

**WIERBACH
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WIREBECK**

WEYERBACHER DESCENDANTS

**WEYERBACH
WEYERBACHER
WEYERBAUGHER**

2009

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IT'S REUNION TIME AGAIN! MARK YOUR CALENDARS. JULY 12, 2009 will be the 44th WEYERBACHER FAMILY REUNION. All family members are invited. Morning worship will be at TRINITY LUTHERN CHURCH IN Pleasant Valley. Church services are at 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM. Weyerbacher descendants have been worshipping here for the past 248 years.

After church, join us at SILVER CREEK PARK on Route 412 in Springtown, Bucks Co PA. Picnic time is from 11AM to 2PM rain or shine. There are three large covered pavilions at the park. There are two grills available with charcoal and lighter fluid provided. If you like, bring a dessert to share with your cousins. At 2:00 PM a short business meeting will be conducted. After the meeting, Judy Weirbach will run the always popular trivia game

OTHER FAMILY REUNIONS; The Cressman-Crissman Family Reunion will be held on the first Saturday in October. The HOOVER FAMILY REUNION for the descendants of 'Catherine Wirebaugh and John Hoover will be held the Sunday before Labor Day , Sept. 6th in Kylertown, Clearfield County. For information, contact Donna [Wireback] Frankford at 717-299-2456. The Wireback Family Reunion of Lancaster County will be on July 18, at Neffsville PA. Remember to bring a side dish and drinks for your family, the reunion provides everything else. Directions to the park; Take 501 N into Neffsville. At the town square, turn left on Petersburg Rd. . Go ½ mile on Petersburg Rd to park entrance which is located on the right side of the road. We are the first building you come to as you enter the park. Look for the balloons!

FAMILY HISTORY; This was sent by Terry Lee, our Vice President
Jacob C. Wirebach (1808 -1877) and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court
By Terry Lee 3rd great-grandson

Jacob C. Wirebach was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania on June 8, 1808, the son of Jacob and Margaret Wolslayer Wirebach. He was a great –grandson of Johann Nicholas and Catharina Magdalena Weyerbacher, the first Weyerabacher immigrants.

In 1835, Jacob, his wife Catherine and their three children settled on a farm on Morgan's Hill, south of Easton, PA. In 1837 he purchased about 100 acres of land from the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company at a cost of \$10,000. He divided this land into building lots and sold them on long time payments at a time when mortgages as we know them were not available. Many of the men working in the shops of the Lehigh Valley Railroad were able to purchase these lots and build their own homes. Many of his children also

owned homes in this area which became the Borough of South Easton and was later merged into the City of Easton.

In 1872 or 1873 and again in 1875, Jacob suffered what appeared to be strokes which left him with some paralysis and mental impairment. Prior to that time, he had been known as a shrewd business man and held responsible positions, including Chief Burgess (mayor), justice of the peace (magistrate) and member of town council of South Easton. Following these strokes, he was greatly incapacitated, both physically and mentally.

In January 1876, he was persuaded to endorse a note for \$4,000 for a local business, essentially guaranteeing payment. In December 1887, he was induced to endorse additional notes, totaling \$10,000, held by the First National Bank of Easton, for other persons holding notes on the same local business that was essentially insolvent.

Jacob's family was unaware of these notes until after his death in 1877. The bank sued his estate for payment of these notes. The estate argued that at the time of both endorsements by Jacob he was "*unsound in mind and incapable of contracting, and that the bargain was unconscionable, and had been obtained by undue influence and fraud.*"

The first trial resulted in a verdict for the estate, the second in a verdict for the bank. The matter went to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in 1881, which asked, "*Will an action lie on the accommodation endorsement of a promissory note by a lunatic?*"

The word "lunatic" had a much different use in 1881 than it has today. In its decision, the court noted; "*We are not persuaded that commercial or public interests require adjudication that a lunatic who signs a contract as surety is liable for the debt of another man.*"

Thus, the judgment for the bank was reversed and a new trial was awarded. Easton's South side includes Wirebach Street, named after Jacob C. Wirebach.

FAMILY NEWS

Wayne Brumbach writes that his dad Oscar B. Brumbach passed away on April 20th (one week and a day short of his 90th birthday). His brother Roger's daughter, Audrey is engaged to be married in the spring of 2010 to MacKenzie Howard. Also Wayne's oldest daughter Sarah Elizabeth and Jared Scott Bryant had their third child, a girl, named Emery Grace Bryant on Feb. 21st, 2009.

