



1991 OVERHOLSER FAMILY REUNION

The 82nd Reunion of the Overholser Family Association will be held Saturday, August 24th at the Fire Hall in Terre Hill, PA.

Plan to be there around 10:30 for registration. Greet old friends and relatives, meet new ones and update your family history records. There will be family charts, books and photos. Bring any you would like to share.

At noon, a "pot luck" covered dish lunch will be served. Please bring a hot or cold dish for the buffet table and your own drinks and tableware.

After lunch, we will have a very brief business meeting, followed by a special award ceremony for our Honorary Officers, Robert M Overholser, Esta Buch Herr and Spencer Overholser, who have given so much time and effort to our Association over the years.

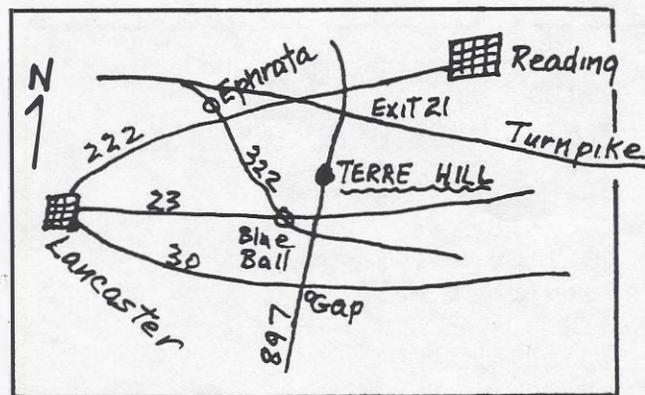
There will be special prizes for the oldest, youngest, the traveler from the greatest distance, as well as the best short story/joke offered in Pennsylvania Dutch.

After the meeting, for those who wish, there will be plenty of time for exchanging information on family lines and consulting with other researchers. You may also wish to visit the nearby Terre Hill Cemetery (half a block away) in which many of the Overholser ancestors are buried.

Parents are reminded that there is a community park and playground next to the Fire Hall, so bring your children and a frisbee and turn them loose.

Please phone your relatives and invite them to attend with you. Help us to make this the largest and best Reunion yet.

Will Overholtzer



(See specific directions on page 7.)

NATURALIZATION OF AN OBERHOLZER

Margie Koutroulis of Spring TX sent a copy of the naturalization papers for Joseph Auselin Julius Oberholzer of Goldingen Ct., St. Gallen, Switzerland who landed in New York 1891 at age 36 and was a resident of Louisiana in 1898.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Katherine Farrar, Fair Oaks CA
Charles H Field Jr, Douglas AZ
Carol Lee Gibbons, Livonia MI
Lori O Luna, Los Osos CA
James S Oberholtzer, Chicago IL
M/M L E Overholser, West Milton OH

OVERHOLSER FAMILY
ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

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

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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

Rev John R Weiler
Necrologist
1825 Center St #A-105
Bethlehem PA 18017

CONTRIBUTIONS

Richard I Stevens Sr
Treasurer
224 Swarthmore Dr
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

HANS JACOB OVERHOLZ
CONTINUED FROM 8/1989 BULLETIN PAGE 2

Jacob Oberholtzer's wife Susanna survived him by six years. In her will, written 5/10/1773 and proved 4/14/1774, she devised &25 to both Catherine, w/o Richard Gabel and to Margaret, w/o John Gabel, the latter woman to get her silver shoe buckles, best quilted petticoat and beaver hat! To Elizabeth, w/o Jacob Seiple, she left &20; to Susanna Gabel, d/o Richard, &5; a like amount to Susanna, d/o Abraham Up de Grave, and &3 each to Henry and Edward, his sons who were named executors. Abraham Up de Grave and Edward were to get one English shilling, as was Ann, w/o John Tyson.

Since no mention was made of either Henry Oberholtzer or Elizabeth Savacool, there is a strong probability that she was Jacob Oberholtzer's 2nd wife. Her tombstone has not been located; but beside that of Jacob in the Towamencin Mennonite Cem. is a stone which bears the name Catharina Oberholtzer, and the date 10/20/1741. It is suggested that this Catharina was Jacob's 1st wife and the mother of Henry and Elizabeth.

Henry Oberholtzer, the son, was a cooper by trade. He married Barbara Godshalk, granddaughter of old Bishop Jacob Godshalk of Towamencin, and daughter of John and Helena Godshalk of Hatfield. The Cassel land-purchased from Baltzer Stam-had originally been settled by John Godshalk. Besides Jacob Oberholtzer's land, which adjoined Cassel's property to the south east, Henry Oberholtzer purchased on 8/3/1772 the 50 acre tract between it and the Forty-Foot road, as well as a small 17 acre property across the line from Gabriel Frey. This he conveyed to his son Jacob Oberholtzer 5/27/1773 for &225.

