



OFA Bulletin

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

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

This Year's Reunion will be an active one. **Darvin Martin** from Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society **will be speaking on DNA** and how we may use it to get confirmation of ties to the family in Oberholz Switzerland. Darvin has "degrees in analytical chemistry and agriculture, and works for a pharmaceutical instrumentation company based in Switzerland." If anyone wishes to get answers to some dogging questions, now is the time to come and share. This is the best time to learn how DNA can break the mystery of your ancestors. If you are not able to come but have questions, e-mail or send them to one of the officers and they will bring the questions to the meeting.

I will again bring the paper versions of the new computer O Lines. I have had to take a break from working on OFA materials, after four concentrated years of compiling. I must admit it had worn me out mentally. Now that it is Spring, I am starting to "clean up" some of the loose ends. Several early connections are being found, and it is a bit of work trying to keep up with them. But don't stop asking, because communication is the heart of finding lost connections.

It is difficult to keep up with all the changes in today's society. Statisticians tell us people move on the average of every seven years. So please do the staff at OFA a favor. It would be helpful to have a secondary e-mail, mailing, homebase, etc address in case we lose track of you. Several people have dropped off the mailing list because of e-mail address changes. One never knows when a breakthrough in their tree hunt will come about.

Correction: In the last Bulletin I gave info on getting "The Soils of Muhlenberg County" but incorrectly labeled Erich Overhultz as a she instead of a he. **He** is more understanding than I would have been.

Yours Respectfully, Dennis L Oberholtzer

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Paradise, Pa. 17562

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Letter to the Editor or
e-mail to
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Wecome New OFA Members!!!

Melissa Gerwe, AV Line
Robert Reesor
Ron Reynolds, Metamora IL, JF Line
Darvin Martin, SL24874 Line
Cindy Leutz, MI
Karen E Overholt
Sharon Nicol, SL Line
Lisa Mae Meeker Hathaway

Check out the OFA Website:

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

Concerning the MV Line name of Aberholz

There are lots of locatons with the name "Oberholz" in Southern Germany, Austria and Switzerland
- but I did not find any name "Aberholz" around here.
- Andreas Frohnhaus, Germany

HAPPY NEW WORLD!!!

Son Tucker Donald Earl Kauffman Feb 12, 2012 at Women's & Babies to Jason & Crystal (Oberholtzer) Kauffman. Crystal is d/o **SL24671.515 Dennis & Earline Oberholtzer**

Daughter Harmony Tori Jean Powers was born at 2:29 pm on Jan 17, 2012 in Dearborn, Michigan to Brandi Lynn Mix and Dean Powers. Harmony is a descendant of **MC75c11 Joseph Overholt**.
- Gena Nyhoff

LIBRARY CONTRIBUTORS

Many Thanks to those who contributed works for the OFA Files. Large contributors recently are:

Ruth Overholser , Wyomissing PA	Archival records, Oberholz Chapel 300th Anniversary book
Will & Kathy Overholtzer , Cordoba CA	Hunsberger Family Volumes 1-3, Kratz Family, plus a copy of The Oberholtzer Book for Library use.
Karl & Connie Oberholser , Mechanicsburg PA	Civil War Issue, Franklin Co Hist Society
Robert Ressor	PDF Files
Jeanne Trump , Palmyra PA	PDF Files of several O Lines
Nelson LaFon	Article & Breathtaking pictures of Aatal & Oberholz

DNA Talk

Darvin Martin, from Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, will be giving a talk on DNA and how it could help connect the emigrant O's with the town of Oberholz in Switzerland. While there is traditional evidence to link us to the village, there is no solid proof. Also, if there are any questions regarding DNA and other possible usage, bring those questions along to the Reunion. This is one of the most important discussions regarding our Reformation heritage.

Darvin is also an Oberholtzer.

