



OFA Bulletin

Published Semi-annually by the Overholser Family Association
 August 2009 ISSN 0742-8472 Vol. XXXI No. 2

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

President's Column

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that I must report the death of J Spencer Overholzer.

Spencer Passed away In April. He was 92 years old..

His 30+ year presidency will be a lasting tribute to his Passion and enthusiasm for the OFA and all its members. His willingness to share his family history and his personal stories at the reunions will be greatly missed by me, and I am sure all of you as well. Our Prayers are with Ruth and all of his family.

Well it is Reunion time again and I trust all of you are busy making plans to attend this year's Reunion on the 1st of August at Center Church. This year we will be entertained by Dr. Troy Boyer.

Troy is an instructor in Pennsylvania German Studies at Penn State University. He will be speaking on "Who are the Pa Germans and how long have they been that way ." Troy resides in Ephrata, Pa and is a member of the board of directors at the Pa German Society.

Vice-President Dennis will be outlining an exciting trip for next year's reunion, we are going to try and take the show on the road (so to speak). He will also highlight some of the tours being run by the Lancaster Mennonite society to commemorate their 300th anniversary.

Kim Weiler has asked to be replaced as OFA secretary. I will be asking for a Volunteer at the reunion. I hope someone will help out with this important position.

I look forward to seeing all of you in August.

Thank you

Paul Weiler

OFA President

☪☪☪

**Overholser Family
Association Bulletin**

Vol. XXXI No. 2 August 2009

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

©2009 Overholser Family Association
49 Paradise Lane, Paradise, PA 17562
ISSN 0742-8472

Please send all contributions to:

Carolyn O. Kendall, Treasurer
1617 New Holland Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601

**CORRESPONDENCE
OFA Website:**

<http://mysite.verizon.net/vzevngxav/ofa>

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

Welcome New OFA Members!!!

Adrian Overholser, Hong Kong,
grandson of our past president Dr Winfred Overholser

Jo Overholser, daughter of Spencer & Ruth Overholser

Ann Seip, SL Line

Judith Baca

Chaney Overholts

Peggy Mullins, Columbus Ohio

Gary & Stephanie King, California

George D Overholtzer Jr, Frederick MD

Bob Wolfe, University of Michigan

D Ray Heisey

Jill Pisadnick

Stan & Mary Edmunds, South Rockwood, Michigan

Alicia Englehart

Mike Drudge, Michigan O Reunion Group

Dorothy Weinman & O Husband

Joyce O Boles

David & Lisa Showers, Springfield MO

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

**Check out the OFA
WEBSITE and add your
important info!**

Saved By A Change in Plans

Two Oberholtzers were reportedly saved from national deadly disasters:
Henry Clay Frick was scheduled to go on the maiden voyage of Titanic as a 1st Class passenger. He and a few other colleagues canceled before sailing. Henry died of a heart attack two years later in New York City in 1919 aged 69. The last surviving person from the Titanic died this June.

A Miss Oberholtzer is reportedly to have called in sick the morning of September 11, 2001 from her job at the Pentagon. Her work station was right in the area where the plane went into the building. It would be nice to know more about her. ☹☹

2009 REUNION

If you are planning to attend the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's *Heritage Day at the 1719 Herr House* on Saturday, you are most welcome to come Friday Evening at Yoder's for our O Travelers Dinner Night. Yoder's Restaurant is on the East side of New Holland on Route 23, across the road from Garden Spot High School. All are welcome on Friday Night. Please let one of the officers know if you are coming a week ahead so we know how many to expect.

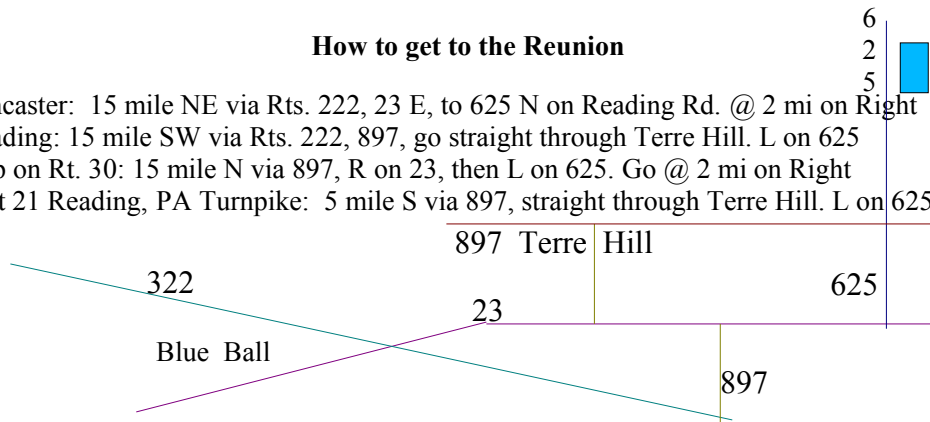
On Friday night, **July 31st**, we will meet at Yoder's between New Holland and Blue Ball for a 6:00PM buffet dinner and visiting. Be sure to notify Kim Weiler (address on back) in advance so they know how many to expect.

