



# 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

Dear OFA Members,

Greetings to you all in the New Year. Here's wishing you a healthy and prosperous 2017.

Sadly, my beloved Aunt Barbara (Oberholser) Munson passed away in August. I owe her a debt of gratitude for insisting I go with her to my first OFA Reunion in the 1970's. She introduced me to Spencer and Robert Oberholser who were instrumental in establishing the facts of their respective SL Lines. I am missing her in a big way.

Let me not forget to thank Rhoda Stauffer Oberholtzer for her heartfelt presentation at last year's Reunion. We also thank her for her generosity in giving each family in attendance a signed copy of her new book "Designed".

Let me take the opportunity to remind you that it is not too early to put those Reunion dates in your calendars.

Sincerely,

Michael Martin, OFA President

**We are now on FACEBOOK:**  
**Just type in Facebook: Overholser Family Association**

**Overholser Family  
Association Bulletin**

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Editor - Dennis L. Oberholtzer  
49 Paradise Lane  
Paradise, Pa. 17562  
717-687-6950

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**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Please send all contributions to:

**Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer**  
803 Union St, Apt 4  
Brooklyn, NY 11215

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Earline Oberholtzer  
49 Paradise Lane  
Paradise PA 17562-9654  
717-687-6950

2008ofa.eeo@earthlink.net

**Welcome New OFA Members!!!**

Robert Venables, Juneau Alaska

Jane Overholser

Elizabeth Schafer

Denise Jones, Reading PA

**New Way to CONTRIBUTE!**

You can support the OFA by visiting our website at [overholser.net](http://overholser.net) and clicking the Donate button. Please e-mail [gmartin@overholser.net](mailto:gmartin@overholser.net) if you have any questions. We have added PAY PAL to help keep things secure for you and the OFA.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Tina & Bonnie Anderson have proved to be of Stephan Hopkins of Bermuda, Jamestown, and on the Mayflower. They are now certified Mayflower descendants!

**Additional Deceased:**

Lucille Willwerth of New Holland PA OFA Member  
Maylon Oberholtzer 77 years died Jan 21, 2017 Ronks PA real estate agent

***God's view of an overcomer:***

***A person who beats his or her personal diabolical character traits,***

***are the greatest asset for Jesus!***

## CEMETERY INSIGHTS

Last December I was able to attend a Grave Concerns dinner here in Lancaster County PA. We sat across from a Quaker lawyer who deals in cemetery legalities. David R Morrison explained that the United States is the only country in the world to have cemeteries with perpetual rights. But he also revealed how these rights are slowly being eaten away. I have seen this devouring of ancient memorials by farmers who remove or stack the stone markers in a pile, and then plow over the site for growing crops. They do this in the name of property ownership, just because their family did not originate from the land they now possess.

I was very fortunate to have spent the time over the past two decades hunting my family ancestors. Some of our grave sites were moved from the homestead farms to larger cemeteries, where we still have stone records. And the historical society has documented the movement of these graves. But others around the country are not so fortunate. And as time goes by, faster than we care to admit, some families may lose track of undocumented changes.

Is there a remedy. On the negative side, I have seen the disappearance of records from my own computer. I have seen notes removed from library records. I have seen the vandalism of cemeteries. I have learned how just the mis-placement of a stone marker can create the loss of a family connection. On the positive side, there is still time for you to get started documenting local grave markers, and labeling such in site charts. And don't be afraid to involve your children and grandchildren. They will understand the depth of a stone marker probably better than you.

### Upcoming Articles

IOWA, Crossroads to the West While many families went through Independence Missouri, more O families crossed through Iowa than Missouri.

Barbarian Roots We will continue with this series, but jumping farther back in time.

***In order to get more information out to our readers, we are planning to put some articles having beautiful pictures onto the websites. This will help you better understand the wide scope of information, and allow for better understanding of how you got where you are.***

## SEEKING JAMES

*Several people who come to the OFA seeking their ancestor with the surname of O\_\_\_\_\_ run into dead ends that seem insurmountable. In this Bulletin, I wish to address some of the possibilities one has in order to properly connect someone who appears to have no connection to your family. The first criteria is to establish place and date guidelines. If a birth or death date is in one half of a century, do not waste time in a different one. If you know where the person was at a certain time in their life, look for connections to that place, although they may have traveled from some unknown location. Sometimes you may find a person who you are familiar with, and can contact for help. Checking dates for a close match avoids much unnecessary time.*

James Overholser IN 47529, late 20th Century

**AV2381 James Franklin Overholtz** 7/29/1860 Preble Co OH - 5/10/1920 W Elkton OH

1st m 7/26/1878 **Mary E Grace** NI

ancestor of Roger Wayne Overholts

2nd m **Cora Mae Miller** 1868 - 1946

REF: Family by Roger W Overholts

AV23813.1 **James Overholts** 4/3/1921W Middletown OH - 5/14/1985 Hamilton OH

**AV23021 James Darrel Overholtz** 1/1/1911 - 12/10/1941 m **Hazel** \_\_\_\_\_ aft 1911 -

**AV267 James A Overholts** c1852 - 5/26/1912 bur Fairmount

?m 5/26/1878 **Mary Grace** 1857 OH - 11/16/1893

James was a carpenter, not in 1900 Preble Co census

REF: 1880 Census Camden OH; Audrey Gilbert, W Alexandria OH

*Sometimes you may notice someone who works for the same company as your relative.*