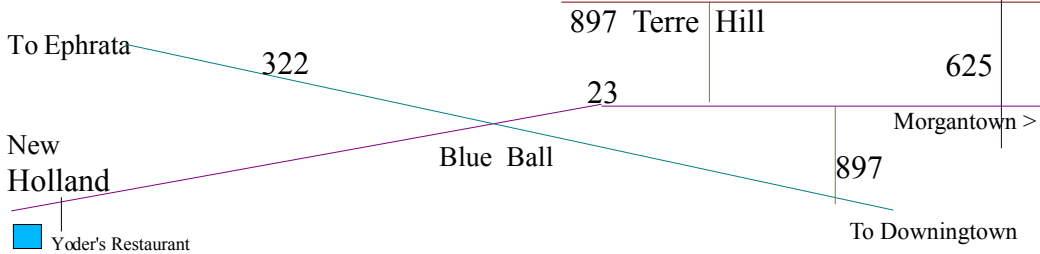
He descends from SL24874.6 [Samuel O Martin](#) 10/18/1897 -
 m [Minnie W Zimmerman](#) 9/18/1899 -

2012 REUNION

The Reunion will be held **August 4th** at St. John's Center United Church of Christ, east of Terre Hill on Route 625 where it was held in 2009. On Friday night, **August 3th**, we will meet at Yoder's between New Holland and Blue Ball for a 6:00PM buffet dinner and visiting. Be sure to notify Carolyn Kendall (address on Officer's List) in advance so they know how many to expect. On Saturday **August 4th**, we will gather at 10:30AM at the church.

How to get to the OFA Reunion

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



Obituaries

Max E Boyer died October 2011 husband of Carol C Boyer who passed away in October of 2008. They had resided in Denver. - daughter Kim Boyer

Genevieve Overholser June 17, 1962 in Manhattan NY - Feb 8, 2012 a brain aneurysm.

Born to Dr Winfred II & Annie Overholser, and granddaughter of [SL27342.1 Dr Winfred Overholser, OFA President from 1939 -1956](#). After attending five universities, she had a 25 year career in luxury brand cosmetics. She was preceded in death by a brother Dr Winfred III. Surviving are her parents, brother Adrian and sister Octavia, and five nephews: Winfred, Garret, Trevor, Brett, and Kenzo.

- notified by Adrian Overholser, Hong Kong

Byron Herbert Roll May 3, 1937 - December 11, 2011 of Bellefontaine OH

[JM56111.1 Byron](#) is s/o Herbert Roll & Esther Martin. Preceded in death were brothers Nevin & Gerald M, and sister Roberta Davis. Survived by his wife Darlene Ann (Kramer) Roll, who he married on June 18, 1998. Also surviving is a daughter Janie L Overley of Celina OH, Kay A of Knoxville TN, John H of Madison WI, and David B of Leipsic OH; sister Carolyn Brandon of Celina, Dwight Roll of Punta Gorda FL. Members Stony Creek Ch of Brethren, he retired from United Telephone Co of OH after 37 years. He was very active in many organizations, Ohio Vol Fire Dept, and mayor of Rossburg Village one term.

- Darlene Roll

M Joyce Oberholtzer 90 years, March 17, 2012 Elizabethtown PA, wife of the late John E

Oberholtzer who died in 2007. Member of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Joyce was the d/o the late Frank B & Ruth E (Westafer) Sweigart. She is survived by her son Paul L & spouse Shirlene Oberholtzer of E-town, two grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and a sister Ruth Carn, Norfolk VA. Interned Mount Tunnel Cem, E-town.

- Lancaster Intelligencer

Karen Louise Stevens March 4, 1948 - March 13, 2012 at Ephrata Manor, d/o [Richard I](#)

[Stevens Sr](#) and the late Jean Hilton Stevens. A Master's Degree in library science from Drexel U, she was a librarian for Valley Elementary in Bensalem & later Londonderry Private School. Member of Newtown & Lebanon Quilt Guilds, receiving several awards. She is survived by her father, brother Richard Jr, sister-in-law Randee of Harrisburg, nieces Abigail & Molly, au\Aunt Eleanor of Ephrata, and Uncle Charles of Decatur GA. Her father was Treasurer of the OFA for several years.

- Carolyn O Kendall

Fall 2011 to March 2012:

Tammy J Oberholser	45, Wapello IA
Jane K Oberholser	51, Sonomo CA
Elmer Oberholser	61, New Enterprise, Bedford Co PA
Arro Oberholser	37, Scottsdale AZ
Lita Louise Oberholser	43, Mechanicsburg PA
Chris Oberholser	71, Tohatchi NM
Tessa E Oberholser	26, Tipton IA

- New York Times Obituaries

TN f/o Nathaniel Overhouser & Joseph Overholtz

- 2011 Overholser Family Association

This new O Line was found in Barbara Ford's files. She already had it labeled with the TN (for Tennessee) O Code, starting at James Wiley Overholt. Finding the earlier generation was quite a surprise. This line may tie into the JL Line, but more evidence is needed at this time. Included here are only the first five generations.