The Reunion will be held **August 1st** at St. John's Center United Church of Christ, east of Terre Hill on Route 625 where it was held the previous two years. On Saturday **August 1st**, we will gather at 10:30AM at the church.

We are having a catered meal. But to add to the meal if you wish to bring a salad or a dessert, this will give a Lancaster County taste of home for our distant friends. Utensils, drinks, Pork Barbecue and Chicken Corn Soup will be provided.

How to get to the Reunion

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



A hearty laugh gives one a dry cleaning,

While a good cry is a wet wash.

- Puzant Kevork Thomajan

Obituaries

J Spencer Overholser 92, died April 16, 2009 wife of Ruth Schell. He was the son of the late [James Galt Overholser](#) and [Clara Minerva Groff](#). He graduated from Jamestown College in ND, and served in WWII in Normandy, The Battle of the Bulge, and helped liberate the Flossenburg Concentration Camp. Spence became a food chemist, later working as a U S Patent examiner in Washington DC. He was OFA President from 1956 to 1986, the fifth and longest running President to hold together our Association. Spence is survived by Christopher J & wife Sara Jo of Richmond VA and their children Robert & Terry Anne; Josephine & husband Ole Helleskov of CA.

Jonathan H High age 17 of Christie WI, died at his home on Friday, May 22, 2009. He was born December 4, 1991 in Loysville PA, son of Stephen W and Amelia O (Hoover) High. His maternal great-grandparents are Ivan & Lydia Hoover and [John Oberholtzer](#). Preceded in death by his maternal great-grandmother Esther Oberholtzer. - Lancaster Newspapers

Overholt Distillery The Overholt Distillery in western Pennsylvania has been dismantled this spring. It is always difficult to see the end of a long tradition.

Spencer Overholser - A Life of Commitment

When I first started coming to OFA Reunions back in the early 1990's, I was greeted by a jovial elderly man that I hadn't a clue who he was. Turns out Spencer is a cousin through the SL Samuel 1727 Line. Instantly Spencer took up an interest in me. That is a rare thing nowadays. It is not unusual to want to know what a person does for a living, or where they live. But rarely does one want to know about the person them self. This is an extremely sad commentary on America, but the truth is it is now pretty much a reality.

Spencer was President of the OFA for 30 years, the longest anyone has served. He kept it going through the many years of prosperity in America, when everyone else was busy with making hay. Even while there was no solid evidence of a heritage that returned to the Old World, Spencer kept the faith that someday we could find the missing clues to link our family to definite European heritage. This is important to many of us, as it gives a sense of belonging to something bigger than us, a goal of preserving not only a past, but also a goal to preserve a future for our children which gives wholeness to one's life. As a Chinese proverb so brilliantly states, *To forget one's ancestors is to be as a stream without a source, or a tree without roots.* Spencer understood this as well as anyone.

Deep down inside, everyone has a need to belong to something bigger than themselves. Acquiring a rooted heritage helps us get beyond our useless give-up attitudes, and brings us to a realization that others needs come first. And when we help fill others needs, ours somehow by the help of God get met with barely a notice. ☪☪

UPDATE ON FUTURE EVENTS

The **2009 300th Anniversary** of German Settlements in Lancaster County PA Bus Trips are being planned by the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society! Cost is @ \$65 per person. **September 26** is confirmed, the first trip occurred on June 15th . Please register early if you plan to go, for they will fill up fast. Phone 717-393-9745 or www.LMHS.org

I understand the trip will take in the land along the East side of the Susquehanna River where several Indian villages were during 1710. They will end at the Hans Herr House, a stone house built in the first settlement of Swiss Mennonites. The Hans Herr House is having a special event on August 1st. You may want to work that into your weekend plans.

The 2010 events are still being planned. LMHS also will have a "**Heritage Trail**" walk, bike, or ride a Conestoga Wagon along the Indian path into Lancaster County. Mark your calenders for **August 28-29, 2010**, and check up for additional information.

At the **August 1st Reunion 2009**, we will decide on whether or not to make a one year change of place, going to the original homestead lands where the Hans Herr House resides, the oldest documented extant home in Lancaster County. This would be **only for the year 2010**, to celebrate 300 years since the first Oberholtzer families came to Lancaster County. They were the Matthew Oberholtzer family, and ML Martin Michel Oberholtzer, as documented in Lancaster and Bucks County historical books.

Begin planning a trip in **2011 to the Overholtzer Mansion in Oklahoma City, OK**. Details of a *Special* North American O Reunion will be forthcoming in next years OFA Bulletins.

OFA OFFICERS

Lines

SL, JL	President	Paul Weiler	10738 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro, PA 17268 dc9fxer@netscape.net
SL, AO, & JF	1st Vice-President Bulletin Editor	Dennis L. Oberholtzer	49 Paradise Lane, Paradise, PA 17562 ParadiseLiving@comcast.net
	2nd Vice-President	Jack Street	2059 Noss Rd, York PA 17408
JL	Website Host	John Shinpaugh	1977 Berkley Road, Eagleville, PA 19403 usasprinter@verizon.net
SL, JL	Secretary	Kim Weiler	10738 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro, PA 17268 dc9fxer@netscape.net
SL	Treasurer	Carolyn O. Kendall	1617 New Holland Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 d.c.kendall@verizon.net
AS	Past President	Jack Sholl	126 Christa Ct. , Palm Desert, CA 92260 jesholl@aol.com
SL, JL	Chaplain	Rev. John R. Weiler	526 Wood St. Apt. 424, Bethlehem, PA 18018 Nelljwl@aol.com

CEMETARY INSIGHTS

At Good's Mennonite Church and Cemetery in Elizabethtown, PA, are two wives of Christian Oberholtzer. But where is Christian?



