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WEYERBACHER DESCENDANTS

**SPRING LETTER
1999**

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Greetings:

REUNION TIME AGAIN! MARK YOUR CALENDARS. July 11th we will observe our 34th annual reunion. Early church services will be at 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran (Springfield) Church, Pleasant Valley. The altar flowers will be in memory of our ancestors. This is the church where Johann Nicholas Weyerbacher was one of the six men who established the Lutheran and Reformed Faiths in 1761. Weierbachs still worship here. Services this year will be held in the air-conditioned sanctuary.

Picnic time is from Noon to 2 p.m. at Silver Creek Park, Route 412 between Springtown and Pleasant Valley, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

A business meeting will be held at 2 p.m. followed by entertainment. The program this year will be in charge of the **Pennridge Merry Makers**. Be prepared to enjoy heart-warming and foot-tapping music and song. Confidentially, I have been told we are in for a real treat with this group.

COMING REUNIONS: The Hoover Reunion – the descendants of Catharine Wirebaugh and John Hoover – will be held in Kylertown, Clearfield County, Sept. 5, 1999. Afternoon service will be held in the old Methodist Church at Sylvan Grove at 2:30 p.m. Catharine was the youngest daughter of Johannes, one of the three sons to emigrate with Johann Nicholas and Catharine Magdalena Weyerbacher to America in 1751. The oldest sister of Catharine Wirebaugh was Elizabeth who was stolen by the Indians in 1781 and evidently stayed with the tribe, as in 1808, she sent back from Barton Township., Ontario, Upper Canada to Northumberland County, an indenture relinquishing her share of the family property to her brother John. For over twenty years I have searched records in Canada to find any evidence of her, but to no avail.

The Lancaster Wireback Family Reunion will be held July 31st in Longs Park, Lancaster. For more information, contact Donna Frankford (717) 299-2456. The Lancaster Wireback family are the descendants of Ralph and Alice Eby Wireback. Ralph was a great grandson of Isaac, another of Johann Nicholas's sons.

INVOCATION FOR A FAMILY REUNION

*Father, we thank thee for the privilege of being together
as a family. As the generations grow farther apart, let them be brought together
with the memory of the loved ones who were once with us, but now live
only in our memories. Strengthen the bond of relationships as we face
the future, but always keep with us our ties with the past.*

HOUSE BLESSING FROM THE VILLAGE OF WEIERBACH

Friede den Kommenden	Peace to those who are coming
Freude den Bliedenden	Joy to those who are staying
Segen Scheidenden	Blessing to those who are departing

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.

Stanley Brader	85	Hellertown, PA.
Roland T. Fritchman	66	New York, NY
Marlin W. Meily	74	Palmira, PA

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh, but the Earth abideth forever."
Ecclesiastes 1:4

Again I have heard from the scam artists. Now they are advertising **THE 1999 WIREBAUGH ARCHIVES**. It's new! It's huge! It's unabridged! And only \$44.99, and with it you get the **WIREBAUGH FAMILY JOKE BOOK**. All this is put out by the Wirebaugh Archives, 1181 S. Parker Rd., Suite 105, Denver, Colorado. So far, I have not "bit" as I am sure this is along the same line as the other scams by Beatrice Bayley and Halperts, both of which have been cited by the U.S. Postal Service to Cease and Desist! They do not represent our family.

Enclosed you will find a brochure put out by the Springfield Township Historical Society. They are now located in the old church school building, which I mentioned in last year's Spring Letter, was transferred to the Society by Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church of Pleasant Valley. The Society plans to return the building to the looks of a typical one-room schoolhouse at about the turn of the Century. Many of our ancestors went to school there and possibly Dr. Lily Weierbach and her sister, Cora Weierbach Gangewere, taught there. The Reunion is making a donation to help with this project and your help would be appreciated. Just tell the Society you are helping out as a member of the Reunion.

I often get questions as to what we do at our reunion. Who brings the food? What we do for fun, etc. Well, those of us who attend early church service later gather at the park to enjoy our picnic goodies which are brought by individual families. Then we socialize until the business (brief) meeting at two. Cousins are introduced and old and new business is discussed. The entertainment then takes over and we sit back and enjoy about an hour of whatever - song, music, laughs. We have fun prizes which Cousin Judy dreams up all year. And we do take up a collection to pay for the use of the park and other incidentals. The main purpose, though, is to gather as a family and share some time together. Everyone does not go to church service, but joins the group when convenient. Some just come for the entertainment. Possibly we have not seen each other since last year's reunion, but the primary purpose of gathering as a family is to share the common heritage we have as descendants of Johann Nicholas and his wife whose decision to leave their homeland made us Americans!

This is the news for this year. See you all at the Reunion!

May 1, 1999

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REUNION OFFICERS

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