TN _____ Oberholzer father of Joseph Overholtz & Nathaniel Overhouser

TN1 Joseph Overholtz - living 1863 uncle of James Wiley Overholt & met him 1863

TN2 Nathaniel Overhouser (?James Nathaniel) - c1828
father of James Wiley Overholt, their only child m _____ **Wiley**

TN21 James Wiley Overholt 10/3/1827 TN - 1/21/1912 Point Pleasant, Cocke Co TN
m 10/3/1851 Jefferson Co TN, **Jane Alexander** b TN - d/o James & Mary Alexander
James in 1850 as laborer in James Hale family; Civil War Private 1863-1865 Co D, 4th TN Reg Inf Union
James was an only child, resided 4/9/1891 Driskill TN; 11/6/1907 R F D 1, Bybee TN
purchased his farm from Joseph Fowler; Point Pleasant Church
grandchildren: Christian Smith, Nancy Samples, Noah Smith recieved Ramsey farm c13 acres
REF: 1850 & 1860 Census Jefferson Co TN, #107-382; U S Bureau of Pensions; Letter for Dept of Interior 4/9/1891, and 11/6/1907; Will of James Wiley Overholt admitted to probate as a lost will 1/30/1912, J M Fox witness; Dennis L Snapp reasearch

TN211 George H Overholt 1853 - m **Susan Reed** 1840 -

TN2111 James D Overholt 1878 -

TN212 Elizabeth Jane Overholt 2/1/1854 Cocke Co TN - bef 1887
m 1/23/1878 Cocke CO TN, **Frank Pearson Smith** 1858 - 1919
s/o Thomas Smith & Margaret Cluck

TN2121 Christian Smith 10/27/1876 Cocke Co TN - 7/14/1954 TN m **Lillie Turner** 1880 - 1941

TN21211 Hattie Smith 1899 - 1900

TN21212 Shannon D Smith 1901 - m **Eunice Lingo** 1909 - 1971

TN21213 Fuller Smith 1902 - m **Lillie Florence Hurley**

TN21214 Mettie Smith 1904 -

TN21215 Ralph H Smith 1907 - 1972 m **Bessie Clevenger**

TN21216 Lena Smith 1909 - m **Wiley Collin**

TN21217 Rose Smith 1910 -

TN21218 Hazel Smith 1913 -

TN21219 Hilda Smith 1914 - m **Elbert Calfee**

TN21210 Mary Ruth Smith 1916 -

TN2121a Nettie Smith 1904 - 1921

TN2122 Nannie Ann Smith 1/18/1879 - 7/16/1958 m **Cauley Samples** 1880 - 1970

TN21221 Dee Samples 1903 - m **Irene Thomas**

TN21222 Marion Samples 1905 -

TN21223 Ulysses S Samples 1908 - 1922

TN21224 Ray Samples 1916.

TN21225 Infant Samples 1918.

TN2123 Noah Abraham Smith 9/19/1881 - 7/29/1961 m **Bertha C Calfee** 1882 - 1945

TN21231 Allen Smith 1905.

TN21232 Delsie Smith 1906 - 1928

TN21233 Frank T Smith twin 1909 - 1964 m **Mattie _____** 1904 - 1979

TN21234 James T Smith twin 1909 - 1987
 1st m **Hester Fox** 1906 - 1974 2nd m **Virginia Ward** 1914 -

TN21235 Lucille Smith 1914 - 1919

TN21236 J B Smith 1917 -

m **Exie French** 1922 - 1995

TN213 Newton Shannon Overholt 10/31/1855 Cocke Co TN - 3/12/1926 Cocke Co TN

m 10/3/1878 Cocke Co TN, **Mollie Marie Solomon** c1860 TN -

d/o Baldwin Solomon & Catherine Talley

Newton & sister Mary Elizabeth inherited farm from father James W, Newton was executor of James will tended Point Pleasant Church; Newton was Justice of the Peace; a cook resided with Newton's household

