Rahway NJ  
Geoffrey Martin, Brooklin NY  
Cathy and Fred McKenna, New Fairfield CT  
Carol & Chet Carroll, Wheeling WV  
Bob Molitor, Whiting NJ  
Noah L Oberholtzer Jr, Leola PA  
Jake & Suzanne Street, York PA  
Carolyn O Kendall, Lititz PA  
Scott & Pam Fischer, Lancaster PA  
Elaine & Gordon Gerhart III, Ambler PA  
Jean O Schaffer, Coopersburg PA  
Linda Nitterauer, sons Theodore "TJ" and Trevor, Pennsauken NJ  
Barbara Bernhardt, Swarthmore PA  
Tina Anderson, Smyrna TN  
John & Hazel Shinpaugh, Norristown PA  
Lewis and Anna May Schrack, Pottstown PA

## Update on AC, IC, & CV Lines

In 2013 there was an article on Abraham Aberrations. Now that I am finally able to compile these lines, I have found some exciting news! John Michael Oberholtzer, Immigrant in 1745 to Philadelphia PA, is the father of AC Abraham Overholt. There was a biography of a Justice of the Peace William Hansler who married into the Overholt family. His bio tells of John, the father of Abraham (AC), and how he died in New York City enroute to England. This is not Tory John (JT) as already shown in the 2013 article.

Also, the Niagara Peninsula Branch OGS records of assessments of Thorold in 1817 reveal that Abraham Overholt (AC) is not living near Abraham (JT1), nor near Isaac Overholt (MC Line, s/o Staats, Upper Canada Grant Petition #O 5/7). **Here we have three Overholt families NOT related, with O family lines living in the same area of Canada at the same time in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century!**

### JAsr Surprise!

John Overholster was one of 150 teamsters (wagon drivers) recruited in Lancaster PA by Benjamin Franklin to be a wagoner for General Braddock on April 30 1755 in the campaign against Fort Duquesne.

Settlement of the wagoners accounts in 1756 shows the following for **Dr John Overholster**:

To cash paid by Benjamin Franklin	5	5	0
To Do Paid by Mr Scott	1	2	6
To Do one horse returned	3	10	0
Balance	58	4	2
Total	68	1	8

#### Credit

By wagon and team	27	0	0
By 51 days to ye field of battle at 15shillings per diem	38	5	0
By travelling expenses to Fort Cumberland	2	11	8
By 5 days expenses back		5	0
	68	1	8

This is the only place where the Immigrant John Overholser from Ireland is called a Doctor. Nowhere in the Adams County records does he show up as a Doctor. This gives even more credence to the three John Overholsters in the Adams County JA Line.

*“He who has any pride of accuracy or promptness,*

*has only to write a genealogy to have this conceit removed.”*

*- Elisha S Loomis, Ph.D.*

## JF Jacob Oberholtzer of Franconia

Jacob Oberholtzer came to Philadelphia on February 22, 1702. He worked his way into Montgomery County, where he made his homestead. Elisha Loomis did a first intensive gathering of information in which he compiled a manuscript called the Loomis Manuscript. It was originally designed to send out to a few people who could send back any corrections that were needed in order to publish a finished work. The final work became known as the book *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* in the year 1931.

The way Loomis compiled his work is the best one could expect back in that time. Very few genealogical works made it into book form that early in America. But much of the information compiled was with close family ties giving him what they could remember. Today, many genes understand that the closer one is to the information, the more one takes for granted he or she “remembers” correctly. But so often the most mistakes are at both ends of the compiling.

What I am presenting here is a CORRECTIONS ISSUE on the family of JF Jacob, specifically on the *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* of 1931. It will not address the additional mistakes of the manuscript which Mr Loomis originally compiled.

The following codes represent the various families which are mixed together with the JF Line in the *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* book:

HJ	<b>Hans</b> Jacob Oberholtzer	of Hatfield Township PA
JF	<b>Jacob</b> Oberholtzer	of Franconia Township, Montgomery County PA
MC	<b>Marcus</b> Oberholtzer	of Coventry Township, Chester County PA

Page 73            Jacob Oberholtzer of Bucks Co is MC1, and not from the JF Line.

