



81ST OVERHOLSER FAMILY ASSOCIATION REUNION

The 81st Overholser Family Association Reunion will be held Saturday August 25 at the Terre Hill Fire Hall, Terre Hill PA. The theme will be -OKTOBER FEST.

Plan to get there around 10:30 for registration and to greet old and new friends. At noon we will have a covered-dish lunch consisting of the usual tasty dishes brought by those attending. Please bring a hot or cold dish for the buffet table and your own drink and tableware.

After lunch, those present will introduce themselves and then we will go outside for the picture-taking session which is presided over by our expert photographer, DAN PETTIGREW.

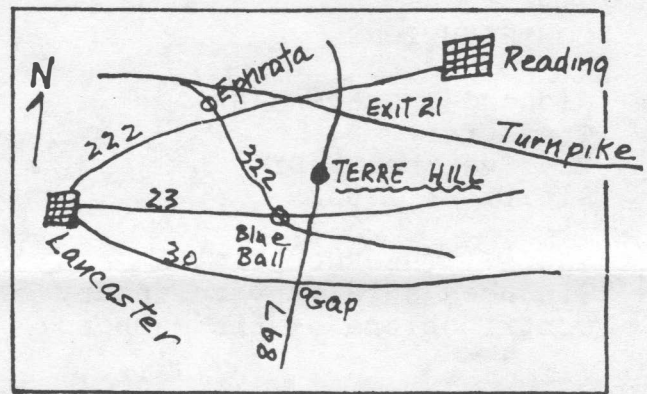
A brief business meeting will follow, presided over by President MILDRED PETTIGREW. There will be reports by Secretary ELLEN LIVINGOOD, Necrologist REV JOHN WEILER, and Treasurer DICK STEVENS. The meeting will adjourn with the singing of the Reunion Song led by RUTH OVERHOLSER.

There will be plenty of time for exchanging information on family lines and checking various books. Our expert genealogists include SPENCER OVERHOLSER, WILL OVERHOLTZER from Calif. and others who will try to help if you are "stuck" on your family. There will also be lineages from various branches available.

Of interest in the area are the Weaverland Mennonite Cemetery and the Terre Hill Cemetery. Also, two of III Martin Oberholtzer's houses are nearby. Ask SPENCER OVERHOLSER to direct you to them.

Parents of small children are reminded that there is a community playground just below the fire hall that their offspring might enjoy. Plan to bring balls and bats or other game paraphernalia.

We hope to see you August 25th.



(See specific directions on page 8.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sharon Benson Tacoma WA
Paul Calhoun Port Clinton OH
Bruce Coffey Kansas City KS
Frederick Cupp Hamilton OH
Michael Cupp Fairfield OH
Will Peadon Ashtabula OH
Vicki Timman Toledo OH

OVERHOLSER FAMILY
ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

Vol. XII No. 2 August 1990

Editor - Barbara B Ford
313 Henry Lane
Wallingford, PA 19086

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holser Family Association,
413 Appletree Rd, Camp Hill,
PA 17011

If for any reason, you do not
wish to receive the BULLETIN,
please let us know.

WHERE TO SEND

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES

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Necrologist
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Bethlehem PA 18017

CONTRIBUTIONS

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Treasurer
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Lititz PA 17543

(Note: THE BULLETIN is
financed solely by voluntary
contributions of the members)

QUERIES, NEW MEMBERS, CHANGE
OF ADDRESS, BACK ISSUES

Barbara B Ford
313 Henry La Wallingford PA
19086

PICTURES AVAILABLE

We have members who belong to
the Marcus Oberholtzer line and
some of them are from Martin Ober-
holtzer 1709-1744 Bucks Co PA. I
recently went up to Deep Run Menno-
nite Cemetery in Bedminster Twn in
Bucks Co and took pictures which
the Association is offering to any-
one who is interested. We have pic-
tures of Martin's tombstone, a long
view of the old cemetery, the tomb-
stone of Christian & Barbara (Mart-
in's daughter) Fretz (also a pic-
ture of the flag & marker put on by
the DAR), the old singing school-
house which is next to the cemetery
and the church which was built in
1948 replacing several others. The
pictures are available for a dona-
tion of \$.50 each plus a SASE from
your editor.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Our deep appreciation to these
members who have contributed to the
OFA since the last BULLETIN.
Sharon Benson, Tacoma WA
Paul Calhoun, Port Clinton OH
Bruce Coffey, Kansas City KS
Retta M Cunningham, Canyon TX
Clare O Haut, Albuquerque NM
Jo Ann Kester, Tipp City OH
Walter J Knauff, Washington DC
Arlene Martin, Mishawaka IN
Robert L McKinley, Pleasant Hill TN
Mrs Guy Mellinger, Findlay OH
Helen S Nightengale, Renton WA
M/M Harry Overholtzer, Pottstown PA
R William Peadon, Ashtabula OH
Mildred O Poley, Souderton PA
Ardella Reed, Cedar Bluff VA
M/M James Runyon, Reading PA
Helen Shonk, Dover OH
Dorothea S Strappe, Elmoed IL
Spencer Tinker, Honolulu HI