SL22565 Christian Whitmer Oberholtzer Apr 27, 1859 - Mar 20, 1938
1st m Jan 22, 1882 Lizzie K Ebersole Feb 16, 1859 - Oct 21, 1885
Stone says born Apr 16, 1859 26 year 6 month 5 days
2nd m Harriet Brandt Aug 10, 1869 - Mar 24, 1892
Stone says July 10, 1869 - Mar 21, 1892 22 year 7 month 11 days
Christian is possibly buried with his third wife:
3rd m Amanda Heisey May 30, 1867 - Aug 25, 1945

What is interesting about this is not just that two wives are buried beside each other without the husband. This is the father of our beloved "original genealogist" Isaiah E Oberholtzer, the missionary to China. The dates on these two stones both differ from the OFA File Records. Also, the middle initial of both ladies are missing from our records. Any descendant of this family, who may be tracing their ancestors, would have run into a roadblock without the female Middle Initial. This is major evidence why it is important to visit and maintain our ancestral cemeteries. ☪☪

Irish Emigration by some O Families

JA, JC, JT, MV, & Melchior Oberhaus

Some Oberholzer families during the 17th Century were eager to come to America, but did not have a way to produce enough capital for the trip. Some of these families had enough fare to travel from mainland Europe to England. After arrival, most of the refugees were grouped together in the same area of London. After the volume of people grew too large for London to handle, the poorest of those (the ones who could not afford passage to America) were transferred to Ireland, where they could at least meek out a survival subsistence for themselves.

In the years from the later 1600's to the later 1700's, the refugee parents of families died off, and the children continued on, trying their best to save enough funds to carry them to America. It was either the children or the grandchildren of the emigrants from the mainland who managed to find passage to the North American coast.

The cost of passage to America is documented by Alberty Dooren of a merchant ship from Rotterdam dated August 12th of 1709. "Passage to America was a two month trip from Rotterdam. It had a fare of 100 florins for everyone. There were no accounts for children, including food. Land and livestock in America would cost an additional 30 to 100 florins. Passengers must be able to pay; there will be no subsistence from anyone. The Queen of England knows nothing about German language and will refuse refugees; no more will be admitted from Rotterdam."

- Palatine Emigrants to America from the Principality of Nassau-Dillenburg, National Genealogical Society Quarterly 29, 1941 Pgs 41-44

"When Mittleberger sailed the fare from Rotterdam to Phila was 10 pounds for anyone 10 years old or over. Five to ten year olds traveled for 5 Lbs and those under 5 sailed free, and good luck to them. By the mid-nineteenth century the fare from Ireland to the United States was about 3 pounds 5 shillings, still almost half the annual income of the average farmer." - Emigrants Crossing the Atlantic, Early American Homes Magazine, Feb 1997

David Weaver is closely tied to colonial newspaperman Christopher Sauer, an influential Pennsylvanian, who wrote of the treacherous trips across the Atlantic this haunting conclusion: [referring to "pirates on the sea, lifeboats used as stables and rotted by manure," and the "unfortunate passengers of the *Mexico* who froze to death off New York harbor on New Year's Day 1837 because there was no pilot on duty to guide them in."] "After all there is no use dwelling on such details: they were undoubtedly to a greater or lesser extent, the necessary accompaniments of a great unsupervised movement of emigration."

- Quote in Emigrants Crossing the Atlantic, Early American Homes Magazine, Feb 1997

There is a premise from language arts and history that reveal the path of emigration for John Overholser. Genealogists in the past several years have shown the surname of Oberholzer & its variants to have originated all from the Oberholzer Farm east of Zürich Lake in Switzerland. From there, the younger family moved to the spring called Aa, and spread into what is now Wald. When John's ancestors were forced to flee Switzerland, they would have moved somewhere between Alsace and Belgium.

It is quite likely that some of the Oberholzer descendants, which have not been documented, were part of the earliest group who traveled in 1709 to England, hoping to find passage to America. It is now understood that the poorest of the group of immigrants in England were sent to Ireland. There they stayed for several years, due to lack of funds for travel to America.

JA John Overholser

"John Overholser went to Juniata Co" after arrival from Europe. -Ship Passenger Lists, pg 290 There is a clue as to from where John immigrated. His daughter has a proper name of Sarah. This is the German name. But in some documents she is referred to as "Sallie". This is an Irish name. How appropriate for a family who through poverty was forced to live in a country not their own for several years, until the children could scrape up enough funds to find their way to America.