Page 88-89        Jacob C Oberholtzer 3/6/1784 -            1<sup>st</sup> m Catherine Rush  
This is JF116 in our records. But #20 Jacob D Overholt is MC191, and #21 Abraham D Overholt is MC192.

Page 148-195    #148 Jacob L Overholt is MC19111  
                         #153 Jacob B Overholt b Feb 19, 1834 is MC19161  
                         #154-159 is MC19162 to MC19167  
                         #161 to #167 are the children of MC1923 Abraham W Overholt who married on April 7, 1831 to

Magdalena Gross

MC19231 Joseph Gross Overholt 1/20/1832 – 1/24/1905

MC19234 Henry Gross Overholt 11/3/1838 – 7/29/1949

MC19236 Isaac G Overholt 5/18/1844 - of Doylestown PA

MC19237 Abraham G Overholt 7/20/1849 -

                         1<sup>st</sup> m 2/13/1875 Mary Wismer            2<sup>nd</sup> m Anna Rittenhouse

#172 to 177 are the children of MC1925 Henry Wismer Overholt  
MC19255 Jacob M Overholt 7/25/1854 - m 5/10/1881 Emaline Shelly 11/5/1861 -  
MC19256 Isaac M Overholt 1/1/1856 - m 6/20/1878 Jessie A Darsey  
MC19250 Samuel Markley Overholt 1861 Blake OH - 1942  
m 4/21/1894 Nora Roshon 3/13/1870 - 1950 Medina Co OH

#190 Sarah A Fretz is JF11418 m to John Oberholtzer who is MC19523  
#191 Tobias Overholt is MC19524 m 1/13/1865 Catharine F Meyers  
#192 Abraham Overholt 7/30/1844 - m Lizzie Larnce (?Lawrence)  
Abraham is MC19525, brother of Tobias Overholt  
#195 John O Overholt 4/25/1862 - m Lizzie Detweiler  
MC19142.1 **John O** is the son of MC19142 Hannah Overholt and Abraham S Overholt  
The Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy then returns to to the JF Jacob family line with #203 on page 111 as JF13114 Jacob  
W Oberholtzer who m 11/18/1845 Harriet Wilbraham

On Page 122 there are three Overholts who again are not part of the JF Line:

#365 Isaac H Overholt 9/6/1857 - m 8/7/1881 Alice S Zeigler  
MC19161.1 Isaac H Overholt is a Mennonite farmer in Ritman OH, he is the son of MC19161 Jacob B Overholt and  
his first wife Catharine W Hunsberger  
#375 is MC19165.3 **Frank Overholt** 1/1/1873 Wadsworth OH - m **Nellie Galehouse**  
Frank was a butcher in Wadsworth OH, son of the Mennonite bricklayer William B Overholt  
#392 David B Overholt 9/8/1872 - m **Della Caffey** 6/1876 -  
David was a fireman for the railroad, residing in Taylorville PA. Della should be **Dolly**. They were married 6/1876,  
and had three children: Earl 10/1896 - , Walter 12/1897 - ; & Russell.  
MC19167.2 is **David B Overholt**, son of Eli B Overholt & Sallie Balderson of Dolington PA

### *MURDERER!*

#580 George E Oberholtzer 1/13/1867 - 2<sup>nd</sup> m 4/28/1892 Matilda Jane Miller  
JF1431b.4 **George Elmore Oberholtzer** 1/13/1867 - 4/1/1927 Railway mail clerk, res Indianapolis IN  
1st m 2/25/1888 Brazil IN, **Rose A Little** 1866 Freedom IN - 1/13/1890  
2nd m 4/28/1892 Cory IN, **Matilda Jane Miller** 12/6/1860 Clay City IN -  
d/o Emmanuel Miller & Mary Ann (Miller) Harr

George's only daughter Madge was a schoolteacher who "devoted her life to tutoring illiterate children in her  
state's black ghettos." She was murdered by the Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon named David "Steve" Stevenson. The  
capture of Stevenson made national news, and later became a movie called *The Cross of Fire*. The beating and rape of  
righteous Madge was by an overzealous group leader who could not control his own passions.

