



# YODER NEWSLETTER



Issue #20

P.O. Box 594 Goshen, IN 46526

October 1992

## 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMISH YODER ARRIVAL

## DEATH OF YNL FOUNDER

We are deeply saddened to announce the death of YNL founder Ben F Yoder. He passed away suddenly May 15, 1992 in Goshen Indiana. A special tribute, written by his children, appears on page 5.

### 250th Anniversary of Amish Yoder Arrival

Two Hundred and fifty years ago, on Sept. 21, 1742, the following record was made at the Courthouse in Philadelphia, List 94C, witnessed by William Till and Robert Strettell, Esquire:

"The Foriegners whose names are underwritten, imported in the Ship Francis and Elizabeth, George North, Master, from Roterdam, but last from Deal, did this day take the usual Qualifications to the Government, viz.,"

Among the passengers whose names appeared on this registry were three who are now seen as representing the families of the first Amish Yoder arrivals in America. The first listed was Christian JOTTER, belived to be YR2. Next was a Jacob YODER (marked with an "X" and signed by the English clerk) and lastly a Christian YODER. The latter two folks are now believed to be sons of "the widow Barbara" and her husband who died at sea (YR1).

p Francis and Elizabeth, September 21, 1742,  
List 94 C

C.Z. Mast, a well known genealogist of the Amish, maintains that Jacob Yoder was ill at the time of landing and the "X" was due not to lack of education, but to his not being available to sign in person.

There are several different works which present listings of the names in the registry. It is known that the Yoder names appear in sequence in the actual hand scribed listing. The one source which seems to follow this sequence is the book "Pennsylvania German Pioneers".

Three interesting features appear in this copy of the list. First, the group of most recognizable Amish passengers have their names together (although "Johanes Qnag" marks the beginning of the "B list"). It could well be imagined that the Amish heads of household all hung together as they went to the Courthouse to make the

250th- continued on page 7



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### CASSELMAN RIVER HISTORIANS YODER SESSION FULL REPORT IN NEXT YNL

The annual meeting of the Casselman River Amish and Mennonite Historians was held at the Maple Glen Church, Grantsville, MD on Sept. 4 & 5, 1992. In honor of the 250th anniversary of the arrival of the Amish Yoders, this annual meeting featured "The History of the Joder/ Yoder Family".

We at the newsletter had been encouraging folks to commemorate this anniversary. When we heard the details of this session, we felt it was important enough to send out a special notice to all readers. John W Yoder and Rachel Kreider of the YNL both participated in this meeting, and a detailed article will be prepared for the April 93 YNL.

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### ARTICLES INSIDE:

- Ben Yoder Tribute Page 5
- Miss Indiana-- Shelli Yoder Page 4
- Yoder Pension Records (contd) Page 3
- Yoder Humor from "Country" Page 6

The Yoder Newsletter- Founded 1983 by  
Ben F Yoder, Goshen, IN (1913-1992); Chris Yoder; and  
Rachel Kreider.

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FROM THE EDITORS

Chris Yoder, Editor, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; John W Yoder,  
Circulation Manager, Middlebury, IN; Fred C. Yoder,  
Distribution; Rachel Kreider, Senior Contributing  
Editor; Other Contributors: Fred C. Yoder, Goshen, IN;  
John W. Yoder, Middlebury, IN; Richard H. Yoder,  
Bechtelsville, PA; Hubert A. Yoder, Charlotte, NC;  
Dorothy Yoder Coffman, Malvern, PA; H. Harold Hartzler,  
Goshen, IN; Dr. Don Yoder, Devon, PA

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Reflections on the YNL 10th Anniversary:

Ben Yoder and I first met ten years ago in the  
Goshen, IN kitchen of long-time Yoder historian Rachel  
Kreider. Rachel brought us together because each of us  
was interested in putting out a Yoder family newsletter.  
Each of us had a slightly different focus to our  
interests. My focus was more on the uncovering, sharing  
and exchange of family history information. Ben was a  
bit more oriented toward general lore, humor, human  
interest and a vehicle for increased Yoder family  
fellowship.

The resulting product has been one from which we both  
have taken a lot of satisfaction. We've helped hundreds  
of families with their family trees. We've helped  
cousins meet cousins. The YNL has stimulated the holding  
of family reunions and the assembly of family history  
booklets. We've researched, deciphered and published  
information which has expanded the bounds of knowledge  
about many different branches of the Yoder family. On a  
personal level, Ben and I each have made many good  
friends among the readers and correspondents to the YNL.

Little did we realize ten years ago that the YNL  
would still be going strong this far into the future.  
And little did we realize this spring that the  
celebration of our 10th Anniversary milestone would be  
one reached without Ben. Thanks to John and Fred Yoder  
and to Rachel Kreider for picking up most of the  
responsibilities Ben took care of. The YNL will continue  
to function, and we hope will be around for a 20th  
Anniversary.

Ben has been my partner and more importantly my  
friend for these 10 years. It won't be the same without  
him. He was a man who loved people. His was a keen sense  
of humor. The twinkle in his eyes could be felt in his  
conversations, his letters and also in the text of the  
YNL. The YNL family all extends our sympathy to his  
widow Nell, to his children and grandchildren. We truly  
share in their loss.

--- Chris Yoder

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The last issue announced the addition to the newsletter  
staff of Fred and John Yoder. Ben thought ahead in  
enlisting these fellows, and he chose well.. both have  
jumped aboard willingly with their contributions. For  
the next several issues, the YNL will be composed in  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, but still printed and mailed from  
Goshen, Indiana.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS: Please review your YNL address label  
carefully, and send any corrections to the Yoder  
Newsletter... we don't want to lose you, or for you to  
miss out on any issues!

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SEND YNL CORRESPONDENCE:

-Dealing with circulation issues such as new or  
renewed subscriptions, changes of addresses, back issues  
to : Yoder Newsletter, P.O.Box 594, Goshen, IN 46526.

-Dealing with ancestral queries or data intended to  
go into the Yoder Newsletter or archives (such as  
reunion notices, letters to the Editor, copies of Bible  
records or other Historical information) to :

Chris Yoder, Unit 61306 Box 56, APO AE 09803-1306  
(allow 3-4 weeks for reply)

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YNL PRICE INFORMATION:

The YNL subscription is on an annual basis and the  
rate is \$3. As the YNL is not-for-profit, we have  
generally been able to offer a free bonus issue to each  
subscription period. YOU WILL BE SENT A RENEWAL  
ENVELOPE WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE (it will  
accompany your last issue). Back issues of the YNL are  
\$1.00 per issue (\$20 for a complete set of issue 1-20).  
These may be ordered from the Goshen YNL address.