**AV52511 James Carl Overholser Sr** 1/26/1882 Howard Co IN - 12/13/1952 Chicasha OK

1st m 12/2/1900 **Charlotte Evans** 4/11/1883 Dawson NE - 7/29/1943 CO

2nd m 11/23/1947 **Pauline Stedham**

AV52511.1 **Daniel Edward Overholser Sr** 2/15/1902 Billings MT -

m 8/22/1920 **Nina Beatrice Adair** 7/15/1900 Lyndon KS -

AV52511.11 **Daniel Edward Overholser Jr** 3/20/1921 Burlington CO -

AV52511.12 **Marvin Eugene Overholser** 11/5/1922 Burlington CO -

AV52511.13 **Son** - at birth

AV52511.14 **Ava Loraine Overholser** 2/15/1926 Burlington CO -

AV52511.15 **Phillip Ivan Overholser** (twin) 11/23/1930 Peyton CO -

AV52511.16 **Phyllis Irene Overholser** (twin) 11/23/1930 Peyton CO -

Lockheed Aircraft

1st m 4/30/1949 **Eugene Edward Plante** 11/23/1929 Marywood IL -

2nd m 10/2/1953 **Charles Wayne Pettit** 12/14/1929 -

3rd m 12/12/1959 **Robert Wayne Fowler** 3/14/1923 Acworth GA -

AV52511.161 **Marie Olivia Fowler** 9/18/1963 Cartersville GA -

**AV52511.2 Hazel E Overholser** 8/28/1903 Dalhart TX - 7/7/1904 CO City CO

AV52511.3 **Olen L Overholser** 6/26/1905 CO - 2/10/1906 OK

AV52511.4 **Chester Jerome Overholser** 9/8/1907 OK -

AV52511.5 **Lawrence Evans Overholser** 1/13/1920 OK -

AV52511.6 **James Carl Overholser Jr** 1/4/1913 OK -

AV52511.7 **Mary Juliet Overholser** 10/13/1915 OK -

*Sometimes a name is in the references:*

**AV591 James Francis Overholser** 12/29/1840 OH - 12/1/1922 IA Civil War 81st OH Inf Co D

m 6/27/1867 **Amelia Jane Ford** 6/18/1849 IA - 4/29/1922 IA

both bur Centenary Cem, Jefferson Twp IA, d/o William B Ford & Magdalena Kepley of Riverside IA

REF: Edna Walters, 4/7/1927; Lyndon Overholser, Overland Park KS

REF: Joel Overholser, Ft Benton MT, letter by James Overholser, Elnora IN 47529

**AV59195 James Eldon Overholser** 10/4/1920 MT-

2 dau, son, 1 grd-ch

**AV5910 James Glenn Overholser** 9/16/1888 Knowlton IA - 4/24/1959 Monmouth IL

m **Florence Lightner**

**AV635 James I Overhuls** 10/1/1853 - 3/9/1854

bur Old Bethel Cem

**AV652a James Bertram Overhuls** 10/18/1908 - 2/13/1910

**AV654 James Franklin Overhultz** 7/4/1874 - 12/26/1956 LA

m 6/21/1908 **Lillian B Theriot** 7/18/1890 - 4/24/1960 both bur Patterson, St Mary Parish LA

**AV6542 Bertram James Overhultz** 5/15/1913 - 3/27/2005 Baton Rouge LA retired Allied Chemical

m 9/20/1940 **Nettie Marie Hudson** - aft 3/27/2005

also g-grd-ch Cameron Bertram Short, step-grd-ch Charlie Chambers of Gunnison CO

REF: Bertram's obit

*Just as in retail sales, remember its location, location, location.*

**CH237 James Oberholtzer** - 8 in 1870

REF: 1870 Clarence Erie Co NY living with Christian Oberholtzer & Levi

**AC374 James Overholt** c1864 -

IC31122.5 **James Overholt**

only one to stay in Wainfleet Twp, Ont CAN m Marilyn Reid

**IC324 James Everett Overholt** 9/23/1833 Blandford - 11/28/1910 - 1934 Oxford Co ONT

m 4/9/1857 E Oxford Twp, **Mary Ann Schell** 7/6/1839 E Oxford Twp, Ont CAN - 7/29/1919

Children born in Blandford Ontario

d/o Abraham Schell & Ester Hugill

Shell traces: Esther of Abraham of Henry of John Christian of Wm Schell who lived at Baden Baden in the

Palatinate on the Rhine. Imm about 1750 & settled Herkimer NJ

REF: Barbara Ford's Census Rec show James E Overholdt d 11/28/1910 Oxford Co ONT.

**IC753 James Overholt** 1849 Gainsboro, Lincoln Co ONT m c1865 **Lavina Powers** - 1/24/1933

REF: LDS Family Group Record; Barbara Ford ; P 5 C 2, Brantford Public Library

*If a family name is repetitious in a certain family line, it is likely going to include your missing person.*

*Check the Census records for family "group names", names that run throughout the family lines. Duplicates of three or more names through a family's generations is much more likely to carry on those names.*

**JA331 James Edward Overhuls** 12/26/1838 Darke CO OH - 1895 TX  
1st m 8/17/1865 **Emaline J White** 1844 AR - 1876 KS  
Barbara Ford found M J Overhills 1900 in Canyon, Randall Co, TX with children by 1st marriage  
Augustus M Lewis b Nov 1878 TX, John Churchill Lewis b Sept 1881 TX and three daughters  
Fannie, Marguerite and Louise who were by James Overhuls