JF1431b.43 **Madge Augustine Oberholtzer** 11/10/1896 - 4/14/1925 murdered by KKK leader D C Stephenson at a Hammond IN hotel  
Tuesday

REF: NY World; Cleveland Plain Dealer 4/15/1925; Indianapolis News article 4/20/1925, 4/21/1925; *The Rise & Fall of a Klansman in 1920's Indiana*, Ken Tucker, Inquirer TV  
Critic; OFA Files; Letter by Marshall L to Rev I E Oberholtzer in Shansi China April 10, 1927

#565 Warren N Oberholtzer 5/1874 - m Sarah Royer 8/1876 - is corrected  
JF14310.6 Warren William Oberholtzer 5/27/1874 – 8/8/1962 Patricksburg IN  
m 8/30/1896 Sarah Ann Royer 8/2/1876 – 7/20/1946 Owen Co IN  
several OFA members are descendants from this Warren William Oberholtzer

A brother of George E Oberholtzer was Edison Ellsworth Oberholtzer Sr  
JF1431b.a Edison Ellsworth Oberholtzer Sr 5/6/1880 Patricksburg IN - 6/18/1954 no grd-ch as of 1955  
m 3/26/1899 Myrtle May Barr 1/1880 - bur Forest Park Mausoleum  
Edison was Founder & President of the University of Houston, formerly res at Tulsa OK, then  
607 Great Southern Life Building, Houston TX; Widow Myrtle res 1708 West Alabama, Houston  
JV Oberholtzer & Earl Oberholtzer of Tulsa OK are not related to me (George) as far as I know.  
REF: Edison's letter to Rev I E Oberholtzer March 25, 1926, OFA Files copy

One of the Unverified families is followed here. No 17-The Schott Family on page 230 is Catharine Oberholtzer  
1/10/1773 – who married John Schott b 9/23/1766 - :

?JF117 Catherine Oberholtzer 1/10/1773 - 9/26/1848  
m John Schott 9/23/1766 - 1/26/1832 on his farm in Lower Salford Twp Mennonite farmer 5 children  
Because Catherine is not listed with other genealogists family groups, she may be from another O Family Line.  
JF1171 Jacob O Schott 12/18/1799 - 3/24/1872 got the farm after father died  
m Mary Kline 5/13/1796 - 1/30/1871 5 ch  
JF11711 Catharine Schott m Henry Hebner  
JF11712 Mary K Schott m Jacob K Bean Line Lexington PA  
JF11713 John K Schott m Elizabeth Kratz Harleysville PA  
JF11714 Elizabeth Schott m Elias K Freed North Wales PA  
JF11715 Lovina Schott m Phillip Shelly of KS became owner of f-i-l farm  
JF1172 John Schott Jr 8/10/1802 - 12/28/1883 m Catharine Freed 2/8/1809 - 4/21/1882 4 ch  
JF11721 Mary Ann Schott 10/5/1833 - 5/5/1854 m Joseph Rosenberger  
JF11722 Jacob F Schott m Caroline Boorse  
JF11723 Francis Schott m \_\_\_\_ Bysher  
JF11724 Abraham Schott 10/19/1841 - 11/11/1848  
JF1173 Elizabeth Schott m Henry Favinger 6 ch  
JF11731 Catharine Favinger  
JF11732 Elizabeth Favinger m Jacob Shotz  
JF11733 John S Favinger  
JF11734 Henry Favinger  
JF11735 Samuel S Favinger m \_\_\_\_ Gehman  
JF11736 William Favinger  
JF1174 Catharine Schott 6/23/1807 - 4/3/1851 m Henry Harley 10/7/1804 - 6/13/1888 no issue  
JF1175 Mary O Schott m Wm Harley  
JF11751 William S Harley

Since this family cannot be verified as being in the JF Line, it is entered in brown ink, with a question mark before the parents letter-number code.