QUERY

Will Peadon, 6113 So McNutt Ave, Ashtabula OH 4004, is
interested in obtaining information on Rev Mathias Burchfield
1770-1822 OH who married Barbara Overholt 1775-1813 OH. Bar-
bara was the d/o Martin & Esther Fretz Overholt & granddaugh-
ter of Martin and Agnes Kolb Oberholtzer of Bucks Co PA.
Mathias' father and brother are said to have come from Scot-
land to PA.

SPENCER OVERHOLSER FANS

Your editor had the pleasure of visiting Ruth and Spen-
cer in their lovely home in Wyomissing PA. They are as busy
as ever-traveling, having visitors and keeping their calendar
as full as possible. Wyomissing is not hard to find if you
follow the directions and stop at gas stations to find out
why you aren't where you should be!

CHRISTIAN OVERHOLSER 1774-1841
Marcus 1, Martin 2, Martin 3, Christian 4

Billie Jo Read
140 Kleeman Court, Shawano WI 54166

I have always been bothered by the fact that although we knew a good deal about four of Christian's children, little was known about when Christian died, where he was buried or about his other three children.

A lady in Harrison Co OH, where Christian settled after leaving PA, went into the land records there for me. Christian bought land in North Twn from his father-in-law, Rev Joseph Gundy and some of the land is where the town of Conotton was founded. Christian and his brother-in-law sold to the United Brethern and Methodist Churches several acres of land, for the princely sum of 11 cents, land which was to be used for a joint meeting house and burial ground. Meeting houses and churches were built and used on this land for generations, plus the Conotton Cemetery is located there.

The lady decided to go to the old cemetery that had been donated by Christian and she and her husband walked through three times before coming up with the desired results. The lady said there were so many old stones not really readable until the sun hit the right place in the sky. This may be a clue for all of us, don't just look once at cemeteries but try different times of the day when trying to read old stones.

Buried in Conotton Cemetery, North Twn Harrison Co OH
Christian Overholt d 1/1/1841 67 yrs 7 mo 27 ds
(this death date may be slightly incorrect as Christian & wife Rebecca appeared in court 1/15/1841 about a land sale)
Hester Overholt d/o Christian & Rebecca
Born 5/24/1804, died 12/16/1822
Joseph Overholt s/o Christian & Rebecca
Born 6/20/1801, died 9/5/1896
Also on this stone-Francis w/o Joseph d 11/3/1864,
Christian & Rebecca, children of J & F Overholt

From court records-Joseph Overholt mar 2 10/27/1867
Catherine Firebaugh Heaston.

Information found in an old family bible in Whiteside Co IL. Another child of Christian-

Frances "Fannie" Picens d/o Christian & Rebecca Overholt
B 8/16/1821 North Twn Harrison Co OH. Mar 10/15/1838 William Picens. Died 4/21/1859 Wappallo Co IA. The Picens family moved from Harrison Co to Wappallo Co in 1848. Six children.

Rebecca Overholt d/o Christian & Rebecca mar 3/5/1838
James Robinson. Information is needed on this family.

If anyone would like further information found on this line, please feel free to write to me.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

Vivian Overholt Lewis of Grosse Ile MI writes that her first husband was related to Christian Overholt (I Marcus, II Martin, III Henry) whose son Henry (1817-1863) moved to Ohio with his family. He raised sheep and sheared, cleaned, dyed and wove the wool for coverlets. In West Overton (Scottsdale PA) the Overholt Homestead & Museum has a coverlet made in 1856 for Sarah Overholt by Henry Overholt. Vivian recently found and purchased a coverlet made in 1848, also by Henry. She is aware of another coverlet which is in the possession of Henry's family in Ohio.

Michael Cupp of Fairfield OH found the following article in the Eaton Democrat newspaper dated 11/29/1883, Eaton OH.

WIFE POISONING CASE

"Cynthia Harshman and Mary Overholtz. Cynthia promised to get Mary a husband worth \$50,000 in return for a deed to Mary's house and \$1,500 cash. Then Cynthia had an oyster supper and poisoned her own husband and Mary. Mary recovered but Mr Harshman remains in critical condition."

