



What We've Learned in 30 years of the Yoder Newsletter

*A Special Report to the 2014
National Yoder Reunion*

By Chris Yoder
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www.yodernewsletter.org
Established 1983

Cover

Good morning everyone. I'd like to start off by thanking Rich Yoder, owner of the Hans Yoder Homestead. Over two years ago he proposed making the homestead available for an anniversary celebration on the 300th anniversary of the signing of the original warrant. The Oley Yoder Heritage Association has previously hosted two wonderful national reunions, and they fully realized the amount of hard work involved. I'd like to thank Ann Balderrama and Shirley Stone and all the other volunteers who have made this gathering possible. Rich, Ann, Shirl, Oley Yoders, this is a wonderful gift for the entire family.

My presentation today is entitled "what we've learned in 30 years of the Yoder newsletter". It is intended to provide a survey of what we've learned about the family since the newsletter began, and to thank some of those who have made this knowledge possible.

Overview

- The Yoder Newsletter
- Origins of the Name
- Joders in Switzerland and Europe
- American Yoders
- Yoder Populations
- Yoder Events

Overview:

I'll tell about the Newsletter and our volunteer, explain the origins of the family name and the European research which has been done, outline the major American Yoder lines, and discuss the growth of our family in America and some of the Yoder related events since 1983.

[illegible]

Here you see our first issue in 1983, and the issue celebrating our 30th year. How many of you are subscribers? Great.

I had developed an interest in the history of the Yoder family years ago and had the chance to do some research when my wife and I lived in Pennsylvania. After two children and moving around a bit with my job, we found ourselves in Battle Creek Michigan. At that time a company named "Beatrice Bailey" was publishing a "Yoder Book" , which ended up being little more that a collection of Yoder names and addresses from phone data bases.

The Beginnings



I was very curious about all the different branches of the family, and I saw these addresses as an opportunity to begin contacting Yoders across to country. So I wrote to Rachel Kreider, a recognized Yoder scholar. She and her husband were about to move from Ohio to a retirement community in Goshen Indiana, not far from us. She knew of a retired school principal living there named Ben Yoder who had a similar interest to my own. After she was settled in, we got together at her kitchen table in Goshen. With her help and knowledge Ben and I put together an initial issue and sent out several thousand copies over the space of the next several months, along with a family history sheet which people could fill-out and return. That was the beginning.

An Introduction to our Staff

I'd like to introduce you to our staff...

Rachel Kreider



Co-founder and Senior Editor

Rachel

First off Rachel, our senior editor. She began collecting Yoder data with her Uncle John Weaver in the 1930s growing out of data assembled by our mutual ancestor Reuben Yoder, and Amish Mennonite who died in 1912. In the 50s she wrote an article about the St. Joder Chapel for a Mennonite magazine, has written books on Ohio Mennonite cemeteries. In 1986, along with Dr. Hugh Gingrich, she published what is now the authoritative book on the Amish family histories - "Amish and Amish Mennonite Genealogies". She has been the "go-to person" on Yoder genealogy for many many years. Now 105 years old, she has slowed down a bit in her envelope stuffing, but still proofs the draft of each newsletter issue to catch my typographical or grammatical errors.

Ben Yoder (1913-1992)



- Co-founder

Ben Yoder

The co-founder of the newsletter.... He loved the human interest fun stories about the Yoders, while I've always focused on harder facts and solving mysteries. For the first ten years of the Yoder Newsletter, we would meet at his kitchen table with scissors and glue, and put together each issue over the space of a Saturday's effort. It was a tremendous loss of a partner and friend when he died 1992 at the age of 80, while my family and I were living and working in Saudi Arabia.

John W. Yoder



- Circulation Manager

John W. Yoder

Not long before his death, Ben had wisely recruited some younger help. John W. Yoder of Middlebury, IN came on board to help us maintain the subscriber information and generate our mailing labels for each issue. He quickly stepped in to keep things going, and I was able to prepare the newsletters at long distance and get them to our printer in Goshen without interruption. John has continued as our Circulation Manager for over 20 years.

Esther Yoder



Tribune Photo/GREG DWIERG

Kenneth W. Yoder



Mail Managers

Esther and Ken Yoder- Our mail managers

Esther Yoder, who I first met at the 1995 National Yoder reunion in Hickory, NC . She had with her husband been active in building of the House of Yoder in Grantsville. Soon after our meeting, they moved to the Mennonite retirement center in Goshen and she took over the role of managing our mail, both incoming and outgoing. Now in her eighties, she's has just handed over this role to Ken Yoder, who is here with us today. Ken attended the 2012 National Reunion in North Carolina with his brothers. He unexpectedly became hooked on his Yoder ancestry. He also lives in Goshen.

Donald Kauffman



- Webmaster

Donald Kauffman- Our web master

In the 90s the technology of things changed, and the newsletters could be composed in Microsoft Word and emailed to the printer.

We also started putting our accumulated files of Yoder data on-line, uploading records to a server in Santa Barbara, California. We decided what we needed was an actual web page, so a call went out in 1996 for a volunteer webmaster. Answering the call was Donald Kauffman of Edmonton Alberta.

Don is also the creator of the "Mennobits" research tool of collected Amish and Mennonite obituaries now maintained by the Historical Committee of the Mennonite Church.

So that's our staff today... all volunteers.

Origin of the Name

- Historians say: *“the name comes from St. Theodore (Theodorus, Theodulus (Abbrev. “Joder”)) a missionary monk who in the fourth century crossed the Alps from Italy to bring the Gospel to the Valais country in southern Switzerland.”*



St. Joder Chapel



St. Joder Stamp



Aug. 16th-St. Joder's Day

The Yoder name

In Europe the use of last names did not become common until after the 12th century. Some surnames came from given names (like John's son), occupational designations (like Carpenter (Zimmerman in German)), or geographical names.

Historians believe our family name came from St. Theodore, abbreviated Joder, J-O-D-E-R, a missionary monk who crossed the Alps from Italy bringing Christianity to Switzerland in the fourth century AD.

