



# OFA Bulletin

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

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear OFA Members,

Before I wrote the President's Column for this issue, I took a moment to gather some inspiration from the Columns that were written during the first three years of the OFA Bulletin (1979-1981) by J. Spencer Overholser and Robert Oberholser. The act of reading any OFA Bulletin issue from 1979 to present is something that is now very easy to do with just a couple of clicks on the OFA website thanks to the collaborative efforts of the OFA, both online and offline.

In the past few years, we've worked together to set up important technical foundations that stabilized in 2018, including a website with more than 120,000 visitors from around the world, an online hierarchy to archive and organize our family's historical documents, a discussion group that has grown to more than 20 members and 10 posts, and more than 20 family lines that are now online and readily accessible thanks to the efforts of Dennis and other OFA researchers

I am certain that the next few years will build on top of our strong technical foundation, and I feel that the following topics will be particularly important to consider in 2019: compiling a list of other regional Overholser meetings that are happening in the US and around the world, implementing a process to track and version control our records and ensure the digital copies are around for future generations, onboarding more member contributors to generate focused content, scanning more hard copies of historical documents and archiving them online, and fostering more member contributors on the discussion group as opposed to email threads that are private and inaccessible.

*Continued on Page 3*

**Overholser Family  
Association Bulletin**

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**Welcome New OFA Members!!!**

Sandra Gibson, IC Isaac Overholt Line

Celina Woolf, Herndon VA

Gloria Anderson Ovando, MT

Laurie Overholser, Miami FL

Bruce Overholt, Mt Joy PA

Jack Overholser, Graniteville SC

Rick Overholt, Houston TX

Beth Oberholtzer, SL Line

Marcia Laughrey, San Jose CA, MC Line

Vivian Doran, Marion MI

Eileen Overholser, Lecanto FL

**New Way to CONTRIBUTE!**

You can support the OFA by visiting our website  
at [overholser.net](http://overholser.net) and clicking the Donate button.

We have PayPal for your convenience. Please e-mail  
[gmartin@overholser.net](mailto:gmartin@overholser.net) if you have any questions.



Front Row: Bruce & Sandy Overholt, John Jacob Oberholtzer, Carol Carroll, Kathy Overholser, Elaine Gerhart, Nancy Schrader, Carolyn O Kendall, Jean Schaffer, Ella Ryzewski, Marcia Laughrey, Gloria Anderson

Back Row: Beth's husband, Beth Oberholtzer, Carl Oberholtzer, Michael Martin, Jim Overholser, Ross Gordon Gerhart III, Michael Schrader, Kris Overholt, Rick Overholt, Dennis & Earline Oberholtzer, Judy Brosey, Bonnie Anderson, Fred & Cathy McKenna, Tina Anderson

Unpictured: Walt Ryzewski (took pictures), Noah Oberholtzer Jr, John Shinpaugh, Geoffrey Martin

*Continued from Page 1* While traditional genealogical research and digital archival efforts continue within the organization, the OFA will empower 10 to 100 contributors to help surface their own piece of the family's history in our online organizational systems. Please get in contact with me if you would like to be a part of this initial group of contributors.

In turn, the efforts of these contributors will serve a much deeper and richer history to tens of thousands of future online visitors that are direct descendants or indirect relatives of the Overholser family lines. As a result, many future generations will benefit from this wealthy library of knowledge and family history. And that's quite an impactful achievement for a tight and focused organization such as the OFA.

It was a pleasure to visit with everyone at the 2018 reunion, and I look forward to seeing everyone again in August 2019! In the meantime, be sure to contribute your historical notes, articles, and ideas on the OFA discussion group or by sending documents to me.

**Kristopher Overholt**

### **Contributions**

*A special Thank You to those who have contributed to the OFA this year:*

Michael Martin and Rick Overholt for the new OFA computer.

Sandra Gibson for Renner materials, and *Canadian-German Folklore*, PA German Folklore Soc of Ontario; and *Early Life & Times in the Twenty*, PA German Folklore Soc of Ontario Vol 18.

Ludwig & Rosemarie Berndt

Robert & Juanita Brown

Carol Carroll

Alfred Decker

Jonathan Detweiler

Anna Duke

S.C. & P.J. Fischer

Ross Gordon Gerhart III

Agnes Greene

Leroy Hagey

Albert Johnson

Dessalee Johnson

James & Katherine Overholser

Bruce & Sandra Overholt

Lucy & Kevin Overholt

Walter & Ella Rydzewski

John Shinpaugh

Michael & Nancy Schrader

Elizabeth Shirk

Jennie Sperling

David & Ruth Stevens

Claire Warren

Rev John Weiler

## **OUR BARBARIAN ROOTS**

### **The Fifth to Sixth Centuries A.D.**

The following is a chronological series of events dealing with the Alemanni Tribe. At this point in time, the Tribe's name was confined to the south-western lands of present Germany, and the French lands of Alsace. Some of the Alemanni waring tribal groups also were fighting their way into northern Italy. They were being pushed out of present day Central Germany and Bavaria by larger Teutonic Tribes trying to expand their territory from the east.

