



Tobias Yoder, Civil War hero



Tobias Yoder

(Photo submitted by Donald "Ike" Walker of Somerset)

By SANDRA LEPLEY
Staff Writer

The life of Civil War veteran Tobias Yoder could almost be made into a television miniseries. The Somerset County soldier not only served in the Union Army with fervor but also cheated death on more than one occasion.

Born in Shade Township in 1827, Yoder was one of four brothers who enlisted in the Union Army. John was killed; Henry died of disease, and Moses returned from the war and took up residency in Stonycreek Township.

Growing up on a farm and being a woodsman ultimately caused Yoder to develop strong muscles and a powerful stature. He was well known in this area as the champion wrestler of Somerset County.

According to Yoder's death notice in *The Somerset Herald*, March 31, 1897: "No more perfect specimen of physical manhood or braver warrior ever shouldered a musket."

Before he ever became a soldier, Yoder cheated death two times. He was run over by a hand car on the railroad one time, which resulted in several broken ribs. On another occasion, a coal mine collapsed on him, killing the dog alongside of him and requiring unbelievable strength on his part to dig to the surface.

At the time of his enlistment in July 1861, he measured 42 inches across the chest and was 34 years old, an unusual age to become a soldier because many who served were in their teens. He enlisted in the Co. A, 10th Regiment, the very first company from the county to march off to war.

On June 30, 1862, at New Market Crossroads near Richmond,

Va., Yoder's company got caught in a crossfire from regiments belonging to Stonewall Jackson and A.P. Hill and once again, Yoder cheated death.

Seven bullets hit him in what he termed "less than a man could count to five." (*Somerset Herald*). Two balls went through his chest, one of which crushed his left shoulder blade. One hit him in the side and landed under the hip bone and the other lodged close to the spine near his kidneys. Three other bullets also wounded him. All this never knocked the man down but eventually two comrades pulled him to the rear of battle.

Afterwards, he and other wounded Union soldiers were left in the hands of the Confederates, who tended to their own wounded first and occasionally gave Yoder water from a nearby brook. Three days after he was wounded, a Confederate wagon drove within 20 feet of him. They told him if he could get up and get on the wagon, they would wait. "I'm a little stiff," said Yoder, who was eventually grabbed by the impatient Confederates and pitched into the wagon (*Somerset Herald*).

He became a prisoner at Libby Prison but refused medical attention. Fearing that maggots would infest his wounds, he used a window stop with a nail in it to reach out his cell window and pull some tobacco leaves loose so he could plug up his bullet holes.

However, the tobacco theft was discovered and he was reported to the authorities. He spent 16 days in solitary confinement at Belle Isle.

He spent 40 days in prison altogether, going from 180 pounds to 116. He was then exchanged and sent to Chester Hospital near Philadelphia, where doctors gave him 48 hours to live. Those doctors, however, were not aware of Yoder's unbelievable resiliency. His recovery astounded the medical community so much that the surgeon-in-chief in Washington D.C. made a special trip to Chester to study his case.

In January 1863, Yoder returned home to Somerset County. But after hearing in March that his regiment was recruiting again, he was ready to go back to service, traveling to Washington D.C. to join up. Even though officials refused to let him join, he fought anyway and was at the Battle of Gettysburg on July 1, 2 and 3 of 1863.

When his enlistment was up, doctors were not going to approve his request for re-enlistment. "After I had stripped for examination, I kicked up my heels and executed a

Yoder House Groundbreaking Draws a Crowd



Burr!!! Looks Cold Out!

The Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Yoder House was held Saturday, October 21, 1995 at the Spruce Artisan Village/Penn Alps, Grantsville, Md. A goodly crowd from several states assembled for this event. The opening ceremony was moderated by Lowell Bender, and remarks were made by Jack Dueck and Kenneth L. Yoder. Pastor Johnny Crist -a 12th generation Yoder from Atlanta, Ga. gave the Ground Breaking message. Singing was led by Doris Ours.



Ray Yount, Carl Yoders, Doris Ours share the shovel while Kenneth L. Yoder "supervises"

This was followed by the actual ground breaking, in which representatives of three different Yoder families jointly performed the honors: Ray Yount from the Conrad Yoder line of NC; Carl Yoders of the "Yoders" family of SW Pa (YNL 24), and Doris Ours of the Amish line which settled in the Somerset County, Pa-Grantsville, Md area (YR261 Line). They used a "Rutter Spade" made for the occasion by 10th generation Yoder descendant Dwight Yoder.

Reports were given on the progress, vision, and financial status of the Yoder House. An added report was furnished on the Yoder Reunion in held in Hickory, North Carolina last August. The "Widow Barbara Yoder Bible", a Yoder rocker & coverlet, and a hinge and stone from the Joderhubel (Yoder Hill) in Switzerland were on display along with other Yoder memorabilia.

For further information contact: Yoder House Project, Spruce Forest Artisan Village, 177 Casselman Road, Grantsville, Md 21536.

Tobias Yoder was YR23972, son of David Yoder and Sarah Lehman
Thanks to Milton H. Walker of Somerset, Pa and Mayla Yoder of Berlin, Pa for submitting this article, and thanks to the Somerset Daily American for giving its permission for us to reprint.

