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90th OVERHOLSER FAMILY REUNION

The President's Column

Greetings across America or where ever you are. May the 90th Reunion be as enjoyable or more so than earlier ones.

First of all, we have received several suggestions concerning future reunions. One disadvantage is that the officers do not live close by, hence a round table discussion is a problem. I am looking forward to this year's reunion so that a committee may be formed to work out some of these ideas and obtain additional ones for future reunions.

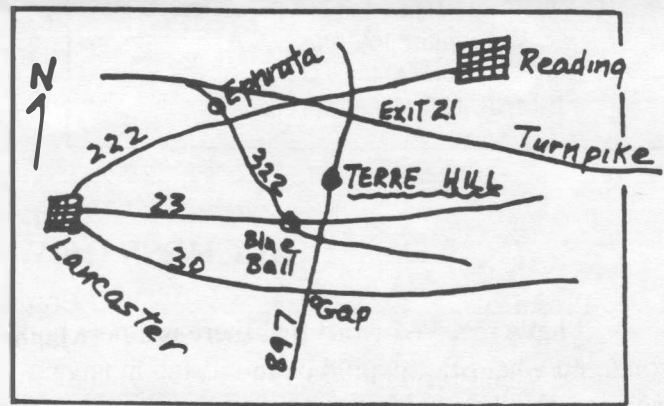
By the way, are any of you locals willing to assist the out of state folks by having a "Bed and Breakfast" for a fee, of course.

The above are some suggestions and, of course, there may be more given at the reunion. Should there be some ideas agreed upon at the meeting for the year 2000, a form could be put in a newsletter to send back to the committee to work on. So bring your suggestions to the reunion.

At the last Reunion, Dick Lucas of Caledonia, Ontario suggested a Friday night get together for those traveling a distance. Spencer and Ruth Overholser went to Yoder's Restaurant, which is on the edge of New Holland, and reserved a room for an informal together on Friday night August 20th beginning at 6 p.m. New Holland is just a little west of Blue Ball. The restaurant is on Route 23 and their telephone number is 717-665-5869. The Pennsylvania Dutch are known for their great cooking and I know the meal will make a big hit with our out-of-town visitors. You can order from the menu or enjoy their Hot Buffet. Senior citizens (62 or older) receive a 10% discount. Bring memorabilia for after dinner visiting.

I hope to see you at the Reunion Saturday, August 21st at the Terre Hill Community Center, Terre Hill PA which starts at 10:30 a.m. We will have a covered dish lunch at noon. Please bring a hot or cold dish for the buffet table and your own beverage and tableware. If you are traveling a distance, we will furnish the food etc. After the Reunion, there will be a brief business meeting.

Parents of small children are reminded that there is a community playground just below the Center that their off-spring will enjoy.



See specific directions on page 10

D Ernest Weinhold

**OVERHOLSER FAMILY
ASSOCIATION BULLETIN**

Vol. XXI No. 2 August 1999

Editor - Barbara B Ford
313 Henry Lane
Wallingford PA 19086

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

WHERE TO SEND

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(Note: The Bulletin is financed solely by voluntary
contributions of the members)

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES
ALL CORRESPONDENCE
INCLUDING CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kay D Atkinson	William L McHenry
Dayton OH	Vestal NY
Don L Felts	John D Sykes
Marathon FL	Nashua NH
Karen D Kline	Cheryl Wise
Goletz CA	Loretto MN

OUR MEMBERSHIP

We have members in all States except
Alaska, Connecticut, Massachusetts,
Rhode Island and South Dakota. And
those members outside the States live
in Canada, England, Sweden, Switzer-
land and South Africa.

OOPS!

On page 5 of the February 1999
Bulletin, I had Sarah E Sink dying 1846.
She was the 3rd w/o Isaac Overholt
[MC7590] and actually died 1946.

REUNION

The Fretz Family Association will
hold their reunion 8/14/1999 at
Men-O-Lan, Quakertown PA.
Contact: Betty Heazel 410-647-5449

DUCHESS OF WALLINGFORD?

I have received word that there is a new book out that tells you how to buy noble titles and I wondered what title I would be interested in having. I don't think Princess Barbara sounds right and I know my family would object to having to call me Queen. I guess that Countess or Duchess of Wallingford would suite me better. Of course, I don't imagine a Duchess writes a newsletter so I better forget about buying a title.

OBERHOLTZER COAT-OF-ARMS LAPEL PINS

Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Association received Oberholtzer Coat-of-Arms lapel pins which can be purchased from Barbara Ford at \$4 plus \$.50 S/H. The colors in the pins are gray, green and yellow.