In 407, a Roman usurper concluded a treaty with the Alemanni and the Burgundians for them to protect the Rhine River border.

In 411, Jovinius usurped leadership. The Tribal Confederation included other Germanic tribal refugees, as well as non-German refugees from other waring lands round about. They commanded both sides of the Rhine River from Main to Alsace and Lorraine.

440's A.D.: "The deaths of Aetius and Emperor Valentinian relaxed ties which held the Barbarians of Gaul in peace and subordination. The sea-coast was infested by Saxons. The Alemanni and Franks advanced from the Rhine to the Seine." - Edward Gibbon

458 A.D.: The Alemanni passed over the Rhaetian Alps, but were defeated in the Valley of Bellinzona on the Tesin River. The defeat of only 900 Barbarians does not reveal Italy's lack of power.

493 A.D.: But when [the Alemanni] invaded Cologne, Clovis was summoned to counter the invasion.

In 495, the Franks defeated the Alemanni in the South.

496 A.D.: Clovis forced back the Alemanni at the Battle of Tolbiac with great loss of life. The town of Tolbiac is present day Zulpich, near the city of Cologne.

Theodoric gained control of the Raetian hill country and in 506 he had organized enough power to demand a truce by the Franks for guarantees from further Alemannic attack.

In 507 the Alemanni sought aid from Theodoric without success.

This series of events laid the groundwork for moving the defeated Alemanni to a place of refuge in the Raetian Alps. Some were brought back from northern Italy. Some floundered south from the Black Forest. But most were families of Alemanni who had forced their way into Alsace and Lorraine. After the loss of power in that region, pressure was put on Theodoric to relocate the waring Alemanni in order to deter future rebellion. The Raetian Alps were the answer to Theodoric's problem.

- REFERENCES:
- Story of Switzerland, by Lina Hug and Richard Stead, 1890 G P Putnum's Sons
  - A History of the World, Vol.III, Duruy
  - *The End Of The Roman Empire In The West*,  
Edward Gibbon, Harper & Brothers Publishers, New York, Published 1958.
  - The Historic Note-book by E. Cobham Brewer LL.D., J.B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia

## **Genealogy and Linguistics confirm Biblical Noah**

- Dennis L Oberholtzer, Overholser Family Association Bulletin

Due to the account of Noah's Flood in the Bible, many people do not believe the Word of God. They would rather believe humans evolved, even when today there is scientific proof that DNA genes can not change enough to mutate from one species to another. But that is another matter. What has been found in other areas of science, that of linguistic research, and of genealogical records, give sound evidence that Noah's account is historical and can be trusted.

The Bible states that Noah and his sons and wives were saved by being on the ark (a large wooden barge). Eight persons in all. But in the Epic of Gilgamesh written about 2200 before the physical life of Jesus Christ, the writer says that those who helped build the ark were also with Noah. Another supposed contradiction are the many various traditions around the world which tell of others who have survived a world-wide Flood. And then there are many who say the ark could not have floated up to 14,000 feet in elevation, where it is reported to be today. So how does one reconcile these differing accounts?

One only needs to go to the ship records from the 1700's to find comparisons. Most of the English ship records that document the first several years of immigrants to America only record the name of the ship, the master of the ship, and the male passengers that were on the ship. They do not record the people who are being paid to operate the ship, such as the sail and rudder controllers, the cook and remaining crew. The records also do not record the names or number of wives on the ship. Nor do they count any children under the age of fourteen years. Here is a modern parallel to the account of Noah. The builders of the ark may very well have been on the floating barge! That does not contradict the Biblical account.

Another missed observance are the children. The Flood story notes only how Arphrachshad was born two years after the flood. That is meant to mean two years after the start of the deluge, which lasted 40 days and then continued to reside on the surface of the Earth for the first year. When we read of the genealogy records of that time, we find that Arphrachshad had two older brothers. That means that Elam and Asshur (Genesis 10:22) were on the ark also, just not recorded due to their age. Again, the Biblical record is not compromised!

As for the accounts around the world, they very likely did occur. Modern people easily miss the reality of the account of Noah. The Biblical text would have been written very close to the time of the event. Noah or one of his sons documented what they could SEE, just SEA. They could only see water. The ark did not have any power or sails, so they had no way to know if the water covered the entire Earth. All they could see is that it covered everything that *they* could see! Later, when they would bump into other people, the text of the account was not changed, because writing was considered sacred and may not be tampered with or you would be punished by God. And so we still have an original at-the-time account of the Flood of Noah.

As for the 14,300 feet of elevation in which the Ark sits today on Mount Ararat, there is a very scientific explanation for that also. Evolutionists wrongly believe it takes millions of years to create things here on Earth. Yet they come up with a Big Bang! The nihilistic thinking we have today is prevalent everywhere! Still, science leaves the realm of theory and becomes fact when something can be repeated and documented. Well, Mount St Helens in the western USA proved how mountains can change structure in a matter of hours. And while carbon 14 tests show the fresh lava is a billion years old, it was fresh as a daisy when it came out of the volcano. Quartz rocks, and other semi-precious stones were found to have developed during the explosion. It did not take millions of years to form them.