St. Joder came to be honored in Switzerland and a number of legends have grown up around him. Chapels or churches are named in his honor- like the one pictured here, Luxembourg put out a postage stamp to celebrate the 1500th anniversary of his sainthood, and Swiss church calendars (and American Yoders) celebrate St Joder's day each year on August 16th.

Theodore- Joder

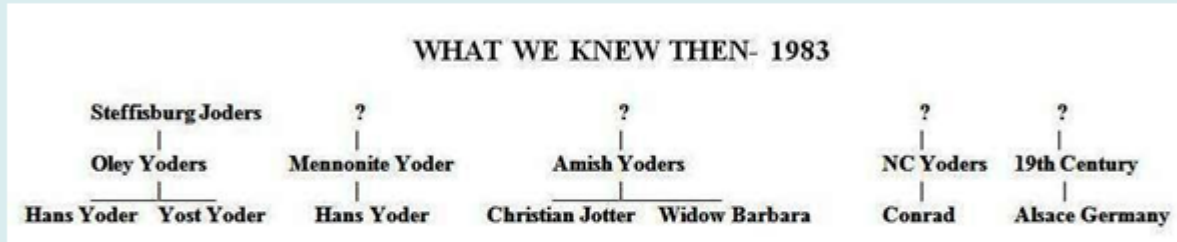
- from the Greek name *Theodōros*, composed of the elements *theos* (god, Greek: θεός) + *dōron* (gift, Greek: δῶρον), meaning:

"gift of God"

Meaning of the name

The name comes from the Greek, Theos- meaning God and doron meaning gift... literally “God’s gift” - so I hope all of you who are married to a Yoder appreciate your gift.

The Yoder Newsletter



What we Knew

When we started the newsletter, we knew about several main lines of Yoders in America. Only the first Yoders, who settled in the Oley Valley of Berks County had their connection established to the Old World. Next were the Mennonite Yoders of Bucks-Lehigh Co Pa, and in 1742 a large family of Amish Yoders. In the mid century Conrad Yoder arrived in PA, within a few years moved to NC to begin the line of our hosts today. In the 1800s a score or more of other Yoder immigrants made their way to America from Alsace and Germany. Where did we come from?

Joders in Switzerland

- “The Swiss encyclopedia (Historisch-biographisches Lexikon der Schweiz) locates this "ancient family" in the village of Steffisberg on the edge of the Oberland ... Joder first appears as a family name in the canton of Bern in the 14th century. At Steffisberg the Joders began to appear in the records as early as 1529 and at Muri slightly later.”



Steffisburg today- by John W Bieber

Yoders in Steffisburg

The Swiss encyclopedia places our “ancient family” in the German speaking town of Steffisburg, in Canton Bern, Switzerland- here you can see a recent picture of the town and a map showing where it is located.

European Yoder Research



Karl Joder



Otmar Jotter

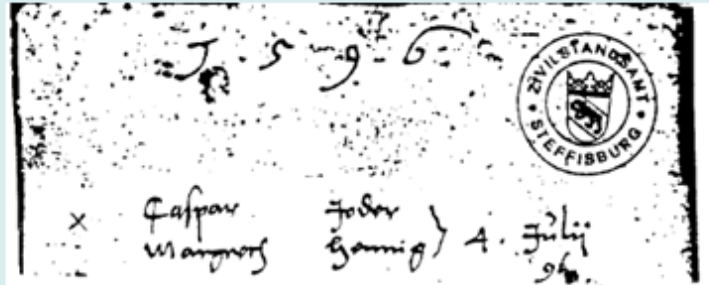
European Resaerch

We are all very indebted to European researchers Karl Joder and Otmar Jotter who over 30 years ago studied, collected, and shared information about our early Joders.

Joders in Switzerland

- An apocryphal lineage:

Peter Joder
 Caspar b1300 Hutwill
 Ulli b. 1340
 Heini b. 1363
 Jost b. 1387 Steffisburg
 Caspar
 Caspar
 Fredli b. 1488
 Balthasar b. 1525
 Caspar b. 1548
 Caspar Joder b. 1571
 m. Margaret Hennig



--Caspar-Joder-b-2/24/1571-m-7/4/1596-
 Margret-Hennig.
 --Peter-----b-6/5/1597
 --Heini-----b-10/10/1599
 --Margret-----b-2/8/1601
 --Niclaus-----b-7/17/1603
 --Barbara-----b-9/28/1606
 --Jost-----b-11/30/1607
 --Nicolaus-----b-3/25/1609

<http://www.yodernewsletter.org/court/stef1.html>

Lineage

They pieced together a Joder lineage going back to the 13th century.. which was about the time in Europe that surnames began to be used... I've show it on this chart and refer to it as "apocryphal" because when you are working with bits and pieces of church and other documentation, you have to make assumptions when you claim relationships.... But in all likelihood many on this tree are actually ancestors of those in this room...of particular interest to American Yoders is the family of Caspar Joder who m. Margret Henning in 1596- and there you see the church record of that marriage.

Joders in Switzerland

• The Key Yoder Family

Jost and Niclaus Joder, sons of Caspar Joder and Margret Henning of Steffisburg, Switzerland