Sally Weirback writes that her mother Elizabeth Gessner Weirback died on Aug. 11, 2008. Her father's name was Roland Clarence Weirback. Sally's cousin, Jullie Hoffman Wiegel who is 27 was just diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma Stage 1. It would be nice if everyone would pray for her. She is the mother of three children; 5&1/2, 4, and 2&1/2.

Kaleigh Ewing, daughter of Amy (Wirebach) Ewing and Patrick Ewing will be graduating 7th in her class from Conwell Egan Catholic High School, and will attend Penn State University in the fall. Kaleigh played varsity tennis and basketball for CEC.

Her sister Erin also played tennis and will be a junior this fall.

AJ Silvi, son of Ann (Wirebach) Silvi and Anthony Silvi was inducted into the National Honor Society at Council Rock South High School. His sister Jessica will be a junior at PSU this fall.

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED TO ME WERE;

George Weierbach	died 1-31-08	75yrs.	Mission Viejo, CA
Mrs. Richard Bucher (Helen)	10-8-07	102yrs.	Cornwall PA.
Bernice Knechel	11-25-05		
William (Bill) Cottrell	7-11-07	52yrs.	Port St Johns, FL
Gertrude E. (Trudy) Wireback	5-20-05		Columbia, PA
Delphia Rose Allen	10-19-07	77yrs.	Nitro WVA
Santa Edwards (wife of Ed Edwards)	7-6-08		Waldwick, NJ
Delma L. Lippert-Young	10-6-07	51yrs.	Lebanon, PA
Elizabeth Gessner Weirback	8-11-08		

The sympathy of the Reunion is extended to all who have lost loved ones.

NEW FAMILY MEMBERS, Cormac Thomas Zusmer, born 10-7-08

KEEP US INFORMED

Please keep us posted on your family news. We want to keep the news letter as interesting and up to date as possible. You can do this by writing to me at 303 Pinewood Dr., Levittown, PA 19054, or email at htw1934@aol.com. Please put family up date in the subject line.

FAMILY BOOK NEWS

The Weyerbacher genealogy book is in the process of being created and will ultimately be available in both book and CD format. So far more than 5000 names have been entered into a computer database. Most of these names were collected by our historian Warren and Lilly Weirbach. However, more information is still needed. We are especially lacking from the mid 70's on up. When submitting information, please give full names, dates of birth, death, marriage and any other interesting information that you see fit. However, so that we may know how you fit, please go back into history as far as you can with at least one member per generation. If you would like to send a copy of an old photo clearly identifying the subject(s) please do so and it will be considered for the book. Although there is no set publishing date yet, it is not the book committee's desire to delay this historic event. Please submit your family information as soon as possible. Share this with other family members and make it a great family project. Send all information to Robin Jones, 4 Leveridge Lane, Pompton Plains, NJ or email; chispa@optonline.net

FAMILY BUSINESS

Five years ago it was voted to implement dues of five dollars per family. The dues go to cover the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter and to pay for the park rental. I want to thank all of you who have sent in your yearly dues and in some cases some extra.

This will go toward defraying our expenses. With out your help, we would not be able to reach all of our family. Send your dues, changes of address, phone number, and email address to Harry Weierbach at 1431 Schoolhouse Lane, Perkasio, PA 18943.

WEYERBACHER BREWERY: The brewery on Line Street in South Side Easton conducts tours every Saturday at 12:30, 1:15, and 2:15. I believe this is the best beer I have ever tasted. Cousin Dan Wirebach has always been very generous in donating some of his fine product to be given as prizes at our reunion. Any time you are in Easton try to stop in and see his operation.

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SEE YOU ON JULY 12

Harry T. Wirebach, President Weyerbacher Reunion 303 Pinewood Drive Levittown, PA 19054 215-945-4585	Warren Wirebach, Historian 101 Holly Hall, Pineford Middletown, PA 17057	Robin Jones, Secretary 4 Leveridge La. Pompton Plains, NJ 07444	Harry T. Weierbach, Treasurer 1413 Schoolhouse Lane Perkasie, PA 18943
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HOUSE BLESSING FROM THE VILLAGE OF WEIERBACH

Freide 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

WEYERBACHER FAMILY REUNION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dues: \$5.00 per household Payable to: Weyerbacher Family Reunion
Mail to: Judy Weierbach, 1431 Schoolhouse Lane, Perkasio, PA 18944

Name: _____
Address _____

City, State & Zip
code _____

Telephone and
Email _____

In the future, we would like to send as many newsletters as possible by email to save costs.