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Dear YNL,

I especially enjoyed reading the article about  
Lowell Yoder. He was an acquaintance of my dad and I had  
heard a lot about him. -- Linda Yoder

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Editors-- I enjoy reading the newsletter from "cover to  
cover". You missed my Aunt Carrie B Yoder, Greencroft  
Nursing Center, Goshen in your list of longevities. She  
was 95 on Sep 3, 1991. Her birthdate is Sep 3, 1895. She  
is the daughter of Noah J and Fannie King Yoder of  
Shipshewana, IN. -- Barbara Yoder, Indianapolis, IN

Other folks missed include two of Ben Yoders sisters:

Ruth Yoder Sheininger Gardner- age 93

Lettie Yoder Preistley Moore - age 90

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Who was the Henry F Yoder who married Delilah Denton on  
7/12/1849 in Madison Co, IL??

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GEORGIA/OKLAHOMA YOTHER DATA GROWS:

Thanks to Mr. Eddie Robinson, 8115 Buford Dr,  
Dallas, TX 75241, the information on file about one  
branch of the Georgia Yother line has expanded  
significantly. (See YNL #11-- "Adam Yoder ..."moved to  
Tennessee and all traces of him were lost.."). Early  
data is presented as follows:

Con83 Adam (aka Edmund) Yother d ? m. Celia Van  
Buren (c1816NC- ) 1840 & 1850 Lumpkin Co GA

Con831- Laura b. c1832 NC

Con832- Elizabeth b. c1834 GA

Con833- Eliza b. May 10,1836 m. Jan. 3,1856

William J.W. Pike d. Mar.1, 1896 Snyder, OK

Con834- Nancy b. c1837 GA

+Con835- Andrew Jackson b. 6/8/1839 GA

Con836- Louisa b. c1842 GA

Con837- Catherine b. c1844 GA

+Con838- John Dallas b 4/10/1846 Lumpkin Co, GA

Con839- Jane b. c1847 GA

+Con83a- William b. c1849 GA

Con83b- Franklin b. c1852

Con83c- Sarah A. b. c1854

Con83d- Adaline b. c1860

Cousin ?

Con83e- Lester William b. c1865

Con835 Andrew Jackson VanBuren Yother d. 11/24/1913  
Coalgate, OK m. 6/12/1864 Dawson Co.,GA Nancy Rebecca  
Goss (10/4/1846 Dawson Co, GA- 5/27/1919 Coalgate, OK)  
1880 Forsyth Co,GA;1900 Carroll Co,GA; 1910 Coal Co.,OK

Con8351- John Riley b. c1867 GA

Con8352- George C. b. 12/17/1868 GA d 4/26/1936  
Coalgate, OK

+Con8353- Franklin b. Feb. 1870 GA m. Mary  
1900 Carroll Co.,GA; 1910 Pittsburg OK

Con8354- Arrena (Aurena) S b. c1873 GA

+Con8355- Charlie A. b. c1874 GA m. Lizzie

1910 Collins Co.,OK

+Con8356- Alvin R. b. c1875 GA m. ?Amy  
(1910 Collins Co.OK as "Riley")

Con8357- Maranda b. c1877 GA

+Con8358- Jessie Welburn b 7/22/1879 GA m

1/29/1908 Lillie Ora White d 12/11/1940

Coalgate, OK

YODER PENSION RECORDS FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
 --General Pension Index 1861-1934 ,continued from YNL  
 #20, Apr 1992.

To explain the columns... first is the service members Christian name, followed by identification of the Unit(s) in which he served followed by the year of application. Next is a letter to represent the type of application submitted (I- invalid, W- widow, M- dependent minor) and then the actual registration number for the application and then it's certification. Last is the State from which the action was filed.

"Yoder" last names (continued):

PETER D 12 IND CAV '90 I 900651 633636 IN  
 m Sarah '00 W 722868 561404 IN  
 (?? YR23d32- son of Noah Y and Leah \_\_\_\_\_)  
 PETER B K & D 199 PA INF '00 I 1258035 1021115 PA  
 m Mary C '10 W 951157 714360 PA  
 (?? Oley- Hans- ?son of Gideon Y and Anna Haines)  
 PETER E C 167 PA INF '00 I 1256813 1020179 PA  
 PETER S 7 PA INF '89 I 738637 856099 PA  
 (Oley-Hans- ?son of Isaac Y and Lydia Schall)  
 PHILIP B 5 MO S MIL CAV '91 I 1003066 105590 MO  
 (Conrad-David- son of Conrad Y and Polly Y)  
 SAMUEL L 2 OH REG ARTY '90 I 909296 7119421 OH  
 SAMUEL D 32 PA INF '83 I 3765 83535  
 w Kate S '15 W 1044923 793764 PA  
 SAMUEL M 14 PA CAV '81 W 287148 241706  
 w Margaret E  
 SAMUEL E 1 PA L A '90 I 850399 587272 KS  
 SAMUEL B D 142 PA INF '64 I 38973 27280  
 (?? YR239e- son of Benedict Y and Sarah Miller)  
 SAMUEL S G 128, K178 OH '70 I 158189 1084850  
 INF  
 (YR233317- son of Yost Y and Anna Hochstetler)  
 SAMUEL W L 2 OH H A '90 W 422186 725821  
 SENECA K 51 PA INF, H 128 PA INF  
 w Sarah '90 W 446725 412976 PA  
 (Oley-Yost-son of Johannes Y and Magdalena Breyfogel)  
 SHEM C E 101 PA INF '00 I 1249490 1013696 IA  
 w Elmira J '21 W 1172635 907502 WA  
 SOLOMON-A 2 BTN MO SM CAV '89 I 713373 534690 MO  
 w Sarah '08 W 882896 669801 MO  
 TOBIAS G 51 PA INF ' ? I 1372822 1147701 PA  
 (?? YR23341- son of Joseph Y and Mary Lehman)  
 TOBIAS D A 39 PA INF, K 187 PA INF, 14 CO 2 BN PA INF  
 '68 I 135608 96231  
 w Mary '97 W 651487 462246 PA  
 (YR23972- son of David Y and Sarah Lehman)  
 WILLIAM A 101 PA INF '91 I 1008891 898967 PA  
 w Elizabeth '02 W 754429 838591 PA  
 (?? YR17712- ? son of Samuel Y and Sarah Kauffman)  
 WILLIAM C 167 PA INF '94 I 1162318 907354 PA  
 WILLIAM A. L 158 IND INF '23 I 1493239 124743 IN  
 WILLIAM A. G 4 PA INF '25 I 1519688 1273973 PA  
 WILLIAM D. D 1 TN L A '88 I 645132 574782 TN  
 m Susan '09 W 928655 759264 TN  
 WILLIAM H G 30 IN INF '85 I 545545 563208  
 m Mary M '97 W 655142  
 WILLIAM H I 128 PA INF '77 I 244098 198120  
 m Susan E '12 W 979552 737440 PA  
 (Oley- Yost- son of David Y and Mary Levan)  
 WILLIAM H D&I 198 PA INF '91 I 1040631 751827 PA  
 (?? Oley Yost- ??son of Gideon Y and Maria Hausman)  
 WILLIAM O G 4 PA INF, G 18 US INF, L 8 US INF  
 m Laura '19 W 1137367 883643 PA  
 ZACHARIAH K 5 PA H A '92 I 1095291 840597 KS  
 (??YR23783- son of Jonathan Y and Mary \_\_\_\_\_)  
 ZOPHER G H 35 MI INF '14 I 1415066 1200446 MI  
 m Maylissa '31 W 1694919 A7-21-31 MI