Continued on Page 3

The Yoder Newsletter- Founded 1983 by
Ben F Yoder (1913-1992); Chris Yoder & Rachel Kreider

FROM THE EDITORS

Chris Yoder, Editor, Battle Creek,MI; John W. Yoder, Circulation Manager, Middlebury,IN; Rachel Kreider, Senior Contributing Editor, Goshen,IN. Other Contributors: John W. Yoder; Richard H. Yoder, Bechtelsville, PA; Hubert A. Yoder, Charlotte, NC; Dorothy Yoder Coffman, Malvern, PA; Dr. Don Yoder, Devon, PA; Neil Wilfong, Cleveland, NC; and Dr. Delbert Gratz, Bluffton, OH

SEND YNL CORRESPONDENCE:

-Dealing with circulation issues such as new or renewed subscriptions, changes of address, orders for back issues to: Yoder Newsletter, P.O. Box 594, Goshen, IN 46527-0594.

-Dealing with ancestral queries or contributions for future YNLs or archives (such as reunion notices, letters to the Editor, copies of Bible records or other historical information) to: Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek, MI 49015 (or by electronic mail to "75757.3371@compuserve.com").

YNL PRICE INFORMATION \$\$\$\$

The YNL subscription is on an annual basis-two issues for \$3. BACK ISSUES of the YNL are \$1 per issue. A bound set of back issues 1-25 is available for \$25 plus \$3 postage and handling). These may be ordered from the Goshen YNL address.

Hatfield Township Mystery

Nancy Emery of Spokane, Washington is trying to determine if Margaret, wife of Joseph (Yost) Wiles (Will), was a daughter of a Jacob Yoder who died prior to 1780. Yost Will was on the 1780 tax list charged for Jacob Yeoder's estate in Hatfield Township, Philadelphia County. An original tax assessment microfilm, undated (ref: Hist. Soc.Of Montgomery Co) shows in one section "Yost Wile ____" (?Nancy thinks these words are "Yeador Jacob", but they are unclear, do not match the lettering for the later 'Jacob Yeoder' text and on other records on the page this place following the name is held by the occupation of the person) occupat-6,000, 2 horses-960, 2 cows, 240; Payed 20 rent hard to Jacob Yeoder and for Jacob Yeoders Est. 100 acres & Dwelling-6,000".

It's interesting to note that several records away on the same microfilm page is "Melchior Yeoder, 131 acres, 2 horses, 4 cows". (See YNL 16 page 6 for discussion and speculation on this early line). Melchior is also only several entries away in the 1780 tax record.

Joseph Wiles was born about 1744 in Germany, came to America in 1754, married Margaret/Margaretha ____ about 1775. Around 1785 he moved to Westmoreland Co, and in 1796 he purchased land in Armstrong Co., Pa where he died in 1826--survived by 9 children.

Anyone with further information on this family or its Yoder links, please write: Nancy Emery, 4301 E. 16th Ave., Spokane, Wa 99223.

WANTED---YODER Family Information to share in future issues of the Yoder Newsletter. Send your input to Chris Yoder: 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek,MI 49015.

YODER HUMOR- While waiting with my daughter and granddaughter at the doctor's office, my 4 year old granddaughter, Jillian Yoder, wanted pencil and paper to practice her ABC's. Writing down letters at random , she showed her Mommy "Mommy,what does this say?". "Nothing", her mommy replied. Excitedly, Jillian hurried to me to show her work saying "Look grandma, mommy says I spelled 'nothing'!" I couldn't help but laugh.-submitted by June Yoder of Bonne Terre,Mo.

Swiss Joder Miss Wants Pen-Pal

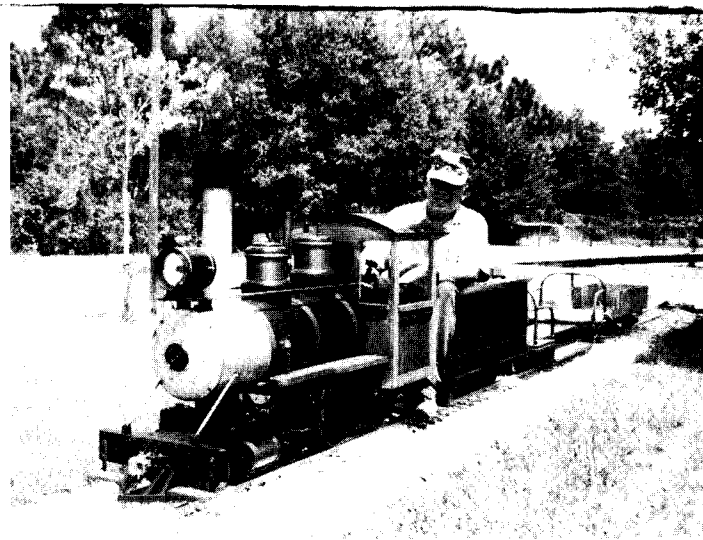
Dear Sir,

Our daughter Ursula is now fifteen years old and she is very interested in other peoples life. So she would like to have a girl friend or a boy friend in the age of fifteen to eighteen years to write letters in English. It would be very nice if you could write some words in the Yoder Newsletter to find anybody who would like to answer her. We are looking forward to your answer and wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.-- with best wishes, K. Joder
(Write this address:

Ursula Joder, Astrastrasse 1, 3612 Steffisburg, Switzerland)

Esther Yoder Lambertson, Elkhart, Indiana- the First Subscriber to the YNL (see YNL 2, page 2) and also the First to Resubscribe, died Oct.4, 1995, following a stroke. Her husband Frank wrote that Esther had a serious earlier stroke in July of 1994:

"I know she enjoyed the letters she received over the years and would tell me about things she found in them. She spent a lot of time on her families genealogy and would read from them as part of her way of using time. Thank you. Continue the good work with the letter."