On page 231 is No 22- The Meyer Family

Mary D Overholt 12/27/1767 - m William Meyer b 6/17/1764 Springfield Twp She is :  
**MC193 Mary Detweiler Overholt** 12/27/1767 - 9/1/1850

On page 235, #27 is Sarah Detweiler 10/14/1818 - m Lewis Yoder of East Lewiston OH  
**MC19323 Sarah Detweiler** 10/14/1818 - is also listed as the first wife of **MC7170**

**MC7170 Abraham Fretz** 10/9/1815 - 7/1892 1st m 1840 **Sarah Detweiler** 1/5/1818 - 7/18/1850  
2nd m 3/1859 **Catharine Fry** 1/12/1827 - 7/5/1886

On page 273, No 52-The Roth Family, Barbara Amanda Oberholtzer 10/10/1834 - is listed as having married on  
8/9/1856 Abraham R Roth 7/4/1827 – 4/14/1879 We now know there was a second marriage to:

**JF1167 Barbara Amanda Oberholtzer** 10/10/1834 - 11/4/1929 Lansdale PA both b Montgy Co PA  
1st m 8/9/1856 **Abraham R Roth** 7/4/1827 - 4/13/1879 s/o Peter both bur Rockhill Mennonite  
2nd m 7/8/1886 **John (?H) Jones** res Trumbaursville PA

REF: Barbara Ford handwritten note, OFA Files

On page 274 and 275, there are two families of MC191 Jacob D Overholt & E Leatherman:

**MC191 Jacob D Overholt** c1764 - wp 3/23/1840 m 11/1791 **Elizabeth Leatherman** c1764 - dp 6/18/1835

REF: Diary of John Dyer; Bucks Co WB 12/84, 1840

**MC1913 Esther L Overholt** 1/28/1795 - 1/5/1869  
m 12/2/1817 **Ralph Landis** 8/17/1789 - 3/4/1852 (**MC1434**)

**MC1918 Mary L Overholt** 1/20/1812 - 4/19/1879 m 4/22/1834 **Charles Bryan** 5/14/1809 - 8/24/1892  
both bur Doylestown Mennonite

REF: See #371 in *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* for children & grandchildren

On page 288, No 82- The Swartz Family, Katie A Oberholtzer is now listed as JF1315:

**JF1315 Catharine Oberholtzer** c1800 - c1887 her & John R bur Line Lexington Mennonite  
1st m 10/14/1827 Whitpain Ref Ch, **John Swartz** 2/11/1804 - 5/11/1841 bur Frick's Schoolhouse  
2nd m **John Rosenberger** of Line Lexington PA

REF: *Rosenberger Family* p 250; *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* p288, 1931

On the same page, Lana (Magdalena) A Oberholtzer now has a marriage date to Daniel Cassel on November 20, 1824.

On page 289, Hannah Oberholtzer is from the Hans Jacob Oberholtzer family of Hatfield PA.

**HJ146 Hannah Oberholtzer** 4/28/1795 – 4/4/1880 both buried Towamencin Mennonite  
m **Daniel Cassel** 5/2/1793 - 11/18/1874 (his 1st m Rachel Keyser)

REF: Kolb, Kulp or Culb Family p 82; Cassel Family pg 58

On page 290 No 118-The Lundy Family, Lydia Oberholtzer now has a marriage date of March 4, 1876 to Chrisolm R Lundy, residing in Winnepeg or Carman, Manitoba CAN While this couple had 8 children, only 3 are listed in the *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* book.

Barbara Ford has found some info on this family, but if anyone has more, please let us know.