**JA44174 James Bryan Overholser** 8/1897 Greenville OH - m **Anna** \_\_\_\_\_ Greenville Cometary  
JA44174.1 **Richard Overholser**

**JA4511 James F Overholser** 11/1/1856 -

JA45421.11 **Erik James Overhulser** 9/5/1977 Olympia WA -  
m 6/1/2007 **Amanda Floyd** 4/19/1982 CA -

**JA45b James Milton Overholser** 11/16/1858 - 1/15/1918 Fairfield both bur Union Cem, Lockridge  
m Round Prairie IA 8/28/1879 **Martha Ann Hickenbottom** 11/15/1858 - 9/28/1939

REF: Jefferson Co mar rec BK F/91 #2; DAR rec Jefferson Co IA - burials; Jefferson Co *Ledger*

**JA45b2 James Ernest Overholser** 6/16/1884 Buchanan IA - aft 1939 Fairfield IA

**JB3224 James L Oberholtzer** 1865 - 1935 bur Hereford Mennonite m **Viola Skeen**

**JB325 James Oberholtzer** 1/12/1846 - 4/24/1864 bur Old Hereford Mennonite

*Names that run in the family are likely to do so in the census records.*

**JC1316 James Oberholtzer** c1852 IN -

JC13211.14 **James Oberholtzer** 10/1935 -

JC13211.213 **James Oberholtzer** 4/1958 -

**JC1531 James W Oberholtzer\*** 1871 IN - 1944 IN m 2/25/1892 **Amanda F Merrill** 1875 - 1934 IN

*Here we see James as a middle name. Could he have used a different name at a earlier/later time? This occurs rather regular. Read Finding George after this article as confirmation.*

**JC1d4 Cooley James Oberholtzer** c1853 IL - m 6/19/1873 **Loretta J Steele** c1855 IL -

REF: John Seymour, S B, CA; 1880 Grant Twp, Union Co IA Census; Knox Co IL Marriage Record

**JC1e James Joseph Overholtzer** 5/13/1819 Columbiana Co OH - 19/24/1896 Knox IL  
m 4/15/1841 by George Warner, Wayne Co OH, **Anna Tedrow** 12/1/1814 - 7/27/1899 Knox Co IL  
James learned blacksmith trade 2 years in Richland Co OH, 1849 to Truro Twp, Knox Co IL  
Bought the homestead farm during the winter, still there in 1886 with 386 acres.

**JC1e25 Dr Edward James Oberholtzer** 9/1878 - 5/1951 m **Maude Knox** 12/4/1882 - 9/1973  
Doctor in Williamsfield many years

**JC1e41 James Overholtzer** 1/1883 IL - 1950

*The number of children may be a lead.*

**JF13114 Jacob W Oberholtzer** 11/27/1822 Skippack PA - 1/31/1911 Oswego IL res Rockford IL 12 ch  
m 11/18/1845 **Harriet Wilbraham** 1/1827 PA - 1/27/1915 both bur Green Tree Ch, Montgy CoPA  
d/o John Wilbraham & Elizabeth Jones Eisenberg

REF: Ancestors of David James Oberholtzer, autobiog

JF13114.10 **James Victor Oberholtzer** 6/30/1885 - m **Ada Pattison**

JF13121.92 **James Oberholtzer** 11/1887 -  
JF13125.212 **James Oberholtzer** c1914 -  
JF13125.23 **James Wilmer Oberholtzer** 11/7/1892 Mainland PA -  
m 10/22/1919 **Esther B Kreibel** 12/4/1895 -  
JF13125.35 **James Wilson Oberholtzer** 4/28/1904 - 9/20/1979  
REF: Notes of Barbara B Ford in *Jacob Oberholtzer Genealogy* book, 1931

JF13162.3112 **James Whitcomb Overholtzer** 1/2/1937 Apple Valley CA - 6/6/1970

**JF13163 David James Oberholtzer** 2/24/1834 Lancaster Co PA - 2/1894 res Mt Carroll IL  
Diary of Davis Longaker, 4/1/1862 Union Brass Band - one of the members - David Oberholtzer kicked Bill Snyder in the face. He was put in the guardhouse. Band mustered out 8/10/1862. (2nd PA Reg Reserves). David re-enlisted 7/1/1863 59th PA Reg, discharged 9/9/1863  
m 3/14/1865 **Mary Almira Ferrin** 8/19/1846 - 8/30/1942

REF: *Perkiomen Region X-XIII* 10/1934 p 246

JF13164.373 **James Henry Overholtzer** 10/11/1925 - 5/5/1977  
m 12/30/1963 **Vera Herman Davis** 6/27/1919 - US Navy in WWII

JF13164.a23 **James Irvin Overholtzer** 3/9/1944 Chico CA -

JF13164.a42 **James Jay Overholtzer** 7/11/1935 Woodland CA -

1st m 1949 **Janet Lee DeBorba\*** 8/28/1949 - div

2nd m \_\_\_\_\_ res Woodland CA

**JF13171 Jacob A Oberholtzer** 10/27/1832 - 1/18/1859

m **Annie D Shelly** c1836 Sellersville PA - res Lansdale PA (her 2nd m George Swartz)

m ?same person? **Elizabeth A** \_\_\_\_\_ 11/16/1843 - 1861

REF: letter by Alice Wood to Rev I E Oberholtzer, 8/31/1933

JF13171.1 **James S Oberholtzer** c1857 - 12/25/1879 Lower Salford Twp PA

REF: Montgy Co PA # 14607 death cert of James S Oberholtzer by Wm A Oberholtzer

JF14310.3 **James B Oberholtzer** 1868 - 1869

JF1431a.152 **James Robert Oberholtzer** 3/9/1929 - m **Anna Grace Tucker**

*Were there multiple marriages, some not recorded in your present paperwork?*

**JL211 John Overholser** 4/2/1792 VA- 3/1/1856 Champaign Co OH War of 1812, Capt Samuel Hawkins Co  
m 9/13/1819 VA by Rev Nicholas Smooker to **Barbara Romic** 4/14/1797 VA - 3/2/1879 OH 10 children  
The family moved from Virginia to Ohio in the summer of 1835. They lived in Champaign Co OH, both bur  
Methodist Cem near St Paris OH Barbara d/o Michael & Rachel (Gochenour) Romick