Jost Joder (Y6) b 11/20/1607 m. Oct.14, 1642 Anna Trachsel											
Y61	Y62	Y63	Y64	Y65	Y66	Y67	Y68	Y69	Y6a	Y6b	Y6c
Hans b. 4/21/1644 m. 7/17/1671 Catherine Riser	Anna b. 4/19/1646 dy	Verena b. 9/12/1647 m. N. Rupp	Peter b. 1649 m. 12/13/1684 Stahli (?) (5)	Jahob b. 4/4/1652 m. 1/9/1685 Kaufmann (5)	Anna b. 7/17/1653 dy	Barbara b. 10/28/1655 m. N. Berger	Christian b. 5/10/1657 m. 3/10/1684 Barbara Gerber (5)(7)(18)	Anna b. 5/1/1659 m. 12/13/1688 Christian Blank (5)(6)(8)	Jost b. 11/17/1661 m. 1/9/1685 Barbara Rupp (4)(6)	Caspar b. 5/22/1664 in Weiler m. ? (1)(5)(11)	Catherin b. 7/8/1666 m. 1/9/1685 Hans Rupp
Niclaus Joder (Y7) b 3/25/1609 m. Oct.14, 1642 Anna Trachsel											
Y71	Y72	Y73	Y74	Y75	Y76	Y77	Y78	Y79	Y7a	Y7b	Y7c
Barbara b. 3/8/1644 m. 1/30/1666 Hans Rupp	Anna b. 4/13/1645 m. 1/7/1670 Hans Berger	Caspar b. 6/4/1648 m. 1/7/1670 Anni Zaugg	Adam b. 7/22/1650 m. 1/9/1671 Barbara Ochsenbein (2)	Hans b. 7/22/1650 dy	Magdalene b. 2/29/1652 m. 4/26/1689 Peter Meyer	Annegret b. 4/10/1653 m. 2/10/1673 Ulli Risser	Jost b. 1/13/1655 m. Christina Schlecht? (12)	Salomea b. 4/13/1656 m. 3/7/1678 Hans Gerber (3)(9)	Hans b. 2/28/1658 m. 3/9/1688 Anna Eicher		Stini b. 8/25/1661

(Note: "b" Dates are dates of Baptism as recorded in Steffisburg Church records)

(1) Great grandfather of Michael Yoder, 1825 immigrant to Somerset county, Pauchose father Samuel was in 1806 from Germany to his "Dear Cousins" (Y623 and Y625)(2) parents of Hans and Yost Yoder, Reformed Church settlers to the Oley Valley of Berks Co., PA- first Yoders in America; (3) Labeled as Anabaptist in 1691; (4) suspected as Baptist in 1690; (5) identified in 1690 court records as suspected Anabaptists, could also have been the Jacob Joder who m. Margareth Stahli; (6) Staatsarchiv of Bern record of 7/16/1690 "the government orders the provincial governor of Trachselwald to find out whether the Anabaptists Jost Joder and Christian Blank of Steffisburg, as have been reported, are staying in Schangnau and whether they took their capital with them..."; (7) The Staatsarchiv of Bern record 4/8/1695 "The Anabaptist Christian Joder of Steffisburg, has left the country. For the property he took along he must pay a 5% fee of 10 Rst(7)"; (8) A Christian Blank was one of the ministers accompanying Jacob Ammann during his tour of 1693 to seek support for his ideas; (9) A Hans Gebervue known to be with Jacob Ammann at Heideleheim, Alsace in 1711; (10) Their son Christian who married Margret Gerber reportedly settled in Eppstein, Germany (see YNL30); (11) Their descendants lived in the Spitz, Germany, for years felt to be m. 1681 to Verena Stauffer, now in doubt (12) AAMG shows Yost, son of Yost, as married to an Anna Zaugg, and the Yost, son of Nicolas as the one who married Barbara Rupp.

Caspar Family – use pointer

Two children of Caspar have been a focus as the possible origin of American Yoder for many years. Jost Joder b. 1607 and his brother Niclaus b 1609... both married cousins named Ann Trachsel on Oc 14, 1642. The recent findings have confirmed that these were proper choices. Some of the children from these two families left Steffisburg in the 1690s.

The Joder Families

- Known descent in France and Germany
 - Joders of the German Palatinate
 - Jotters of Eppstein
 - Alsatian Joders



Joder Families in Europe

These Joders initially settled in Alsace and the German Palatinate. Some descendants remain in these areas today, others moved on to America.



American Yoders



- The “first” Yoders Hans and Yost of the Oley Valley
- The Mennonite Yoder- Hans of Great Swamp
- The Amish Yoders of 1742
- Conrad - The North Carolina Yoders
- Melchior Yoder of Weidenthal
- 19th Century Alsatian and German Immigrants

American Yoder Immigrants

Here are the major batches of American Yoders, and I'll say a bit about each one.

The Oley Valley Yoders

- Hans b. 1672 Yost b. 1679 in Steffisburg
- Sons of Adam Joder and Barbara Ochsenbein, g-sons of Niclaus Joder
- 1709 Hans Joder leaves Schwetzingen, Germany for "Island of Pennsylvania"
- 1711- Hans in Chester Co., Pa
- 1714- Hans in Oley Twp. Berks Co., Pa.
- Reformed Church

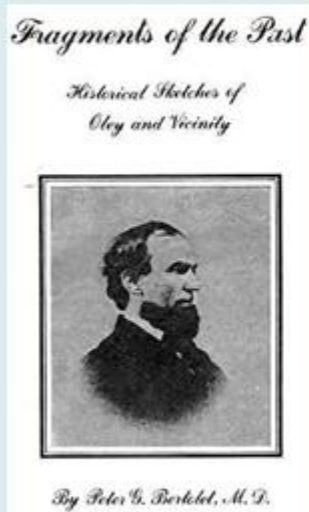


Oley Valley

Our first Yoders were Hans and his brother Jost. They were grandsons of Niclaus Joder we talked about and were born in Steffisburg. In 1709 Hans left the German Palatinate for "the island of Pennsylvania" --- Historian Dr. Don Yoder found the church record of this seen here through a German collaborator . Hans settled on his property in the Oley Twp of Berks Co Pa in 1714...300 years ago this year.

How many of you here today are descended from: The Oley Yoders?