Enos Yoder, descendant of David C Yoder (YR23374),drives one of the trains he built and runs on track in the yard of his Sarasota, Florida home. Enos and his wife were attendees at the National Yoder Reunion hosted last August by the Yoders of North Carolina.

You Might Be A Yoder If...

As a part of his message for the Yoder House ground-breaking, Pastor Johnny D. Crist gave the following quiz, patterned after the "TOP TEN LIST" of David Letterman:

- ... you meet a stranger from Ohio, Indiana, or Virginia and spend 20 minutes trying to figure out if you're related.
 - ... you serve your most elegant meal to your guests in your home and conclude with cherry pie, rather than cherry tort.
 - ... you've ever subscribed to the Gospel Herald.
 - ... you can spell Stoltzfus, Gingrich, Hostetler or Smucker without thing twice about it.
 - ... if you know that coverings were made for women's heads before they were made for floors.
 - ... if you've ever eaten smearcase and apple butter on bread.
 - ... if you know that a wet bottom is better on Shoffly pie than kids.
 - ... if the words MDS, EMC and VS are terms of endearment.
 - ... if you've ever corrected someone for calling Lancaster, Lanca'ster.
 - .. if it somewhat bothers you that a Crist from Atlanta is offering this Ground Breaking address rather than a Yoder from Ohio.
- *****

Moses H. Yoder Family History Published



Moses H. Yoder (1833-1912)(YR25149)

By Ernest and Willa Yoder

Moses H. Yoder, the ninth child and youngest son of Christian "Keefer Christ" and Esther Hertzler, was born in Mifflin County, PA on May 27, 1883.

Mose's first marriage was to Barbara Kauffman, the daughter of Christian Kauffman and Martha Kurtz. After Barbara's death in 1874, Moses married Elizabeth Slabaugh, the daughter of John Slabaugh and Susan Nisley.

Mose suffered from what the family terms as "itchy feet". he and Barbara moved from Lawrence County, PA to Cass Co., MI around the mid 1860's. By 1871 they had moved to LaGrange County, IN where Barbara died in October, 1874.

After his marriage to Elizabeth Slabaugh, he moved his family to McPherson County, KS where he is said to have had one of the best farms in that area. But about 1890, Mose's feet began to itch gain and he took his family mineral prospecting in Missouri. After a couple of bad years, he returned to Kansas.

His last move was to Oklahoma. He and two of his sons, Ezra and Hiram, took part in the Cherokee Run. He homesteaded near Manchester, OK. He and Elizabeth are buried in the Mennonite Cemetery near Manchester.

We are still searching for Barbara's grave but can only assume that it is one of the many unmarked graves in LaGrange Co., In. We are also searching for Mose and Barbara's marriage record, which we feel was about 1854 or 1855 in Pennsylvania. If anyone has further information about this family, we would be happy to hear from them.

The Moses H. Yoder Family History, 340 pages including 60 pages of pictures. \$35 postpaid. Order from: Ernest & Willa Yoder, 513 Jean Ave., Sturgis, MI 49091.

PLANS FOR HANS AND YOST YODER REUNION FINALIZED

July 20, 1996, Oley Valley, Pleasantville, Pa

Over 400 Yoder cousins, from 25 different states, responded to the Hans and Yoder Family Trail Reunion announcement that appeared in the October YNL. In March, registration packets were mailed to all who responded. If you have failed to register as yet, and wish to do so, write to the Yoder Reunion Association, 413 State St., Pottstown, PA, 19464.

The heritage trail tour will visit 11 historical sites in the Oley Valley where, as early as 1714, the brothers Hans and Yost Yoder settled. Hans Yoder, the first Yoder to come to America in 1709, built and settled in what is today "The Yoder Homestead". The current building's oldest section was constructed in 1737. The day-long bus tour will also visit the sites of the original Yost Yoder home, Hans Jr.'s original house, the Jacob Yoder (Yost's son) and Marie Keim home, and other historical locations, including: the Oley Forge, Griesemer's Mill, the Samuel Yoder house, the Lobachville Mill, the Crooked Dam, Daniel Yoder's Papermill, and the original Yoder Family Cemetery.

At the end of the day, there will be a Yoder Family banquet program examining the historical significance of the tour sites and the, later opportunities for Yoder Clan meetings.

During the Yoder Cemetery visits, there will be an unveiling of a marker to honor Hans and Yost Yoder and their families.

For those interested and not registered, the deadline for registration is June 1, 1996--NO REGISTRATION during the day of the event- write immediately.

SWISS MENNONITE HERITAGE TOUR DO YOU WANT TO CLIMB THE JODERHORN?

Noted historian Dr. Delbert Gratz will be leading another of his Swiss Mennonite Heritage Tours from 16 Sep to 7 Oct 1996. If there is sufficient interest, he has offered to add a special visit to and "climb" (up walking paths) of the Joderhorn. (See YNL 25 for more details on the location and naming of this 9,960 ft Alpine mountain). Dr. Gratz's tour will arrive in Zurich and include visits to the Oberland, Thun, Bern, Basel, Geneva, the Jura, Alsace and the German Palatinate. Dr. Gratz would need to hear by mid May to arrange the special Joderhorn climb. For information about a Joderhorn adventure or just to get more information about the tour, Contact: Dr. Delbert Gratz, phone (419) 358-7431, 8990 Augsburg Rd., Bluffton, OH 45817-9513.

Who can tell us about GEORGE YODER-VENANGO Co, Pa?