JA John Overholser c1740 - dp 3/11/1809 Reading Twp Adams Co

"John Overholster, one of 150 teamsters (wagon haulers) recruited at Lancaster by Benjamin Franklin to be a wagoner for General Braddock on 4/30/1755 in the campaign against Fort DuQuesne. John of Adams Co was the only John I can find in that area at that time."

REF: Barbara Ford to Charlene Aitken, 3/15/1991

First found on the 1761 tax list Reading Twp, York Co (now Adams). He was a blacksmith and possibly an immigrant, m **Mary Chronister** 1740 Adams Co PA - dp 12/13/1824 Reading Twp Adams Co, the d/o 1738 Immigrant Johannes Chronister 1708-1/30/1782 York PA & m 1745 Lancaster PA to Maria Barbara Weidenbach. The Chronister parents were buried with a crude heart-shaped marker beside the stone church they help found in the Bermudian Valley. The Chronister family originated from Austria.

REF: Don Yoder, ed., "Our Emigrant Forefathers" *Penna Duuchman* 5/5/1949 p6; Don Yoder FGSP, "Problems & Resources in PA German Genealogical Research" *PGM* Vol 31 1979, pp 7-9; Adams Co Tax Lists; Adams Co Adm #334, 1809, OC 1/2/1810; Adm #1225, 1824; Charlene Aitken, Huntington Beach CA; Family Tree Maker's Genealogy Site, June 27, 1005; Johannes Chronister Will on Dec 18, 1781, York PA

JA27 Sarah "Sally" Weaver Jan 10, 1802 -

JA41 Sarah "Salley" Overholser chr 4/17/1804 Evang. Luth. Ch. Stoyestown, Somerset PA - 1937 OH
d/o Jacob & Elizabeth Overhalser

m 5/20/1821 **Matter Frederick Holsapple** 2/24/1801 - 3/6/1871

2nd m 3/22/1838 Montgy OH to Sarah Arnold 3rd m 10/7/1845 OH Elizabeth Bowman

REF: Montgy Co OH Chancery Court Rec 4/1851 p 460; Preble Co OH DB 63/276, 67/420-21, 68/74

JA69 Sara Overholser c1821 Reading Twp, Adams Co PA -

m by Rev J Ulrich 10/12/1843 York Springs **William L Thomas** c1819 Straban Twp, Adams PA -

In 1860 Census Williams family included Catherine Cary 20 a domestic hire, & James Williams 15 farmhand

REF: *Hist of Adams Co* p 414; Abstracts/Republican Compiler, V2, Adams Co PA 1831-1851, Stover

JA0 Henry Overholser 8/7/1786 - 2/11/1853 Adams Co 66-6-4 both bur East Berlin Trinity Church
m1834? **Sarah** _____ 11/10/1791 - 11/10/1877 86-0-0

executor of Henry's will was George & Henry King

1834 M King transferred 4 acres to Henry Overholser, a singleman

Aug 20, 1849 Henry inherited all land in Reading Twp owned by brother Abraham Overholser

1850 Catharine Bohn 21 PA lived with Henry & Sarah in Hamilton East Berlin Adams Co

REF: Adams Co Will #3042, 1853; Gen Abstracts Adams Co 1852 - 1853 p51; Cem Rec East Berlin, Hamilton, Adams Co; 1834 Tax list
Many thanks to John & Mary Overholtzer of Tingley Iowa for donating Adams Co Abstracts book to OFA.

The next family with likely ties to Irish Emigration is

Marcus Oberholtzer
Of Rockingham County, Virginia
(as of Dec 31, 2007; update Nov 2008 DLO)

MV Marcus Oberholtzer b c1760 was first found on the 1787 tax list in Rockingham Co VA. It has been suggested that he had a 1st marriage with a son Martin b c 1782-no further information.

Marcus came to America by way of Ireland, confirmed in death certificate of grandson George W Overholt.

m 12/12/1789 Rockingham **Margaret Armentrout** c1772 Rockingham VA - c1829

d/o John Heinrich Ermentraudt & Mary Magdalena Bauer

REF: Mrs Jan Everly Williams, 47-164C Hui Akepa Pl, Kaneohe HI; Strickler: *Old Tenth Legion Marriages; Armentrout Family History*
Margie Overholtz Koutroulis, TX; John L. Overholt, VA

MV1 (& HO) Henry Overholt b c 1790 Rockingham VA - 1859 Walnut Twp, Millersport, Fairfield Co
Ohio minister & carpenter Both bur Homer Cem, Burlington Twp, Licking Co OH
m 4/3/1820 Rockingham **Sarah "Sally" Sprinkle** May 1799 - Oct 2, 1835
Proof he is a son has been found in VA.