REF: 1880 District 4 Cocke Co TN Census, 1900 District 17 Cocke Co TN; 1880 District 4, Cocke Co TN Census; 1920 Witts-Foundry Village, Hamblen Co TN; 1910 TN Census

TN2131 Florence L Overholt 8/13/1879 Cocke Co TN - 1/23/1960

m **James W Wice** 1875 - 1956 (?Wise)

TN21311 Walter Edgar Wice

m **Maxie Elizabeth Messer**

TN21312 Peter Wice

TN21313 J C Wice

m **Jossie Holbert**

TN21314 Margaret Wice

m **Henry Ballard**

TN21315 Clyde W Wice 1903 - 1967

TN21316 Vita Bee Wice 1909 - 1969

m **Dellie W Holbert**

TN2132 Ira D Overholt 4/17/1881 Cocke Co TN - 3/9/1949 Jefferson Co TN

m **Delia Berry**

TN21321 Clay Overholt

m **Georgia Cline**

TN21322 Connie Overholt

m **Marjorie Correll**

TN21323 James Newton Overholt

m **Jean Elizabeth Cole** 1921 - 1977

TN21324 Wayne Ira Overholt 1913 - 1994

m **Aradia Buckner**

TN2133 Walter William Overholt 2/25/1883 Cocke Co TN - 4/3/1949 Hamblen Co TN

m **Maude E Miller** - 1978

TN21331 Ralph Vard Overholt Sr

m **Irene Taylor**

TN21332 Helen Miller Overholt 1915 - 1915

TN2134 Elizabeth A Overholt 10/4/1886 Cocke Co TN - 4/8/1973
m **Robert L Fowler** "Tuck" 1880 - 1936

TN21341 Doozier Shade Fowler "Jerry" 1905 - m **Delcie Irene Owen** 1910 - 1978

TN21342 Elmer T Fowler "Bug" 1907 - 1977 m **Loletta Scott**

TN21343 Clinton H Fowler "Tommy" 1909 - m **Iva Lee Hayes**

TN21344 Earl L Fowler 1912 - 1913

TN21345 Claude N Fowler "Doc" 1914 - 1964 m **Marie Moss**

TN21346 James Carl Fowler "Nig" 1916 - 1972 m **Kathleen Sexton**

TN21347 Leslie R Fowler "Chick" 1919 - 1982 m **Mary Moss**

TN21348 Kyle Overholt Fowler "Pumpkin" 1928 - 1946

TN2135 James Carl Overholt 12/11/1888 Cocke Co TN - 5/4/1974 Greene Co TN
m **Margaret Virginia Hawkins** 1893 - 1985

TN21351 Billie Shannon Overholt m **Isabelle Jean Sheddan**

TN21352 Dale Hawkins Overholt m **Betty Joe O'Dell**

TN21353 Mildred Overholt 1916 - 1916

TN2136 Mattie Jane Overholt 1/9/1892 Cocke Co TN - 4/8/1966 Hamblen Co TN
m **Dewitt Turner** 1888 - 1949