From Ron Oberholtzer
604 WINSLOW AVE
NORTH CAPE MAY NJ 08204

Mrs Ardelle M Reed, PO Box 1431, Cedar Bluff VA 24609 would like a correction to her name when she was listed as a contributor in the 8/1988 BULLETIN and her address added.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION ARE NOT ONLY APPRECIATED BUT NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE COST OF PRINTING AND MAILING THE BULLETIN. HAVE YOU SENT YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR 1991?

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Our deep appreciation to these members who have contributed to the OFA since the last BULLETIN. Thank you for your support!

Helen Bogener St Charles MO	Phyllis J Lare Holland MI	Mildred O Poley Souderton PA
Shelly Chapman Kohoka MO	Beverly J Molstad Miles City MT	Mrs Dale Rhinehart Painesville OH
Bruce L Coffey Kansas City KS	Mrs Warren Nagle Wyomissing PA	M/M James Runyon Reading PA
M/M Dale A Crites Spring Hill, FL	Stanley W Nach British Columbia Canada	Billie Jo Read Bonduel WI
Charles H Field Jr Douglas AZ	Anna Mary Oberholtzer Akron PA	Helen Shonk Dover OH
Arlene Fitzgerald Pottstown PA	Buell W Oberholser San Luis Obispo CA	M/M Lawrence W Stevens Clearfield PA
Carol Lee Gibbons Livonia MI	James S Oberholtzer Chicago IL	Dorothea S Strappe Elmwood IL
JoAnn Kester Tipp City OH	Theresa Overholser Granville OH	Virgie Walker Wilmington OH
Opal Kirk Gerber CA	Lloyd S Overholt Blooming Glen PA	Oklahoma Hist. Society Overholser Mansion (Courtesy Women's Comm. Historical Preservation)
Margie O Koutroulis Spring TX	John A M Overholt Surrey, England	Oklahoma OK

OUR ENGLISH COUSIN NEEDS HELP

John A M Overholt of Surrey, England has been seeking his roots in Bucks Co, trying to find more about his ancestor Abraham Overholt 1746 PA-1840 Fonthill, Ontario, Canada. Abraham, his wife and their 5 children settled in Thorold Twn. Lincoln Co Ontario in 1788 where they were given homestead grants as United Empire Loyalists. In his will, Abraham mentions that he had not been compensated for his losses in the U.S. at the time of the Revolution of some \$1,000. He left 1 acre to the Moneasts to use for a burial ground and for the construction of a church. The land eventually reverted 20 years after his death to the family. The land in question is referred to as the Overholt burial ground in Fonthill. This is the burial ground that a farmer ploughed under and now only about 18 stones remain out of the original some 265 stones.

John mentioned that about 35 years ago while at Waterloo College he had a piece of Pennsylvania Dutch apple pie and he still remembers how delicious it was. He asked if I could send a recipe for the pie so I contacted Ruth Overholser and she came up with two recipes. John reports that both pies were a great success. John's daughter Caroline is recording her first album and, naturally, there is great excitement in his household.

JACOB OVERHOLSER 1770-1850
FROM SOMERSET CO, PA TO MONTGOMERY CO OH CA 1818

For many years we have wondered where Jacob Overholser came from before appearing in Somerset Co PA 1799. Rev I E Oberholtzer who researched the family in the 1920's left only one clue and that was the fact that Jacob had a brother Peter who died in PA. I am delighted to report that Jacob's family was found in Adams Co Pa.

Charlene Aitken of Huntington Beach CA and I have been exchanging information for a year and a half about the possibility that Jacob Overholser came from Adams Co. She had me send her all the early Penna. Oberholtzers, Overholsters so she could check every family out for clues. She is no doubt the most thorough researcher I have run across and it was a pleasure to work with her on this project. She had found an Orphans Court record in Adams Co PA for a John Overholser who died 1809 leaving a family of 10 children (one son had died) which included a Jacob who would fit into the 1770 birthdate of Jacob. John Overholser Sr was a blacksmith, as was his son John Jr. Jacob was listed as a blacksmith on the tax list in Reading Twn., York Co (now Adams Co) for the last time in 1797 and then appears on the 1799 tax list Quemahoning Twn, Somerset Co where he was the first blacksmith in Stoystown PA. When the estate of John Sr was sold in 1809, his sons bought items at the sale except Jacob and that would show that he wasn't in the area, as were his brothers.