Oley Yoders Researchers



Dr. Don Yoder



Dick H. Yoder



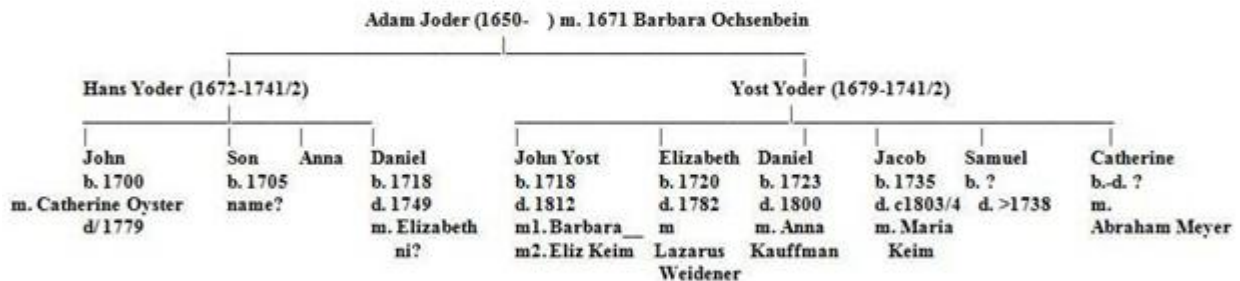
Walter & Mae Moore

Oley Researchers

In addition to Dr. Yoder, we can credit a number of others, including: Dr. Peter Bertolet, a Yoder descendant who documented local history in the 19th century; Dick Yoder of Bechtelville, PA, who has done significant research into the land, church records, and wills of the Oley Yoder line; and the late Walter and Mae Moore, who researched the Jacob Yoder family of Lewisburg, PA...which is now proven to be connected to the Oley Yoders.

The Oley Valley Yoders

Yoders of The Oley Valley

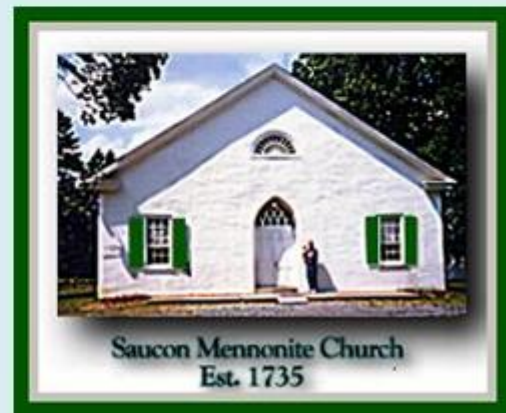


Oley Yoder Chart

Here is a chart of the first two generations of the Oley Yoders. An estate settlement held in family hands for over 200 years was given to the Berks Historical Society only a few years ago and it allowed us to fill out the family details for immigrant Yost Yoder. Don Yoder wrote a major article on this find for newsletter 57.

“Hans Yoder of Great Swamp”

- Mennonite Yoder line
- c1717 - Hans Yoder in Bucks County, Pa.
- 1720 - Hans buys land
- c1753 - Hans Yoder dies
- Descendants in Bucks and Lehigh Co, Pa.



Hans Yoder of Great Swamp

Hans Yoder "of Great Swamp" referring to the area in which he settled, was the next Yoder to arrive that we know of. He settled in Bucks County Pennsylvania by about 1717 and was a Mennonite. The family kept this religious link for many generations as it spread from Bucks and Lehigh Cos in Pa into Ohio and Indiana.

Mennonite Yoder Researchers



Ken Hottle



• **Richard Yothers**

Leonard Yoder

Mennonite Yoder researchers

We can thank Ken Hottle for figuring out the early generations of this line. Richard Yothers, researched and documented the line of one of Han's grandsons who took on the spelling YOTHERS. Actress Tina Yothers of the TV show Family Ties is from this family. Leonard G. Yoder researched and documented the Ohio branch of the family in the 1940 and 1950s.

“Hans Yoder of Great Swamp”

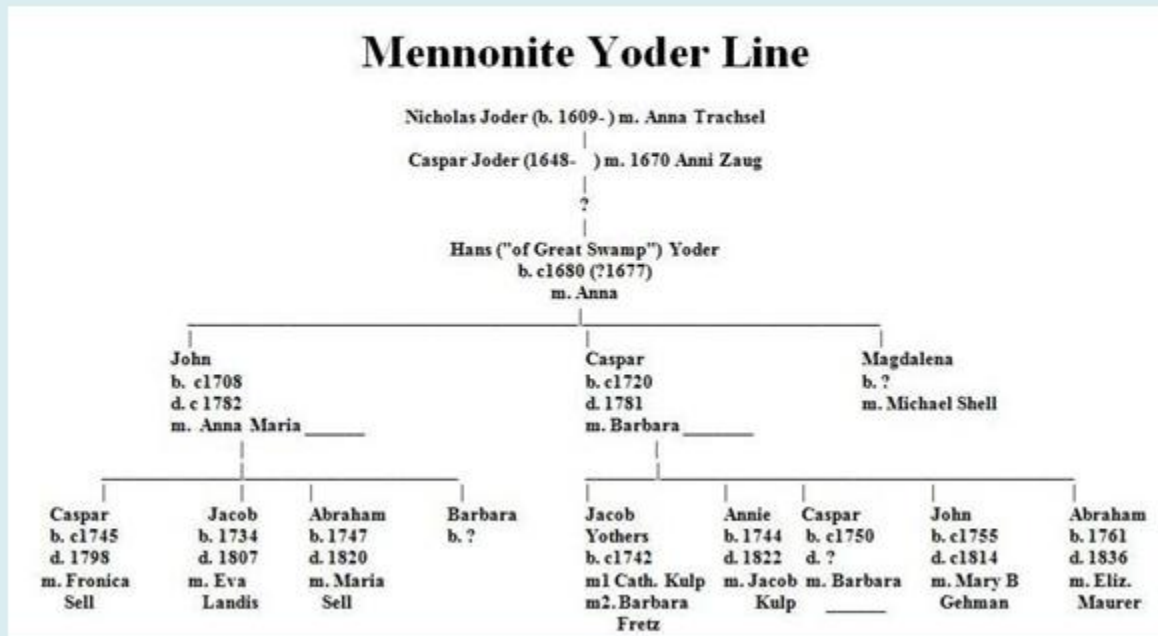
- Discovery from Estate Records
 - Caspar Joder (1648-by1712) m. 1670 Anni Zaug...some of the children in Steffisburg and some in The Palatinate or Alsace, and *“Hans Joder.... about 40 years old, is in some foreign country, moreover it is not known if he is alive”*
 - This Hans was born 10/7/1677

Hans Discovered

A couple years ago, the Yoder Newsletter hired a professional to research and transcribe Steffisburg Joder estate records held in Bern, and these let us correct the relationships between several families in the key emigrant Steffisburg generations. One was the family of Niclaus' son Caspar, who had children both in the Palatinate and remaining in Steffisburg. Caspar's son Hans, born 1677, was referred to by 1724 as "in some foreign country, moreover it is not know if he's alive"

Mennonite Yoder Line

“Hans Yoder of Great Swamp”



Our Mennonite Hans

Our Mennonite Hans had been born "about 1680", was in PA before 1720, and his is the only known Yoder line in American to use the name "Caspar"- both in his children and grandchildren's generation, We believe it very likely this is the same fellow.