(Write to Chris Yoder with any information-Queries address)

BP- George Yoter (Yoder) b c 10/1/1800 PA m Margaret (Peggy) _____
(c1793 or 1800-) d 3/12/1872 age 71y 5m 11d farmer
Venango Co, PA- 1830- Cherry Twp: 1840 Sugar Creek Twp: 1850 and 1860-
Oakland, PA (References: Elias's Veterans pension: Venango Genealogical
Society)
BP1- male b 1815-20
BP2- male b 1820-25
BP3- female b 1820-25
BP4- male b 1825-30
(Thomas b c1832 d 7/12/1854 age 22 on Salmon River, CA of
congestion of the bowels)
+BP5- male b 1830-35
Elias b 1836 m 4/11/1860 Dempseytown, PA by Rev Jacob Weikel
to Mary A Weikel res Galloway, Sugar Creek Twp in 1880
d 2/28/1905 Florence, CO
BP51- Ella V b 12/3/1866 m J G Johnston res 1880 Galloway,
Venango Co, PA
??granddaughter??BP6- Sarah Ann b 3/7/1846 m 1/3/1867 Thomas
Theodore Carter d 1918 bur Bethel Meth Church Cem. Oakland Twp.
Venango Co



Clark Brocht of Rockwood RD 3 displays some of the family photographs that trace his lineage back to Tobias Yoder, Civil War veteran. (Staff photo by Sandra Lepley)

little dance on my way out of the room to show them how lively I was," said Yoder, who did not want to be left behind (Somerset Herald). He stayed in the army until the end of the war and was there the day Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Va.

Yoder died on March 24, 1897, while visiting his son, Grant, in Waterloo, Iowa. He and his wife are buried in Husband Cemetery.

He died at 70 years of age and had never lost a tooth in his lifetime. He stature remained "halé and hearty," (Somerset Herald)

For some years prior to his death, he was having some problems with the bullet near his kidney but because an operation to remove it was too risky, he carried it and another bullet to the grave.

According to his death notice in the Somerset Herald: "One of the strangest features of this remarkable man's experience is that he felt no pain whatsoever during the time that he received the wounds and their subsequent healing, and was able to eat any food that he could secure. He seemed literally a man devoid of nerves or the sense of feeling. He was a thoroughly upright, conscientious, Christian man and was highly esteemed by all who knew him."

He was married to the former Mary Catheran Whipkey. They had 11 children:

Henry H. of Brothersvalley Township; Mrs. F.B. Colborn of Bayard, W.Va.; Jacob of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. John Fisher of Garrett, George, Bayard, W.Va.; Milton, Somerset Township; Mrs. Emma Burkett of Somerset; Grant,

Waterloo, Iowa; Francis, Somerset Township; Susan (husband's name unknown) and Mrs. Ida Haupt, Somerset.

One of Yoder's descendants, Clark Brocht of Rockwood RD 3, who is also an area historian, believes his great-great-grandfather Tobias Yoder survived insurmountable circumstances for a purpose.

"A normal person would have died from such an ordeal but I suppose it just wasn't his time yet," said Brocht, who is descended from Yoder's daughter Mrs. Sarah Fisher. "It's a wonder the minnie balls never hit any major arteries and that Tobias did not die from infection."

Another descendant of Yoder's was his daughter Ida's son, the late Dr. Earl O. Haupt, who was a general practitioner in Somerset and also a well-known historian.

According to Brocht, Dr. Haupt's wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Haupt, a former director of the Somerset Historical Center, told him that Tobias Yoder's image was used for the Civil War monument at the Somerset County Courthouse. Her mother-in-law Ida (one of Tobias' younger daughters) told her this family story.

Although Brocht believes the soldier on the monument looks like Tobias Yoder, he has never found any documentation on the subject.

"Once you start studying your roots, it makes you appreciate your own life. Our ancestors lived very hard lives. I'm proud Tobias Yoder is a prime example of a courageous American soldier," Brocht said.

Yoders Dowsing For Ancestors



Dick Yoder Dowsing

Come to the Reunion and Try Dowsing Yourself

Rich B. Yoder, of West Chester, and Dick H. Yoder, of Bechtelsville, President and Vice-president respectively of the Yoder Reunion Association, have been dowsing for their ancestors in the Yoder Family Cemetery, Pleasantville, Pennsylvania.

Dowsing is an activity that has played a part in the everyday life of people for a very long time. Historically, ancient drawings and sculptures have been found scattered throughout the world. The world dowse means "to locate, to find". The difficulty in the case of dowsing is that there are no ready-made or readily understood ways to answer the question, "What makes it work?"

Using dowsing rods (L-rods), the Richard's found 19 places in the rear of the cemetery where 'the rods crossed', indicating possible locations of grave sites. The individual sites' locations are in perfect alignment with the oldest permanent grave markers, which are facing due-east.

It is presumed that the immigrants Hans and Yost Joder, the first Yoders to settle in America from Switzerland, and their families are buried in the Pleasantville Union Cemetery, (Original Yoder Family Cemetery). Hence, we feel fairly certain that these sites are the burial places of Hans and Yost Joder and their families.

The Yoder Reunion Association is hosting a national reunion on July 20, 1996. During the tour, registrants will have the opportunity to dowse for the grave sites when they visit the original Yoder Cemetery.

Richard H. Yoder has written Pleasantville Union Cemetery-A Photographic Review. This book contains photographs of all remaining Yoder stones and considerable research on the descendants of Hans and Yost who are buried there. Copies will be available during the reunion or write Richard at: 47 Bause Road, Bechtelsville, PA 19505. (\$6 plus \$1 for postage and handling).