REF: James M Overhuls, Norwalk OH; War of 1812 pension papers; Jeanne King @willitsonline.com 2006

**JL21114 James Finley Overhuls** (twin) 10/25/1852 OH -

JL21114.1 G F Overhuls

**JL2116 Jesse A M Overhulse** 10/6/1828 - 10/1/1889 Henry Co OH Henry Co OH Civil War

1st m 12/2/1849 **Harriet Stockton**

2nd m 11/26/1856 **Rebecca Anspach** 2/26/1837 - 1921

Rebecca is d/o Johnathan Anspach & Mary Batdorf. Jesse moved from Champaign Co to Allen Co,  
& finally to his farm near Napoleon, Henry Co OH. He had 10 ch incl my grandfather Musson E Overhulse 1857-1907 of Napoleon,  
who had my father Jesse M Overhuls 1889-1935 of Napoleon & Norwalk OH. - James M Overhuls

JL21282.41 **James Alan Overholser** 7/3/1941 - m 9/24/1966 **Joan Martin** div 1972

James now lives in New Zealand, is a school teacher & stock broker. Grad of Stanford

JL21201.219 **James Amick Overholser**

REF: Judi Stucky

**JL212d4 James Ellsworth Overholser c1875 -**

JL212d6.1 **Dr James Arthur Overholser** 1/1/1911 TN - lives Memphis TN  
m 3/1937 **Grace McSpadden** 1913 Clifton TX - 1972

**JL21416 James W Overholtz** 11/2/1892 - 12/31/1961 m **Maude** \_\_\_\_\_ 6/21/1901 - 12/27/1970

JL21416.1 **John W Overholtz** c1920 -  
JL21416.2 **Catherine Overholtz** c1922 -  
REF: Barbara Ford

*The name of the father may run in the family line.*

**JL2142 Edward Overholtz** c1831 VA - m 5/13/1873 **Elizabeth R Brown**

**JL21421 James Overholtzer** res Hunting IN

**JL2143 James Overholtz** c1834 VA -

m **Flora Hoover** res Indianapolis, Marion Co IN

**JL21480 Dwight James Overholtz** 11/29/1886 - res Lima OH 1927

JL24515.32 **James Wm Overholser** 5/30/1916 - 5/31/1916 Greene Co TN

**JL24023 James F Overholser** 1/1878 IL -

**JL27841 James Lafayette Overholser Sr** 4/18/1876 Johnson City TN - 11/19/1930 Tujunga CA

m 6/16/1907 **Mary Hoskins** 12/0/1889 - res Salem OR

JL27841.3 **James Lafayette Overholser Jr** 7/15/1912 - 2/24/1980 Corvallis OR

m **Dr Jean Elizabeth Satterlee** 1/15/1914 Corvallis OR -

JL27857.22 **James Wendall Overholser** 12/4/1946 Fayette ID - m **Barbara Booth**

JL27857.222 **Michael James Overholser** 9/14/1966 -

**JL2786 James Newton Overholser** 12/7/1859 Carter Co TN - 3/16/1933 Tujunga LA Calif farmer/carpenter

m 5/28/1885 **Susan Dell Carden** 9/28/1861 Carter Co TN -12/21/1942

both bur Valhalla Mem. Park, N Hollywood CA 8 ch ancestor of **Dawn Bowden**

REF: Shirley O/H Dobson; OFA Files

**JL27861.3 Melvin James Overholser** 2/3/1913 - 10/29/1975 + **Marjorie Ethel Corbett** 2/11/1912 -

**JL27862.4 James Newton Overholser** 2/19/1928 - + \_\_\_\_\_

**JL4171 James Leander Overholtzer** 1/18/1858 - 1936

m 2/8/1884 **Adda A Wright** both bur Oak Hill, Grand River, IA

JL41711.3 **James Christian Overholtzer Sr** 12/30/1924 -

m 1948 **Mary Elizabeth Long** 5/11/1929 - 8/6/1981 Grand River IA of Waterloo IA

JL41711.31 **Janice Christine Overholtzer** 5/2/1950 Fairfield IA - m **Michael C Lay** Fairfield

JL41711.311 **Susan Violet Lay** 5/4/1978 -

JL41711.32 **James Christian Overholtzer Jr** 9/18/1952 Cedar Falls IA - m **Debra Marie Roshaven** res Cedar Falls IA

*Changes in the spelling of the surname does not negate the information.*

SL23211.1 **James Oberholtzer**

MC14227.274 **James Merritt Overholtzer** 4/9/1906 – 7/17/1990

m **Miriam Thomas** 6/7/1906 – 10/1982 Kulpville

MC14227.2b1 **James B Oberholtzer** 5/14/1910

MT2151.1 **James Melvin Overholt** 7/21/1869 - 2/16/1947 m Della Cross 1867 - 1947