How many of you here today are descended from: The Mennonite Yoders?

Early Swiss Anabaptists

- The Protestant Reformation in Switzerland began in Zurich in the 1520s and spread throughout the country.
- **The Swiss Brethren** were radical evangelical reformers opposed to infant baptism.
- Anabaptist families among the Steffisburg residents

Early Swiss Anabaptists

The Swiss Anabaptists grew out of the Reformation and the Peasant Wars in Europe in the 1520s. Several Steffisburg families, including our own, became involved in these controversies..

Joders and the Amish

Jost Joder (Y6) b 11/20/1607 m. Oct.14, 1642 Anna Trachsel											
Y61	Y62	Y63	Y64	Y65	Y66	Y67	Y68	Y69	Y6a	Y6b	Y6c
Hans	Anna	Verena	Peter	Jakob	Anna	Barbara	Christian	Anna	Jost	Caspar	Catherin
b. 4/21/1644	b.4/19/1646	b.9/12/1647	b.1649	b.4/4/1652	b.7/17/1653	b. 10/28/1655	b. 5/10/1657	b.5/1/1659	b. 11/17/1661	b. 5/22/1664	b. 7/8/1666
m. 7/17/1671	dy	m. N. Rupp	m. 12/13/1684	m. 1/9/1685	dy	m. N. Berger	m. 3/10/1684	m. 12/13/1680	m. 1/9/1685	in Weiler	m. 1/9/1685
Catherine Risser		—	Stahli (?)	Verena			Barbara	Christian Blank	Barbara Rupp	Pfaltz	Hans Rupp
			(5)	Kaufmann			Gerber	(5)(6)(8)	(4)(6)	m. ?	
				(5)			(5)(7)(10)			(1)(5)(11)	

- 1679- Christian Joder fined for letting Ulrich Mueller Preach in Thun
- 1690- Jost Joder asks to be relieved from church duties
- 1690- Caspar Joder hosts Jakob Amman in Steffisburg
- 1690- Jost (Jr.) Joder and Christian Blank have left Steffisburg
- 1692- Jost Joder imprisoned at Bern
- 1695-Hans Rupp and Christian Joder emigrate

Joders and the Amish

The Anabaptist Joders who were to be associated with Jacob Amman and become Amish came out of the family of the Jost Joder who was born on 1607...

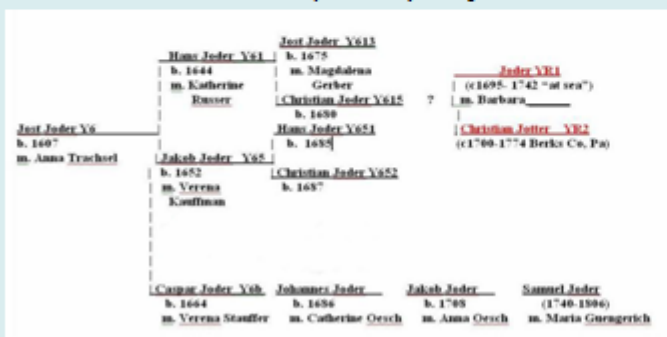
Jost himself was the Chairman of the Steffisburg parish court, which supervised morals and church and school attendance. The parish record wrote of him that he was” honorable, careful, wise, and a modest man”

- An Anabaptist preacher named Ullrich Mueller was active in the Steffisburg area and was imprisoned in 1674 for his activities. When released he resumed preaching. In 1679, Jost’s son Christian, then living in the town of Thun about a mile to the south of Steffisburg, was fined 50 kroner for letting Mueller preach on his property.
- In 1690 Jost Joder and Hans Kauffman asked to be relieved of their parish court positions as they each had “Anabaptist children”..but their offer was not accepted.

- The same year Jost's son Caspar was identified as having hosted a meeting in his home featuring no less a man than Jacob Amman, future founder of the Amish.
- Later in 1690, Jost's son Jost Jr and son-in-law Christian Blank were reported as having emigrated from Steffisburg
- Then in 1692, the 85 year old Jost Joder, along with the other two members of the church court were taken down river to Bern as hostages. There they were lodged in the most expensive inn in town at their own expense with the expectation that the pressure on their purses would cause them to give up the names the Anabaptists in their midst. They remained silent and were released six months later..
- In 1695 the records show that son Jost's son Christian and son-in-law Hans Rupp had emigrated.
- Jost's Son-in-law Christian Blank was with Amman at the meeting with fellow Anabaptist leaders in which the big schism between them took place that led to the formation of the Amish. And Blank is also said to have been the first person to ever use the term "Amish" to describe the followers of Amman, it appearing in a letter he wrote in the early 1700s.
- At some point the words in the church record which described how honorable and wise the senior Jost was, were crossed out in pen, and most if not all of his children had moved away by the end of 1695.