**JF1151b Lydia Oberholtzer** 5/3/1850 - m 4/4/1876 **Chrisolm R Lundy** c1848 -  
res Winnepeg or Carman Manitoba CAN 8 ch, 3 known

REF: Warren Buschert, Comstock MI; Biog of Waterloo Ont, #5068

JF1151b.1 **Catharine O Lundy** c1871 - m c1890 \_\_\_\_\_ **Dunn** 1869 -  
JF1151b.2 **Ola O Lundy** c1873 -  
JF1151b.3 **Leon O Lundy** c1875 -  
JF1151b.4 **Child Lundy** c1877 -  
JF1151b.5 **Child Lundy** c1879 -  
JF1151b.6 **Child Lundy** c1881 -

On page 293 No 152-The Fretz Family, Mary Overholt is now coded as MC19144

**MC19144 Mary Overholt** 2/1/1841 – 10/18/1899 m 12/10/1857 **David L Fretz** 10/7/1836 -  
David s/o Abraham Fretz & Susanna Leatherman; grds/o Henry, grt-grds/o John, s/o weaver John Fretz  
Residing on homestead farm in Blooming Glen where born in Bucks Co PA

MC19144.1 **Abraham O Fretz** 7/1/1862 - m **Lizzie N Freed**  
MC19144.2 **John Fretz** March 4, 1865 - m 9/26/1885 **Hannah E Funk** no issue  
MC19144.3 **Amanda Fretz** March 25, 1868 -

On the same page as above is No 162- the Markley Family, which is from MC19232:

**MC19232 Mary Overholt** 9/1/1833 - 1922  
1st m 4/25/1857 **William Markley** 1830 - 6/12/1870 Maple Grove Cem  
2nd m **Rev Daniel Royer**

#193 on page 296 to #199 on page 297 are not the JF Jacob family. They belong to the MC Marcus Oberholtzer of Chester County line.

On page 330, #366 to #400 are all from the MC line, but not all in order.

No 366 is  
MC19161.2 **Hannah E Overholt** 7/24/1859 - m 1888 **Erasmus F Pratt** res Dalton OH  
No 371 is  
MC19181.3 **Charles T Bryan** 10/5/1862 - m **Emily B Overholt** 9/14/1864 -  
grocer, Meth Ch, Phila PA  
No 377 is  
MC19165.5 **Emma F Overholt** 3/18/1877 Wadsworth OH - m **Edmund Morgan**  
And No 400 is the same family listed under William Gross in MC14452.23 and:  
MC14452.23 **William G Gross Jr** 1/26/1868 Plumstead Twp – 12/25/1948  
m 10/18/1890 **Hannah Proctor Overholt** 9/10/1870 Hilltown Twp – 4/17/1961

**We have not found the parental family line of Hannah Proctor Overholt.**

On page 330 is No 331 – The Frederick Family. Catherine S Oberholtzer is from the JF Line.  
JF11543.1 Catharine S Oberholtzer 6/16/1855 - 1/15/1947 91-6-2 5 sons 2 daus, bro Albert & Charles  
m 12/11/1875 George Frederick 10/10/1853 -12/23/1934

And George Frederick is from the MC Line:

MC14221.43 George F Frederick 10/10/1853 Franconia Twp – 12/23/1934 Franconia Twp  
m 12/11/1875 Catharine Schwenk Oberholtzer 6/16/1855 Franconia Twp – 1/15/1947 Franconia  
both bur Franconia Menn Cem Catherine is in the JF Line

This is the amount of mistakes which I found in the Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy. I will not be searching the Loomis Manuscript for additional mistakes, due to time. If anyone else wishes to do so, I can possibly make a copy for them. I am not even sure if I have the entire manuscript.

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### Rats Nest!

[MC7] Martin Oberholtzer 1709 - 1744 Bedminster Twp, Bucks Co  
[& Jacob] Oberholtzer, sons of 1709 immigrant Marcus, settled at Schuylkill,  
m Nov 2, 1736 Agnes Kolb 1713 - 1786 - Oberholtzer & Nash Family Histories  
The Nash family emigrated to America about 1730.

Stanley Nash letter to Barbara Ford in 1991:

Agnes Kolb is the sister to Rev Isaac Kolb 1711-1776. She [supposedly] had a marriage to  
Michael Derstine 1712-1777 He was the first and longtime deacon at Rockhill Mennonite  
Isaac and Agnes were first cousins of Maria's mother Agnes Kolb Oberholtzer Nash, since their fathers, Jacob & Henry Kolb  
were brothers. Hence Maria Oberholtzer and the Derstine's daughter Johanna were second cousins. But Agnes Kolb is said to be the  
widow of MC7 Martin  
William Nash m Agnes Kolb Oberholtzer  
1.MT3 Elizabeth Nash 8/3/1751 – 7/1/1831

What we have here is the same Agnes Kolb marrying three different people!