**MT22322 James Overholt** 1862 St Joseph - 9/3/1923 Goderich ONT bur Zurich E U B Ch, Ontario CAN

1st m 1886 Hay CAN, **Mary Bettschen** 1869 - 6/8/1898 Hay Twp, Huron Co ONT 1st 4 children

2nd m c1898 **Mary McCann** 7/11/1877 Stratford ONT - 4/19/1955 Huron Co ONT bu St Pierre  
9 ch from Mrs McCann, "James fell from a ship in Goderich harbor & drowned (apparently he had a heart  
attack)." James was listed as a farmer on marriage schedule.  
REF: James & Mary Bettschen Marriage, Schedule B, Huron Co, #004884 #6, MS932, Reel 50 1885  
MT22322.c **Joseph James Harold Overholt** 6/17/1912 St Joseph - m **Mary Mahoney**

**MT2251 James Overholt** 1850 - 1916 m **Nettie Parker** 1858 - 1933  
both bur Normandale Cem, Charlotteville, Norfolk Co ONT

*Be familiar with notation abbreviations such as (NI = no issue), and (+) for unmarried mother.*

**MT36922 Timothy James Overholt** 10/4/1878 Elhart IN - 1/8/1955 farmer, Menn Breth. in Christ (NI)  
m 9/25/1911 **Lulu Berry** 12/9/1887 - 2/1980 Clarinda, Page Co IA

MC72a11.133 **James Wilbur Overholt** 12/12/1929 - m 10/15/1955 **Dorothy Edith Ayers** 5/5/1933

MC72a11.141 **James Merrill Overholt** July 12, 1941 - m 2/9/1963 **Marilyn Loe Morgan** 5/23/1942 -  
REF: Jim & Marilyn Overholt, Middle Point OH

**MC7531c James Elmer Overholt** 3/21/1850 North Twp OH - 1/17/1903  
farm laborer at 20 for Joseph Overholt

m 9/29/1887 **Susan Blanche Feirbaugh** - aft 1903 1888 moved to Jewel Co KS  
Brown's Creek Methodist E Church, bur Brown's Creek Cemetery

MC7531c.1 **Harry Overholt**

MC7531c.2 **Willie Overholt**

REF: Billie Jo Read, Shawano WI, 2/25/1990; Fretz Genealogy, Harrison Co Rec; 1870 Tippicanoe North Twp Census; James' Obit

MC75344.5 **James C Overholser** 1/23/1879 Coleta - 6/18/1967 Sterling IL

m **Lena Hickman** 1882 - 1972 Riverside Cem IL

**MC75348 James P Overholser** 12/2/1841 Stark Co OH - 11/20/1924 Sterling IL

Mayor & Postmaster of Sterling IL James a merchant & Methodist  
m 7/4/1866 Whiteside Co IL, **Elizabeth Wetzel** 12/1846 OH -

MC75348.b **Rev Martin James Overholser** 2/3/1889 Whiteside Co IL - past 90 , m **Mary Jane** \_\_\_\_\_ (NI)

REF: Barbara Ford; John L Overholt 11/14/1980 from W A Weeks of Sterling IL; Schenectady Gazette, Feb 10, 1979; Rev Martin J  
Overholser

MC75355.2 **James Elery Overholser** 11/5/1871 Whiteside IL - 1890 bur Bethel Cem, Whiteside Co IL

MC75821.2 **James M Overholt** 9/21/1859 - 5/31/1895 m 11/9/1882 **Cordelia A Turner** 12/1862 -

**MC75825 James A Overholt** 1/1844 - Civil War, Co H , 143rd ONG

1st m 4/23/1867 **Catharine Love** - dp 1870 2nd m 4/21/1870 **Mariah Miller** c1851 - dp 1884

MC75825.1 **Edward Overholt** 10/1877 -

MC75825.2 **Grace Overholt** 7/1880 -

(**MC75825**) 3rd m 3/26/1884 **Rachel A Miller** 5/1853 -

**MC75907 Otis James Overholt** 1/14/1886 Fraanklin Co KS - 5/26/1947

1st m **Elsie Knox**\* 1st 8 ch 2nd ?m **Sara** \_\_\_\_\_

MC75c18.62 **James Overholt** m **Rosa** \_\_\_\_\_

**HO7 James H Overholt** 1835 Licking Co OH - 1850 in Burlington Twp Licking Co OH w/John & Margaret Weaver

REF: 1850 Census , Barbara Ford

**MV431 James Henry V Overholt** b c 1858 Pocahontas WV -

22 year old Dry Goods Clerk nephew living with W.H.Overholt in 1880 census, Pocahontas WV,

m Greenbrier Co WV to **Cordelia Sheets/Shields** b c1862 VA

REF: Greenbrier Co Birth & Death Registers, Mrs Jan E Williams, Honolulu HI

**MV4321 James Overholt** b 7/1885 WV - 1920 carpenter

**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 received 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 research

**TN2111 James D Overholt** 1878 -

**TN21323 James Newton Overholt** m **Jean Elizabeth Cole** 1921 - 1977

**TN2135 James Carl Overholt** 12/11/1888 Cocke Co TN - 5/4/1974 Greene Co TN

m **Margaret Virginia Hawkins** 1893 - 1985

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

**AC372 James Overholt c1857 -**

SL22561.331 **James Arthur Oberholtzer** c1929 -

SL22561.611 **James E Oberholtzer** m **Jennie \_\_\_\_\_** res Fairport NY

REF: James E Oberholtzer, Fairport NY 1996

SL24822.45 **James L Oberholtzer** 6/16/1923 - m **June Wagner** 12/31/1925 - d/o Beatrice Wagner