"Yoders" family (an S on end)- from SW PENNSYLVANIA

ALEXANDER F 125 OH INF '83 I 495183 300999 OH  
 125 CO 2 BTN V R C  
 (son of Alexander Ys and Martha Catherine Hite)  
 BENJAMIN W. A 18 PA CAV '83 I 486380 829206 PA  
 m Sarah J '19 W 1141864 876423 PA  
 (1880 Greene Co, PA census)  
 CARY H 101 PA INF '92 I 1094252 840139 PA  
 (?? son of George Ys and Sarah \_\_\_\_\_)  
 ELI F 125 OH INF '84 I 516440 386627 OH  
 m Emaline '14 W 1023310 775725 OH  
 (son of Alexander Ys and Martha Catherine Hite)

GEORGE G 11 WVA INF '95 I 827583 WV  
 GEORGE G 17 W VA EN '90 I 827583 885950 WV  
 w Hannah '05 W 832099 611510 WV  
 (son of Daniel Ys and Nancy Durbin)  
 JACOB D 140 PA INF, K 9 VRC '77 I 240564 155579  
 w Jane A '95 W 616311 419942 PA  
 (? son of Jacob Ys and Phoebe Gordon)  
 JAMES G 18 PA CAV '75 I 210204 278800  
 w Martha M D 85 PA INF '14 W 1034197 792000 NE  
 JOHN C 3 PA PROV CAV '79 I 333391 297966  
 w Sallie G 18 PA CAV '06 W 857518 633454 PA  
 JOHN RINGGOLD BTN PA CAV '63 I 20939 24372  
 B 1 WVA CAV, A 22 PA CAV  
 JOHN J A 18 PA CAV  
 w Sarah '65 W 78776 83709  
 (? son of George Ys and Mary \_\_\_\_\_)  
 JOSEPH C A 18 PA CAV '78 I 252908 160418  
 WILLARD 57 CO COAST ARTY '29 I 1648259 A11-3-30 PA  
 WILLIAM N A 18 PA CAV '90 I 926397 766962 IA  
 m Rebecca E '36 W 1729399 A3-9-33 IA  
 ZACHARIAH B 7 WVA INF '79 I 317880 563768  
 m Lucinda '15 W 1047942 796731 WV  
 (son of Daniel Ys and Nancy Durbin)  
 "Yoter" Gentlemen  
 \*ELIAS GUTHRIES IND B CO '95 I 1172619 924904 CO  
 (s/o George Yoter, Venango Co, PA)  
 \*JAMES R. M 11 US Colored Heavy Artillery  
 sister Eliza A. '81 S 281568  
 "Yother"s  
 DAVID A K 2 LA INF '00 I 1253034 1208082 AL  
 mother Julia R. '27 M 1581920 GA  
 GEORGE W. A 6 TN MTD INF  
 m. Elizabeth '65 W 102144 102730 TN  
 JAMES E. C 5 TN INF  
 m. Elizabeth '80 268581  
 WILLIAM W. K 5 TN IN, C 5 TN INF  
 m. Malissa '88 W 385890 363586 TN  
 "Yothers"  
 \*ALFRED G 75 ILL INF  
 m. Catherine '80 262368 237340 IL  
 (s/o Benjamin Y of Lee Co., ILL.. s/o Daniel of  
 Centre Co., PA)  
 "Yotter"  
 CHRISTIAN D 7 IA INF, I 2 MO LA  
 '85 I 531239 595396 IA  
 JACOB I 106 ILL INF '90 I 762975 902143 PA  
 m. Anna M. ' W 702854 528170 PA  
 JOHN D. B 12 MINN INF '23 1482288 1229164 MINN  
 MARTIN D 54 PA INF, K 32 PA INF  
 '90 I 762974 PA  
 "Youther"

To order a copy of the pension file for any of these folks, write to: General Reference Branch (NNRG), National Archives and Records administration, 7th and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20408. Ask for a copy of NATF For 80, "Order for Copies of Veterans Records". Cost for copying of key file data is \$10 per service record. This will be billed to you based on the results of the Staff search for the information.

CORRECTION: In the last issue, Jacob Yoder, who served in the 125th OH INF and whose pension record was filed in Colorado, was incorrectly identified as the probable son of Christopher and Margaret Yoder of Knox Co, OH. I reality, he was likely the son of Alexander Yoders and Martha Catherine Hite.

Who was the George Yoder who married Elizabeth Goss on 10/6/1848 in Monroe Co, Indiana??

# Shipshewana Welcomes Home Miss Indiana Shelli Yoder



Just presented with a key to the town, Miss Indiana Shelli Yoder gives thanks to friends, family and neighbors for their support as she makes plans to compete for the Miss America crown.

**By DEB J. STACK**  
SHIPSHEWANA, Ind. — Thousands of visitors a day have become "business as usual" in the tree-lined streets of Shipshewana. But Monday, a warm welcome home for the town's own Shelli Yoder — Miss Indiana 1992 — made tourism second fiddle for a day as hundreds of local residents turned out to wish the 23-year-old well in her upcoming bid for the Miss America crown. It was her first return home since winning the state title just over a week ago in Michigan City.