1<sup>st</sup> m November 2, 1736 Agnes Kolb 1713-1786 to Martin Oberholtzer 1709-1744  
2<sup>nd</sup> m Agnes Kolb to William Nash (his 3<sup>rd</sup> m) The Nash family immigrated 1730  
? 3<sup>rd</sup> m Agnes Kolb to Michael Derstine 1712-1777

#### Does anyone have evidence to correct this?

In an e-mail by Richard Overholt in 2005, he tells of his work on the Nash Family:

“ John Colley, a hatter from England, came to Philadelphia in 1683 with his wife, Susanna, and two daughters, Ann and Susanna. Daughter Ann married John Nash a farmer. One of John's and Ann's children was the William Nash who married Agnes Kolb (his 3<sup>rd</sup> wife and the widow of the many Martin Oberholtzers. William and Agnes Nash had a daughter, Elizabeth, who of course, married our Martin, and thus began the string of Martins and Williams.”

# OUR BARBARIAN ROOTS

## Earliest Homesteading on Oberholtzer Mountain

“The inhabitants of the forest were Alamanni, who, in the seventh century, had moved into the higher Alpine regions, the immigration into those regions being greatly promoted by a decree of Charlemagne, that whoever should cultivate land there with his own hands should be the owner thereof.”\*.....

As the river and lake settlements became more populated, some Alemani families moved to the top of the mountains. The upper house in what is now the village of Oberholtz was being used since about 700 A.D. by the Overholser-Alemanni family. The original homestead “lies in a valley from which a ski lift rises from 2850 feet to 4350 feet above sea level. The village name Oberholtz means “upper wooded slope”.\*\*

Oberholtz is “a day’s journey by foot from the town of Wald. These people lived near the area of the wooded place and so were called the ‘Bauern Im Hof in Obern Holz’, which means ‘The farmers in the Village Above the Woods’. Later they were given the name Oberholz or Oberholzer.” ~

By the mid 9th century, they were able to begin trading goods along the trail which ran between Zurich and the area of Morgarten along the banks of Lake Zurich. This enabled them to buy the necessary tools needed to make fine furniture, which they obviously became skilled at. And by the turn of the millennium their skill turned into the making of fine church furniture. - editor

“Helvetian lands had entirely lost their political independence during the reign of Charles. The vigorous government of the monarch frustrated every attempt at insurrection, and in the end both Alamanni and Burgundians began to feel the benefits arising from the existence of a wise and firm administration. To curb their power the sovereign abolished the dignities of the mighty dukes, and parceled out the land into smaller shires (than the old county divisions), and placed over these counts as royal governors with judicial power. The people no longer appeared in corpore at the shire-motes, but were represented at the lesser court by Schaffens, or reeves. These reeves had to bring in the verdict; if they could not agree, trial-by-ordeal was resorted to. Twice a year Charles assembled his nobles and bishops to receive their reports, and to frame laws, which were, however, submitted to the people, that is, the ‘freeholders’ at the ‘real thing’, when they met in May. For the control of the shire administration, and to give the people a means of appealing more directly to the king’s justice, he appointed a special commission of spiritual and temporal officers (missi dominici).”

“The treaty of Verdun (in 843 A.D.), to which the French and German States trace their origin, also effected the most sweeping changes in Helvetia, and altered greatly its political aspect. The country was rent into two halves, East Switzerland, forming the Aare, with Chur-Rhaetia, being incorporated with the East Frankish Kingdom; and West Helvetia and the Valais with Lorraine or the middle kingdom. This naturally tended to revive the national antagonism between the two Helvetias.”

“Freed from the iron hand which had crushed all attempts at insurrection, the peoples began again their struggles for the recovery of national independence and separate rule, and thence came the restoration of the kingdom of Burgundy and the Duchy of Alamannia, or Swabia.”