SL24875.62 **James Oberholtzer**

SL24875.63 **Carol Oberholtzer**

**SL27391 James Galt Overholser** 8/28/1869 Terre Hill - 11/16/1946 Bismarck ND

m **Clara Minerva Groff** 9/30/1882 - 4/23/1974

d/o James Galt (36 in 1880) & Anna (40 in 1880)

REF: 1880 East Earl Twp Census

SL27391.31 **James Grigg Overholser** 6/24/1945 - m **Kathy Holoquist** 12/24/1946 -

OFA Members, James is a past President. They res in Roanoke VA

SL27391.4 **James Spencer Overholser** 4/23/1916 - 4/16/2009 patent examiner, OFA President for 30 yrs

m **Ruth Schell** 2/13/1918 - both res Wyomissing PA

SL27434.12 **James Harlan Oberholser** 4/8/1917 Lost Springs KS Manhattan KS

## FINDING GEORGE

- by the editor

In my family lines there was one line I could not connect. His name was George Bott/Butt. For two years I worked with a lady whom I did not know her last name. One day she came to the washbowl and said, "Let me get my Butt in here. You didn't know my name was Butt did you?" And I asked, George Butt? She answered, "I think we have a George in our family."

It turned out that she had my grandparents listed in her husband's genealogy. There were two John George Butts in that genealogy, except the one listed as my George was only listed as John. It turns out that our John George used his first name John when he was younger, but used George when he became older. Without the additional family line, it would have been impossible to connect their John to my George.

This is evidence that retaining the entire family in your genealogy is helpful to future connections, and it is of benefit to verify information from other sources.

# OUR BARBARIAN ROOTS

## Early Aleman Physique

It does not take an excess amount of investigation into the Alemani family tree in order to find diversification. There are midgets (also called dwarfs), who from no fault of their own were brought into this world by incestual relationships, malnutrition, or generational breeding of short people. There are people with blond hair, black hair, red hair, and brunette. Some are short and stocky, some are tall and thin. But these character traits were only noticed in the Alemani tribe after Christ. Up to that time the Alemani were a very significant breed. They were tall and thin. They were fairly hairless - what some would describe as 'plucked chickens'. They had strawberry blond hair. They had a very white complexion due to the lack of sunshine from living deep in the forest of central Germany. They were very smooth-skinned. In relation to the desires of modern American society, they were considered by Tacitus as the sexiest race alive!

It is very obvious the Alemani tribe was originally a separate family group formed from the Suevi peoples of Eastern Germany. It is also very obvious from the historical record that the tribe originally had distinguishing marks of ancestral designation. And this should not be altered by the discussion of myths and legends. The peoples that pervade from the tales of old are no doubt malnourished, incestual midgets, and/or discolored from the results of working generationally at or in mining areas of central Europe. Initially, there was a small number of these people, and they probably stayed together for mutual support. It would only be a logical step in the business world to make use of them in the low ceilings of the mines. Out of this scenario would obviously come rumors of strange looking people. And rumors of oddities travels extremely fast in a world of fear and superstition, as was predominant during the barbarian times before the Common Era to 500 A.D. in central Europe.

Were some of these small people part of a mining group in Switzerland? Darwin Overholt commented on the subject: "There is a region of dwarf-sized people living on the south side of the Toggenburg Mountain range, south of Oberholz in Switzerland. These people are called "Appenzellers"."

- Darwin Overholt, Past OFA President

It should be noted that marriages brought with it the hereditary traits of the female ancestry. The Burgundians from western Switzerland were shorter, stockier people having dark hair. The Italians to the south were also dark haired, with a more olive color skin. The Franks of northern Germany were shorter, dark haired people. The mixing of these genetic groups over a thousand year period, when the mass movements of people in central Europe were common and regular, created a group of refugees the French named "Alemanni", meaning "all men".

## Archival Letters at the OFA

If future OFA Bulletins, we plan to insert selections from the Archive Files of the OFA. I begin with the oldest group, a collection of letters written to and from Rev. Isaiah E Oberholtzer. He originated from the Elizabethtown/Mt Joy area of Lancaster County. But after becoming a preacher, he became a missionary to China. While in China in the 1920's and 1930's, he wrote to many O family contacts all over the United States mainland. Many of these letters are written and or typed on rice paper. Some of these letters are not signed, as he made copies for himself for reference, should he get a return letter.

In the following letter, Rev Isaiah E Oberholtzer wrote to Isaac Overholtzer of Independence Kansas. At the end of this personal copy, he hand wrote the names of other people he wrote similar letters to, about the same time.

In revealing these letters, it should be noted that the people spoken of in the letters are not necessarily from the same family lines. These letters were written for the purpose of finding people with the O family name. At this early time of the 20th Century, no one knew there were more than one line of families which originated from Oberholz, Switzerland; or that our ancestors even came from Switzerland.

When I first attempted to find the parents of Rev Isaiah, I came across two cemetery stones in Good's Mennonite Cemetery. They were Christian's first two wives. But Christian was not buried there. It turned out that he was buried with his 3rd wife. The following has Rev Isaiah's father listed, then Rev Isaiah's listing.