Mount Ararat has been found to be a hot-air volcano. That means, when the mountain was still flat land, underground volcanic activity produced huge amounts of hot gases. These gases pushed the land upward, but did so in a way that it did not break open and release the gases. Now how can we prove this? In 1840 and 1883, there were massive earthquakes on the mountain. It caused the northwest side of the mountain to collapse within, creating what we call today the Ahora Gorge. How could it collapse inside, unless there was nothing inside? It was empty due to the hot-air volcanic activity!

Another form of proof is in Language. Linguistics tells us that the Flood left the ark on the mountain of Ararat. In the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, written two millenia before the birth of Christ, there are two words the translators left in the original language, only changing the Sumerian letters to English letters. *Ni Zer* is a word which means "white crown". Noah and Gilgamesh are talking at the base of Mount Ararat, and Noah explains: *The ark lay upon Mt Niser. It held it and the ark did not move.* A second description of Ararat uses the term *nazir*, meaning "harsh crown". At another place in the text Noah says: *Zeh Zer* which means "This crown". Noah was discussing the mountain while he pointed to it saying "This crown". Here are two words that the translators either deliberately left in the original, or they did not know what they meant. I personally find the latter hard to believe.

There is no longer any reason for a person to not believe the Flood account. Either a person chooses to ignore the Scripture to their own detriment, or that person will accept the fact that there is a Higher Power than themselves. Our frailty as we age is often a way to realization. We are not all-powerful, but the Creator is!

7 7 7

This editorial may be copied for personal sharing purposes.

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*Love does not hide behind walls,  
Love suffers through the dirty details of life.*

## IC Isaac Overholt RENNER GNEOLOGY, Corrections/Additions

- Dennis L Oberholtzer & Sandra Gibson

The following person may have been the ancestor of this family, but it has not been confirmed. Previous listing of Valentine was incorrect. Valentine is the immigrant ancestor of the Bucks Co line, and the family is Mennonite. This family line has roots in the Lutheran Church, and became more Evangelical. Conrad Renner is the only other documented immigrant to have arrived prior to the birth of 2-1 William Renner.

**?1-1 Conrad Renner** Immigrant to America October 30, 1738 from the Palatinate on the ship Elizabeth, George Hodgson commander, left from Rotterdam with the last pickup at Cowes. Conrad's name was written by a clerk. 41 men are listed of the 95 passengers.

REF: Rupp's 30,000 names, page 128

**2--1 William Renner** Oct 10, 1742 - Aug 10, 1793 m **Mary Hafer** 1741 - Nov 13, 1829  
Both buried Rocky Hill Luthren Cem, Woodsboro, Frederick Co MD

**3--1 John Renner**

**3--2 William Renner**

**3--3 Abraham Renner**

**3--4 Kate Renner**

**3--5 Annie Renner**

**2--2 Abraham Lauffer Renner** 1748 - 1797

m Aug 9, 1770 St James Episcopal, Lancaster, PA

to **Elizabeth Harman** - wid w Feb 7, 1813 -H S2-70

REF: Final Account of Abraham dated Apr 25, 1798, letter to Barbara Ford May 10, 1993 by Joann M Butterbaugh, Tuscon AZ

**3--1 Abraham Renner** 1768 Frederick Co MD - Feb 1817

m 11/27/ 1798 Frederick MD to **IC1 Elizabeth Overholtz** 8/15/1779 - 11/15/1842

Elizabeth's 2nd m John Stoner 1/30/1755 - 1/4/1838

**4--1 William Renner** 10/15/1799 Frederick Co MD -

**4--2 Anna Renner** c1801 Frederick Co MD - not listed in Orphan's Ct 1819

m 8/9/1831 **Jacob Young**

REF: Desc of IC Isaac Overholt, 8/24/2006

**4--3 John Renner** 1/8/1803 - 3/28/1881

**4--4 Joseph Renner** 1/11/1805 - m 3/17/1825 **Susan Evans**

**4--5 Noah Renner** 4/16/1807 - 12/28/1870 Portland, Jay Co IN

m 4/30/1835 **Francis Weaver** 6/9/1820 OH -

**4--6 Sophia Renner** 4/5/1809 -

**4--7 Isaac Renner** 5/24/1811 - 6/13/1880

m Sept 10, 1835 **Sophia Wolf** 5/15/1813 - 8/18/1899

**5--1 Francis Calvin Renner** 6/14/1840 - 12/15/1914

m Dec 3, 1868 **Hannah Amanda Harshman** 5/7/1848 - 5/14/1920

**6--1 John William Renner** 11/30/1870 - 12/19/1907

m Oct 10, 1894 **Catherine Rebecca Kolb** 3/9/1871 - 12/17/1924

**7--1 Mary Ellen Renner** 11/3/1896 -

m Jan 16, 1918 **Wilbur F Miller** 7/26/1899 - 4/30/1977

**8--1 Josephine Miller** 10/16/1918 - 1990

m Feb 27, 1942 **Charles J Files** 9/20/1898 - 8/3/1974

REF: Josephine Miller

- 5-2 Wilford Renner**                                named picture
- 5-3 Milton O Renner**                            named picture
- 5-4 Laura Renner**                                named picture
- 5-5 George I Renner**                            named picture

REF: Family pictures by Sandra Gibson, ONT

**4--8 Susanna Renner** 5/20/1813-4 Frederick Co MD - 4/6/1861

- 1st m **Aaron Baltzell**
- 2nd m Jacob Saylor c1809 - 2/23/1877

NOTE: Susannah Renner m William Smith belongs to the siblings of Abraham Lauffer Renner & Elizabeth Harmon, the father of this Abraham generation.

