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WEYERBACH
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WEYERBACHER DESCENDANTS

SPRING LETTER

1994

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Greetings:

Reunion time again! Mark your calendars. July 10th we will observe our 29th annual reunion. Early church service will be held at Trinity Lutheran (Springfield) Church in Pleasant Valley at nine. The altar flowers will be in memory of our ancestors. This is the church where Johann Nicholas Weyerbacher was one of the six men to help establish the Lutheran and Reformed Faiths in 1761. Weierbachs still worship here.

Picnic time is from Noon to 2:00 P.M. at Silver Creek Park, Route 412 between Springtown and Pleasant Valley, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. A business meeting, followed by entertainment, will be held at 2:00 P.M.

Back by popular request will be the guests from our 1991 program, Keith and Karlene Brintzenhoff, who delighted us with their 'Pennsylvaniaisch Deitsch' dialect songs as well as folk and country numbers. We will all be able to join them again as they lead us through the Schnitzalbank dialect song!

Last summer two groups of Weyerbacher descendants held mini-reunions in their own locales. The descendants of Catherine Wirebaugh and John Hoover met as usual the Sunday before Labor Day in Kylertown, Clearfield County, at Sylvan Grove Church. The first church was a hand hewn structure built about 1850 on land Samuel Hoover had purchased from Edward and David Gratz. The present building, dedicated in 1871, was built on land John Hoover had deeded to the first Trustees. This Methodist Episcopal church was originally on the Grahamton circuit.

The Hoover family was a large part of the congregation over the years. Since 1955 the church has been open only for this annual service. The only wedding known to have taken place in this church was that of Eva Marie Hoover and Ray Zaner. The bride's father, the Rev. John A. Hoover, officiated. The Hoover family descends from Catherine, daughter of Johannes, one of the sons who came with Johann Nicholas Weyerbacher to America in 1751. Johannes migrated North with his family from Pleasant Valley and settled in what was then Northumberland County, now Union. As with the other branches of the Weyerbacher family, Johannes's descendants have spread across the country.

Last September 12th the descendants of Royal Wireback and Bessie Shenk met at High Noon as the Circle M Ranch in Lancaster. This family followed the Weierbach tradition of food, fun and fellowship in the reunion program! They are very fortunate in having a much interested younger generation to carry on their annual reunion plans. This family descends through John Henry, son of Isaac, the eldest son of Johann Nicholas the Immigrant.

September 26th our 'roots' Township, Springfield, in Bucks County celebrated its 250th anniversary, established just about ten years before our ancestors settled there. It is evident that our cousins read my spring Letter which mentioned the Township Coverlet with our Weierbach store on it as orders were received from across the country, and some were sold at last year's reunion. The Township Birthday Cake was cut by Helen Weierbach Mease, and with a very steady hand!

If you have written to me and have not had a reply yet, please be patient. My correspondence has backed up!

"Any people who are indifferent to the noble achievement of remote ancestors are themselves unlikely to achieve anything worthy to be remembered by their descendants."

Macauley

HOUSE BLESSING FROM THE VILLAGE OF WEIERBACH

Friede den Kommenden
Freude den Bleibenden
Segen den Scheidenden

Peace to those who are coming
Joy to those who are staying
Blessing to those who are departing

(Alter Hausspruch)

Deaths of the following Weyerbacher descendants (or spouse) have been reported to me during the past year. The sympathy of the Reunion is extended to their families.

James Bancroft	-	Chambersburg, PA
Catherine Edwards Freed	82	Allentown, PA
James Fretz	-	El Paso, TX
Elizabeth Kurtz Frey (Mrs. Harold)	74	Bethlehem, PA
William S. Gehman	66	Coopersburg, PA
Grace Wasser Graver	-	Bethlehem, PA
James M. Hedrick	64	Altamonte Springs, FL
Annetta Weierbach Hitz (Mrs. Paul)	64	Lebanon, PA
Henry A. Knechel	75	Bethlehem, PA
Elizabeth Wireback Krawizcki (Mrs. Joseph)	53	Lancaster, PA
Rebecca Biehn Mohr (Mrs. Albert)	77	Coopersburg, PA
Lorraine Fluck Sigley (Mrs. Thomas)	63	Freemansburg, PA
Alvenia Meily Speck (Mrs. Joe A.)	78	Palmyra, PA
Glenn Stauffer	53	Trumbauersville, PA
Seth Ian Streza	35	Phoenix, AZ
Charles F. Wasser	87	Sellersville, PA
Kathleen Whalen Wasser (Mrs. Richard)	-	Bethlehem, PA
Betty Brandt Weierbach (Mrs. Mark)	65	Anville, PA

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh; but the Earth abideth forever."

Ecclesiastes 1:4

Love's last gift - remembrance!

At this year's reunion we plan to begin what I hope will become a yearly event, the giving of a Distinguished Descendant Award. This award will be a citation of a Weyerbacher descendant who has materially contributed to the public good in such fields as medicine, music, law, literature, art, science, education, etc. The first award will be given, posthumously, to Dr. Lily Amelia Weierbach, founder of our reunion. She spent her lifetime in the field of education and science. She earned her degree in a time period when women were just beginning to enter the ranks of higher education. Her entire life was filled with community involvement.

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As a token of Love's last gift - remembrance, we will have a display of Dr. Lily's certificate, diplomas and other memorabilia. If anyone wishes to add to the display, feel free to do so.

Our second award will be given to Dr. Larry Sherman for his work in research. One of his publications is Chemistry in the Bible. He is internationally known for his research in tin chemistry.

Both Cousin Lily and Cousin Larry are descendants of Isaac, the eldest son of Johann Nicholas. Larry's mother was Estella Wirebach Sherman.

We are asking you to submit names to be considered for this award. They will be reviewed by the officers of the Reunion. Nominees must be of direct Weyerbacher blood lines, either through the male or female lines. The officers reserve the right to reject, or not to make an award, if the applications are not competitive. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to learn more about the place in the community our cousins have taken, or are taking. The person being nominated may either be living or dead. A form will be available which will outline the procedure needed to have a relative considered for this award.

See YOU July 10th!

Warren W. Wirebach

Warren W. Wirebach, President
Weyerbacher Reunion

May 1, 1994

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