Henry & Sally moved to Licking Co., Ohio. He is **(HO)** Pg 293 in Red OFA Book
It took 12 years to settle Henry's estate. He & his 3rd wife lived & owned land in Millersport, OH.
REF: Bob & Lois Overholt, Spencerville, Ohio - OFA Bull 9/95; 1830 Census ; Barbara Ford notes

HO1 Nancy Overholt 10/2/1821 OH - 11/23/1903 Belair IL 1850 Crawford Co ILL
m 8/30/1842 **Samuel Tharp** 9/26/1820 OH - 10/2/1899 IL Both bur West Harmony, Bellair IL
Samuel is s/o James R Tharp & Ruth Matheny

REF: Barbara Ford's records; 1850 Census; Wynona Hall, 2911 Seymour Lk Rd, E4 Oxford MI 48371, 1990

HO11 Mary Ann Tharp 10/26/1843 - 12/26/1924 m 11/1/1864 **Amos Fouty**

HO12 Sarah Jane Tharp 12/21/1845 - 10/29/1930 m 12/28/1873 **James Madison McKee**

This family is shown to have definite connections to Ireland. HO Henry married a Sarah, which also uses Sally in her referenced documents. The wife of grandson George W Overholt accidentally mixed the generations, but properly noted the original birth of the father (Marcus) to have been in Ireland.

JC Jacob of Northampton Co PA, & Columbiana Co OH

Jacob was a Mennonite Minister, whose wife is said to have been born in Ireland. There are no outstanding Irish names in this family, leading one to believe Jacob was not in Ireland, or spent very little time there.

JC4 Ursula Overholzer was on the 1780 PA Tax List Index for US Twp, Philadelphia. This implies that Ursula is older than JC1 Rev Jacob Oberholtzer .

JC1 Rev Jacob named his 16th child Melchior Oberholtzer, and his grandson is also Melchior. This is a rare use of this name in early American Oberholtzer families. This could lead to the possibility that Jacob was closely related to Melchior Oberhans, immigrant from Ireland.

CA Christian Overholser SR Of Reading Township, Adams Co, Pennsylvania

Christian Overholser Sr is a possible brother to JA John Overholser

CA Christian Overholser Sr 1741 - miller to trade

Lived in Adams Co, bur Zimmerman Cem, Liberty Twp near the Maryland Line. Court records name children but not his wife. Samuel Overholser (JA6) was appointed guardian of the children.

1815 Tax List: 67 acres; 1820 heirs 67 acres; 11/24/1823 land auctioned to William Mummert \$18.50/acre

REF: Charlene Aitken, Huntington Beach CA; Adams Co Adm 3/5/1819, OC 4/20/1820 p 356; *The Oberholtzer Book* pg 174; OFA Bull 2/1983; York Co Tax Lists; OC Adams Co p 500John Bucker Adm; PA Archives 3rd Series Tax List 1798-1814; 1790 Census pg 278

One additional comment has to do with settlement of the families in Pennsylvania. JA John Overholser and CA Christian Overholser families settled in Adams Co, PA, west of the Susquehanna River. In William Penn's original placement of immigrants, German Immigrants were placed in Lancaster county, surrounded by Irish Immigrants to the south and west. This is another indication of possible emigration from Ireland. MV Marcus Oberholtzer traveled through the western side of the Susquehanna River on his way to Virginia.

CA3 Sarah Overholser 1806 - 1808

CA7 Sarah A Overhalt - 3/20/1832 m John H Newcomer 1773 York Co - 7/12/1843
8 children Moved to German Twp, Fayette Co 1808; bought 133 & 230 acres
John's father was Ulrich Newcomer of Corgemont, Bern SWI, immigrated on Phoenix 10/1/1754. Executor on Ulrich's will was Benjamin Hershey of Lancaster County. This close tie makes Sarah an Overhalt much more likely than Sarah Garber.

CA71 Uriah Newcomer m Elizaebeth Messmore

CA72 John Newcomer

CA73 Samuel Newcomer m Elizabeth Ache

CA74 Nancy Newcomer m Simon Snyder

CA75 Elizabeth Newcomer m Charles Brownfield

CA76 Joseph Newcomer m Mary Ann Sessler

CA77 David Newcomer 1824 - 5/15/1898 m Abigail Sessler - 9/25/1900 David received 230 a farm

CA772 James Newcomer received farm from father David

CA78 Abraham Newcomer m Martha Stewart

REF: Newcomers of MD by M W Mallett, 1982; Newcomers of PA by Manley W Mallett, 1983; OFA Bulletin 2/08, Pg 14; OC Adams Co April 10, 1820 pg 356; Barbara Ford's notes

[JT] John & [IB] & [IC] Isaac Overholt

[JT] "Tory" John Overholt 1738 - 1780 New York m Elizabeth Killian 1734/8 - d in Canada.

[JT1] Abraham Overholt c1757 - 1813 Canada wp 1815

[JT11] Abraham Overholt 1780/90 - bef 1819 Canada

m c1810-13 Charlotte Hill/Hilts c1790 - 1829 6 children to 2nd m

2nd m Mar 2, 1819 Samuel T Moyer 1797 - Oct 4, 1874

[JT2] John Overholt Jr. c1771 - to Canada in 1786/7

[JT3] Sally Overholt

Tory John Overholt named his daughter Sally. This is most unusual for a German Family. If John came from Ireland, this may be an indication to his allegiance switch during the Revolutionary War. This further emphasizes the notion that Tory John was a Mainland European to England to Ireland to America immigrant.