REF: Dennis L Oberholtzer from letters by Virginia Poling, Barbara Ford 1993, further research has confirmed their findings with one addition of the Lauffer & Harmon families. Abraham final acct' HS4-327, 9/18/1820 Frederick Co Courthouse MD, sent by Anna E Weaver, Littlestown PA; Letters by Anna E Weaver, 5/14/2007 & Byron Renner, Verndon VA 6/18/2008

- 5-1 Noah Baltzell** c1838 Frederick Co MD -
- 5-2 Levi Baltzell** c1840 Frederick Co MD -
- 5-3 Clara Ann Baltzell** c1844 Frederick Co MD -

Clara's picture she is called Ann Baltzell

REF: pictures by Sandra Gibson, ONT, copies in OFA records; Frederick Co MD Census records

**4--9 Elizabeth Renner**                                m **Daniel S Wolfe Jr**

- 5-1 Mary Jane Wolf** 1845 -                                picture by Sandra Gibson
- 5-2 Abraham Wolf** 1849 -                                picture by Sandra Gibson

REF: Susanna & Elizabeth are listed in the Administrative Account of Abraham Renner, Sept 18, 1820, Frederick Co Courthouse & *Frederick Co History* by Williams, letter to Barbara Ford Feb 10, 1992 by Joann Butterbaugh, Tuscon AZ; Letter by Sandra Gibson to Dennis L Oberholtzer 8/25/2018; 1860 Frederick Co MD Census

**3--2 John Renner**

**3--3 William Renner** 1778 Frederick Co MD - 3/5/1864 Jordan Ontario CAN  
 m **Susanna** \_\_\_\_\_ 1783 Colonial States - 1857 Ontario CAN

William purchased farm in Lincoln Co ONT in 1805. Family remained on the plantation till 1975

REF: Will of William Renner d 1864, on flash drive OFA Files, given by Sandra Gibson 9/28/2018; @20079 Will Probate Norfolk Registry Book N #13 Townsend Page 172-173 by SAQ Walsh, Registrar, and Will registered in Lincoln Surrogate Court

- 4-1 John Renner** 5/2/1805 Lincoln Upper Canada ONT - 9/11/1863 Hartford ONT  
 m 1/10/1836 **Sarah Huston/Hushson** c1814 New Brunswick ONT  
 d/o Jacob and Jand Hushson; resided in Townsend Twp, Norfolk Co ONT
- 4-2 Abraham Renner** 4/22/1808 Lincoln ONT -  
 m c1833 Pelham, **Francis E Disher** 1/1813 Pelham ONT - 7/24/1872 Pelham
- 4-3 Catherine Renner** 10/18/1812 Lincoln ONT - c1865 Nissouri (West/Quest) ONT  
 not is 1871 Census  
 m 12/25/1831 Lincoln Twp ONT , **David Pickel** c1805 USA - 4/21/1885 ONT
- 4-4 William Renner** 4/16/1814 Lincoln ONT - 5/6/1870 Norfolk Co ONT  
 m 3/5/1837 Townsend Twp , **Hannah Olmstead** Boston, Norfolk ONT -
- 5-1 Avaldo Renner** c1838 - 9/1862 Baltimore MD  
 named Adminster of father William's estate in 1873 Norfolk Co ONT
- 5-2 David Renner** 8/15/1841 -                                m **Mary Ann Carr**
- 5-3 Hannah Renner** 5/23/1843 -                                m **John Challen**
- 5-4 Abraham Renner** 18\_\_ Norfolk Co ONT - 10/1862 Norfolk City ONT  
 Adminster of father William's estate in 18873 Norfolk City ONT
- 4-5 Adam Renner** 12/14/1815 Lincoln ONT - 8/21/1883 Norfolk Co ONT  
 m 1846 Norfolk ONT, **Mary Nunn** 4/9/1822 Lincoln ONT - 3/3/1886 Norfolk

REF: Sandra Gibson



**4-6 Jacob Renner** 12/12/1819 Lincoln Upper Canada - 5/2/1859 Norfolk Co ONT  
m wid **Mariah F (Williams) McGregor** c1820 Victor NY - 9/29/1893 Toronto  
d/o Timothy & Phoebe Williams

Jacob farmed Lot 24, Concession 3, Townsend Twp 5 children all Baptist  
REF: Renner of Townsend Twp, Norfolk County, R Robert Mutrie, August 2017