The 1700s Amish Yoders

- Families of Christian YR2 and _____ Jotter (YR1) (husband of "Widow Barbara") Arrived on "Francis and Elizabeth" from Rotterdam, Sept. 21, 1742
- Settled in Berks County
- Speculated descent from Jost Joder b. 1607
- Yost Yoder (YRB) by 1761



*Francis Jotter
Jacob + Joder
Francis Joder*

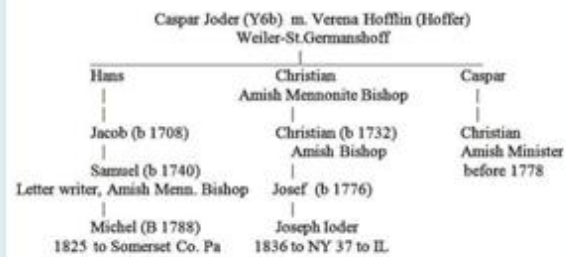
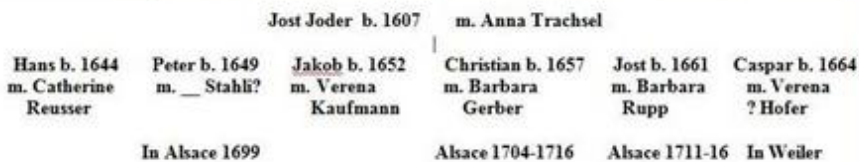
p Francis and Elizabeth, September 21, 1742,
List 94 C



The Amish Yoders

Families of Christian and "the widow Barbara" Yoder (whose husband is said to have died at sea) arrived in Philadelphia, Sept 21, 1742. They settled in Berks County, PA further north of the Oley Yoders.

Speculated Descent from Jost Joder



Speculated Descent from Jost Joder

We can't prove the ancestry of these Amish Yoders, but it seems certain that they are descended from the Jost Joder whose children are so firmly connected to the Swiss Anabaptists. DNA evidence also links them to this line. We know enough about the descent of Jost's son Casper to rule him out, but any one of his brothers could be the father of Christian and his brother. Look on the internet and you'll see several claimed as the father- but no data to prove it.

Amish Yoder Researchers



- Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler, 1912, by Harvey Hostetler
- many others
- Amish and Amish Mennonite Genealogies, 1986, by Gingreich/Kreider

Amish Researchers

As the Amish tend to marry within the community, we have some excellent historical data and books on those families. Harvey Hochstetler wrote two large volumes in the early 1900s, and these have been augmented by many others. Most significant was the 1986 publication by Dr. Hugh Gingerich and our own Rachel Kreider of The Amish and Amish Mennonite Genealogies... How many of you here today are descended from: The Amish Yoders?

Amish Yoders Scenes



Northkill Amish Congregation
Cemetery, Berks Co., Pa

YR23- "Schweitzer Christian" Yoder
Homestead, Berks Co. Pa.



Amish Scenes

Here are some Amish Yoder scenes from Berks County, where the Northkill congregation was our first community. The house on the right is the homestead of immigrant Christian Yoder from whom I descend. Are there any other descended from him? The current owner has agreed to welcome family members for a tour Friday afternoon, if anyone is interested in joining me during the reunion free period, see me after the break.

Conrad Yoder of North Carolina

- Reportedly arrives in Pa. 1746
- To North Carolina with Henry Weidner, 1753
- 1763 Buys 200 acres of land
- Dies 1790



Gerald M. Yoder presents a check for the Yoder House to Kenneth L., Gerald A., and Esther Yoder

Conrad Yoder of NC

Conrad Yoder is the forebear of the North Carolina branch. He arrived in 1746 in PA, and then moved on to NC in 1753, buying land here in 1763.

Conrad Yoder Researchers



**Fred Roy Yoder
&
Col. George Yoder**



Hubert Yoder



Anne McAllister



Anita Nail

Conrad Researchers

George M. Yoder began gathering family history in the 1800s and his grandson Fred Roy Yoder published a book on the North Carolina clan in 1970. The late Hubert Yoder of Charlotte, and Anne McAllister, worked for years to unveil information on the family of sons who moved to Indiana, Tennessee, and Iowa. And Anita Nail has been researching the southern Yother line which grew from the family of Conrad.

Conrad Yoder of North Carolina

CONRAD YODER of Hickory, NC

Conrad Yoder m1 1763 Christina Cline (- c1771)
 (1725 -Apr or May 1790) m2 1773 Miss Sietz (-c1774)
 m3 1774 Catherine Huffman (-)

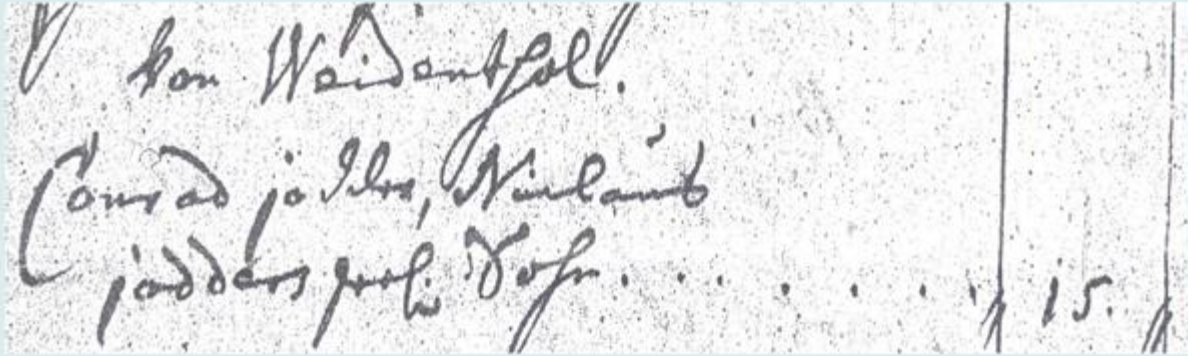
Con1	Con2	Con3	Con4	Con5	Con6	Con7	Con8
John	Jacob	David	Elizabeth	Elias	Daniel	Catherine	Adam
b 10/26/1764	b 12/13/1767	b 4/3/1770	b 4/14/1776	b 10/31/1777	b 6/18/1780	b 12/21/1782	b 6/23/1785
m Mary Reep	m Catherine	m Barbara	died young	m Utiila Hahn	m Elizabeth	m John Baker	m Sally Davis
d 12/29/1835 NC	Dellinger	Repp		d 1817 In	Cline	d 8/3/1867	d
	d c1854 In	d 7/14/1864 NC			d In		

Conrad Chart

Here's a chart showing Conrad's children. The NC Yoder book limits itself to sons John and David, whose families stayed in North Carolina.