From Irish Ship Passenger Lists

Melchior Oberhaus emigrant from Beihingen to America with John George Geiger & son

Zum erstenmal horen wir im Fruhjahr 1727 von einem Auszug Beihinger Burger in die Neue Welt. Es sind zwei Familien und ein unverheirateter Mann, die nach Pennsilvanien ziehen: Han Jerg Geiger, ein Sohn des ersten in Beihingen ansassigen Geiger, mit seinem Weib Barbara, der Tochter des Melchior Oberhans, und drei Kindern: Johann Kasper 1710, hat das Ruferhandwerk erlernt, Elisabet Ketharina 1712 und Anna Klara 1717.

Melchior Oberhaus b bef 1690 - immigrant 1727 Also spelled Oberhans

1. Barbara Oberhaus servant girl in 1727

2. Johann Kasper Oberhaus 1710 -

3. Elisabet Ketharina Oberhaus 1712 -

4. Anna Klara Oberhaus 1717 -

- Auswanderung Aus Beihingen, Ship Passenger Lists, Pages 46, 252

IC Isaac Overholt 1741/1746 - 1825

IC Isaac Overholt c1746 PA - 1825 Louth, Lincoln Co Ontario -also IB Pg 355 OFA Book

1st m

2nd m Mar 1813 Mary Youngkin of Bucks Co d/o Abraham Youngkin -Bucks Co DB 41/280
also Mary's 2nd marriage. She died prior May 10, 1823 - B Ford's Isaac of Bucks Co Taxes

IC1 Elizabeth Overholt Aug 15, 1779 - Nov 15, 1842

1st m Nov 27, 1798 **Abraham Renner** 1768 - 1817

2nd m John Stoner Jan 30, 1755 - Jan 4, 1838

Abraham is the son of Abraham Lauffer Renner-Elizabeth Harman

IC11 William Renner Oct 15, 1799 -

IC12 Anna Renner c1801 - Not listed in Orphan's Court records 1819

IC13 John Renner Jan 8, 1803 -

IC14 Joseph Renner Jan 11, 1805 - m Mar 17, 1825 **Susan Evans**

IC15 Noah Renner Apr 16, 1807 - Dec 28, 1870

m Apr 30, 1835 **Francis 'Fanny' Weaver** June 9, 1820 -

IC151 Sarah Renner Feb 14, 1836 -

IC16 Sophia Renner

IC17 Rev Isaac Renner Mar 14, 1811 - June 30, 1880 Minister Rocky Ridge German Baptist

IC18 Susanna Renner May 20, 1814 - Apr 6, 1861 m **Jacob Saylor** c1809 - Feb 23, 1877

IC19 Elizabeth Renner Sept 29, 1816 -

REF: Stoner Brethren, A History of John Stoner c1705 - 1769 & His Descendants, Richard R Weber 1993 Pg 94

Orphan's Court Records, Frederick Co MD Mar 29, 1819; Therese M Koehler, Honolulu HI; Joann M Butterbaugh, Tucson AZ

It is unknown who Isaac's first wife was, or from where she came. The immediate family of Abraham Renner had no Sarah or Sally, so it can be presumed that they did not have any long-term Irish connections. Sarah only shows up on this one entry of the Overholt family, and there is no known "Sally" references to her. But Abraham Renner's mother was a Harman, and that family is closely connected to the Ogden family from England.

There are no Sarah or Sally connections to **SL Samuel Oberholtzer** 1727 Immigrant.

There are no Sarah or Sally connections to **CH Christian Oberholtzer** of Lancaster County.

Grace Milligan's Christian A Overholtzer, JL4

Christian A Overholtzer married Christina Musselman, granddaughter of Hans & Margaret Musselman, who immigrated and built on Mill Creek, a tributary to the Conestoga. Hans, Margaret, and son Christian are buried at Groffdale Cemetery, Earl Twp Lancaster County PA. Christina, b May 30, 1759 married between 1792 and 1797 in SW Adams County, PA.

The JL Overholtzer family is certain to have come from mainland Europe, and not to have gone to Ireland.

It is highly possible some O families were part of these immigrant groups:

1710 June 14th Colonel Robert Hunter, appointed Governor of New York... brought with him 2000 Palatines who in the previous year had fled to England from the rage of persecution in Germany. Many of whom settled in New York; others in Germantown, Livingston Manor, Columbia county, and others in Penn's Woods.

1710 Fall the 3000 Palatines encamped at New York were moved to Livingston District.

1723 About the year 1723, 33 families of Germans, lately from **Schoharie, New York**, settled on the Swatara and Tulpehocken Creeks by permission of Governor Keith. Some were Jorge Ritt (George Rutt), Io. Hameler Ritt, ...

1729 267 English & Welsh passengers and servants; 43 Scotch servants, 1155 passengers and servants from Ireland; and 4500 by way of New Castle, chiefly passengers & servants from Ireland.

