

WEIRBACH
WEIRBACK
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WEIREBACK
WIREBAUGH
WYREBAUGH

WEYERBACHER DESCENDANTS

SPRING LETTER

1982

231 YEARS IN AMERICA!

WIREBACH
WIREBACK
WIREBECK
WEIERBACH
WEIERBACK
WEYERBACH
WEYERBAUGHER
WEYERBACHER

GREETINGS,

SUNDAY, JULY 11th., 1982 IS THE DAY! THE 17th. ANNUAL REUNION OF THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHANN NICHOLAS AND CATHARINA MAGDALENA WEYERBACHER. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW! PLACE- SILVER CREEK PARK, ROUTE 412 BETWEEN SPRINGTOWN AND PLEASANT VALLEY, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. COME, BRING ALL THE FAMILY AND PERHAPS A COUSIN OR TWO MIT!

THE FAMILY WILL WORSHIP AS USUAL AT THE EARLY SERVICE AT SPRINGFIELD LUTHERAN CHURCH IN PLEASANT VALLEY. PICNIC TIME AT THE PARK, ABOUT 1.7 MILES FROM THE CHURCH, WILL BE FROM NOON ON, AND THE BUSINESS MEETING, FOLLOWED BY ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE AT 2:00 P.M..

THIS YEAR RUSSELL WEIERBACH AND HIS DAUGHTER BETTY WEIERBACH MARSHALL WILL MAKE THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE WEYERBACHERS IN SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP COME ALIVE! BOTH RUSSELL AND BETTY ARE WELL ABLE TO RECOUNT OUR FAMILY HISTORY AS THEY ARE BOTH NATIVES OF THE TOWNSHIP. RUSSELL WAS POSTMASTER FOR MANY YEARS IN PLEASANT VALLEY AND BETTY HAS BEEN ACTIVELY SEARCHING OLD DEEDS FOR HER LATE 1700 FARMHOUSE.

'THE KNOWLEDGE OF KINDRED AND THE GENEALOGY OF THE OLD FAMILIES OF A COMMUNITY DESERVE HIGH PRAISE. HEREIN CONSISTS A PART OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF A MAN'S OWN SELF. IT IS A GREAT SPUR TO LOOK BACK ON THE WORLD OF OUR LINE'....LORD BACON

IN THE ESTATE INVENTORY FOR JOHANN NICHOLAS WEYERBACHER IN 1778 A 'DUTCH FOLIO BIBLE' IS LISTED. HIS YOUNGEST SON, HENRY, WHO DIED IN 1796, MENTIONS A 'GERMAN TESTAMENT' IN HIS WILL. MANY OF US ARE DESCENDED FROM ISAAC, THE OLDEST SON WHO INHERITED JOHANN NICHOLAS' PLANTATION AND POSSIBLY THE BIBLE WITH IT. SOME OF YOU COUSINS ARE DESCENDED FROM HENRY. WERE THESE BIBLES, WHICH PROBABLY CAME WITH THE FAMILY FROM BAUMHOLDER IN 1751, HANDED ON DOWN IN YOUR FAMILY? CHECK YOUR ATTICS AND STORAGE PLACES. IT WOULD BE A REAL FIND TO LOCATE THESE FAMILY TREASURES. NO ONE EVER DOES DESTROY A BIBLE, SO WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?

HENRY'S WIDOW, BARBARA, REMARRIED A JOHN SPELSHOUSE AND GUARDIANS WERE THEN APPOINTED FOR HENRY'S MINOR CHILDREN, MARGARET, ANTHONY, SUSANNA AND HENRY. SO FAR I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT BARBARA'S MAIDEN NAME, HER DATE OF DEATH AND PLACE OF BURIAL, ALSO WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DAUGHTER, SUSANNA. IF ANYONE HAS THIS INFORMATION I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING ABOUT IT.

WE HEAR SO MUCH ABOUT 'ORAL HISTORY' THESE DAYS. WE HAD A SAMPLING OF IT AT THE REUNION IN 1979 WHEN COUSINS GRACE ALLEN GEHMAN, ARTHUR WEISS, HELEN WEIERBACH BUCHER, PAULINE GRAHAM WEIERBACH AND RUSSELL WEIERBACH REMINISED ABOUT THE 'GOOD OLD DAYS'. DUE TO THE VAST AREA COVERED BY THE WEYERBACHER DESCENDANTS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO INTERVIEW THOSE COUSINS WHO MIGHT HAVE SOME INTERESTING TALES TO TELL ABOUT THEIR WEYERBACHER ANCESTORS. BUT WHY NOT WRITE DOWN THOSE LITTLE STORIES YOU REMEMBER YOUR PARENTS OR GRANDPARENTS TELLING? LIFE WAS EXCITING BACK IN THE 1800'S AND OUR ANCESTORS WERE RIGHT THERE! THESE TIDBITS WOULD MAKE GREAT READING IN A FAMILY GENEALOGY AND ALSO PRESERVE THEM FOR POSTERITY...EVEN BEN FRANKLIN HAD SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THIS...

'I HAVE EVER HAD A PLEASURE IN OBTAINING ANY LITTLE ANECDOTES OF MY ANCESTORS!.....

AND EDMUND BURKE WAS A LITTLE MORE SPECIFIC IN HIS OPINION OF ANCESTOR RESEARCH... 'HE ONLY DESERVES TO BE REMEMBERED BY POSTERITY WHO TREASURES UP AND PRESERVES THE HISTORY OF HIS ANCESTORS'.