How many of you here today are descended from: the Conrad Yoder line?

The Mussbach Confirmation Record!



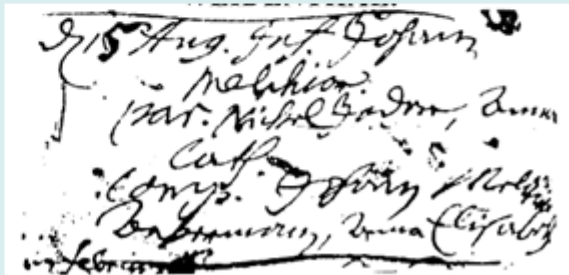
V. Don Weidenthal.
Conrad Joder, Ninkant
jodders jodli Jofr. 15.

The Mussbach Confirmation Record

A German historian published information about a 1740 confirmation record for Conrad Joder, age 15, son of Nicholas Joder. Here is a copy of that actual record. Dr. Don Yoder came upon this information and was able to solve the mystery of Conrad's relationship to the Yoders of Steffisburg.

Melchior Yoder of Weidenthal

- Born to a Niklaus Joder in Germany
8/15/1736
- Naturalized in Pa., 1765
- His family corresponded in 1774 with
Conrad Yoder in NC!
- 1796 to Snyder Co, Pa.
- Dies in 1820 in Union Co., Pa



Melchior Yoder

We have learned over the years that Melchior Yoder was born in Weidenthal in 1736 to a Niclaus Joder, naturalized in Pennsylvania in 1765. He is known to have corresponded with Conrad Yoder in NC. He died in Union County, Pa in 1820.

Researchers of Melchior Yoder



Dorothy Yoder
Coffman



Carl Yoders



Donald Honeywell

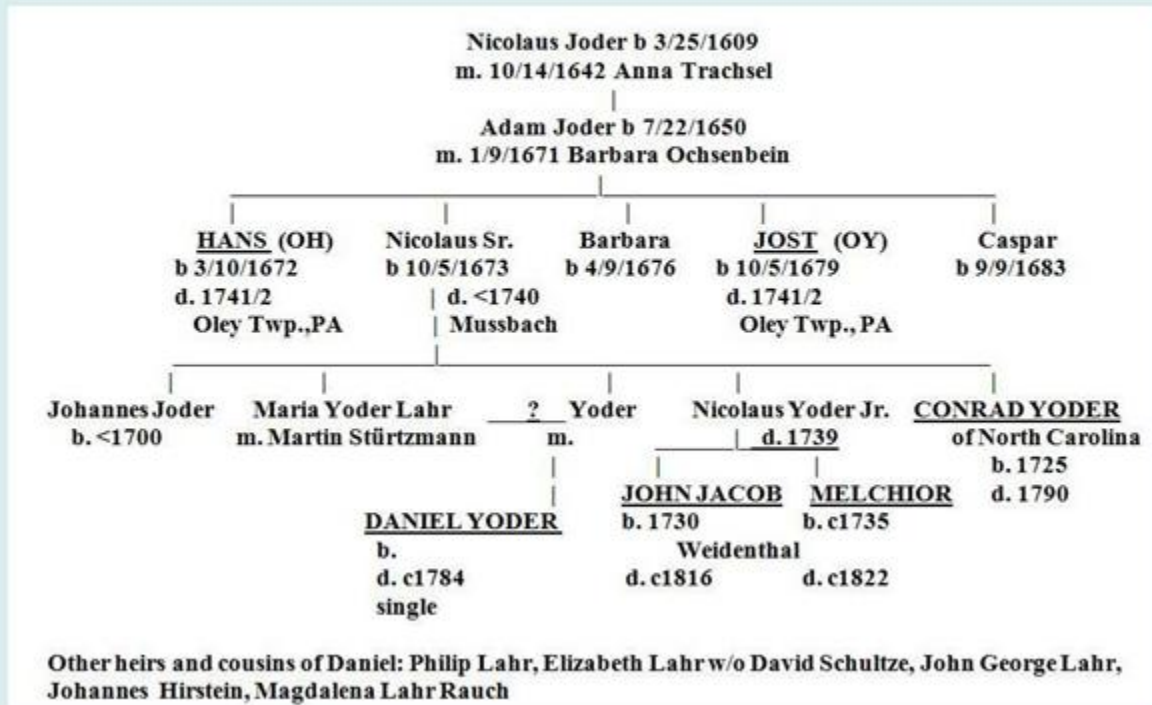
Researchers of Melchior

We first learned about Melchior through an article in YNL 3 by the late Dorothy Yoder Coffman. We also have Dorothy to thank for many of the early Yoder census transcriptions which are available on the Newsletter webpage.

Carl Yoders (with an S) worked for years to successfully establish the identity of his SW PA ancestor as a son of Melchior. And "Melchior Line Coordinator" Don Honeywell and his wife Gracie have spent years of effort to build the most complete descendant information that we have for any of the immigrant lines. Don and Gracie were planning to be with us today, but are not due to the birth of a grandchild.

How many of you here today are descended from: Melchior Yoders?

The Conrad-Melchior Discovery



The Conrad- Melchior Discovery

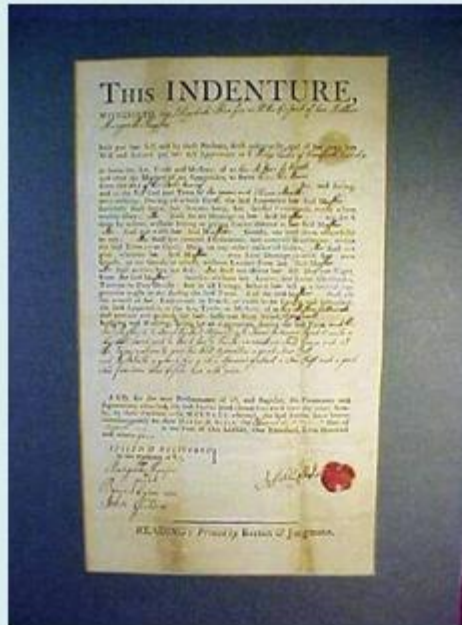
Dr. Don Yoder used the new Conrad data, the information known about Melchior, and estate records in America to define the relationships between his own Oley Valley Yoders, Conrad and Melchior Yoder. Here you can see what it all means pictorially. (USE POINTER)

Oley immigrants Hans and Jost were the uncles of Conrad.