A List of Huguenot & Palatine Publications for Irish Emigrant Research:

Agnew, D C *Protestant Exiles from France in the Reign of Louis 14th*; or the Huguenot refugees and their descendants in Great Britain and Ireland London, 1871-1874

Carre, Albert *L'influence des Huguenots Francais en Irlande* 1937

Gimlette, Thomas *History of the Huguenot Settlers in Ireland, & other Literary Remains* 1888

Huguenot Society of London Vol 7,8, 9, 19 (churches, baptisms, marriages, deaths, registers)

Lawlor, Hugh Jackson *The Fasti of St Patrick's of Dublin* (records of 1666-1816)

Lee, Grace Lawless *Huguenot Settlements in Ireland* London 1936

LeFanu, T P *Huguenot Veterans in Dublin*

McCall, R A *Huguenots in Ulster* 1915

O'Hart, John *Irish Pedigrees Vol 2* Dublin 1892 Huguenot refugees bef & during Louis 14th, & their French Origins

O'Mullane, Brigid *Huguenots in Dublin Vol 8* Dublin Historical Record

Smiles, Samuel *Huguenots: Their settlements, Churches & Industries in England & Ireland* 1889

Ulster Journal of Archaeology 1st Series Vol 1-4 1853-1856 Huguenot Settlement Records (with family notes)

Genealogical and Personal History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Wm W H Davis, 1905 Lewis Pub Co

Irish Ship Passenger Lists, at Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

☪☪

What is "Proof"

In the last issue of the Bulletin, I connected the SL Samuel Oberholtzer line to Hans Jagli Oberholtzer b c1665 - lived at Steinsfurt, Germany. I only had one argumentative comment (I mean that in a good way), that I did not have "proof" for the just mentioned connection. I do not want the enigma of "proof" to continue without a comprehensive view of what constitutes proof in the realm of genealogy. I have spent considerable time (literally thousands of hours) studying Biblical chronology, as well as genealogical chronology ; therefore I feel I have a fair handle on the problem. But let's see if that means anything.

The Biblical Greek definition of "proof" actually uses four different words:

1) *pistis* Faith, faithfulness Used in Acts 17:31

This word obviously is not based on scientific evidence. And yet it is a form of proof.

2) *endeixis* A pointing out or indication Used in II Corinthians 8:24

This word is based on a single aspect of evidence. It is a singular aspect of a proof. Though there are more than one aspect to it, this word reveals a proof; but taken out of context it can be made untrue.

3) *dokime* The process or result of testing Used in II Corinthians 9:13; 13:3; I Peter 1:7

This is our "scientific" way of testing. In genealogy it is "linguistic science" we must deal with for the most part. DNA now also becomes part of the process. And there are other ways of "testing".

4) *tekmerion* Convincing proofs (plural) Used in Acts 1:3

This is the kind of "PROOF" that everyone **hopes** to achieve!

REFERENCE: New American Standard Exhaustive Concordance, 1981 The Lockman Foundation

The purpose of showing this, is that even in the whole Holy Bible, which is the inspired words of the Creator himself through the power of the Holy Spirit, only one passage speaks of "convincing proofs". The journey of genealogy is a long, arduous task of gathering information. But without the gathering, without the cross-checking, without the testing, one really cannot be sure. Or can they?

When you speak to a friend about your grandparents, or even your great-grandparents, do you "prove" to them that they are who you say? Of course not! And your friend BELIEVES you, because he has *pistis* in what you have said. No more further proof is needed.

But what if you are discussing your 10th generation backward? Will your friend still take what you say as "gospel". Possibly not. Here you will need an *endeixis* of some kind.

And if that friend is a genealogy buff also, he or she most likely will not accept just a point of consideration. More *dokime* is necessary to convince them that you have found real "proof", real evidence of what you say is true. This is a hard thing, because first of all you may feel your reputation for being truthful is being attacked. And secondly, unless you have massive experience on your side, you may not have the answer that person is searching for.

So how can we find "Proof" where there may not seem to be? And what if your Proof is not real Proof after all?

For instance, when I was working on the HV/HO Line, the death certificate of George W Overholt, grandson of MV Marcus Overholt, said his father came from Ireland. Here is a LEGAL DOCUMENT that was wrong! Marcus came from Ireland, but his son, the father of George, was born here in the States.

POINT OF INDICATION: By looking at all the other information about the family, it is easily discernible that the wife of George W Overholt had heard George talking years before of Ireland. She evidently got that memory mixed, and said George had come from Ireland. A simple mental error, on a legal document, can make for lots of argumentation if it is not found by compiling additional evidence and cross-checking for discrepancies.

☪☪☪

New OFA Website a Surprise Success

We established our OFA website in August 2008. Included in our website was and is an offer to do lookups for Overholser family members. The first request for a lookup arrived on September 1, 2008. It was not what we were expecting. We were asked if we could locate a living female Overholser from Memphis, Tennessee. Read on:

QUOTE Dear Mr. Shinpaugh,

I am looking for a "Sue" Overholser. We were friends years ago in the early 50's...we lived in Memphis, TN in some apartments on Highland Avenue at Poplar Avenue. If I remember correctly, she and her family moved to Oklahoma, which is where her great-grandfather ended up in a covered wagon. Unfortunately, I can't remember much more about her family than that... oh yes, we went to East High School. I know her father worked for a car dealership in Memphis but that is all I know. I realize this is a tall order and I am looking for a miracle...but any help would be appreciated... I just don't know how to go about finding out what happened to her. Thank you for any help you can dig up. Sincerely, Patti Mitchell UNQUOTE