**SL22564 Christian Whitmer Oberholtzer** 4/28/1859 - 3/20/1938 Bur with 3rd wife  
1st m 1/22/1882 **Lizzie Kindig Ebersole** 4/16/1859 - 10/21/1885 26-6-8 marble stone  
1st two wives bur Good's Menn Ch & Cem

SL22564.1 **Rev Isaiah Ebersole Oberholtzer** 5/11/1883 - 1956 Trotwood OH Missionary to China  
Isaiah was the first nation-wide genealogist for Oberholtzer families.  
m 9/8/1915 **Margaret Elizabeth Waybright** 5/31/1885 Trotwood OH - 11/13/1986  
d/o Philip H - Emma Royer, she is bur Bearcreek Cemetary, Trotwood OH

REF: OFA Files; Dennis L Oberholtzer & Noah L Oberholtzer Jr cemetery hunt; OFA Bulletin Aug 2009 p 6; Death Record ; Educational Blue Book & Directory, Church of the Brethren 1923 p 325; Oliver Funeral Home card

Peitaihe, China.  
July 15th. 1927.

Mr. Isaac Overholtzer,  
Independance, Kansas.

My Dear Sir,

I have known of Overholtzers in Kansas and Mrs. Leland Brubaker tells me she knows you. So you will pardon me in writing to you for a little Oberholtzer information.

To tell you what I am after. I want to see if I can't tie up some of the many small Overholtzer branches into one family tree, or probably several family trees. So many of our early forefathers struck out into different parts of the west, so that they descendents of these now do not know one another, nor do they know where they hailed from. They nearly all hailed out of Pennsylvania, but few can trace their generation back to the very beginning. I am interested in this for myself, and incidentally I may be able to do something for your family. I want to push back into Switzerland with the Oberholtzer name. So will you please answer these few questions from memory as it has come to you through tradition. I may write you for more specific details later.

1st. Who was your great-grand-father, who was his wife, where did he hail from, and where did he die and where buried?

2nd. Who was your grand-father, wife, where did he live and die, where buried? Can you give any dates? Did he have any brothers and sisters?

3rd. Who is your father, dates, wife, address, where buried if dead? Give names of your brothers and sisters and their address.

4th. Give names of your uncles and aunts-your father's brothers and sisters, their address and burial if dead. Give their children and address.

5th. What other Oberholtzers do you know that are not related to you? Can you give me several addresses?

May I have a prompt answer from you and don't go to any trouble now to find facts. Just write from memory. In the meanwhile you can look for facts which I may call for after a while. Thanking you, I am  
Yours very truly,

*Ans writ to*

*J. Irwin Overholzer, Carl,  
Isaac Overholzer, Independance, Kans.,  
Wm Overholzer - Springfield, O.  
Rev. Lewis Overholzer, Goshen.  
Rev. Jonas Overholt, Grand Rapids.*

## Obituaries

**Elenore Weiler** wife of **Rev John Weiler**, died Feb 8, 2016 at 91 yrs. John was the OFA Chaplain for 33 years, and a very active member of our Association. Surviving is son Paul Weiler, and daughter Mary Ann McConnell; 4 grand children, and two step grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Buried at St John's Union Cem.

**Betty Venables** of Alaska, OFA member

*The following sent in by Ross G Gerhart III:*

**Harold E Wagner Sr** 65 of North Coventry died April 5, 2016 Born in Pottstown PA s/o Paul & Jeanette Overholtzer Wagner. Married to Deborah Glanski. Also surviving: Harold Jr, Stacy Wagner of Mt Joy, brother Paul R Jr, preceded by sister Ruth Foley.

**Paul K Oberholtzer** 81 died October 23, 2016, s/o Aaron L & Katie S Kreider Oberholtzer; married 59 years to late Esther M Oberholtzer. Surviving: Clinton Oberholtzer of Bethel, Mary Stauffer of Denver, Steven of Narvon, Wilma Sweigart of Springfield SC, Paul of Stevens PA, Rhoda Oberholtzer of Denver, and Phil of Fredericksburg PA.

**Helene Faul** 100 of Pottstown PA July 3, 1916 Alburn Four Corners PA - October 4, 2016  
d/o James E & Mable Tewksbury Dean, wife of John Paul Overholtzer & 2nd m Jerome Faul  
surviving: John P Overholtzer Jr, Paulene M Orner of Bechtelsville PA

**Martha S Oberholtzer** 77 of Leola PA died October 4, 2016 born Earl Twp PA to John & Katie Shirk Nolt  
Married Joseph W Oberholtzer 56 years. Surviving 7 sons: John of OH, John of IA, James of Leola, Joseph of New Holland PA, Leroy of OH, Luke of IA, Wilmer of Ephrata PA; Susan Sauder, Margaret Martin, Etta Reiff, and Betty Nolt of Shippensburg, Lena Weaver of New Enterprise Bedford Co PA, and Anna Mae Martin of Martinsburg.

**Joseph R Oberholtzer** 57 of Fort Wayne IN Jan 22, 1958 - May 19, 2015 s/o Ralph J Oberholtzer & Bernita L Kimpel. surviving are: Ross & Matthew Oberholtzer, siblings Cindy Reader, Ralph Oberholtzer Jr, Sandy Kumfer, Nancy Frisby & Carol Erpelding.

**Compton R Overholser** 82 October 7, 1933 Bryn Mawr - October 1, 2016 m Ruth E Brawn Overholser  
only child of Reed C & Helen M Hess Overholser, Served in Korean War. Salesman - Norristown  
Surviving: Brent R of Trappe, Renee S Hurrell of Georgetown TX, Todd B Overholser at home.