- I John Overholser c1740-1809 Reading Twn Adams Co PA
mar Mary Chronister died bef 12/13/1824 Adams Co
d/o Johannes Chronister & Maria Barbara Weidenbach
- II Abraham Overholser c1763-11/23/1836, single
- II Mary Overholser mar c1789 David Weaver
- II John Overholser mar Margaret
- II Jacob Overholser 3/9/1770-3/14/1850 Mont. Co OH
mar 1 Elizabeth, mar 2 Catharine Miller Overholser
- II Benjamin Overholser died bef 5/18/1807 Adams Co
- II Samuel Overholser 3/7/1774-8/10/1832 Adams Co
mar Lucy F 11/4/1779-8/7/1861
- II Barbara Overholser 2/25/1776-1/23/1853 Adams Co
mar Samuel Arnold
- II Catharine Overholser 6/21/1778-10/27/1852 Adams Co
mar Johannes Chronister 4/20/1774-10/6/1841
- II Esther Overholser
- II Henry Overholser 8/7/1786-2/11/1853 Adams Co
mar Sarah c1791-11/10/1877
- II Peter Overholser c1788 mar Anna Maria

Johannes Cronister emigrated to Penna. 1738 on the WINTER GALLEY. Maria Barbara Weidenbach came to Penna. with her parents Heinrich & Anna Margaretha Weidenbach 1736 on the HARLE.

John Overholser Sr could possibly be an immigrant who was on a missing ship list. He was found in York Co in 1762 as a single man with no other Overholser on the list.

Jacob Overholser was single on the 1797 tax list in Reading Twn Adams Co and appears married on the 1799 tax list of Somerset Co so he could have married before leaving Adams Co or after arriving in Somerset Co. He had a store in Quemahoning Twn, Somerset Co for a few years, then a still which later became a distillery that he had until the last tax list he was on in 1818 when he moved on to Montgomery Co OH.

Bruce L Coffey of Kansas City KS is also from this line and in May 1990 he wrote seeking information on his Samuel Overholser who mar Caroline Long and lived in Crawford Co IL. Rhetta Cunningham had sent him an article from an OFA BULLETIN which identified Samuel's family and that prompted him to write to us. The National Archives had sent the Civil War military record of a Samuel Oberholser who proved to be the wrong man so Bruce became determined to find his Samuel's record because he had died in the Civil War. One night he went to a local library and went over 3000 pages of records without success and then the next night, after going through 7 books, he found his Samuel in the 155th Infantry IL Co E, mustered in 2/22/1865 and died 4/4/1865 in the General Hospital at Tullahoma, TN.

Samuel, s/o John & Elizabeth Neiswenger Overholser (oldest s/o Jacob 1770-1850), was the eldest brother of Henry Overholser of Oklahoma City OK fame. Bruce has been a real digger and recently found material on the Neiswengers that traces them back to Switzerland. Bruce also sent pictures of the tombstones of John Overholser 1838-1889 (brother of his Samuel), his wife, Virilinda 1842-1917 and Ella O Cobb 1857-1850 (d/o his Samuel), her husband Allen B Cobb 1857-1917, all of Palestine IL. And from Hendley NE he sent a picture of the tombstone of Thomas Jefferson Morris and his wife Eliza Jane O Morris, another d/o of Samuel and Bruce's great grandparents.

We are deeply indebted to Charlene Aitken for all the work she has done on this family and to Bruce Coffey for all the contributions he has made.

Bill and Eunice Overholser of West Milton OH have located a mausoleum in Arlington Cemetery near Brookville OH with the name OVERHOLSER. This contains members of the family of John Overholser s/o the above Jacob. In looking inside they found these names-John Overholser 1809-1862, Elizabeth Overholser 1810-1891, Noah Overholser 1831-1906, Joseph Overholser 1842-1898, Harvey Overholser 1844-1896, Mary Hiestand 1833-1907 (1928?), Amanda Overholser 1859-1900. Bill and Eunice hope to possibly get into the mausoleum to get a better look at the dates because a few were hard to read.

Theresa Overholser of Granville OH writes that her maternal grandfather's family was from the same area in Adams Co as her husband's Overholser's and that the Chronisters appear to have followed the same migration from Austria as her father's family, even settling in the same area of Bavaria!

DAN PETTIGREW

Dan Pettigrew, the OFA reunion official photographer, soundman and most of all our friend, died 1/9/1991 in Pottstown PA. His daughter Mary said that he was always there and ready to help anybody at any time and those of the Association are so well aware of that. Our hearts go out to his wife Millie, our former president and now our secretary. While Millie was president, Dan was her "right hand man" and he will be sorely missed by all who got to know him at reunions. He also leaves three children, Mary Powell, Nancy Kunze, Dan Pettigrew 3rd and six grandchildren.