HOUSE BLESSING FROM THE VILLAGE OF WEIERBACH

FRIEDE DEN KOMMENDEN
FREUDE DEN BLEIBENDEN
SEGEN DEN SCHEIDENDEN

PEACE TO THOSE WHO ARE COMING
PEACE TO THOSE WHO ARE STAYING
BLESSING TO THOSE WHO ARE GOING

DEATHS OF THE FOLLOWING WEYERBACHER DESCENDANTS, OR THEIR SPOUSE, HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO ME. THE SYMPATHY OF THE REUNION IS EXTENDED TO THEIR FAMILIES.

- DOLORES SNELL WEIERBACH (MRS RUSSELL) 54 Bethlehem, Pa.
- MAMIE TRANSUE WEIRBACK (MRS HAUDEN) 80 Hellertown, Pa.
- GODDARD WIREBACK 76 Ocala, Florida
- HAZEL BILSBOROUGH BEISELL (MRS DANIEL) 90 Santa Barbara, California
- KATHERINE BENNER FUNK (MRS CLARENCE) 85 New Tripoli, Pa.
- WILLIAM O. FUNK 61 Hawley, Pa.
- LAURA JEAN TRUMBORE GRUBE (MRS FRANCIS) 61 Zionsville, Pa.
- CHARLES G. HAFLER 85 Quakertown, Pa.
- CHARLES E. HEDRICK 55 St. Albans, West Virginia
- CLENNIE B. HEDRICK 88 Clemmons, No. Carolina
- GOLDIE MAE HEDRICK LOSS (MRS JOHN) 79 Tuscon, Arizona
- MINNIE KRAMER KNECHEL (MRS WEBSTER) 97 Allentown, Pa.
- JAMES S. LANDIS 25 Quakertown, Pa.
- MARY SHOEBER LESHER (MRS JAMES) 64 Phillipsburg, New Jersey
- WILLIAM B. SHELLY 94 Quakertown, Pa.
- IRENE WEISS YOUNGKIN (MRS HAROLD) 64 Bethlehem, Pa.
- HAROLD A. YOUNGKIN 63 Bethlehem, Pa.

'ONE GENERATION PASSETH AWAY, AND ANOTHER GENERATION COMETH: BUT THE EARTH ABIDETH FOR EVER' ECCLESIASTES 1:4

THIS YEAR THE 1910 FEDERAL CENSUS WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC. THIS MEANS THAT FROM OLD CHURCH RECORDS, CEMETERY STONE READINGS, COURT HOUSE RECORDS (WILLS, DEEDS, MARRIAGE LICENSE RETURNS) AND THE FEDERAL CENSUS FOR 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 and 1910 WE WILL BE ABLE TO STRUCTURE OUR FAMILY GROUPS FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WEYERBACHERS HERE IN AMERICA. WE WILL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THE WEYERBACHER LINE (DIFFERENT SPELLINGS NO PROBLEM) WITH THE HELP OF PUBLIC RECORDS UP TO 1910! TO BRING YOUR OWN FAMILIES UP TO DATE IT IS NECESSARY THAT YOU SUPPLY US WITH THE DATES OF BIRTH, MARRIAGE, DIVORCE (YEAR ONLY) AND DEATH FOR YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS-YOUR CHILDREN, YOURSELF AND YOUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS. MUCH OF THIS HAS BEEN ENTERED ON OUR RECORDS BUT THERE STILL ARE MANY MISSING LINKS.

SOME OF YOU HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL. IN MY SPRING LETTER FOR 1980 I WAS RATHER OUTSPOKEN ABOUT THE LACK OF COOPERATION WHEN I SENT OUT FAMILY SHEETS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED. LAST YEAR, 1981, I AGAIN SENT OUT OVER 300 FORMS, AND THE RESPONSE WAS VERY GRATIFYING! I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO REPLIED WITH NAMES, DATES AND ADDRESSES. I HOPE THAT WITH THIS SPRING LETTER I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ANSWER THOSE OF YOU WHO HAD A QUESTION OR TWO WHEN ~~MSW~~ SENT IN ~~MSWR~~ FAMILY RECORD.

ANOTHER SOURCE FOR SECURING CORRECT DATES FOR BIRTH, MARRIAGE AND DEATH IS THE FAMILY BIBLE. IF YOUR BIBLE HAS ENTRIES FOR THESE OCCASIONS WHY NOT ZEROX THOSE PAGES AND SEND THEM TO ME. THROUGH THE YEARS MANY CONFLICTING DATES HAVE SHOWN UP. BAPTISMAL RECORDS FROM CHURCH ENTRIES GIVE A DIFFERENT DATE OF BIRTH FROM THAT ON THAT PERSON'S GRAVE STONE! OR THE FIRST NAME GIVEN IN BAPTISM IS NOT THE ONE USED LATER ON IN LIFE! SOME OF THESE DIFFERENCES ARE VERY HARD TO RECONCILE SO ANY INPUT YOU COUSINS CAN PROVIDE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

AND PLEASE DON'T FORGET CHANGE OF ADDRESS. EVERY YEAR OVER THIRTY SPRING LETTERS ARE RETURNED DUE TO AN OBSOLETE ADDRESS. ONCE WE LOCATE A 'COUSIN' WE DO NOT WANT TO LOSE TRACK OF THEM. SO IF YOU MOVE, AFTER YOU GET ALL SETTLED, JUST DROP ME A POSTCARD, WITH BOTH OLD AND NEW ADDRESS.

SEE YOU ON THE 11th.

Warren W. Wirebach

MAY 1, 1982
109 HOLLY HALL (note change in number)
PINEFORD, MIDDLETOWN
PENNSYLVANIA 17057
HOME PHONE 717 944 0296

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