**4-7 Thomas Morgan Renner**

8/25/1827 Jordan Station, Louth Twp ONT - 12/2/1819 Welland ONT

+ **Nancy Ann Rogers** 1826 - 1889 Lincoln ONT

2nd + m 12/3/1890 Emily Jane Rogers

**5-1 William Scott Renner** 3/31/1861 Lincoln ONT - 10/10/1934 Buffalo NY

+ **Selma** \_\_\_\_\_ Wm was a physician in Buffalo NY

**5-2 Evilin Renner** 8/3/1863 Jordan Station - 8/3/1863

**5-3 Morgan Martin Renner** 10/20/1864 Jordan Station - 1/20/1945 Lincoln  
Architect in NYC NY 1890 - 1910

**5-4 Wilford Daniel Renner** 4/10/1867 Jordan Station - 2/11/1947

+ **Sara Luella Houser** c1862 Louth Twp ONT -

**6-1 Stella Catherine Renner** 5/18/1887 ONT - 5/12/1960 Hamilton

m 4/12/1911 Louth Twp ONT, **David Troup**

4/22/1886 Lincoln ONT - 10/3/1956 St Catherines ONT

Grandparents of Sandra Gibson

REF: Sandra Gibson, 581 Gore Rd, Kingston Ontario CANADA, meeting with Dennis L Oberholtzer 9/28/2018. Sandra has done extensive work on her family, who owned the farm in Lincoln Co ONT since 1806 until 1975. Additional family is listed in *Outline Descendent Report for William Renner*, Sandra Gibson 2018

**3--4 Adam Renner** - 1834 bu St Paul Luth, Utica MD m **Susanna** \_\_\_\_\_

**4--1 Levi Renner**

**5-1 Adam Renner**

Sandra Gibson has picture of him

**3--5 Catherine Renner** 1773 - 1852 m July 30, 1803 **David Crumbaugh** - 1804

REF: Catherine Renner m David Crumbaugh marriage licence, Frederick Co Courthouse records, sent by Joann Butterbaugh, Tuscon AZ

**4--1 Elizabeth Renner**

**4--2 David Renner**

**3--6 Susanna Renner** 1780 - m June 4, 1796 **William Smith** 1775 -

**3--7 Esther Renner** m Nov 25, 1808 **Frederick Smith**

REF: Frederick County Courthouse Marriage Records; sent by Joann Buterbaugh, Tuscon AZ

**3--8 Elizabeth Renner** - 1813 m Oct 12, 1800 **Martin Whitmore** 1775 - 1851

REF: Chart of Josephine Miller Files (deceased), Lancaster, PA May 15, 1989; Anna E Weaver, Gettysburg PA

Barbara Ford, OFA Geneologist; Joann Butterbaugh, Tuscon AZ; Virginia Poling, Hagerstown MD

Evangelical Luthren Ch, Frederick MD Vol I 1743-1822; Evengelial Luthren Church, Woodsboro MD Page 155

St James Episcopal Church Records 18th Century Vol3; Abraham Adm Acc't G.M.1-64 or 640

Will probated Apr 14, 1817; Final Acc't H S 3-272, 273 Frederick Smith exec.

**2--3 John Renner** - 1798 m **Mary** \_\_\_\_\_ her 2nd m Peter Engle

REF: Sandra Gibson, Settlement of William Renner's estate in 1793 refers to "brother John"

## Additions/Corrections

In the book *Canadian-German Folklore*, PA German Folklore Society of Ontario:

**Catharine Overholt** 1784 - 1845 who married the wealthiest man in Lincoln County is **wrongly** said to be the daughter of **MT (MC2) Staats Overholt**. She has been proved to be the sixth child and daughter of **IC Isaac Overholt**.

**IC6 Catharine Overholt** 1784 Bucks Co PA - 11/17/1845 Locust Grove, Niagara Twp, ONT  
m 10/28/1804 **George Alexander Ball Esq.** 7/25/1765 Schoharie, Albany NY - 2/10/1854  
George is said to have been the wealthiest man in Lincoln Co Ontario  
both bur Ball Gryd, Locust Grove

REF: Will of Isaac Overholt, filed Nov 5th 1825

**Freeman Overholt** on page 93 is **IC717** born 9/15/1849 Louth and he married 11/2/1875 at St Catharines to Mary Honsberger/Hunsberger who was born 1/15/1845.

**Moses Overholt**, 1 of 4 sons on page 73, supposed s/o Manasseh & Elizabeth has not been identified in any of the OFA Lines

1866 payment of mail delivery to W H Overholt at Jordan Station ONT. He is said to have been in Iowa at 13 years of age. He must have returned to Canada for a short time before settling back in Iowa with his parents, and then marrying. He is **IC343 William Henry**.

Picture of the Pupils of U S S #2 Louth 1887 (later replaced by Rittenhouse):

Second Row: Maude Overholt c 8 years old in the picture, sitting beside Edith

**IC7171 Edith Overholt born 12/20/1880**

Third Row: Mabel Overholt c 10 years old in the picture

In the book *Early Life & Times in the Twenty*, page 60 it records the marriage of **MT212 "Curly" Jacob Overholt** who married Barbara Fry on the corrected date of August 6, 1833.