Exact size

THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK

A Foundation book of Oberholtzer Immigrants and Unestablished Lines

BOOK ORDER FORM

From: Name _____

Address _____

To: Overholser Family Association
c/o Barbara Ford, 313 Henry Lane, Wallingford PA 19086

Book Quantity _____ x \$29.50 \$ _____

PA Residents, add 6% Sales Tax (\$1.77 per book) \$ _____

Shipping & Handling \$3.50 \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks for the books and pins out to the Overholser Family Association

A WARNING

I wrote to a historical society recently and asked one question. I filled in the background of this person just for their information and when I received a reply, I found that they did other research that I didn't request. I already had that information. I was upset when I saw the bill I got was \$23 for a simple question. If you are writing to a historical society, I would suggest that you underline your question and point out that is all you are asking for.

.....

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Our sincere thanks to the members who contributed to the OFA from January to June whose support we deeply appreciate.

Dr John/Margaret Arnold
White Bear Lake MN

Juanita Brown
Cookeville TN

Phyllis L Chapman
Kahoka MO

Bruce L Coffey
Freeport ME

Jonathan B Detwiler
Phoenixville PA

Anna D Duke
Owensboro KY

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Stanley W Nash
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John L Oberholser
Narvon PA

David M Oberholtzer
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James E Oberholtzer
Fairport NY

Noah L Oberholtzer
Leola PA

Leonard R Overholser
San Jose CA

Lyndon E Overholser
Overland Park KS

Gwendolyn Overholt
Amherstburg, Ontario

Karen Overholt
Denver CO

Charles/Virginia Peterson
Columbia MO

William L Rose
Pinehurst NC

Robert/Helen Shonk
Dover OH

Ralph W Smith
Delta OH

Virgie Walker
Wilmington OH

Cheryl A Wise
Independence MN

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 1999?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Do you believe everything you see in print? If you do, you might change your mind when I tell you about the marriage of Samuel Overholser ca 1804 to Susannah Trimmer 1795-1876. This makes her age 9 when she married and age 8 when she had her first child in 1803. I found this on the Internet while checking out the Overholser name. Six children of Samuel, who died 8/10/1832, and Susannah are given with their dates and the reference is the Trimmer Notebooks. I thought some of the information sounded familiar and I found this Samuel in THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK as JA6 but when he died in 1832, Adams County Orphans Court records list his wife Lucy and 8 children (their 9th child Mary died earlier). The same six children are included in this list. Samuel and Lucy (born 11/4/1779, died 8/7/1861) are buried in the Hampton Lutheran & Reformed Cemetery, Reading Twp, Adams Co PA. To add to the confusion, Susanna Trimmer "Overholser" is said to be buried in the Hampton Lutheran Cemetery. Elizabeth Overholser [JA61] 7/16/1803-11/28/1873, eldest daughter of Samuel and Lucy was the wife of Jacob Bosserman 8/4/1803-7/9/1873 Adams Co.

A CORRECTION & ADDITION

On page 95 of Loomis' **JACOB OBERHOLTZER GENEALOGY**, #39 Abraham Oberholtzer married Rachel Bauman who is said to have died 11/28/1851. In the 1851 census, which was taken in the spring of the year, Abraham is listed as a widower so his wife probably died 11/1850. He married again Nancy (Bechtel) Baumann 6/6/1808-8/3/1855 Waterloo Co, Ontario. Nancy was the widow of John Baumann/Bowman. No other genealogy of this family has mentioned this marriage but Deborah Gilbert found it when she checked Abraham's will, written 5/15/1854, where he names his widow "she of late having been the widow of John Bowman". He appoints his son Owen and son-in-law Jacob B Bowman executors of his will. I would like to point out that he did not use a middle initial when he signed his name. Loomis had added the middle initial "M".

REF: Waterloo Twp, Waterloo Co, Ontario-Will of Abraham Oberholtzer, Will Book A, Folio 52.
Deborah Gilbert, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS

IC3112 Bidwell Randall Overholt (1855-1907) known as Sed, married 1881 Annie Melick

IC3113 Truman Raymond Overholt (1857-1919) m 1881 Ellen Misener

IC3115 Spencer Isaac Overholt (1863-1918) m 1893 Alberta Deeks

IC3117 Emma Frances Overholt (1868-1959) m1 Arthur Furniss, m2 Beverly Aulph

IC3118 John Wesley Overholt (1875-1957) m Ruby Aulph

All these children lived in Wainfleet Twp, Wainfleet Ontario. There is a picture of John Wesley Overholt Sr, his 2nd wife and his 8 children taken 1896 in this article.