Reporters from around the region, including television stations in South Bend and Fort Wayne, converged on Shipshe for a glimpse of the small-town girl's homecoming. Dressed in her white-sequined evening gown from the state competition, Shelli entered the spotlight in classic style, leading a small family parade while seated in a white horse-drawn carriage driven by liverymen in topers and tails.

Though Shelli's been tied up with other commitments since the state pageant, news of her win has the town in a stir. As of this morning, Linda Yoder of Rainbow Travel Agency in Shipshe has two full buses chartered to take local supporters on a two-day trip to attend the Miss America pageant Sept. 19 in Atlantic City. She's also booked four couples to fly out.

Funds are another type of support being offered. A barbecue — with chicken at \$5 a half — is set for July 16 at the Shipshewana Auction. Tickets are available at Pierre Moran Mall and at numerous Shipshewana stores.

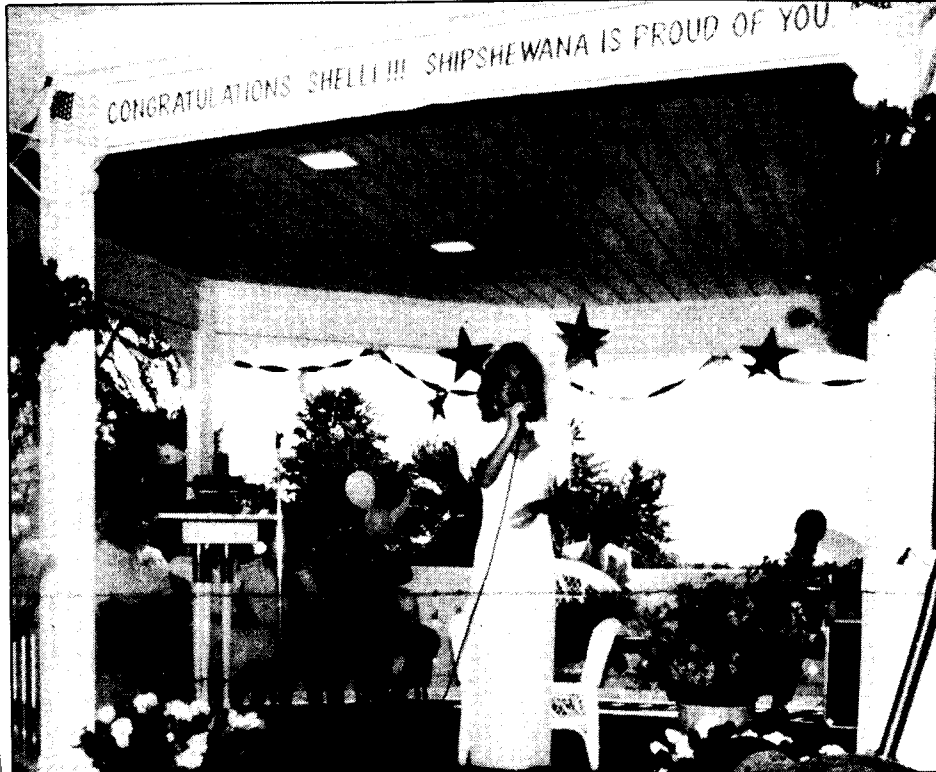
All proceeds will go to the Shelli Yoder Miss America Account recently set up at Shipshewana State Bank. Anyone wanting to make a direct contribution can do so at any SSB branch.

Carol Bachman, executive director of the Miss Elkhart County pageant and one of Shelli's primary advisers, estimated that more than \$30,000 will be needed to finance Shelli's run for the national crown.

Wardrobe, professional coaching for voice and interview skills, and re-arrangement of Shelli's music are among numerous expenses. She added that Shelli has taken a leave of absence from her job in order to put all her efforts during the next several weeks into pursuing the dream of becoming Indiana's first Miss America.

As for the immediate future, Shelli will crown her successor Wednesday evening at Elkhart Elks Lodge 425. During a reception from 6 to 8 p.m., Jennifer Mann will be crowned Miss Elkhart County 1992.

Plans are under way for a large farewell reception in late August to wish Shelli well in Atlantic City.



Three songs and many thanks were part of Shelli Yoder's triumphant return home to Shipshe as

Miss Indiana 1992.

(News Photos by Mike Philley)



One of four signs to be posted at entryways into Shipshewana.

Shelli takes 2nd runner up.

Shelli Yoder is YR2344338132- Tobias C-Vanetine T-Levi (Lee)- Harry V. (1908)-Roger (1943)-Shelli (1968)

#### CLINTON CO, PA and STEPHENSON CO, IL YODER RESEARCH:

Peter Yoder, son of Jacob Yoder of Lewisburg, PA (1783-1864), was in Clinton Co, PA as of the 1840 census. He married Eve Best, and moved to Stephenson Co, IL. He bought 80 acres in Dakota Township Jul 10, 1848, and later served as the first village president of Dakota Village. Eve died, and he married as his second wife Mrs. Eliza A Elliott Apr 23, 1866 in Freeport, IL.

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Research by Mr and Mrs Terry Yoder, 8242 Potter Rd, Davison, MI 48423 has added the following information: "We found Eve Best Yoders will in the Clinton County Court House. She died in Stephenson Co, IL, but the will was in PA. Possibly because Peter Yoder owed his father-in-law Peter Best estate money and he was unable to pay it back. Eve was still alive when her father died in 1857, but died before the estate was settled." Peter Best (1778-1857) was married to Maria M. Haver (1784-1865).  
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**A TRIBUTE TO BEN YODER**

**By His Children**

Our father, Ben Yoder, was born to Harvey and Laura Yoder in Middlebury, Indiana on October 13, 1913. He was the eighth of nine children. Dad loved to tell stories of his childhood and from those he and his brothers and sisters tell, it was filled with joy and happiness (and many pranks), even though the family was quite poor. The stories were told over and over again whenever the larger family would gather and they seemed to help hold everyone closer together.

When he was still a very young child, Dad's family moved to nearby Goshen where he attended the Eighth Street Mennonite Church and received twelve years of schooling. Many of the friendships Dad made during those years lasted his entire life and he was helping to make plans for his 60th class reunion when he died.

Prior to entering the service in World War II Dad married our mother Nellie (Hoogenboom). At this time he joined the Goshen Christian Reformed Church and became an active member. During the war he served in the Pacific Theater as a radioman with the United States Coast Guard. Upon his return in 1945 he completed his education at Goshen College. He also attended Ball State, Indiana State and Western Michigan University. At WMU he received his Masters in Education.