Samuel Moyer's school was also a singing school in Clinton in May 1836, conducted by Samuel Fry. Moses Overholt, Jacob Overholt, and Elizabeth Overholt were students there. These would have been **MT222 Jacob H Overholt and wife Mary Elizabzeth**, and **IC71 Moses R Overholt** born in 1810 Lincoln Co ONT.

Thank you to Sandra Gibson for the gift of these two books to the OFA.

Seeking Canadian O family members:

*Has anyone looked into the Mennonite Burying Ground 1798 near Vineland ONTARIO?*

**OVERHOLSER FAMILY ASSOCIATION**  
**112th Annual Reunion**  
**August 4, 2018**

The 112th Reunion of the Overholser Family Association convened at St John's Center United Church of Christ on Saturday August 4, 2018. Thirty-one people were in attendance.

The day began with a social time, officer's meeting and lunch.

Kris Overholt, President, welcomed the group to the 112th Reunion. Those present introduced themselves.

Kris told the group about his experience of finding the OFA organization and how John Shinpaugh helped him to find the link to his JL Line. He is committed to helping others find information on their family roots through the overholser.net website. The site has had 107,000 visits and Kris noted that activity particularly spiked at two points: first when all of the OFA Bulletins (which are keyword searchable) were added to the site and second when the family lines were added. Visitors spend an average of 3.5 minutes viewing the site; most viewed lines in order were: JC, MC, AS, SL, JA. The majority of visitors have been from the US (63%), followed by 20% from France, 3% from China and Canada, 1% from Germany and Peru. Fifty percent visited the Home Page, 20% history, 17% family Lines, 14 % Historical Documents, and 11% OFA Bulletins. Most also viewed the coat-of-arms.

Kris has added a discussion group to the website for people to ask questions and allowing others to respond. He encouraged members to register for the discussion group, review the questions and interact with visitors. He noted that everything on the website is archived so all materials are safe from being lost. He reported that the officers met prior to the general meeting and are looking to give Dennis Oberholtzer some assistance, especially on computer issues. Michael Martin and Rick Overholt are contributing to help him acquire a new computer. Kris & Geoff will help set up a g-mail e-mail account and transfer documents to a Google site. Also discussed at the officer's meeting was digitizing the remaining paper files which are substantial. There is an opening for a second vice president; anyone interested can contact one of the officers.

Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer, reported that 240 new books have been received. We still owe about \$600 for printing. Since the last reunion, \$613 in donations have been received. Account balances are: Primary Checking \$60.00; Primary Savings \$2,413.87; Book Fund \$9529.31; Lunch Fund \$2509.51. Carolyn O Kendall audited the accounts.

Dennis Oberholtzer reported that he had been visited by Bruce McCrea, a member of the AB Abraham line, who is from Michigan. Bruce looked at some of the material Dennis has, trying to find out how his family came to move to Bedford PA. While here, he also visited Noah Oberholtzer Jr, whose son's farm in Bedford overlaps Bruce's family's original farm.

Dennis expressed appreciation to the younger members of the association who have been seeking new ways to get information out to family members. Some of Dennis' current research deals with the European family lines. He has been compiling data from the 1500's to the 1900's, and has found a link to the HJ Hans Jacob Oberholtzer line to Europe.

Finally, Dennis told the group that his wife Earline has been in charge of the kitchen and flowers for the reunion for several years and would like someone to replace her in this job after the next two years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and Beth Oberholtzer, author of *Plain Meetinghouses*, spoke to the group.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Carroll, Secretary

Presentation by Beth Oberholtzer:

Beth is the author of *Plain Meetinghouses*, a book which documents in pictures and descriptions the old order Mennonite meetinghouses of Lancaster County. Along with photographer John Herr, she visited 22 meetinghouses after finding in a library a set of instructions on how to construct these places of worship. Initially, the Mennonites met in one another's homes, but as groups became too large, they began to construct sites for their meetings.

### *A message for young people.*

Today's society has drifted dramatically toward a "ME" society. For young people, this is exciting! There are computer games, movies of the kind that excites the visual mind, and cell phones to keep you constantly watching for someone to bid your attention. BUT! Do you realize you are lacking in social skills when all you do fails to PHYSICALLY interact with other human beings?

I have a better way of getting noticed. While the internet has allowed a person to "spread their views", the fact is that they are not repetitive. For the most part, a person only connects through the internet searching for one thing in mind. It does not create lasting, re-occurring relationships. Even the social media channels are superficial at best, and do not give a person a sense of personal relationship.

But Reunions do!!! Business people have long known that gathering together for meetings and reunions allow people to create lasting relationships. Through these relationships, one can learn so much more through trading info, getting to know each other personally, and even doing business together. There is a trust factor with face to face contact which just does not exist any other way. Proof of this is found in our present OFA. Two of our officers are young people, and they are helping each other to better use the digital tools available to them.

SO COME TO A FAMILY OR GENEALOGY REUNION, and GET TO KNOW US!