Dowsing Rods Crossed

An Oley Yoder Reunion---about 90 years ago



Yoder Family Reunion, Friday Aug. 19, 1905/6 or '10/11, Pleasantville, Pa at the Home of Mr. & Mrs. Henry S. Yoder (OH14526). Henry S. Yoder (1839-1917) was married on Mar. 24, 1860 to Hannah Cleaver (1843-1930). They had a family of 17 children born between 1861 and 1887. (Thanks to Mrs. Evelyn Buchholtz of Santa Fe, New Mexico for this high quality photo and to Richard H. Yoder of Bechtelsville, Rich B. Yoder of West Chester and Holly Griffith for help in identifying the folks included). Back row: 1-William Yoder (s/o 13); 2-Ralph Stout (h/o 8); 3- Walter Greisemer (h/o 23);

4-Marie Stoudt; 5- Edward Yoder; 6-Anna Yoder; 7-Charles Swavely (h/o 14); 8- Kate (Yoder) Stoudt; 9-Henry Yoder; 10-??? ; 11-Jim Stoudt); 12-Annie (Yoder) Jackson; 13- Isaac Yoder; 14-Laura (Yoder) Swavely; 15-William Yoder; 16-Debbie (Yoder) Dunlap; 17-Walter Yoder; 18-Mayme (w/o 17); 19-Cleaver Yoder; 20-Virgie (w/o 19); 21-Jim Yoder. Second row: 22- Margie (d/o 13 or 12); 23-Florence (d/o 13); 24-Roy; 25-Stella; 26-Naomi; 27- Norma (d/o 13); 28-Jennie (d/o 13); 29-Grandfather Henry Yoder; 30-Grandmother Hannah Cleaver Yoder; 31-Aunt Hannah; 32-Nora (w/o 9); 33-Olga (w/o 15)(she was Swedish); 34-Hannah Tea (w/o 13). First row: 35-Clarence (s/o 13); 36-David (s/o 19); 37-Raymond (s/o 16); 38-Sue (w/o 5); 39-Victor (s/o 13); 40-Elizabeth (d/o 15); 41-Carl; 42-Edith (d/o 13); 43-Willie, Jr (s/o 15); 44-Ella (d/o 5); 45-Earl (s/o 13); 46-Arnold; 47-Jim (s/o 21); 48-Ada (d/o 9); 49-Walter (s/o 9); 50- Charles (1901-died age 17); Ira (s/o 9) - faint image in lap between 31 and 32 (as Ira was b. 1906-and is no more than 2 yrs old... this appears to help date the photo).

Who can tell us about Aaron Yoder-River Styx, Oh?

(Write to Chris Yoder with any information-Queries address)

- AH- Aaron Yoder b. 1826 Bucks Co., PA m. (?) 1854 Wayne Co., OH) to Katherine (? Traster)(1832-1/26/1884 River Styx, OH) d. 9/9/1898 River Styx, OH (Reference: Ralph B. Thompson Cht: IGI Microfiche: Wayne Co Marriages)
- AH1- Susan b. 11/8/1856 m. 12/6/1879 Medina Co Wm. B. Good d. 12/8/1826
 - AH2- Reuben b. 1858 m. 2/23/1882 Medina Co Mary S Rickert
 - AH3- Sarah b. m. 11/2/1879 Medina Co Jefferson McFadden
 - AH4- John b.

Who can tell us about Christopher Yoder-Marshall Co. IN?

(Write to Chris Yoder with any information-Queries address)

- BK- Christopher Yoder b c1802 m 11/16/1830 Muskingum Co. OH
Anna Maria Haymaker (c1804-) res 1860 Marshall Co. IN
- BK1- Esther A b c1838 OH m 10/9/1858 Marshall Co. IN
Peter Q Nichols

Tennessee Yoders Surface from Around the US

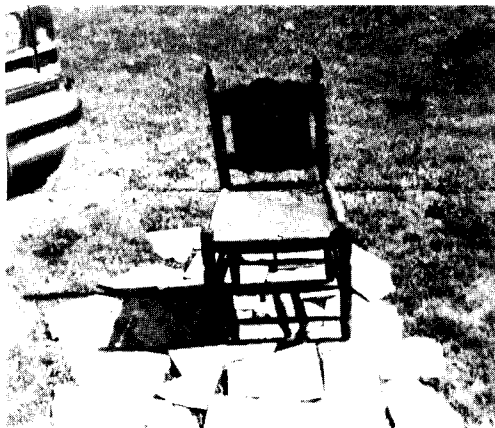
From far and yon, across the US we've received a variety of items about the Eli Yoder family of Tennessee. With the exception of the contribution of Hubert Yoder, which arrived in 1990, the rest of these items have all come in over the course of the past year. We have been so struck by the timing of these arrivals that we've decided to dedicate a whole page to them. Hope you find the coincidences as interesting as we do.



WHO ARE THESE FOLK?

Becky Perkins, 1404 Ryan St., Flint, Mich 48532, sent this family group of her relatives in Tennessee. Her great Aunt Alice Adams Wilson had them and now that she has passed on, the identity of the group is also lost. From the photo submitted separately by Mrs. Minter in Maryland, it looks fairly certain that the patriarch in the middle is the same Eli Yoder. Can any of our readers identify the remaining folk?