After having worked most of his adult life in the real estate business, Dad entered the teaching profession at the age of 39. He taught elementary classes for most of his career and also spent ten years as a school principal. He was always fondly thought of by his students and colleagues. All seem to remember his most for the countless gags and tricks he would play in the classroom or in the staff lounge. After his retirement he would occasionally run into former students on the street. His excellent memory always enabled him to recall the student. The students always seemed to remember some humorous incident of long ago that had helped to make their education an enjoyable experience.

Although Dad always seemed to be searching for a simple form of life, he had a wide variety of interests. He held a great love of reading from early childhood and his reading interests ranged from things of a spiritual nature to health, gardening, travel, short stories and novels. His favorite reading over the last ten years was anything related to Yoder family history. Dad was a charter subscriber to "Organic Gardening" and a firm believer in the principles expounded in this magazine. Each summer he would maintain a small backyard vegetable garden and for several years after his retirement worked a few acres of muckland which he had purchased from his brother-in-law. He loved sharing the bounty of his harvest with friends and family.

Many considered Dad a bit eccentric in matters of health. He had little use for doctors and, in fact, until just a few months prior to his death, had not seen a doctor in almost 30 years. He was a firm believer in "nature's way" of keeping the body in good health and relied upon home remedies to pick himself up when feeling something coming on. Many folks smiled at his daily habits of taking assorted vitamins and minerals along with a morning swig of vinegar and honey, but he credited such measures as going a long way in giving him a lifetime of good health. In twenty-five years of teaching he never missed a day.

Dad also enjoyed traveling and he and Mother made several trips to Europe to visit family members and to indulge in his favorite pastime of digging into family history. His travel in the Sates was limited mainly to visiting relatives or in making visits to subscribers and contributors of the Yoder Newsletter. He would talk at length about the people he met through the YNL and these new friendships became some of the most important to him in his final years.

Music also played an important part in Dad's life. For many years he sang in a local choir. A favorite form of relaxation was to sit at the electric organ in the family room and play whatever came to mind. Although he never played the organ in public, he was able to play beautifully. He could not read music but had a wide repertoire of songs he could readily play and seemed able to play anything by ear. His music was enjoyed by all who heard it.

Family was always very important to Dad. He cared for all of his children and made many sacrifices for us during our years of growing up. We all benefited from his practical jokes and many stories. His sense of humor and his unpredictable temper have provided all of us with our own collection of "Ben Yoder" stories. He greatly loved his eight grandchildren and they, too, will have lasting stories of their Grampy.

Without a doubt Dad's most enjoyable hours over the last ten years were those spent working on the YNL. His daily checks at the post office for YNL correspondence were as much a part of his routine as his vinegar and honey and probably did more for his health. He always found interesting things to relate to us from the correspondence. He would always try to reply as soon as possible and questions he couldn't he would turn over to Rachel Kreider who is a deep well of knowledge where Yoder history is concerned. Dad loved the times when he and Rachel and Chris would get together and work on the YNL. His work on the YNL was really a reflection of his generous self. He saw the paper as providing a service to many people and he never wanted to make anything off it. He took tremendous pleasure in all aspects of the paper. As mentioned above the contacts he made through the paper greatly enriched the last years of his life.

We know that the many readers of the YNL will be saddened by the news of Dad's death. Although he never had a chance to meet most of you personally we know he considered all of you his friends. We are thankful not only for the friendship he found in Rachel and Chris but also for the fact that they were so closely involved in the YNL and will be continuing it's publication.

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**YODER MAVERICK TAKES TWO HIGH PROFILE CASES**

John C Yoder of Harpers Ferry has recently taken on two high profile West Virginia court cases. As readers may recall, John was the U S Senate nominee against millionaire Senator John D Rockefeller IV two years ago. (See YNL #17).

In one case, Yoder represents the city of Harpers Ferry as it takes on the National Park Service. The charge is that the Park service closed down a local celebration at the last moment. This Christmas event, called an "Old Tyme Christmas" had been a city tradition for 20 years. The park service reportedly blocked off the parade route through some park-owned land without any advance notice.

In the other case, he represents a tax-payers group which has filed a conflict-of-interest lawsuit against 21 public school teachers who are members of the state legislature. The legislature sets teacher benefits and working conditions, and the case is based on a state law which restricts state employees from serving in the state legislature. Major newspaper editorials in the state have endorsed bringing this issue into the open.

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**CAN ANYONE IDENTIFY THESE JOHN YODERS????**

John Yoder m. 10/4/1846 Madison Co, IL to Frances English?

John Yoder m. 8/6/1850 Sangamon Co., IL to Anna Broach?

John W. Yoder m 1/27/1867 Rock Island, IL to Nancy A. Stanley?



## COUNTRY COMMENTS

By Roy Reiman, Editor/Publisher

### Most Amish People Sure Know How to Have Fun

MOST PEOPLE who have never met or visited with Amish families may think that these people are quiet and reserved. Well, it's been my experience that the Amish may be far more conservative in the way they live than most folks, but they rarely have any limits on having good, clean fun.

My wife and I personally set up our "Amish Country Tour" in the Holmes County, Ohio area, which has the world's largest concentration of Amish families, and we have escorted that tour several times. Each time we hear tour members say, "I never thought I'd laugh this much. These people really know how to have fun!"

Much of the Amish humor is aimed at laughing at themselves. For example, the late Noah Miller used to ask our tour groups, "Do you know what would happen if all the Yoders left Holmes County? We'd be de-Yoderized!"

Then there's Maudie Raber, the Amish farm wife who bakes some of the country's best pies (we've offered them as prizes in our "needle in a haystack" contest several times and may do it again, because it's proven to be our most popular prize to date).

#### Love Homemade Gadgets

Whenever Maudie pens a letter, I push other things on my desk aside and get ready to laugh. She *always* has something funny to say about life in general, or includes another "gadget" that she or her husband, Andy, has made.

The "three-piece chicken dinner" is one of the homemade gadgets she sent. As the pictures above show, when you open up the little wooden box, there are three kernels of corn inside, implying the dinner was for the chicken, not for the person!

Now, I look forward to the humorous letters that Andy Yoder sends now and then. (He and his wife, Millie, are baking the angel food cakes offered as a prize in this issue's "needle" contest on page 42.)

My correspondence with Andy began shortly after my mother passed



away last year. I'd written a column in one of our other magazines, *Farm & Ranch Living*, reminiscing about Mom and her famous angel food cakes, and how much I was going to miss them.