## *Obituaries*

*The following sent in by Ross Gordon Gehart III:*

SL24876.20 Lena W Oberholtzer 10/8/1940 Upper Leacock Twp - 6/8/2019 Leola PA

d/o Harry L Oberholtzer and Anna H Weaver. employed at Ephrata Community Hospital Member Groffdale Mennonite Church. Preceded by siblings Esther W Ringler, Jacob W & Mabel Oberholtzer, Elizabeth W Shirk, Martha W Newswanger, & infant sister. Surviving are Ivan W & Martha Oberholtzer of Millmont PA, Anna W Zimmerman of Shiloh OH, Lena's late husband John W Oberholtzer of Lobelville TN, Joseph W Oberholtzer of Leola, Harry W Oberholtzer of Lewistown PA, & David W of Elma IA. - LNP

Joseph O Kulp 11/13/1922 - 7/18/2018 of Souderton PA hus/o Alverda O Kulp for 41 years

Born in Warrington PA to Hiram R Kulp & Esther Ellen Overholt Kulp. Seventh Generation farmer on family Overbrook Farm in Bedminster Twp. Life member Deep Run Mennonite Church, and Plumsteadville Fire Co. Survived by Joseph Dalton Kulp of Ottsville PA, Karen K Clemmer of Perkasio PA, and Lois A Rice of Ottsville.

Gloria R Oberholtzer 7/24/1926 Hatfield PA - 5/16/2018 Lansdale PA Wife of late Richard K Oberholtzer Survived by Diane Hill of Georgia, Richard K Oberholtzer of Blue Ball PA, and Megan Oberholtzer Gloria worked in the banking industry & as a Medical Receptionist

Richard L Oberholtzer died May 8, 2018 Elizabethtown PA at 79 years. hus/o late Alpha K Greenawalt Born in Hershey PA to Jacob & Elizabeth K (Kunkle) Oberholtzer

Kathleen A Keller 9/11/1945 Abington PA - 4/30/2018 of Quakertown PA, wife of late Larry Keller, d/o foster parents Wilson Overholt and Annie Leatherman. Larry & kay were foster parents to 28 different children, and she was member of Living Faith Fellowship of Souderton, and sang with the "Life with God" Broadcast.

Marcello O Heitz born Dec 29 in Doylestown PA, died Apr 26, 2018 at home at 82 years in Quakertown PA. Wife of late Clarence H Heitz, and d/o Howard J High and Elsie M Overholt.

Willard C Wrightsman 3/7/1933 Custer MI - 8/27/2018 Elkhart IN s/o Ralph & Eliza Jane (Flora) Wrightsman. Survived by wife Ruth (Metzger) Wrightsman, and 5 children: Rachel Brubaker of Goshen, Renetta Brovont of Chambersburg PA, Rita Miller of Goshen, Henry Wrightsman of Wakarusa, 7 Arthur Wrightsman of Bremen. - Patrick McGarry

Louise B Rhoades 5/25/1929 - 8/9/2018 Versailles OH d/o Emerson & Glenna Mae Boyer

Lifetime member Friedens Lutheran Church, organist. Preceded by husband George W. Esther Mae Overholser 12/31/1933 Greenfield OH - 9/24/2018 Crossville TN daughter to Russell & Ruth (Inlow) Perry. She was a CNA, later child-care at home. Survived by sons Charles of Crossville, Dwight of OH, daughters Rebecca Baker of Crossville, Mary of

Hernsdorfer FL, Barbara Geer of Cookeville TN, and Kathleen Rose of OH. preceded by husband James Dwight Overholser. - Dayton Daily News via Patrick McGarry

Reva C (Bowman) Denedict 5/17/1931 Covington OH - 9/21/2018 Union City OH  
of late Ivan & Ethel Bowman, husband Frederick W who died 2/20/2011. Survived by  
Solomon of Russia, Martha Montgomery of Greenville, Sara Miller of Greenville, Daniel of Troy

Gerald O Burns 5/12/1943 Darke Co OH - 9/18/2018 Ansonia OH of late Truman & Bertha  
(Miller) Burns. Survived by wife Jo Anne Samson Burns who m 11/16/1964, Kathryn Hiatt of Union City  
OH, Scott & Heidi Burns of Arlington TX, & Lori (Poling) of Arcanum.

Appolonia Boogher (Bucher) 1770 - 1st m c1787 PA - d 11/23/18\_\_ after 1810 death date a mis-  
print? d/o Peter Bucher wp 5/6/1807 Fayette Co PA. 1810 Saltlick Twp PA she is 2nd married to  
John Martin Jr She had a total of 9 children baptized in PA. - Bruce McCrea

Anne Marie Overholser 11/25/1928 Columbus OH - 8/31/2018 Troy OH d/o Leo Andrew &  
Agnes Elizabeth (Gorman) Guehl. Her 1st m Harold E Overholser who died 9/14/1992  
She is survived by Barbara DeLong on Littleton CO, Michael of Troy, susan Hyde of Post Falls ID,  
Mary Godwin of Troy, & Mark of N Chesterfield VA. - Patrick McGarry & Bruce McCrea