Tennessee Yoder Chairs



"My Name is R. Yoder, 1874"

is what's carved into the cross-piece on this chair. The chair was purchased at a flea market in Alabama by William Yoder, 505 Woodlawn Ave., Sylacauga, Al 35150. William was told by the seller that the chair had come from Tennessee and would like to know who this "R. Yoder" was. The YNL has checked the 1880 Tennessee census and a prime candidate seems to be Con3931, Robert Yoder ,b May 1861, s/o Marcus s/o Eli and the only R. Yoder visible (besides an 11 month old). Interesting enough, in 1900 this Robert (then in Knox Co.) is listed as being a carpenter. Can anyone tell us more?

**Eli Yoder, (1810-1891)
Grandson of Conrad**



Eli Yoder (1810-1891) (Con35). A grandson of Conrad Yoder who moved to Tennessee. Ruth Adams Minter of Maryland, a descendant of Levi's Tennessee children, sent this photo by Priority Mail to the Yoder Reunion in Hickory last August. It arrived just in time to be shared with Leon Yoder, a descendant of Levi's son's Calvin who moved to West Virginia after the Civil War and whose line lives there still.



Chair Made by Eli Yoder in 1838

and still in his family. Presently owned by Donald Adams of Cleveland, TN. Thanks to Hubert Yoder of Charlotte for furnishing this photo several years ago. Who would have think we'd have featured this photo with that of a possible grandson?

*****Queries*****

The YNL will publish Yoder related inquiries or exchanges at no charge. Please limit as possible to include a full return address. All inquiries are checked against our records to see if we can help too. If you receive added info, please share it with the YNL for our files.

Send to: Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek, Mi 49015

Zella Hielman (Hileman) married a RICHARD YODER about 1923 perhaps in Wayne or Ashland Co. in Ohio. She may have come from Lancaster Co.,Pa- Her father was Harvey Heilman (Hileman). Can anyone tell me about this lady? Reply to: Eva May Yoder, 220 Tioga Ave., Findlay, OH 45840-4363, phone (419) 423-1124.

Helping Pat (Simmers) Bondic of Columbia, Ill find her friend Tris Yoder (Mrs. Ed. Opinsky) 68 of Ohio- daughter of Rosie Justice and Ira Yoder of Southern,Il. If you have info, reply to- June Yoder, 1484 State Hwy 47, Bonne Terre, Mo. 63628

Seeking any info on: Katherine Yoder b. 1782-5 d. July 10,1859 married John Baker b. 1775, applied for a marriage license on May 8, 1798/1798 in Lincoln Co, NC. His parents were: John Becker and Elizabeth-no known dates. Please reply to: Carrie Mixon, 162 Kohutek Rd., Victoria, Tx 77904-2986. (YNL Note-this is Con7).

Who was Catherine Yoder (1720-1798) who married Anthony Sell (1712-3 Feb 1792 in Huntington Co., Pa). On Jun.7,1751 he applied to the land records of Frederick Co.,Md for a deed to the land of his deceased father, Hendrick Sell. Some of their children reportedly born in York Co, Pa. in 1740's and 50's. Reply to: Shawn Gray, 1119 W. 10th St., Muncie, IN 47302, email 03slgray@bsuvc.bsu.edu.

Searching for the parents of Anna Maria Yoder b.9/19/1822 Basel, Switzerland, m. 4/17/1842 in Stark Co.,OH to Christian Conrad, d. 10/22/1875 Green Twp., Wayne Co., bur. Oak Grove Mennonite Cemetery, Wayne Co.,OH. Her sisters were Francis (Veronica) (1826-1876) who m. Peter Schmucker and Barbara (1829-1903) who m. Michael Schloneger Jr. Reply to Mrs. Glenn Mitchell, 5238 Taylor Rd., Norton, OH 44203 (YNL Note- see YA8)

Folks submitting Family Group Information:

- Linda Bacon, Carmel,IN- Abraham Y./Catherine Troutman (X)
- Robert W. Yoder, Aristes,Pa- Abraham Y./Catherine Troutman (X)
- Allen E. Yoder, Eureka,Mo- Wm. Brown Yoder (OH13414)
- Wm. E. Yoder, Kutztown, Pa- Wm. D. Yoder (OY43456)
- Edgar Yoder, Harrisburg, Pa- Alfred Yoder (B2)
- Samuel G. Yoder, Shoemakersville, Pa- Jacob S. Yoder (B4)
- Marvin W. Yoder, Reading, Pa- Manias K. Yoder (OH132542)
- Margaret E. Stanley, Lewistown, Pa- Joseph P. Yoder (YR117722)
- Eva Mae Barton & Eva Mae Crist, York, Pa- Solomon Yoder (YR261191)&(YR121736)
- Joan T. Herbanek, Jacksonville, Fl- Henry S Yoder (OH14526)
- Gordon Yoder, Dallas, TX- Amos Yoder (YR12a36)
- Fred A. Yoder, Fountain Hills, AZ- Denis P. Yoder (YR2512461)
- Max L. Dinges, Marietta, Pa- Elias Yoder (?OH13334)
- Alvan L. Miller, Aragon, Ga.- Reuben Yoder (YR2337a)
- Sara Y. Sharadin, McClure, Pa- Henry S. Yoder (OH14526)
- Hatten S. Yoder Jr., Bethesda, MD- Andrew Klock Yoder (OH132852)
- Robert E. Keller, Temple, Pa- ?Adam Yoder. (OY43321)
- Carl Yoder, Wilton, Ct- John Yoder (YB1372b)
- La Mae Perez, Annandale, NJ- Jacob Yoder (OY4379)
- Gwen Yoder, Rahway, NJ- Abraham Y./Catherine Troutman(X)
- Charles B. Yoder, Douglasville, Pa- Commodore K. Yoder (YB256b)
- Maynard A. Yoder, Norristown, Pa- Henry K. Yoder (YB135134)
- Marilyn Markley, Pennsburg, Pa- Benjamin Yoder m. Brigitta Hausman (AR)
- Ruth Yoder DeLong, Fleetwood, Pa- Henry S. Yoder (OH14526)
- Mary Beth Banning, Ankeny, Iowa- George D. Yoders (M23)