Shortly after, I received a box in the mail from Andy and Millie. Inside was an angel food cake with a note: "We know this cake isn't as good as

***"We have 10 children—  
they are all boys  
except for eight..."***

your mother used to make, but we hope it might be a good substitute."

#### Acquainted by Mail

I was really touched. While I've reached the point where I'm hardly amazed by anything our subscribers do (for example, I wonder how many other magazine editors received well over a hundred Christmas cards during the past holiday season from their readers), receiving that cake and note was something special.

I wrote back to thank them, and in subsequent letters, I learned about An-

dy's family, the farm's bakery and his great sense of humor.

Andy told me that he and Millie grew up outside of Hazelton, Iowa, moved to Rexford, Montana, and then to a 158-acre farm near Oconto, Wisconsin in 1990.

Describing his family, Andy wrote, "We have 10 children and they are all boys except for eight." (See what I mean by his humor?)

It was because of all those daughters that Andy and Millie decided to start a bakery right on their farm. "We needed an extra source of income, and the girls said they'd rather bake than milk cows," he explained.

"The womenfolk also do quite a lot of quilting and sell the quilts in the bakery. They put together an Amish cookbook, too, which includes the angel food cake recipe, and we sell a lot of those.

"At this point we only have the bakery open on Friday and Saturday," he continued. "On Wednesday we bake cookies, on Thursday we bake pies, and Friday and Saturday we get up at 3 a.m. to make all kinds of things. I help quite a bit in the bakery, too."

Often, the Amish's way of laughing at themselves surfaces in Andy's letters. For example, on two occasions, he joked about the preponderance of Yoders in each of the Amish communities:

"A fellow came into the bakery recently and commented about all the Yoders in this neighborhood," Andy wrote. "I told him, 'Yes, there are Yoders all over this area. In fact, I come from a family of 14 and every last one of them is a Yoder!'"

"And in Indiana," Andy penned, now on a roll, "the area mailman was sick one day and his substitute was delivering mail on the route through the Amish community there. As he found mail for one Yoder after another, he was getting more and more perplexed.

"He kept wondering where all these Yoders came from! Finally he drove by a big building with a sign on it that said, 'Yoder Hatchery'. 'Oh,' said the substitute, 'now I'm beginning to understand!'"

This is the kind of fun I find in many letters from Amishmen. It seems that almost every one of those heavy beards hides a broad smile.

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\*\*\*\*\*--Queries--\*\*\*\*\*

The YNL will publish Yoder-related inquiries at no charge. Please limit to 40-50 words plus full return address. All inquiries are checked against our extensive records to see if we can help too. Send to: Chris Yoder, Unit 61306, Box 56, APO AE 09803-1306

My grandmother, Catherine Frances YOTTER, was born 11/27/1882 in Claypool, IN. Her parents were Jasper YOTTER (b 9/20/1857 or 1858 at Tiffin, OH) and Margaret M Shobe (b 9/11/1861 Noble Co, IN). Jasper moved to Montana in 1889 and lived in Whitehall from 1919 until his death in 1939. Jaspers parents were Jacob YOTTER (8/18/1836 Noble Co, IN-1/27/1860 Noble Co, IN) who m. 10/11/1855 in Seneca Co, OH Amanda Frances Williams (7/14/1835- 11/24/1874 Noble Co, IN). What is the ancestry of these YOTTERS? Reply to: Helen Frances Caraveo (phone (801) 635-0345) P.O.Box 436, La Verken, Utah 84745

Can anyone provide information about Mary Clendaniel YODER(s), her ancestry or descendants. She was b 17 Jan 1832 Fredrickston, PA. Married (as second wife) Andrew Jackson Sanders on 25 Dec 1852 in Amity, Washington Co, PA. Andrew was b 2 Feb 1818 in Amity and d 23 Jan 1917. Mary d 2 Feb 1902. Both d in Powshieck Co, IA. Had children: Lossen Parrot b 3 Jul 1854; Franklin Baldwin b 15 Jul 1856; Charles Edgar b 17 Sep 1857; Harlan Curtis b 13 Oct 1861; Mary Emeline b 1 May 1862; Newton Ellsworth b 8 Dec 1863; Homer Ezra b 4 May 1868 and Horace Wade b 29 Aug 1871 (all b Des Moines Co, IA). Reply to Shirley Puskas, 13815 W 62, Shawnee, KS 66216

HELP! Information wanted on my g-g-grandfather JOSEPH S. YODER. Born 5/11/1829 in PA. Married Sallie Sharret on 7/23/1856 in McMinn Co, TN. Died in Washington Co, TN 8/12/1895. Buried at Cherokee Baptist Church outside of Jonesboro, TN. What Yoder line did this Joseph come from? Troy Keese, Rt 2 Box 213, Skyline Dr, Powell, TN 37849 (615) 945-1309.

GA- continued from page 2

Con838 John Dallas Yoder d 9/9/1915 Brush Hill, OK bur. Brush Hill Cem. m1 11/17/1867 Dawson Co., GA Sarah Amanda Heard (b 1836 Habersham Co, GA- ) m2 8/19/1900 Muskogee Co, OK (hl) Effie Potts (b 9/1/c1882 Harrison, Ark- 11/29/1951 Muskogee, OK bur. Greenhill Cem) res. 1880 Dawson Co., GA; 1910 McIntosh Co., OK

w1 +Con8381- Jephtha Calvin "Boss" b. 1/1/1869 Dawson Co, GA m 2/15/1901 Muskogee Co, OK to Willie Reynolds (c1887 Ark-1914) res. 1910 McIntosh Co., OK d 2/2/1949 Okla City, OK bur. Fairview Cemetary, Shawnee, OK

Con8382- (Susan) Isabella b 1/3/1870 Dawson Co, GA m1 9/3/1890 McKinney, TX W Y Rose m2 1/7/1904 Ardmore, OK Joe S Findlay d 10/22/1945 Roff, Pontiac Co, OK

Con8383- (Emily) Arabella b 11/22/1871 Dawson Co, GA m 2/6/1887 Dawson Co, GA John Riley Goss (1849-1920), d 10/20/1950 Muskogee, OK)

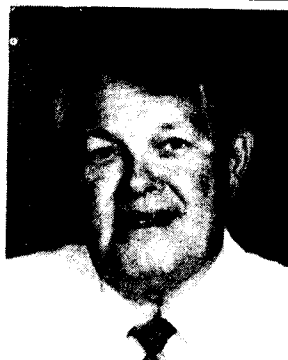
Con8384- John Thomas "Tommy" b. 12/25/1875 Dawson Co, GA m 10/9/1898 Muskogee Co, OK Daisy Thompson d 10/13/1899 Muskogee Co, OK

w2 Con8385- Effie b. 7/12/1901 Brush Hill, OK m 4/2/1921 Arthur E Gorman Muskogee, OK d 4/2/1984 Muskogee, OK bur. Greenhill Cem., Muskogee

Con8386- Nola b. 11/8/1902 Brush Hill, OK m1 Alfred G Weaver m2 Mr Platt

Con8387- Adam Theodore b. 11/12/1904 Oktaha, OK single d 2/15/1962 OK bur National Cemetery Fort Gibson, OK (WWII vet)

Who was the Adda Yoter who married Hamilton Jones on Jul 3, 1876 in Coles County, Illinois?