Using the few facts provided, a search of the Internet yielded the following data from a high school website:

QUOTE East High School Class of 1963:

Barbara Overholser [last updated September, 2004] I am married now for 39 years to Joe Tiscia, a CBHS graduate and we have two daughters, ages 25 and 23. We met at Memphis State. Thanks to Mrs. Vollmer I was skilled at typing and shorthand (a dying art!)and went with an insurance company. My husband was a Marine in Vietnam and was awarded the Silver Star. I am very proud of him. He is active in Marine Corp league and TN State Guard. I only work part time now and enjoy gardening and reading and taking care of our family. Both our girls are single and live with us. UNQUOTE

This result was sent to Patti and she replied with the following:

QUOTE Wow amazing... I graduated in 1960 from East.. my brother graduated from CBC.. as it was called then. My hubby was stationed at the Marine Corps Induction Station at Kennedy Hospital when we met...43 yrs ago. He took an early out for college in 1960 and was discharged shortly after we married... our youngest son was also in the Marine Corps.. as was my Dad in WWI. Small world isn't it.

Thanks for your help. I sure would love to find Sue.. but I feel it is hopeless... after so many years. Patti UNQUOTE

Patti sent an email to Barbara which subsequently resulted in Patti sending back the following words:

QUOTE Dear Mr. Shinpaugh:

This is to thank you so very much for the information regarding Barbara Overholser. She, in fact, turned out to be Sue's sister, whom I did not remember even existed. I received an email from Barbara today informing me that she had forwarded my email to Sue. I simply cannot tell you how long I have searched for something regarding Sue... thanks to you and the Overholser web-site, I have finally found out something about her. It truly made my day. Thank you again, Patti Mann Mitchell UNQUOTE

- from our Website sponsor John Shinpaugh

This is just one of the many beautiful purposes a family association creates by those who care enough to give back a little bit of their time to help others. Consider being an active member of all the O Reunions around the globe. Keeping in touch with family & friends bring the greatest rewards for the smallest effort.

☪☪

Additions/Corrections

Lloyd Zeager at Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society found the following in his search for his family. She would be SL27827 of the Overholser Woolen Mill Family in a previous Bulletin.

SL27827 Hattie Overholser, daughter of Levi & Maria C Overholser

December 3, 1868 - January 13, 1873 age 4-1-10

- Salem Evangelical Association, Pittsburg, Manor Township, Lancaster Co PA, 1977 by Donald J Summar

Thank You Lloyd Zeager for this missing young lady who is in the arms of Jesus.

Dauphin County Oberholtzer's

St David's Reformed Cemetery

Daniel Oberholtzer May 31, 1790 - Nov 26, 1871

Abraham Oberholtzer May 26, 1797 - March 8, 1885

wife Elizabeth Dec 6, 1800 - Oct 13, 1877

Abraham H Oberholtzer 1834 - Feb 13, 1880 45 yr 3 mo 2 da

Daniel B Oberholtzer 1838 - Dec 28, 1905 67 yr 6 mo 26 da

Soldier in G172 Penna. Reg Infantry

wife Catherine Dec 1843 - May 2, 1929 85 yr 5 mo 14 da

Ms Oberholtzer, daughter of Mary V Hess 1870 - 1946

Dauphin Co Orphans Court

M/35 Jacob Oberholtzer to Jr Meilei

E/40 (49?)

E/397

L/247 1799 Martin

E 1/355 1791 Martin Oberholtzer 5/7/1791 of Bethel to Eliner DeHaas 800 ac

M/32 Martin 1801

IK/346 1798 Christian Oberholtzer

1806 Jacob Oberholtzer File #129 1 p, 2 p C123, D44, E172, C127,436

1828 Swatara Jacob Oberholtzer File 23 1 p, 5,6 p F322, F341, G124, F398, 362, G77, F(1)383

If anyone can connect someone to these O's, please let the OFA know.

Update on the OFA Files

Since the passing of Barbara Ford, we have begun the arduous task of transferring and compiling the O Family Lines from paper documents into a computer format, which will make searching and updating individuals exceedingly faster. It is a very slow process, checking and rechecking, and again proof-checking for errors.

The Following Lines are completed with what we have available:

JA John Overholser	completed, totaling 40 pages
JL Jacob of Brecknock	58 pages completed, in progress with John Shinpaugh
MC Marcus Oberholtzer	209 plus pages, being co-edited by Tom Myers, in progress
CA, CH, IC Lines	partial completion
MV/HO Line	28 pages completed, temporarily on hold
SL Samuel Oberholtzer	Started. The largest line, needing the most immediate attention.

If anyone wishes to help update a particular line, please contact one of the officers.

THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK

A Foundation book of Oberholtzer immigrants and unestablished lines.

\$29.50 + \$4.50 S & H. PA residents add \$1.77 Sales Tax.

Make check out to: Overholser Family Association

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

Limited copies still available. Get yours today!

Overholser Family Association
49 Paradise Lane
Paradise, PA 17562