REF: Chronicles of Wainfleet Twp. Compiled by The Book Committee, Wainfleet Historical Society 1992. Contributed by Mary Ellen Payne, Nampa ID

AV33 Mary Abshire 9/27/1809-12/31/1864 Randolph Co IN m Pleasant Bales 9/21/1810 OH-2/8/1865

AV331 Hannah Bales 9/23/1833 IN-7/10/1916 IN m Urbane C Baldwin 5/4/1830 NC-2/12/1873 IN

AV3311 Mary Eliz. Baldwin 11/28/1854 IN-3/17/1896 IN m Uriah A Hinshaw 1/16/1852-10/10/1933

REF: John H Kinyon, Fox River Grove IL

AV36 Abner Abshire 7/28/1816-1859 m Emily Robbins

AV361 Elizabeth Ann Abshire m Benjamin F Thompson

AV3611 Edward C Thompson m Clara M Stevenson

REF: Shirley T Pyle, Richmond IN

Add

MC1837 Elizabeth Meyers m 10/16/1815 Henry Kendig

Her name is not included in the **MOYER FAMILY HISTORY** by Rev A J Fretz.

REF: Estate papers of Magdalena Meyers [MC183]. Contributed by Valerie Miller, Navarre OH

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so that when you die, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

Contributed by Billie Overholser Stewart, Beaver creek OH

A CANADIAN DETECTIVE

Deborah Gilbert of Thunder Bay, Ontario is seeking the parents of Abigail Oberholtzer, born c1835 in the area of Waterloo, Canada, who married William Stauffer. She has eliminated the 3 brothers Jacob, Abraham and Henry Oberholtzer who went to Canada in 1826 from Montgomery Co PA. Their families are well documented in Loomis' JACOB OBERHOLTZER GENEALOGY. With her super sleuth hat on, Deborah has spent months pouring over records. We both suspect that Abigail belongs to one of the sons of Isaac Oberholtzer 1759-1840 [HJ14], grandson of 1730 immigrant Hans Jacob Oberholtzer, who settled in Hatfield, Montgomery Co PA. Two of Isaac's sons, Henry [HJ143] and Joseph [HJ144] are known to have settled in Canada. Henry is in the 1824 census of East Waterloo Twp, Upper Canada and in 1827, 4 brothers are in the census for that area-Henry, Joseph, Daniel [HJ145] and Abraham [HJ148]. The latter two then return to Hatfield. Abigail is in the 1851 census as a domestic and unfortunately, her family can't be found because the rest of the census is missing. HJ143 Henry Oberholtzer m 4/4/1811 Elizabeth Fisher

The 1825 census shows Henry with a wife and 4 children. Deborah believes that two of their children are Simon Oberholtzer who married c1838 Elizabeth Strohm/Strome and Susanna Oberholtzer who married 3/18/1845 George Bear.

HJ144 Joseph Oberholtzer c1787-2/23/1868 m 6/17/1851 Margaret (Alleman/Allman) Wifler b c1809. He was naturalized 6/13/1832. In his will written 12/10/1866, he leaves half the property where he lives to his wife Margaret Oberholtzer, alias Wifler, and the other half to his sister Susannah Bergey. His remaining estate is to go to his nine brothers and sisters with Susannah to have her full share with them. Unfortunately, the final distribution of his estate is missing from the records.

There is another brother John Oberholtzer [HJ142] who might be the father of Abigail. More about him in the next Bulletin.

JACOB OBERHOLTZER GENEALOGY, E S Loomis John S Oberholtzer #480 page 112

In a letter written 9/30/1933 to Rev I E Oberholtzer, John S Oberholtzer said that his grandfather Michael Oberholtzer [JF1317] never used any middle letter in his name. John had his German testament with his signature and there was no middle letter. The initial "A" was used by Loomis and I used it in THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK. John further states "we had at home an old set of drawers with Annie Allebach's name inlaid on the top drawer and I was told by my mother that it was the name of great grandmother." John's great grandmother's name was Catharine Allabaugh/Allebach. Could this be a clue to the name of Catharine's mother? John also said "my great grandfather Jacob Oberholtzer [JF131] at the time of his death was living with his wife at the home of their daughters' Mary and Hannah about a mile east of Rahns Station in Montgomery Co and I was told that he paid a visit to Chester Co where he died and was buried there." On page 91 of his book, Loomis listed this Hannah as the wife of Daniel Cassel which is not true. This couple belongs to the Hans Jacob Oberholtzer [HJ] of Hatfield Twp, Montgomery Co line. Hannah, d/o Jacob [JF131], remained single, died 2/10/1887 and is buried in the family plot in Lower Skippack Mennonite Cemetery. John S Oberholtzer married Margaret Thompson 6/1862-6/1914 and they had 10 children.