Dr. Richard Yoder

DALTON — Dr. Richard J. Yoder, 66, of Lake Road, died early Friday morning, Nov. 22, at Saint Thomas Medical Center in Akron, after a short illness.

Memorial services will be Wednesday, Nov. 27, at 11 a.m., at the Oak Grove Mennonite Church near Smithville, with the Rev. Jayne Byler officiating. Private family burial will be at the Oak Grove Cemetery at 9:45 a.m.

The family will receive friends Tuesday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at Gresser Funeral Home in Orrville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Central Christian High School, Kidron 44636; or to OrrVilla Inc., 425 OrrVill Drive, Orrville 44687.

Dr. Yoder was born in Orrville in 1925 to Glenn and Ruth (Breneman) Yoder. He was a 1942 graduate of Orrville High School and a 1945 graduate of Goshen College. He enrolled at the Northwestern School of Medicine in Chicago and received a medical degree in 1949. From 1953-55 he served in a medical volunteer service in Puerto Rico and then

served his residency at Akron City Hospital. Dr. Yoder entered a private OB/GYN practice in Barberton and the Barberton Citizens Hospital in 1957, retiring from the medical practice in 1985.

He was a member of the American Medical Association and the Ohio State Medical Association. A member and a past president of the Central Christian High Board of Education and a board member of OrrVilla Inc. in Orrville, also a member of the Ohio Inter Mennonite Council on Aging and the Barberton-Norton Peace Studies Group. He was a charter member of the Summit Mennonite Church in Barberton, where he served as church treasurer and a Sunday school teacher.

Dr. Yoder was an active member of the Wayne County and Ohio State Genealogy Societies and was awarded a Direct Descendent of Pioneer Families of Wayne County and the First Families of Ohio. He authored the "Christian and Catherine Bacher Yoder Family Genealogy" book.

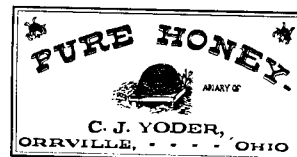
A former resident of Barberton and Akron he has lived at Lake Harmony near Dalton for the past 15 years.

Surviving are his wife, the former Rosalie Hooley, and a loving family, Richard and Connie Yoder Jr. of Normal, Ill., and Jeremiah Yoder of Dalton. Daughters and son-in-laws, Gretchen and John Christopher of Cobbs Creek, Va., Christina and Vic Buckwalter of Tanzania, East Africa, RoseAnn and Paul Wright of Walnut Creek, Calif., and Amy and Randy Murray of Orrville. His grandchildren, Sarah and Rachel Christopher, Dianna, Rochelle and Reuben Yoder, Benjamin, Niholas, and Molly Buckwalter, Annali and Saralyn Murray and Nigel Wright.

His parents and a brother, Charles, died previously.

The Christian J. Yoder and Catherine Bacher Yoder Family Genealogy

By Richard J. Yoder 1988



\*\*\*\*\* 250th continued from page 1

official registry. The second item for some interest is that Christian Jotter is at the head of the Amish group. Does this signify some particular leadership of the group? It's possible. And third, the first Yoder to sign wrote his name "Jotter", followed by the English clerk signing for Jacob as "Yoder" (the sound in English). Did the last of the three Yoders on the list (believed to be Christian, son of the "widow Barbara") really spell his name with a "Y" and a "d"? Or did he just copy the spelling used on the line above him for his (presumably absent) brother?

Here are the names as they appear in "Pennsylvania German Pioneers" (with AAMG codes added when known or suspected):

- Christian Jotter (YR2)
Jacob (x) Yoder (YR14)
Christian Yoder (YR12)
Fredri (K) Meyer (??)
Christian (+) Miller See Ship List 9/15/1749
Johanes Qnag (KY)
Moritz Zug (ZK2)
Christian Zug (ZK1)
Johannes Gerber (GB1?)
Jacob Kurtz (KZA2)
Johannes Zug (ZK3)
Uhllerich (+) Stally (SAB?) (SA?)

# Plans Announced At Reunion

8A—HICKORY DAILY RECORD—Mon., August 17, 1992

Plans announced recently at an area family reunion involve the production of a cookbook and the revision of a history of one of Catawba County's oldest and most prominent families.

At the 42nd annual reunion of the Yoder family, which occurred at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church south of Hickory, approximately 150 members and guests gathered for a covered-dish picnic in the church parish hall. Dr. J. Larry Yoder of Lenoir-Rhyne College offered the invocation.

During the afternoon business meeting, president Rachael Hahn Kennedy of Charlotte discussed the proposed release of a Yoder cookbook to showcase the most popular recipes of the mid-18th-century family. The founder of the family in North Carolina was a Swiss immigrant, Conrad Yoder, who settled on the South Fork River in Catawba County approximately seven miles south of Hickory. The patriarch died sometime in the spring of 1790.

The moderator at the reunion later shared groundwork plans that could result in the development of a comprehensive history of the Yoder family. Along with Kennedy, an editorial committee was named which includes Neal D. Wilfong, Michael B. Huffman and Ted M. Yoder. The committee will begin work immediately to collect genealogical information on the various Yoder lines with a goal of producing a rewritten and expanded version of the clan's "History of the Yoder Family in North Carolina," published in 1970. The work was primarily the product of the late Dr. Fred Roy Yoder. While considered invaluable, the history traces only part of the

descendants of John and David Yoder, who were the first- and third-born sons, respectively, of Conrad Yoder. In the intervening 20 years since the release of the history, the family discovered additional data on some of the other children of the pioneer settler. Jacob Yoder, for instance, was one of four children of Conrad Yoder to move to other states around 1815. The lineage of Jacob Yoder's descendants is now somewhat complete.

