

Weyerbacher Descendants

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Spring 2014

The 49th annual Weyerbacher Reunion will be held on Sunday July 13, 2014 at Silver Creek Park, Route 212, Springtown, PA rain or shine. A picnic lunch will begin at 11:00 A.M. with a short business meeting to follow at 2:00 and the group photo immediately thereafter.

Bring a picnic lunch and a dessert to share if you wish. A grill is also available. After the group photo, Judy Weierbach will run the always popular trivia game, followed by Harry Wirebach's bingo with many prizes for all. Please consider bringing a small gift.

All are invited to attend morning worship at the Trinity Lutheran Church in nearby Pleasant Valley. Services are at 8:00, 9:15 and 10:30 A.M. This is the church Johann Nickolas Weyerbacher helped establish in 1761.

Johann Nickolas Weyerbacher along with his wife Catharina Magdalena and 5 of their 11 children emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1751, settling in Pleasant Valley, Bucks County in 1754. They were wool weavers and farmers. We offer a tour of the Trinity Church where Johann's family and ensuing generations worshipped, and the adjoining graveyard where proceeding generations of Weyerbachers were laid to rest. In addition, nearby is the original farmstead property, long since broken up into many ownerships, but their 19th Century home can be viewed from the road.

As always, there will be many family documents on display—photo albums spanning many generations, including past reunions, documents going back to the 1751 ship's log and a tribute album to Warren Wirebach. Additional family information is available at www.weyerbacher.net.

We would like to recognize our **50th annual reunion next year**. Please let us know if you would like to join the committee or if you have celebration ideas.

At last year's reunion I reported that according to Warren's last speech as president he regretted having never replaced the gravestone of Joseph and Catherine Weyerbacher Frey which had long since gone missing at the old Lutheran Church Cemetery. Catherine was the youngest child of Johannes and Catharina Magdalena Weyerbacher. Those in attendance at the 2013 reunion agreed to allow me to further investigate. I selected a modest stone at the "Monumental Crafts" in Hellertown last summer. The price has been quoted at \$1,107 (photo on left). In addition, while searching for any sign of the Catherine/Joseph original stone I noted that the Zeno Weirbach family stone (John Henry line) was also in need of minor repairs (photo on right). The price given for the repair was \$215. We are requesting donations for these projects. You may send a check to Harry our treasurer or donate at the reunion. Otherwise, we will need to significantly draw down our remaining reunion funds following the reunion. The work if approved, will be completed this summer.



Over the years the number of elders attending our reunion has dwindled, with no sustaining next generation to replace them. Cousins I have met at other Weyerbacher reunions revealed a desire to attend a Bucks County reunion. If you are interested in researching your roots, or if it has been a long time or your first time attending, I encourage you to make arrangements to bring family and join us this year. It is our intent to keep the reunion alive for as many years as makes practical sense, but this will not be possible without you. We hope to see you this July.

"The Weyerbachers of Pennsylvania" book has sold about 170 copies since being published in February 2011. All proceeds benefit the Weyerbacher Reunion, allowing us to remain solvent. You may purchase a book or an electronic copy through lulu.com or contact me for a book. Books will be available at the reunion at a slightly reduced rate (no postal charge).

T-Shirt sale: There are a very limited number of Weyerbacher red & blue ink on white shirts: M, L, XL and XXL for \$10.00, and many Medium Youth (10-12 months) for \$3.00. Add \$2.00 for each shirt if mailing.

Years ago, Warren gave me a collection of cassette tapes featuring 1979 reunion discussions and short recollections called "The Good Old Days", featuring the voices of Arthur Weiss, Grace Gehman and Russell Weierbach. The 51:09 program is now available on CD and is free upon advance request if attending the reunion: weyerbacher@optimum.net . Order by mail for \$2.00 postage. Please note that the quality is poor, but primarily audible.

Other reunions:

The Lebanon Reunion: Saturday June 7th: Descendants of John Adam & Elizabeth Weierbach, Sr. at the South Annville Church Grove, Lebanon, PA. Contact Crystallein-717-652-3237 or c47e@verizon.net or Karen-717-272-3065 or pepkvp@comcast.net

The Lancaster Reunion: Location and date TBA. Descendants of Adam & Elizabeth Weierbach. Contact Bobbie Seeley at 716-945-0491 or BUCKIY@webtv.net for info on time and place.

The Hoover Reunion Sunday August 31: Descendants of John & Catherine Weyerbacher Hoover, Kylertown, Clearfield Co. Lunch at 12:00 with a service held at the Old Sylvan Grove Church at 2:30. For details, call Janet Larson (814) 345-5318 or e-mail jrlarson18@verizon.net

The "Weyerbacher Brewery" located on Line Street, South Side Easton conducts tours, weyerbacher.com. Cousin Dan Weirback has been very generous in the past reunions by donating some of his fine product for prizes.

I am looking for a good home for a large collection of 19th and early 20th century photos & documents from the Johannes Weyerbacher line, specifically from his son John, nee Wirebaugh. Many of these photos were included in the Weyerbacher book.

Also, I am looking for any photos or other documents associated with Lily Weierbach's oldest sister Ida Weierbach Weiss. Please contact me!

We note the passing of:

Robert Blaine Weirbach January 5, 2013
Roger & Mary Sinner Brumback May 14, 2013
Violet Bleam Weierbach August 3, 2013
Harry "Jack" Craze December 26, 2013
Janet M. Shivelier Holstein July 4, 2013

Our sympathies go out to their families.

Congratulations:

Lily Jones will attend William Paterson University this autumn.

Andrea Jones will attend the Design Academy at the Morris County School of Technology this autumn.

Please keep us posted on your family news. We would like to add your updates to our next reunion letter, and also for a possible future second edition of our Weyerbacher book. Please contact either Robin Jones (weyerbacher@optimum.net) or Terry Lee (webmaster@weyerbacher.net).

Special thanks and love always to our founders Lily Weierbach and Warren Wirebach. Their vision and desire to bring cousins together annually, as a break from their busy lives to greet and catch up with each other, is still being celebrated today on the grounds where it all began in 1966. How pleased they would be.

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This reunion newsletter was written by Robin Jones

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

FAMILY BUSINESS

Several years ago it was voted to implement annual dues of five dollars per family. The dues cover the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter and park rental. If you wish to continue to receive the newsletter via USPS mail, please renew your dues annually. Send dues to Harry Weierbach: 1413 Schoolhouse Road, Perkasio, PA18943. If you receive the newsletter via email, your contribution would be appreciated as the park rental is significant.

WEYERBACHER FAMILY REUNION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dues: \$5.00 per household – Payable to: Weyerbacher Family Reunion

Mail to: Judy Weierbach, 1413 Schoolhouse Road, Perkasio, PA 18944

Name

Address

City, State, & Zip Code

Email Phone

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