- Story of Switzerland, by Lina Hug and Richard Stead, 1890 G P Putnum's Sons

\* *A History of the World, Vol.III, Duruy*

\*\* Ettie Wright

~ *Rosy Oberholzer's Greetings, Translated by Ruth Overholser, Overholser Family Bulletin, 2/1984*

### **The Verification Process**

I have found that the Hunsberger book is fairly accurate. At their reunion last year (?) they talked about the authentication process. The Crouthamel book is at direct odds with local church and cemetery records. As near as I can tell, they relied on what people sent to them.

- Barbara Ford comment in the OFA files

### **Blimey! Some Irish News!**

As has been stated several times, there were 30,000 German refugees who fled the mainland to London between 1707 and 1709. Queen Mary sent the poorest 10,000 of these refugees to Ireland to squeak out a subsistence living until they could afford to move to America. The Irish Palatine Association, Irish Palatine Heritage Centre, Old Railway Buildings, Rathkeale Co Limerick Ireland have not yet provided much information.

But I did learn that some of the Swissers lived in Kilcooly and some in Killeheen. This is a possible breakthrough for some O Lines, especially the JA John Overholser immigrant of 1740. I will leave it up to others to do the hunting.

Internet contact is <http://www.irishpalatines.org>

Irish Palatine Association telephone/fax is +353 (0) 69 63511

# *Obituaries*

- Grant David Frederick** died April 5, 2014, husband of Deborah Ann Overholt. Born in Kitchener ONT, CAN. member Bally Mennonite Ch, worked Canadian oil Co, MAX Insurance Co, Canada. Survived by daughter Jennifer Frederick of Canada
- Lucille Y Redcay Myers Willwerth** died November 4, 2013 Mount Joy PA, d/o late Elwood B & Gwendolyn Clime Redcay. By Cathy Beck Eby, d/o Mary Jane Redcay Beck of New Holland PA
- Carol Anne Flora** 75 Corinth KY, 6/30/1940 – 12/10/2015 d/o Raymond & Dorothy Jackson
- Richard E Overholser** 2/17/1944 Huntington Co – 5/30/2015 Kokomo IN, of North Manchester s/o Walter E & Nettie Jane (Howes) Overholser, survived by wife L Anne McClain and 2 daughters
- Larry V Overholser** 11/11/1945 Piqua – 10/9/2015 Piqua, s/o Ora Virgil & Ruth Brown Overholser
- John Elmer Flory** 94 of Covington, 1/30/1921 Cerro Gordo IL – 5/13/2015 Clare Bridge m Elsie Mae Peters [www.jackson-sarver.com](http://www.jackson-sarver.com)
- Lois Catherine Wolf Wagoner** 12/12/1927 Carroll Co – 7/27/2015 d/o Jesse & Pearl Wolf m 5/29/1948 Calvin Wagoner died 2013
- Nina Jewell “Chic” Wagoner** 90 of Modesto CA 7/30/1924 Clinton Co – 2/17/2015 d/o Earl & Malinda Wagoner, preceeded in death by sisters Lois Miller and Behula Wagoner
- Rachel Miller** 12/6/1921 – 7/20/2015 d/o Weldon & Verna Teach of Springfield OH, seven children
- Mary Louise Filbrun** 73 of Brookville, died 8/4/2-15, wife of Melvin J Filbrun, on of her children is son Lindsay (Aaron) Overholser
- Harold E Garber** 7/3/1933 Darke Co OH – 7/14/2015 Bradford OH, member Old German Baptist Ch m 1/1/1956 Nancy Kurtz, surviving also are six children
- Pauline S Flory** 9/21/1928 Eaton OH – 12/7/2015 d/o late Lee & Alma Brubaker Landes member Old German Baptist Church, survived by husband Norman, 1 daughter & 3 sons
- Lucile M Blocher** 87 years of Silver Lake IN, 10/18/1927 Minot ND – 6/21/2015 Fort Wayne IN d/o Lawrence & Alice Moore Wray, member Old German Baptist Ch, survived by 2 sons & 1 dau
- Martha L Wolf** 89 of Rossville, 8/19/1924 Flora IN – 7/4/2014 wife of Melvin L Wolf
- Arnold Lee Flora** 99 Kokomo IN, 4/25/1916 Flora – 8/28/2015, s/o Norman D & Clara E (Arnold) Flora
- Harold L Overholser** 94 of Coldwater & Dayton, 10/1/1920 Cambellstown – 2/23/2015 s/o Everett A & Helen C (Stephen) Overholser, m 6/12/1948 Catharine S DeWinter in Dayton preceeded by two brothers, Carl Overholser and Reed Overholser, mem Holy Trinity Catholic
- Esther M Oberholtzer** died January 13, 2015 of Narvon, Lancaster Co PA - LNP Sunday