1996 Yoder Data On Disk Update Announced!

The Yoder data on Disk has grown to 85 documents totalling over 2.7 megabytes of family group, baptismal, courthouse and other Yoder records from the US and Europe. Our 1996 update adds one generation of family group data for Oley, Mennonite and Amish Yoder lines, expanding the families to include those who had their first child by 1880. It also updates the corresponding spousal index, adds Courthouse information from Berks Co, Pa and Elkhart and LaGrange Co., In., and two new directories with Yoder Census data from: PA- 1790 thru 1850, 1870; OH- 1820-1860; IN- 1820-1860; and with Yoder Newsletter text and index from issues #20-26.

Thanks to David Yoder of Evanston, Il. for help with the typing, and to Dorothy Yoder Coffman, whose Census work was the major source of the new census subdirectory.

The two disk set may be ordered from the YNL for \$5 (postage included):

Will you help in a YODER "Gutenberg Project?"

The "Gutenberg Project", named after the first mass printer of the Bible, is a "cyberspace" project started by a professor at Illinois Benedictine College. His goal is to convert 10,000 of the most used classical works from paper into "digital" form (meaning to make them readable on a computer) by the year 2001.

The Yoder Newsletter has taken great and continuing efforts to assemble reference information about the Yoder family and to make it available (virtually for free) to one and all. We intend to continue these efforts in data gathering and conversion. The "Yoder Data on Disk" represents a large amount of information, but it is only a fraction of what could be made available from our files should we have more volunteer help to do the typing/ or scanning. In order to expand these Yoder files, the YNL is launching the "Yoder Gutenberg Project".... it's success will be directly proportional to the level of assistance which rises from you our readers.

To offer your help contact Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek, MI 49015 or 75757.3371@compuserve.com.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED! DO YOU TYPE?

ADVENTURES IN CYBERSPACE ...

The Yoder Archive at "Genealogy On-Line" continues to thrive. The Yoder Archive is located in directory "/pub/genealogy/surnames/YODER". All 85 files found in the "Yoder Data On Disk" are available to be accessed and copied at no charge. In addition, we have established two sub-directories "/YNL" and "/CENSUS". Internet access is available either by www, or by anonymous ftp at emcee.com. There is also a "/incoming" subdirectory established into which Yoder researchers can upload their own Yoder research documents.

Through the month of February 1996, over 2700 individual file copies have been downloaded by people around the world. People have accessed the archives from the United States, Canada, Japan and Denmark.

YODER NEWS NOTES:

-Michael L. Yoder is Executive Assistant to Indianapolis Mayor and Gubernatorial candidate Stephen Goldsmith. (Contrib. by Galen Yoder)

-Heidi Yoder, San Francisco, displays an African Sunburst on her lower back, in an Associated Press story on the new fad of "body branding".

-The Yoder addition to the Music Hall at Bluffton College will be dedicated before long. It was the result of a large contribution by Allen Yoder Jr. Mr. Yoder (YR2338362a), former president of Jayco Inc., was 1993 Recreational Vehicle Industry "Executive of the Year" (contrib. by Rachel Kreider)

Grandchildren & Great-grandchild of Reuben Yoder (YR2337a) Die:

Iva Yoder Burkhard, age 100, died Nov.6, 1996 (a month and 22 days short of her 101st birthday). Reuben Yoder, her brother died in Texas, aged 91, later that same month while visiting his daughter. (See photo in YNL 25, page 8). Reuben has been a strong supporter of the Yoder Newsletter since it's founding and contributed to the restoration of the Bishop Christian C. Yoder Cemetery in Somerset County, Pa.

The son of their cousin Ray S Yoder and Lettie Dillon, Otho B. Yoder of Saugatuck, Michigan, died Dec. 6,1996 at the Holland Michigan Community Hospital, age 87. Otho was the father of Yoder Newsletter Editor Chris Yoder, and the husband of Phyllis Pamperien Yoder. He worked for ALCOA as a metallurgist for 43 years, serving in Pa., Tn., Iowa, Japan, and Netherlands. He was a member of the state record setting Elkhart High relay team of 1926 which held the Indiana record for over 40 years. He was an avid golfer who shot a hole in one at the West Shore Golf Course, Douglas, Mi. He shot a hole in one in life, as well.

Yoder Reunion to Honor Ancestor

On July 20, 1996, the day of the Oley Yoder Family Heritage Trail Reunion, a permanent marker will be unveiled at the rear of the Pleasantville Union Cemetery in honor of immigrants Hans and Yost Joder. This bronze plaque will be mounted either on an old mill stone or a field stone. Donations for the erection of the plaque will be accepted during the unveiling. Any surplus will be applied to the cemetery maintenance and preservation. Individual and group photos, with the marker, will be available during the cemetery tour.

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LORENZO THOMAS YODER CANDY CRIMPER

by Elcy D. Brooks

I'm enclosing a copy of an ad for a candy crimper which was invented by my grandfather, Lorenzo Thomas Yoder. Today we call the confection made by the machiae "ribbon candy". Grandfather sold his candy is a store in Pittsburgh and mother remembered him distributing his wares by horse and buggy in smaller communities surrounding Pittsburgh.