(Ed.-This Mary Overholtz could possibly be the widow of David Overholts who died in Eaton 1882. Census records show she was the only Mary living in the area at that time. David Overholtz was the s/o David Overholts who came from VA to Preble Co OH with his brother Abraham and other family members c1813

Dorothy Garrison of Mercer Island WA sent the following cemetery record-

CARNATION CEMETERY, CARNATION, KING CO WA

Joseph F Oberholtzer 1848-1929

Mabel Agnes Oberholtzer 1889-1942

(Ed.-1900 Missouri Greene Co-Joseph F Overholzer 11/1848 PA, Mary 9/1858 IN, Stella 5/1885 MO, Laura 9/1886, Mabel 4/1889

I believe that Joseph is a grandson of IV Daniel Overholser from I Samuel Oberholtzer of Lancaster Co PA.)

QUERY UPDATE

In the August 1989 BULLETIN Josephine Files of Lancaster PA was asking for help in finding the parents of Elizabeth Overholtz who mar 1798 in Frederick MD Abraham Renner. She was hoping for a miracle and after years of searching she didn't know where else to look. We recently found that Elizabeth was the d/o Isaac Overholt who died 1825 in Louth Twn, District of Niagara Province of Upper Canada. In his will, Isaac names daughter, Elizabeth wife of Abraham Reyner. It appears that he was one of the two Isaacs in the Frederick MD census 1790 and there is a strong possibility that he came from Bucks Co originally.

A MIRACLE!

JAMES M OVERHULS 114 W MAIN ST NORWALK OHIO

My great great great grandfather was Peter Oberholtzer of Shenandoah Co VA (s/o Samuel and Mary Eva Hauswirth Oberholtzer) who married 1791 Anne Bougman (Baughman). Shenandoah Co deed records show that a few years before Peter died, he sold the farm that he had inherited from his father on Millcreek in the middle of Shenandoah Co and bought a larger farm more in the southern part of Shenandoah Co. It seems that when Peter died, he was buried in a small private cemetery on the original Baughman farm, which I only learned about recently. It seems that over the years, either new owners or tenants on the farm plowed over the cemetery and threw the stones in a nearby pond. Once, when doing research in the Courthouse at Woodstock, Shenandoah Co, I saw a register book with names and address of other Baughman family researchers and I have been in touch with some of them ever since. Last year one of them phoned me to say that some tombstones had been recovered from the pond, which had been drained, and that one stone was Peter Oberholtzer's with the dates on it! From his estate papers, I knew that Peter had died in April 1818 and I could only guess about his birthdate. Ross Baughman of New York City, my Baughman correspondent, wrote that Linda Varney of Shenandoah Co, local historian and tombstone archivist, had come through with the inscription on Peter's tombstone which read 4 Jul 1766-1 Apr 1818. Now, 172 years after his death, researchers have the answer to their question about Peter's date of birth. This is proof that you should never give up!

1818
HIER RUHETT
DER PETER
OBERHOLSER
ERWAGEBOH
R E N D 4 JUL I
1766 ER TSTGE
S TOR D I ABRH

CHECKING ALL SOURCES

I had a letter from a gal who said she had been looking through some old quarterlies and found that I had sent material to a genealogical society in Pittsburgh PA on my Law family. She was looking for a Law family in Lawrence Co PA with a Cox connection. My Law family lived in Huntingdon Co PA but the name Cox caught my eye and I remembered that back years ago I had seen a Law-Cox connection that was not mine. I had kept the records and was able to give her marriage information and another generation of Laws that led her back to Huntingdon Co. She admitted that her letter to me was just a stab in the dark and that checking out all leads is so very important.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

A map of Bedminster Twn Bucks Co PA dated 1783 shows Frederick Atterhold with 214 acres. In 1782 the tax list in the same township lists Frederick Audischott, tanyard, with 219 acres. In 1783 the local tax in the same township lists Frederick Auderhold, 219 acres. In 1781 Frederick Overholt was in Capt McHenry's Bedminster company and in 1784 Frederick Overholt, tanner, has 219 acres. What name did they finally settle on?

I had written the above for this issue of the BULLETIN and recently found a query in the BUCKS CO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER that referred to Christian Aderhold b 1724 and Frederick Auderhold b 1748. I wrote to Dorothy Ehrhardt of La Mesa CA to see if Frederick Overholt was really her Frederick Auderhold. We both agree that they are the same man, therefore, we can eliminate him as an Overholt. She said the family also spelled the name Artherhold, Atherholt, and even Arthurholtz. Her immigrant ancestor was listed on the ship list as Christian Oderhold in 1753. Several people have written that they found a Jacob Oberholt bapt 1775 in York Co PA s/o Frederick & Jeanette Oberholt and they wondered what branch of the Overholts they belonged to. Dorothy has the 1775 Revolutionary War record of Frederick Aderholt who was born in York Co PA. I am quite sure that this Frederick is the one with son Jacob bapt 1775 in York Co PA.