2016 Reunion August 6<sup>th</sup>

Come Visit Us!

This is our 2015 Reunion Saturday



### OFA OFFICERS

#### Lines

SL	<b>President Michael Martin</b>	<a href="mailto:MMartin@ccmd.org">MMartin@ccmd.org</a>
JL	Vice President John Shinpaugh	Norristown PA
JL	2nd Vice-President Kris Overholt WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.overholser.net">http://www.overholser.net</a>	8812 United Kingdom Dr, Austin TX 78748 <a href="mailto:koverholt@gmail.com">koverholt@gmail.com</a>
SL	Secretary Carol Carroll  FACEBOOK SPONSER	31 Kelly Drive, Wheeling WV 26003 <a href="mailto:carolsquared@Frontier.com">carolsquared@Frontier.com</a> Overholser Family Association
SL	Treasurer Geoffrey Martin	139 N 9 <sup>th</sup> St #2L, Brooklin NY 11249
SL, AO, & JF	OFA Bulletin Dennis L. Oberholtzer	49 Paradise Lane, Paradise, PA 17562 <a href="mailto:2008ofa.eeo@earthlink.net">2008ofa.eeo@earthlink.net</a>

**OFA REUNION**, Southeastern PA, Friday Night August 5th at Yoder's Restaurant in New Holland,  
110th Reunion 1st Saturday in August the 6th, **2016** Details Page 2

**IOWA O's** Meetings 1st Sunday in August in Tingley IA Community Building, 93rd Reunion in **2016**  
www.overholtzer.org

**300<sup>th</sup> BRUBAKER REUNION**, Millersville University; **Summer 2017** 4 day event  
Dennis Oberholtzer will be one speaker. More information will be forthcoming.

Check out the OFA Website: <http://www.overholser.net> or Contact Us at  
[info@overholser.net](mailto:info@overholser.net)

If you need more information, contact one of the OFA Websites, or one of the OFA Officers.

**Send us your O meeting place and date so we can post it here in our Bulletin.**

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### THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK

A Foundation book of Oberholtzer immigrants and unestablished lines.

Edited by Barbara B Ford & introduction by Will Overholtzer

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Overholser Family Association

and mail to [Geoffrey Martin](mailto:Geoffrey Martin), 139 N 9<sup>th</sup> St #2L, Brooklin NY 11249

**Very limited copies still available. Get yours today! This book will not be reprinted.**

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### What are the letters in the OFA Code?

If you are one of the many who are not familiar with *The Oberholtzer Book* 1995 by Barbara Ford, there is a letter-number code before the name of the direct descendant.

The two-letter code represents the family line in America which Barbara Ford originally designed to distinguish between families with the same names:

HJ **Hans Jacob** of Hatfield Township PA His sons or daughters are then given a number:

HJ1

HJ2

HJ3

With each additional generation, another number is added

Some lines are distinguished by name/township or county codes:

SL	Samuel Oberholtzer of Lancaster County PA	1727 Immigrant
JF	Jacob Oberholtzer of Franconia Township PA	1702 Immigrant
ML	Michael Martin Oberholtzer of Lebanon County PA	1710 immigrant
MC	Marcus Oberholtzer of Chester County PA	1712 Immigrant
JB	Jacob Oberholtzer of Berks County PA	1769 Tax List