*JA Line obits sent in by Patrick McGarry:*

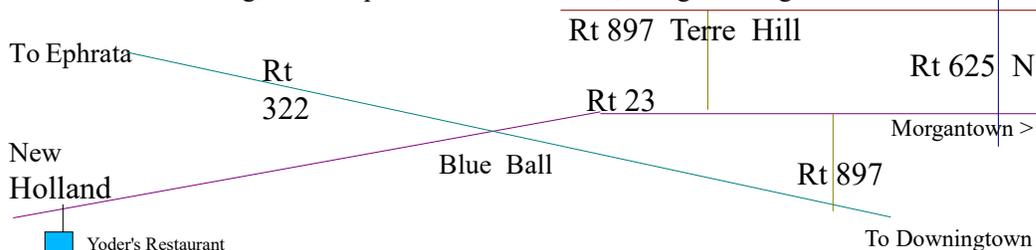
Treva Flora 87 died November 17, 2016  
Pauline June Whitmer 95 of Bradford OH 12/27/1921 - 1/5/2017  
Ned Denlinger 4/14/1930 - 12/27/2016  
Darrell L Brubaker 1935 - 2016  
Emma M Morris Smith 88 years died 11/28/2016  
Timothy Rex Elliott 5/14/1948 - 11/27/2016 s/o Dennis R & Marg Peterseim Elliott and  
great grd s/o Walter F Peterseim Sr 1883 - 1944 & his 1st wife Verennie Apple  
Richard Ashton Overholtzer 1/14/1932 - 5/26/2016  
Glenda I Landis Jordan 97 died 9/29/2016

## 2017 REUNION

The Reunion will be held **August 6th** St. John's Center United Church of Christ, Phone # 717-445-5622, east of Terre Hill on Route 625 where it was held in 2009. On **Friday night, August 5th**, we will meet at Yoder's between New Holland and Blue Ball for a 6:00PM buffet dinner and visiting. On **Saturday August 6th** we will gather from 9:00 to 10:00AM at the church. Call Carol at 717-225-4808 if you need more information.

### 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



Yoder's Restaurant & Buffet - 14 Tower Rd, New Holland PA 17557  
 St John's Center United Church - 432 Reading Rd, East Earl, PA 17519

### OFA OFFICERS

Lines

SL	<b>President Michael Martin</b>	<a href="mailto:MMartin@ccmd.org">MMartin@ccmd.org</a>
JL	Vice President John Shinpaugh	Norristown PA
JL	2nd Vice-President Kris Overholt WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.overholser.net">http://www.overholser.net</a>	8812 United Kingdom Dr, Austin TX 78748 <a href="mailto:koverholt@gmail.com">koverholt@gmail.com</a>
SL	Secretary Carol Carroll	31 Kelly Drive, Wheeling WV 26003 <a href="mailto:carolsquared@Frontier.com">carolsquared@Frontier.com</a> Overholser Family Association
	<b>FACEBOOK SPONSER</b>	
SL	Treasurer Geoffrey Martin	<a href="mailto:gmartin@overholser.net">gmartin@overholser.net</a>
SL, AO, & JF	OFA Bulletin Dennis L. Oberholtzer	49 Paradise Lane, Paradise, PA 17562 717-687-6950, <a href="mailto:2008ofa.eco@earthlink.net">2008ofa.eco@earthlink.net</a>

**OFA REUNION**, Southeastern PA, **Friday Night August 5th at Yoder's Restaurant** in New Holland, 111th Reunion 1st Saturday in **August the 6th, 2017 at St John's UCC** Details Page 15

**IOWA O's** Meetings 1st Sunday in August in Tingley IA Community Building, 94th Reunion in **2017**  
[www.overholtzer.org](http://www.overholtzer.org)

Check out the OFA Website: <http://www.overholser.net> or Contact Us at [info@overholser.net](mailto:info@overholser.net)

If you need more information, contact one of the OFA Websites, or one of the OFA Officers.

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

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## Giftng Personal Records

Sometimes someone has personal records which the holder wishes to continue to survive, but has no personal family member interested in retaining them. We at the OFA have been collecting and holding onto family records for several decades now, and plan to do so in the future. The oldest we have are Reverend Isaiah Oberholtzer, who was a missionary to China in the 1920's and 1930's. Many of his letters are on rice paper. Other records are books of married-into family lines, news articles, Civil War documents, etc. We would be respectful to carry on your family legacy, for other O descendants to enjoy and share.

## Remembering Barbara (Oberholser) Munson

Barbara Ann (Oberholser) Munson was born in 1931 in Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, and passed away peacefully on August 24, 2016 in Sacramento, California. As her husband Paul said, "Not everyone gets to have a Barbara." This world was blessed to have her for 84 years.

She loved tennis, fly fishing, the rivers and mountains of Montana, and the Pacific Ocean. She had a passion for bringing people together and taking care of everyone she met. She made a house into a home, a neighborhood into a community, wherever she lived. She was a knitter - of sweaters and of friendships. She could make any occasion into a party, and she baked a mean cherry pie.

As a child her family moved from Kansas to California, and she grew up in San Luis Obispo, there she graduated from San Luis Obispo High School. Barbara and Paul lived all over the country, retiring in Cambria, California. She was a long-time member of the Cambria Community Presbyterian Church.

She leaves behind Paul, her husband of 64 years, her children, Christie and Scott, and her brother, Bill Oberholser, as well as many nieces nephews, and great nieces and great nephews.

- edited from San Luis Obispo Tribune on Sunday August 28th, 2016