In Dorothy's second letter she said that she had neglected to tell me that Frederick Artherholt mar Hester Bibighaus and Hester's mother was Mary Oberholtzer. This Mary was the d/o Jacob Oberholtzer 1699-1760 who was a s/o Marcus 1664-1726 Chester Co PA. This means that Dorothy and I are very distantly related!

TWO HENRY OVERHOLERS

Charlene Aitken of Huntington Beach CA has been working on her family which goes back to Jacob Overholser 1770-1850 Montgomery Co OH and has finally solved the problem of the two Henrys. There was Henry Overholser (1) who married Mary McCormick 9/30/1830 Montgomery Co Ohio. The other Henry Overholser (2) mar Barbara Burket 7/29/1832 in Montgomery Co Ohio. Both Henrys went to two different locations in Iowa. Henry (1) was found buried in Union Cem Lockridge Twn Jefferson Co IA. He died 8/12/1867 age 55 yrs & 9 ds which would make his birth date 8/3/1812. In the Somerset Co PA records of Jacob's children, his son Henry was listed in the German Reformed Church records as being born 8/3/1812. Henry (2) is mentioned as possibly being the s/o John Overholser 1764-1842 Montgomery Co OH. Charlene sent the estate settlement of this John and the heirs are mentioned-children and some grandchildren. There is no Henry on the list, therefore, we have to look for another father for Henry (2) who, according to census records, was born c1809 in PA.

ERNEST CARL OBERHOLTZER

One of the notable leaders of North American Wilderness preservation was Ernest Carl Oberholtzer, pioneer in the movement to protect the Minnesota-Ontario canoe country and a founder of THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY. He helped to establish both the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Voyageurs National Park. As one of the Society's eight organizers in 1935, a member of its governing council until 1968 and honorary vice president from 1968 until his death 6/6/1977, he played an important role in our work to protect America's wilderness heritage. He received the Department of the Interior's Conservation Award in 1967. A Bronze plaque dedicated in 1973 on Mallard Island in Rainy Lake, MN marks the wild setting where Ober lived for more than half of his 93 year span. "The Living Wilderness", Obers Long Shadow, R Newell Searle (Ed.-Ernest Carl Oberholtzer was born 1884 in Davenport IA, the son of _____ & Rosy Carl Oberholtzer. Rosy was the d/o Earnest Carl of Davenport)

Sharon Benson of Tacoma WA sent a copy of the Civil War discharge of Samuel Oberholtzer that was sent to her by the National Archives and it was not her Samuel Overholser's record. This Samuel Oberholtzer, I believe, is the s/o Abraham and Susanna Wenger Oberholtzer who went West at an early age and died in Cook Co IL and was in the Jacob Oberholtzer 1704-1755 Brecknock Twn Lancaster Co PA line.

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY FOR
DISCHARGE 11/24/1862

Samuel Oberholzer enlisted 8th IL Cav. Co E 9/10/1861 at Naperville IL. He was 33, 5 ft. 9 1/2 in. with dark complexion, blue eyes & brown hair and was a laborer, born in Lancaster Co PA. He was a Corp. and was discharged Convalescent Camp near Alexandria VA. The reason being-"an injury of the right wrist so that he is unable to grasp anything; also another injury that made it impossible for him to march; these injuries were received by having a horse fall on him 6/1862."

(Ed.-1860 Census IL DuPage Co Naperville p 56
Samuel Oberholzer 30, miller, b PA Elizabeth 28, Henry 7
(Harry?) George 2, Ida 1)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION ARE NOT ONLY APPRECIATED BUT
NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE COST OF PRINTING AND MAILING THE
BULLETIN. HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR 1990?

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Genealogist, Barbara B Ford 313 Henry La.
Editor Wallingford, PA 19086

HOW TO GET TO THE REUNION

Terre Hill is a town of 1,200 located in the Pennsylvania Dutch country of Lancaster County, midway between Lancaster and Reading. The Fire Hall is on the main street, with plenty of parking at the rear.

From Lancaster: 15 mi NE via Rts 222, 23, 897
From Reading: 15 mi SW via Rts 222, 897
From Gap on Rt 30: 15 mi N via Rt 897
From Exit 21 (Reading), PA Turnpike: 5 mi S via Rt 897

Closest motels:

New Holland: Country Squire Motor Inn, Rt 23 (504 E Main)
(6 miles) Hollander Motel, Rt 23 (320 E Main)
Ephrata: Dutchmaid Motel: Rt 272 (8 miles)

Many motels and restaurants are in the Lancaster and Reading area.

Overholser Family Association

413 Appletree Road
Camp Hill, Pa. 17011

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