TN21361 James Clayton Turner m **Grace Leato Lane**

TN21362 Garnet Dee Turner m **Lucille Elizabeth Greene "Jack"**

TN21363 Glenn Burless Turner 1910 - 1995 m **Anna Lee Kesterson**

TN21364 Mary E Turner 1912 - 1912

TN21365 Clondus R Turner 1915 - 1917

TN21366 Justin Harold Turner 1923 - 1996 m **Lenora Milligan "Peep"**

TN214 John A Overholt 1857 Cocke Co TN - CO inherited \$1300

1st m **Emma Badger***

2nd m 11/3/1876 Cocke Co TN, **Clementine Smith**^ 1861 -

REF: m date by Julie Smith Walters, not IGI rec of 11/3/1878

TN2141 Mamie P Overholt* m **John O Barton**

TN21411 Lola Margaret Barton

TN21412 Alberta Barton

TN21413 Robert Barton 1927 - 1927

TN2142 Margaret Frances Odel Overholt* m **George R Langdon**

TN21421 Roberta Jean Langdon

TN2143 Clara Estella Overholt* - 1909

TN2144 Ollia A Overholt^ twin 9/26/1879 - m **Harvey Gardner**

TN21441 Andy Allen Gardner

TN21442 Homer Gardner + _____

TN21443 Clara Gardner

TN21444 Mae Gardner

TN21445 Taylor Gardner

TN21446 Eunice Gardner

TN21447 Dorothy Gardner

TN21448 William Gardner

TN21449 Rudy Gardner

TN2145 H H Overholt[^] twin 9/26/1879 -

TN2146 Maude Overholt[^] 12/16/1881 - m **Gene Barton**

TN21461 Eula O Barton

TN21462 Clarence Barton

TN21463 Edith Barton m **Wm Heartley Sr**

TN21464 Opal Barton m **Dorman Clifford**

TN21465 Agnes Barton m **Howard Mincer**

TN2147 Stella Overholt[^] 8/10/1887 - m **Ike Northrup**

TN21471 Harold Reed Northrup

TN2148 James Nathaniel Overholt[^] 1/16/1891 - 12/27/1916 m **Ethel E Crooke**

TN21481 Vivian Irene Overholt m **Amos I Reinhard**

TN2149 D Rex Overholt 6/26/1896 - + _____

TN21491 John Allen Overholt

TN21492 Clementine Overholt

TN21493 Joe Overholt

TN215 Joseph Overholt c1858 - infancy

TN216 Mary Elizabeth Overholt 1/14/1861 Cocke Co TN - 3/25/1928 TN "Lizzie"
business woman
1st m c1874 Cocke Co TN, **Daniel J Phillips**
s/o Elijah Phillips a blacksmith from SC 3 ch to Mary
Dan farmer & blacksmith, killed in hunting accident, res n Steveson, Jackson Co AL
2nd m c1890 Jacson Co AL, _____ **Massingill** abandoned Mary 1 son Andy
after 2nd m Mary sold farm & moved to TN into father James' enlarged log cabin

3rd m aft 1900 **James "Yam" Nolen** 1870 -
REF: Personal Letter to Mrs E Phillips, Bybee P O TN, February the 5th, 1900; Will of Mary E Nolan, witnesses are J D Holt & J W Wise

TN2161 Laura Phillips 11/13/1876 Cocke Co TN - 10/30/1950 Cocke Co TN
1st m **L Dowl Rutledge*** 2nd m **Wm Henry Turner^** 1858 - 1930
Laura to have 1/3rd interest in Mary's farm on which she resided.

TN21611 Hobart Rutledge* 1896 - c1945 m **Edna Nolen** 1894 -

TN21612 John D Rutledge* 1896 - 1896

TN21613 Ada Turner^ 1913 - 1984 m **Wm Furman McKinney** 1905 - 1972

TN21614 Henry Clay Turner^ 1916 - 1965 m **Irene Blackwell**

TN21615 James David Turner^ 1918 - 1993 m **Nettie** _____

TN2162 Dell Phillips 1/28/1880 Scottsboro, Jackson Co AL - 8/1942 Bridgport AL
1st m **Lenora** _____ no issue
2nd m **Doshia** _____ * 1897 - 1979 div
3rd m **Jewell** _____ ^
Dell received 1/3rd interest in Mary's farm

TN21621 Gretchen Phillips m **Clive Durham Sr**

TN21622 Dell Phillips Jr c1938 -

TN2163 Dave Asbury Phillips 9/2/1882 Jackson Co AL - 3/19/1957 Cocke Co TN
m **Martha Lucinda Fowler** 1887 - 1972
Dave received 1/3rd interest in Mary's farm

TN21631 Dan C Phillips 1906 - 1993 m **Monte Carter** 1896 - 1974

TN21632 David Lee Phillips 1908 - 1980 m **Ethel Hicks** 1909 - 1978

TN21633 Emma Louise Phillips 1910 - 1987
1st m **Wm Earl Fox** 1901 - 1951 2nd m **Fred Roosevelt Luster** 1902 - 1976