A QUEEN IN ONE OF THE OBERHOLTZER LINES?

Jennie Sperling of Lansdale PA wrote that she found a Queen Victoria Oberholtzer in a cemetery record and we both wondered if this was really her name. In checking the various files, I found her on page 123 of Loomis' book on Jacob Oberholtzer and her last name was Booz before she married Josiah Oberholtzer in 1888.

UPDATE

Billie Jo Read of Bonduel WI (8/1990 BULLETIN article) writes that she had the gravestone of Christian Overholser rechecked and because the stone is so worn, she is suggesting that the date of death is either 1841 or 1844.

MARCUS OBERHOLTZER C1664-1726 LINE
MARTIN OVERHOLT C1745-1817 MARRIED ELIZABETH NASH

I noticed that several of our members have Martin's death as 1815. He wrote his will 12/5/1816 after his sister Magdalena Hunsberger died 2/1816 and said "expenses to be paid out of legacy coming to me from my brother-in-law Christian Hunsbury and Magdalena his wife." The will was proved 2/13/1817.

Martin's grandson Martin Overholt 1798-1844 married Elizabeth Dinstman. Her sister Anna Dinstman married Joseph Overholt 1803-1854. In the Oberholtzer-Nash book Rev A. J. Fretz spells it Dinstman in the Nash section and Tinstman in the Oberholtzer section although they were from the same family. Elizabeth and Anna were daughters of Matthias TINSTMAN, a Mennonite minister. The family immigrant was Adam Tinstman who came from Germany to Bucks Co and then to Westmoreland Co in 1797.

OUR 99 YEAR OLD GARDENER

Robert M Oberholser writes that in May he planted peas, lettuce, cabbage & onions with other vegetables to follow. He is anticipating his 100th birthday September 18th with his daughter Elizabeth Frey planning an open house.

A SMALL WORLD

I saw a query in the Penna. Mennonite Heritage which related indirectly to one of my families. I sent the writer my information along with the name of another researcher who was in her direct line. Her thank you said that when my letter arrived, she was preparing a trip from Texas to Penna. to see her brother who just happened to live near the researcher I had referred her to and she was able to spend an evening with him learning alot about the family.

NEW NASH INFORMATION

Stanley Nash of British Columbia, Canada has found the names of the first two wives of William Nash who married for the third time Agnes Kolb Oberholtzer, widow of Martin who died 1744 Bucks Co PA. William's first wife was Magdalena Gottshalk, the mother of 3 girls and his second wife was Hannah Linderman, mother of Magdalena and William Jr. Stanley and other members Jennie Sperling and Claire Haut have been working on the Nash family and report that William Nash was the s/o John Naish and Ann Colley of Upper Dublin Twn. Ann Colley Naish's parents, John and Susannah Colley were Quakers who settled in Philadelphia in 1683.

JIM KEHEW'S NEWS

In September, Jim joined 73 other bicycle riders for a 3 week 1600 mile trip from Maine to Florida. The second day out he celebrated his 74th birthday and, as you can imagine, he was the oldest rider in the group. As they left Washington DC Jim crashed into another rider, went over the handlebars and landed on his head. After five hours in the hospital, he went home with a stoved neck, black eyes and beaucoup lacerations. A few months later Jim got up one night and opened the wrong door-it was the cellar door and he went down the steps and landed on his head! The last report we had is that he has mended and is sitting at home wondering what will happen next!

**Give your children two priceless things;
one is Roots, the other is Wings.
Author unknown**

OFFICERS

President Willard E Overholtzer, 2440 El Pavo Way,
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

1st Vice President Chuck Carroll, 322 Edge Hill Road
North Hills PA 19038

2nd Vice President Darwin Overholt, 4129 Swamp Rd.
Doylestown PA 18901

Recording Secretary Mildred Pettigrew, 816 N Evans St.
Pottstown PA 19464

Treasurer Richard Stevens, 224 Swarthmore Dr.
Lititz, PA 17543

President Emeritus Spencer Overholser, 58 Downing Drive,
Wyomissing PA 19610

Vice Pres. Emeritus Esta Buch Herr, Lititz, PA

Necrologist Emeritus Robert M Oberholser, RD 2, Ardena
Freehold NJ 07728

Chaplain, Rev. John Weiler 1825 Center St A-105
Necrologist Bethlehem PA 18017

Genealogist, Editor Barbara Ford 313 Henry La.
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

HARRISBURG PA 170 PM 07/22/91

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