Viola Arzula (Flora) Holsinger 3/21/1922 Menomonie WI - 10/14/2018 Pendleton IN  
born to Joseph E & Lydia M (Flora) Flora, also preceded by husband Otho I Holsinger,  
survived by children Daniel, Charles, Lydia Miller, Nancy, Martha Mason, Rachel Mason

Mary Elaine (Laughman) Reinkensmeyer 12/8/1934 Covington OH - 10/25/2018 Ft Collins Co  
Member Redeemer Lutheran Church & Gideons International Auxiliary; Survived by husband Earl  
Reinkensmeyer, sons Jeff of Highlands Ranch CO, and David of Irvine CA

Gene Walter Flora 2/11/1932 Amboy IN - 11/11/2018 South Bend IN, s/o George W & A Ruth  
(McHenry) Flora. Gene in Korean War, 11th Airborne Division, later earned a Bachelor of Arts at Indiana  
U. Retired from Elkhart Credit Bureau. Survived by wife M Jane Jones which he married 4/5/1953.  
Members Grace United Methodist Church. Ch: Mark If Granger, Tim of Lafayette CO, Jill Hillman of South  
Bend IN. - Patrick McGarry

Esther (Petersime) Clark 3/27/1936 Gettysburg OH - 11/20/2018 Gettysburg OH d/o Ray &  
Bernice (Bigler) Petersime, wife/o James Clark of Brookville OH desc 1994. She was treasurer of many  
organizations; Gettysburg Fire Dept., Gettysburg Village Council, Brethren's Home Aux, Cemetary Asso. ,  
Friends of the Cardinal Center. Preceded by James, son Deron. Survived by ch: Scott Clark, Brett Clark  
both of Gettysburg OH, & Susan Clark Stall of Lima OH.

*My boss moved me to the back corner of the shop. I am all alone.  
Just Me, Myself, and I  
Its enjoyable talking to Myself, but I won't listen to Me.*

## 2019 REUNION

On **Friday night, August 2nd**, we will meet at Yoder's between New Holland and Blue Ball for a 6:00PM buffet dinner and visiting.

The **Reunion** will be held **August 3rd** 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 Saturday August 4th we will gather from 9:00 to 10:00AM at the church. Call Carol at 717-225-4808 if you need more information.

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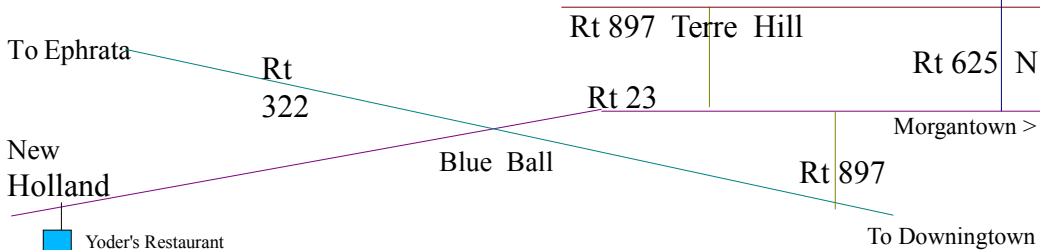
### How to get to the OFA Reunion

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

MC	President Kris Overholt WEBSITE: <a href="http://www.overholser.net">http://www.overholser.net</a>	Cottonwood Shores, Texas <a href="mailto:koverholt@gmail.com">koverholt@gmail.com</a>
SL	1st Vice-President Michael Shrader	<a href="mailto:nls77sav@ptd.net">nls77sav@ptd.net</a> 717-733-1220
SL	Carol Carroll FACEBOOK SPONSER	31 Kelly Drive, Wheeling WV 26003 Overholser Family Association
SL	Treasurer Geoffrey Martin	<a href="mailto:gmartin@overholser.net">gmartin@overholser.net</a> 234 8th St #3C Brooklyn NY 11215
SL, AO, & JF	OFA Bulletin Dennis L. Oberholtzer	49 Paradise Lane, Paradise, PA 17562 <a href="mailto:OFA@hughes.net">717-687-6950, OFA@hughes.net</a>

**OFA REUNION**, Southeastern PA, **Friday Night August 2nd at Yoder's Restaurant** in New Holland,  
113th Reunion 1st **Saturday in August the 3rd, 2019 at St John's UCC** Details Page 15

**Fretz Reunion** Saturday August 3rd, 2019 see [mbishop@fretzassociation.org](mailto:mbishop@fretzassociation.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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The Second printing of  
***The Oberholtzer Book, 1995 by Barbara Ford***

is now available. Price of \$40.00 includes shipping. It includes the first five known generations of  
Oberholzers in America and Canada.

Contact Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer for purchase information.

## Amish Interpretation

Earline went to work on a Monday, and a young Amish girl came in to the store. They talked a little, then Earline stated two horse and buggies came past the house that morning. She told the girl how one smelled pretty strong of cologne. The girl smiled. The next one had their boom box turned way up. The Amish girl replied, "We call them square wheels." ☐ .Boom!. ☐ .Boom!!. ☐ ....

*Geneology is not for living in the past,  
It is to help us learn to live better in the future.*

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