OVERHOLTZER CHURCH FURNITURE INC.

There was an article in the Modesto Bee March 20, 1999 about Overholtzer Church Furniture Inc. which is owned by Durand Overholtzer in Modesto CA. This 47 year old business is continuing a tradition of woodworking that dates back four centuries to Oberholz, Switzerland. The firm's products are church pews, communion tables, altars, chairs, pulpits and lecterns. About 60% of their business comes from congregations east of the Mississippi River with the East Coast congregations preferring colonial styles while the West Coast churches prefer more contemporary styles.

The firm was started by Durand's father Elvan in 1956. Durand is a minister in the Old German Baptist Church.

Another business owned by Durand and his son John is the Wood Colony Millworks. They make custom wood entryways, doors, mantels, columns and windows. This business was started in 1979 by Elvan Overholtzer. When the article was written, the firm was making a 15 foot mahogany entryway that includes etched glass and brass coming, which holds cut or stained glass together, on the transom and side window panels.

Durand's great grandfather David Jay Overholtzer was written up, as was his great great grandfather Peter in the August 1998 BULLETIN pages 5 and 6.

GROVELAND

Jennie Sperling of Lansdale PA sent information about an old house in Plumstead Twp, Bucks Co called "Groveland". The land it stands on was purchased in 1735 from the Penns. In 1798 the house was listed as an unfinished two story stone house which measured 28x16 ft. The house and 132 acres were purchased at auction in 1825 for \$1579.40 by Jacob Overholt [JF151]. In 1828 the main portion of the house (present living and diningroom and the rooms above) was constructed. There is a datestone on the gable of the house-"C & SM 1828". Jacob Overholt's only child Susan and her husband Christian Myers made the additions. In 1888 the house was described as a two story stone house with stone kitchen, a hall, large parlor, sitting room, dining room, and kitchen on the first floor, six rooms and a hall on the second floor with a porch across the front and a portico on the back.

Jacob Overholt was the s/o Rev Abraham Overholt and grandson of Jacob Oberholtzer and Deborah Krey of Franconia Twp, Montgomery Co PA. When he died 8/4/1847 at age 78, his son-in-law Christian Myers questioned his will, saying that Jacob was not of sound mind when he wrote it and the case ended up in court. There is no record of the outcome of the case.

AN OLD CEMETERY

Barney and Darlene Roll of Bellefontaine OH traveled to Waterside, Bedford Co PA to see the Border Cemetery where Barney's ancestor Abraham Overholser (AB) is buried. They were kind enough to send me copies of the pictures they took. The stone for Abraham reads "AO 1791" and the one for, we assume, his wife's reads "O 1795". This old cemetery is grown up with brush and trees which isn't surprising after all these years. Abraham Overholser owned all of the land where Waterside is now located, at one time. Two other tombstones were-"John Snider died Oct the 3 1842, aged 60 years" and "Susanna Snider died Dec the 2, 1859, aged 72 years". John Snider/Snyder was the s/o Susanna Overholser Snyder (AB1) and John Snyder. John Overholser (JM) of Somerset County PA and Montgomery County OH is a s/o Abraham Overholser.

QUERY

Looking for the parents of John Overholt 1890-1961 Rome City Noble Co IN who married Gent [-?-]. They had twin sons Vern Odell Overholt and Fern Overholt born 12/9/1913. If you can help, please let the editor know.

ALOT OF PEOPLE

When the LDS (Mormon Church) records were available on the Internet, there were 11 million people who got in the first day. It got so busy that they finally had to limit the time to 15 minutes.

GOING BACK

Sue Wiscombe of Salmon ID wrote that she printed out the pedigree chart for one of her mother's lines that went back to 90 A.D. It took over 2 hours and a "whole tank of ink" to do it.

OUR BOOK SALESLADY IN SWITZERLAND

I had an order for a book from a lady who had just returned from Oberholz, Switzerland where she met with Rosy's daughter Johanna who brought out her copy of THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK. It took a trip to Switzerland for a lady from Iowa to hear about the book. Speaking of Oberholz, Jim and Jennie Oberholtzer of Fairport NY were there a few years ago and met with many members of Rosy's family. He said it was a dream come true to visit the area where the Oberholtzers originally came from.