Conrad Yoder was also the father of Elizabeth, Elias, Daniel, Catherine and Adam Yoder. Elizabeth died in infancy and Catherine Yoder married into the Baker family. Among their lineal descendants are members of the Shuford and Blackburn families. Elias and Daniel Yoder moved to Indiana with their older brother, Jacob. The youngest child, Adam, later moved from Catawba County and settled in Tennessee.

The Yoder editorial committee solicits family information from all Yoders, particularly those in the Unifour. Anyone with Yoder connections who believes that they may be descended from Conrad Yoder should contact the Yoder Family in North Carolina, PO Box 10281, Mountain View Station, Hickory, N.C., 28603. People with knowledge of family members who live outside the area should also contact that mailing address.

Members of an instrumental ensemble performing during the afternoon were Fred Lanning, Scott Peterson and Rachel H. Kennedy.

NEWS-HERALD, Perkasia, Pa.,

Wednesday, July 8, 1992

Chad Benner, Perkasia, and Henry R. Atkinson, Quakertown were the winners of the traditional guessing game.

The immigrant of this family was Hans Yoder and 1717 is likely the year in which he settled at the Great Swamp near Coopersburg. Many of his descendants are buried in the Saucon Mennonite Cemetery, Coopersburg.

Garret Benner, Sellersville asked the blessing before the 5 p.m. Pennsylvania Dutch meal.

The officers are as follows: President, Dan Hunsberger, Apple Butter Road, Perkasia; Vice President John M. Hunsberger, Smiths School Road, Perkasia; Secretary-Treasurer, Alverna (Yothers) Hunsberger, Apple Butter Road, Perkasia; and Secretary of Historical Records: Zenta Benner, Schwenksmill Road, Perkasia.

The next family reunion will be held the first Sunday in June, 1993.

Former president Richard E. Yoder of Hickory recalled how in 1977 he and the late Norman S. James revitalized the Yoder reunion into the institution it is today.

Secretary Neal Wilfong commented on the family statistics, including 14 births and nine marriages during the last year. Among the 46 deaths noted in the Yoder and Reep lines was that of Ben F. Yoder, 78, of Goshen, Ind. He was editor of the "Yoder Newsletter."

Displays featuring a variety of photos, news clippings and artifacts were provided by Mary Dellinger Williams, the Rev. Robert L. Yoder,

Neal D. Wilfong, the Rev. and Mrs. L. Clement Hahn and Michael B. Huffman.

Kendall Yoder of Largo, Fla., had travelled the farthest. Mr. and Mrs. Buford Yother of LaFayette, Ga., represented the family of Conrad Yoder's son, Adam.

The oldest members present were Buford Yount, 86, and Alma Baker, 85. Caroline Elizabeth Cook Wilfong, 4 months, was the youngest Yoder guest in attendance.

Special recognition awards went to Richard E. Yoder, Gerald M. Yoder, Heien Yoder Hahn, Neal Wilfong and Mr. and Mrs. Ted (Donna) Yoder.

A monologue given by Ted Yoder

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 REUNION IN MISSOURI- On June 12 and 13, the descendants of William Brown Yoder and Mary Ladora Artman met in Appleton City, Missouri. Four branches of the family were represented: William Brown Yoder Jr, Florence Miller Nixon, Mary Hammond Yoder West, and Frank Yoder. The descendants of Martha Hill Yoder Duncan and the descendants of Robert Hill Yoder could not attend. The family is searching for descendants of Charles Leroy Yoder who died in 1927. William and Mary migrated to Appleton City in 1876 from White Deer Valley Pennsylvania. Forty-one descendants and spouses were in attendance at the reunion. They visited the family plot in the Appleton City cemetery, the family plot in the Pleasant View Cemetery near Taberville, and the family home in Appleton City, and the Presbyterian Church. Some cousins had brought family pictures from the turn of the century and letters written among to brothers and sisters. Mary Elizabeth Nixon Kenny, 6305 Fort Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68104 was unanimously elected family historian. All of the "cousins" had a wonderful time. (contrib by M. Louis Rainey)  
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Paul D Yoder Reunion

As a news note, the descendants of Paul D and Kittie (Huff) Yoder held a reunion on June 7, 1992 in Loug's Park, Lancaster, PA. Approximately 40 descendants and relatives were present. Paul D Yoder was a minister in the Reformed Church, now the United Church of Christ. In 1910 he organized the first congregation of the Reformed Church in Gary, Indiana, staying there for 3 years until moving on to Lisbon, Iowa. Gary was my birthplace.

Now we are looking forward to the reunion of the North Carolina Yoders near Hickory, N.C. on August 9.

With kindest regards-- Paul H Yoder, Lake Lure, NC

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 GLEN YODER REUNION

A reunion of the descendants of Glen Yoder was held in Conconully, Washington (the community that Glen and his family first settled in when they moved to Washington state from Missouri) on July 24, 25, and 26, 1992. Attending were: Von and Marge Yoder, Joseph and Florence Yoder from Tigard, Oregon; Grace (Yoder) and John Robert from Newberg, Oregon; Irma (Yoder) and Relton Carpenter from Omak, Washington; Ena (Yoder) and Orville Barnes from Stanwood, Washington; as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren of Glen and Allie Yoder. Also attending were descendants of Clarence Yoder, John and Frances Yoder, Ruth (Yoder) and Earl Courtney from Holden, Missouri and Lois (Yoder) Wilson from Marshal, Missouri. The event allowed time to get acquainted and reacquainted with family and friends. Potluck picnic dinners were hosted on Friday and Saturday nights by Joe and Florence Yoder and Von and Marge Yoder. On Sunday morning some of the more adventurous hiked to the top of a small mountain before Sunday Morning Church services in Conconully United Methodist Church. A brunch was served after Church services. This concluded the reunion for 1992. Another reunion is planned in two years.--reported by Carla Burke, Spokane  
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## Yothers Family Holds Reunion

The Yothers family from Bucks County held its 69th Annual Reunion June 7 at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Picnic Grove, Sleepy Hollow Road, Spinnerstown with 53 people present.

Dan Hunsberger, Perkasia, president of the Yothers family, awarded the following prizes: the oldest person present, Naomi Yothers, Souderton 87; the family with the most members present, Garret and Laura (Yothers) Benner, Sellersville, nine.

The lady and man who celebrated their birthdays most recently were Arlene G. Yothers, Souderton; and Jonathan Kiefer, Perkiomenville.

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Who was the Sarah Yoter who married Ludwig Euterman on Mar 3, 1868 in Macon County, Illinois?

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