Grandfather had a sweet tooth and loved fresh coconut. Derby hats were also a passion, and he wore one wherever he went. On a particularly windy and rainy day, he had purchased a coconut which he carried in a bag in one hand, holding an umbrella in the other to protect his favorite hat. A gust of wind threatened to remove his Derby, and throwing his hand up to catch it- forgetting the bag with the coconut- he knocked himself out at the corner of Smithfield and Fifth Avenues in Pittsburgh! Mother always said her father was a bit absent minded when he was thinking about an invention, and I have often wondered if it was the candy crimper which precipitated the incident.

By the way, Lorenzo T. Yoder was the younger brother of Major Charles Theodore Yoder who was featured in YNL #18 (Oct.91). His picture appears on page 4 of that issue, seated on the right.

YODER NAME ITEMS WANTED!

I'm looking for ANYTHING which has "Yoder" on it for display, ordering, or items for sale at our 46th NC Yoder Reunion in August. Contact: Bill Yoder, 2707 Zion Church Rd., Hickory, NC 28602-9732. Phone 704-294-3186

The 45th Isaiah Yoder Family Reunion was held Jun.24-25, 1995 at the Sycamore Grove Mennonite Church in Garden City, Missouri. People interested in future events should contact: Margie & Dick Ross, 1001 Terry Rd., Augusta, MO 63332, phone (314) 482-4885

YODER RELATED BOOKS

Yoder Newsletter Issues 1 Through 25 - bound 240 page volume includes a topical index of major articles, an "every name index". Order from: The Yoder Newsletter, P.O.Box 594, Goshen, IN 46527. (Price \$25 plus \$3 postage and handling for each book).

Reuben Yoder Family and it's Ancestry by Chris Yoder, 1983. Reuben Yoder was the son of two generations of Amish Bishops in Somerset County,Pa... both named Christian Yoder. Copies have recently come out of storage and are again available. \$7 each postage paid from: Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek,MI 49015.

Amish Immigrants of Waldeck and Hesse by John Byler. Special Offer for YNL Readers- Amish Immigrants of Waldeck and Hesse, 231pgs. 263 Amish immigrants-including several Yoders, 52 different surnames. Regular price \$22 (inc. P&H)...for YNL readers only \$17.50. (in quantity- 6 for \$75-postpaid).Order from John M Byler, 5845-B CR 80 Rt 3, Frederickstown, OH 43019.

NEWS-HERALD, Perkasio, Pa.,

Wednesday, July 5, 1995

Yothers Family Holds Reunion

The Bucks County Yothers family held their 71st Reunion on June 4 at the Haycock Mennonite Church Grove, Quakertown, with 54 people present.

Dan Hunsberger, Perkasio, president of the Yothers family, awarded the following prizes: the oldest person present was Naomi Yothers, Souderton, age 90 years. The youngest person was Rebekah Hackman, age 11 months, daughter of Dennis and Ketrina (Miller) Hackman, Quakertown.

Chad Benner, Silverdale and Kelly Dely, Bath, were the winners of the traditional guessing games.

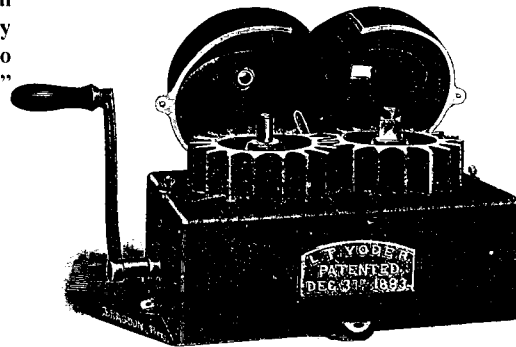
The immigrant of this family was Hans Yoder and 1717 is likely the year in which he settled at the Great Swamp, near Coopersburg. He purchased 99 acres from Joseph Krowden of Treose in 1720 for 15 pounds.

The Yoders were Mennonites and Hans Yoder, his wife Anna and son Hans Jr. donated the land to the Saucon Mennonite Meeting House which was erected circa 1738. Many of Hans Yoder's descendants are buried there.

Yoder's grandson, Jacob Yoder, changed his name to Yothers. All of the Bucks County Yothers families are his descendants.

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

Pastor David Miller, Quakertown asked the blessing before the 5 p.m. meal. The next reunion will be held the first Sunday in June 1996.



L. T. YODER,

45 SMITHFIELD ST., PITTSBURGH, PA.

The annexed cut is of my Patent Candy Crimper. With this machine a man and boy can make same amount of Crimp. for Chip Mixed, per day as of Stick Candy.

The Chip Mixed is patented also, as well as the machine, and the right to manufacture same is given only with the machine; it commands from two to three cents per pound higher price than common candy, the material of which is the same, so that the merit of both machine and candy is apparent. The mixture is usually put up in pairs of twenty to twenty-five pounds each.

The Crimping rolls are made of brass two inches broad, which enables the user to make from that size to a half-inch, as he may select, the thickness being regulated by screws on end of machine.

The size of machine is fifteen inches long by ten wide, and nine inches high; it can if desired be attached to a candy table by bolts attached to legs as seen in cut. Weight of machine is about forty pounds, a boy can run it, no strap is made and the mixture has proven a very saleable article. Price of machine is \$125.00 and it will pay for itself in ten days work. Every purchaser of machine must obligate himself not to sell the mixture made by same for less than four cents per pound more than price of mold A sugar. Sample of candy sent free upon application to Patentee.

L. T. Yoder, Manufacturing Confectioner,