TN21634 Will T Phillips 1913 - 1914

TN21635 Child Phillips 1915 - 1916

TN21636 Mary Elizabeth Phillips 1919 -

1st m **Lee Benfield**

2nd m **Charles Huff** 1920 -

TN21637 William Phillips 1922 -

1st + **Rose Brady Salmons***

2nd + **Keith Solomon**^ 1913 - 1976

TN21638 Julia Laura Phillips 1926 - 1997

1st m **Alvin Wall** "Hank" 1915 - 1963

2nd m **Edgar Murphy**

TN21639 John Alexander Phillips "Joe" 1929 - 1959 m **Charlotte Gangford**

TN21630 Dortha Marie Phillips "Dot" 1932 -

m **Dan Macy McCoig Sr** 1933 -

TN2164 Andy Massingill c1890 - 1895

TN217 David M Overholt 3/9/1863 Cocke Co TN - 3/3/1906

inherited 2 tracts of land known as the "Driskill"; tended Point Pleasant Church

m 2/27/1881 Cocke Co TN, **Martha J Yarbrough** 1865 - 1938

d/o Alonzo Yarbrough & Nancy Northington

REF: IGI Records, Salt Lake City UT

TN2171 Oscar F Overholt 7/2/1883 - 4/14/1970

TN2172 William Lee Roy Overholt 12/19/1884 - 7/1/1968

m 11/7/1905 Cocke TN, **Delcie Calfee** "Dillie" 1886 - 1967

TN21721 Bonnie Leola Overholt

m **Arson Talley**

TN21722 Edward Durex Overholt

1st m **Willa Mae Stinnett**

2nd m **Genelle Stevenson**

3rd m **Olla Belle Fox**

TN21723 Emery Gene Overholt

TN21724 L G Overholt

m **Mae Arms**

TN21725 D Fred Overholt 1910 - 1911

TN21726 Thomas Carmack Overholt 4/13/1920 -

m **Catherine Bible**

TN21727 Wm Dwight Overholt 1922 -

TN21728 Jack Haskell Overholt 1/23/1924 Cocke Co TN - 1964
m **Marjorie Wilma Smith** 1923 - 1965

TN2173 Sallie Overholt 4/3/1889 - 3/26/1949
m 12/20/1904 Newport, Cocke Co TN, **Marion Dedrick Turner** 1885 - 1965

TN21731 Estelle Turner 1905 - 1908

TN21732 Utella Turner 1910 -

TN21733 Mattie Turner 1917 -

TN2174 Nancy Jane Overholt 6/18/1892 Cocke Co TN - 12/1976 TN
m **Ulysses G Holdway** 1890 - 1962

TN21741 Conrad Holdway 1917 - m **Ruth Lingo** 1923 -

TN2175 Dwight Lymon Overholt 6/19/1904 - 1/3/1921 m **Clemmie Buckner**

TN3 Ephraim Overholt 1800 - 1830 TN ?m 7/9/1824 Greene TN, **Anna McKeehan**
Uncertain if this is Ephraim from the JL Line. Need more evidence.

TN31 Julyann Overholt m 7/27/1859 Claiborne TN, **Joel Johnson**

REFERENCES: Dennis L Oberholtzer, compiling editor Paradise PA
Descendants of James Wiley Overholt of TN, Julie L Smith Walters, Westfield Center OH
Dennis L Snapp, Long Beach CA
Barbara B Ford, OFA genealogist Nottingham PA

OFA OFFICERS

Lines

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JL	Website Sponsor		
	1st Vice President	John Shinpaugh	http://mysite.verizon.net/vzevgxav/ofa
	Chaplain		OPEN AT THIS TIME

CEMETERY INSIGHTS

Mastersonville Brethren Cemetery

The **Mastersonville Brethren Cemetery** is a mixture of old and new. The old stones begin along the road, and the newer stones wrap around the church in an L Shape; for the most part. And then there is this one pair of very old sandstones at the bend in the L. Deep carving in these old stones reveal:

Peter Becker Revolutionary Soldier 1753 - 1833

Catherine Becker wife 1762 - 1833

These two stones stand beside the marble stones of one of their children:

Frederick Baker Oct 1, 1796 - Mar 7, 1882 and his wife Elizabeth Baker 1800 - 1878.

What struck me as odd was how the old sandstones were carved so deep. As Noah & I began to walk away, I moved around to the back of the sandstones, and behold, the original script was on the back, still somewhat legible, but obviously deteriorated.

This is a wonderful way to keep the ancestors from fading away. The graves were obviously moved from a different location; most likely a farm grave plot. All the surrounding stones were much newer.

So if you have a loved one from many years passed that you want to have found years into the future, save some money by doing a reverse carving!

Wildcat Cemetery

To get to this family graveyard, one must hike through mud, over water, up a grade, all in the middle of nowhere. And I forgot to mention squeeze through a fence! But it is all worthwhile to find a graveyard with a PODIUM! My first thought was, Who is preaching to the dead?