FINDING COUSINS

Billie Overholser Stewart of Beavercreek OH is from the Henry Overholser of Adams Co. PA line [HA] and she has been finding cousins on the Internet but she was having a hard time trying to find cousin John D Sykes who had written to the Association in 1983 from Colorado Springs CO trying to find his line but at that time our genealogist Spencer Overholser couldn't help him. Back in 1995, I found his line and wrote to him but he had moved. Billie finally found that John's grandfather Earl had married Helen Thayer and once she located Thayer relatives on the Internet, she got John's address in Nashua NH and asked me to write to him. You can imagine John's surprise when he saw a letter from the Overholser Family Association telling him that he was on a most wanted list. Billie has been so successful in tracking down cousins that I suggested she have a cousin reunion. My grandmother had 85 first cousins (I have the list) which I know is alot more than she has. Billie is trying to find out more about Henry Overholser born 1772 who married Catharine Peterson born 1773. Their son Christian was born 10/10/1795 and he was orphaned at an early age. All we know is that they probably lived in the York/Adams County area.

NECROLOGIST'S REPORT

DEATHS

Phyllis Pressel Lare died 4/24/1998, age 72 at Ann Arbor MI. Wife of the late Richard C Lare, she is survived by children Steven R Lare, Kriss L Lare and sister Paula Thompson Sullivan. Phyllis was a long time member of the OFA.

(Marcus Oberholtzer line) [MC]

Irene (Reichert) Shober Barr 6/4/1898-3/1999. She was the widow of John Shober Barr.
(IV Elizabeth Overholtzer & Samuel Watts line) [SL272]

Marian (Kurtz) Livingood 2/26/1918-3/1999. A longtime member of the OFA, she is survived by her husband Frank and daughter Ellen, former OFA secretary.

(IV Christian Oberholser & Susanna Kurtz line) [SL274]

Elizabeth Kurtz 6/24/1917-4/7/1999. A longtime member of the OFA, she died in an automobile accident in Earl Twp., Lancaster Co PA. A daughter of the late Ira W and Lillie Sauder Kurtz, she is survived by sisters Anna K Eaby and Naomi K Pletcher.

(IV Anna Oberholtzer & Hetzel Stirk line) [SL271]

Spencer W Tinker 1/29/1909-4/9/1999 Honolulu HI. A longtime member of the OFA, he is survived by his wife Gwen, son George and two grandchildren. He was the director of the Waikiki Aquarium 1940-1976 and author of several books, including "Fishes of Hawaii" and "Whales of the World". In 1949 a fish was named after him-*Chaetodon tinker*, known as Tinker's butterfly fish.

(IV John Overholser & Margaret Kurtz line) [SL273]

Mabel Williams Overholser died 4/10/1999 Port Charlotte FL age 92. She was the widow of Willard E Overholser.

(Abraham Overholts & Anna Witmor line) [AV]

Barbara B Ford, Necrologist

MARKING A VETERAN'S GRAVE

Karen Overholt of Denver CO located the cemetery where Abraham Fox Overholt 1841-1927 is buried. He was the s/o Jacob S Overholt [MC7203] and Mary Fox and the grandson of Abraham Overholt [MC720] and Maria Stauffer. There was no marker on his grave in Grand View Cemetery, Ft Collins CO and Karen and her husband wanted to place one there. She found out that Abraham was in the Civil War and that the Veterans Affairs would make an approved marker for a veteran (with the family's approval) and the cemetery donates its services to place the marker. She said the US Government is trying to get all veterans' graves marked but they have to locate the family for their approval before they can do it. Karen wanted me to pass this tip along to our members. She also found that Abraham Fox Overholt's wife Martha is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Denver CO.

If you are interested in having a veteran's grave marked, you can apply for "Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private or State Veterans Cemetery" VA Form 40-1330 from your local Veterans Affairs office or write to

Memorial Programs Service (403A), Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW, Washington DC 20420-0001

OFFICERS

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Genealogist, Editor, Necrologist	Barbara B Ford, 313 Henry Lane 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 Terre Hill Community Center (Old Fire Hall) is on the main street, with plenty of parking at the rear.

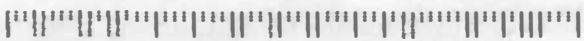
From Lancaster: 15 mi NE via Rts 222, 23, 897

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

Many motels are in the area with Ephrata and New Holland nearby.



19038-3607 04



PHILA PA 191 07/18/99 16:55 ISS #24

Overholser Family Association
313 Henry Lane
Wallingford, PA 19086