What a wonderful relief it was to find the podium concealed a guest register! We sneaked a peak at the others who had signed before, even a bus load of relatives from afar. Noah Oberholtzer Jr and I both signed and dated the register, leaving a forwarding address in case they would like to know who was seeking some heritage of Lancaster County.

The ones who kept care of the ground, and stone wall with gate also kept log of what and when they were there. What a great way to find living contacts for those who passed on. Kudos for the keepers of the Wildcat Cemetery!

☺ ☺ ☺

Amish Peculiarities

"... **no** Amish person of Mrs Elizabeth Blough's generation [the first couple generations in America] - or the next generations for that matter - had a middle name."* Middle initials on a tombstone stood for variants of the "Given" name.

- *Hugh Gingerich, in a letter to Mrs Boyer, OFA file copy

The Holy Bible is like a rhetorical question -
It is unanswerable until the question is qualified,
Then either the qualifier misconstrued the question,
Or the question answers itself.

Searching for Close Relatives

Ron Reynolds, of JF, Jacob - JF1, Henry JF14, Abraham - JF143, Samuel - JF1431, Henry. I descend from Henry's daughter Anna Elizabeth.

For many years I have had a photo album (an old type - designed for 'tin type' pictures). Recently, I was examining that album and discovered that my Mother had written names to identify a few of the pictures. One picture is of Henry - 1835, and two of his children - Louella and Samuel. Another picture is of Anna Elizabeth. She was my grand-mother; Henry was my great-grand-father. Six other pictures were identified as members of the West family; Anna Elizabeth married Thomas L West -- the parents of my Mother.

Mother was born in 1894 - Elizabeth died 1899/1900 (?) - not proven, but Mother often said her mother died when she was three, and Grandfather remarried in Oct 1898. This album was Elizabeth's, so I assume most of the pictures were from her family - the Oberholtzers.

Now, my question: are you aware of anyone in OFA (JF line) who has pictures that might help identify any of the pictures in this album? I have scanned the pictures (approx. 30) and could print pages of wallet-size pics to share with anyone who might offer some names.

Upcoming OFA Bulletin articles:

Abraham's of the 18th Century, I will be correcting several mix-ups between other Abrahams during the 1700's. Family groups have also been discovered, giving insights for a possible father search.

Nelson LaFon wrote an article on his trip to Oberholz and Aatal, with breathtaking pictures.

Henry Oberholtzers. By compiling known Henry's of the 18th Century, a couple connections have come to light.

☪☪☪

OFA REUNION, Southeastern PA, Friday Night at Yoder's Rest., Reunion 1st Saturday in August

IOWA O's Meetings 1st Sunday in August in Tingley IA Community Building, 89th Reunion in 2012
www.overholtzer.org

FRANKLIN Co PA GROUP, next 2012 Roxbury Holiness Camp, Roxbury PA. They meet every other year. Covered dish, 717-697-0512 or Philip4@comcast.net

If you need more information, contact Dennis at Paradise_Living50@verizon.net

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

THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK

A Foundation book of Oberholtzer immigrants and unestablished lines.
Edited by Barbara B Ford & introduction by Will Overholtzer
\$29.50 + ~~\$4.50~~ S & H. PA residents add ~~\$1.77~~ Sales Tax. (Cost has risen)
Get new costs before writing check out to: Overholser Family Association
and mail to Carolyn O. Kendall, 1001 E Oregon Road, #1640, Lititz PA 17543
Limited copies still available. Get yours today!

Progress of Computerization of Files

The compiled computurization of the OFA Files is nearing completion. Paper copies have been created in order to preserve the information in case of an electronic accident. Duplicate electronic copies will be held by at least two other individuals in other areas of the country. This is being created as a safety measure, just in case of any mishap from a nuclear accident, terrorism, or natural disaster.

Copies of family lines are being created for CD Format. Additional details, keys, headings, etc are being added for better comprehension. As per voter agreement at the 2011 Reunion, the CD Format will become available for \$8.00. This will help cover costs, and bring in a small donation for the Association to help keep it growing.

There will be the possibility of future book printings. Pictures, stories, and such would be added to the CD versions to give more value to the printing. But this is years down the road. There are no present plans to print.