Conrad was the uncle of Melchior Yoder.

Don shared very interesting stories about various American cousins....one was Philip Lahr (c1734 -<1800), a son of Conrad's sister Maria in Yoder Newsletter number 58.

Philip Lahr



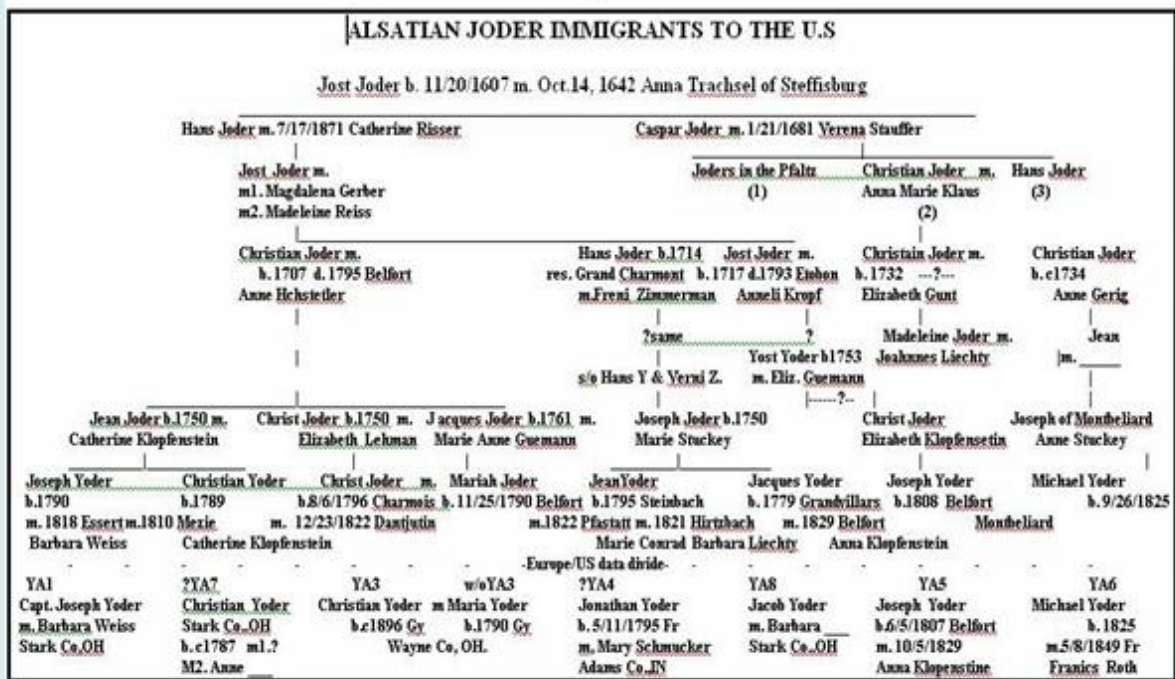
His Signature

Philip Lahr

Here we have a 1798 indenture signed by Philip Lahr, in which he undertakes a young servant girl for a term of 6 years

UNVEIL THE PICTURE- this document was sold a couple years ago on eBay, and I was lucky enough to spot it. I'd invite you all to come up at the break and take a look at his 216 year old signature and seal.

19th Century Alsatian Yoder Immigrants

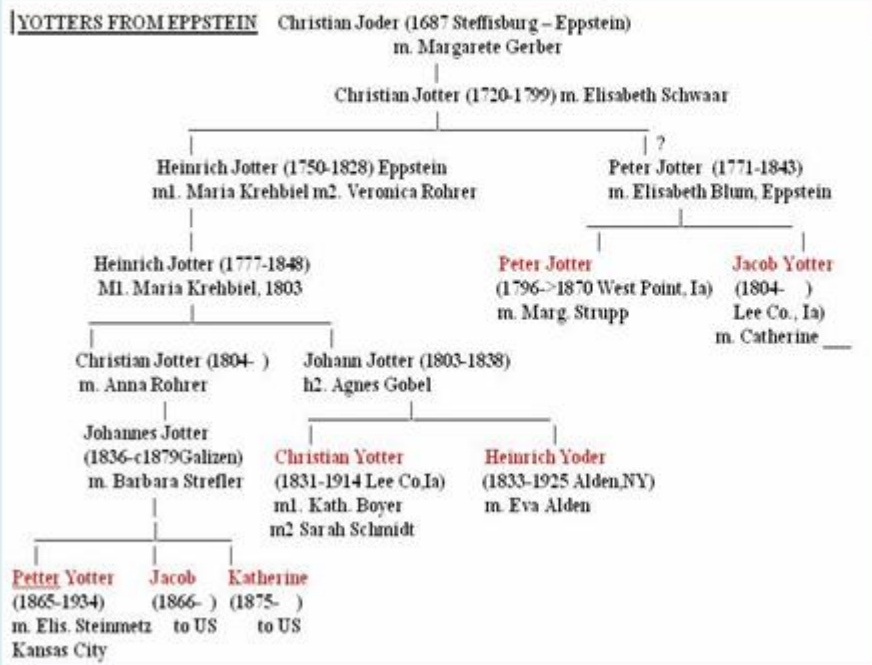


Alsatian Yoder

The Alsatian Yoders started to come to the US in the 1800s, and arrived in NY, OH, and Indiana. These folks were Amish and while the French researcher who provided much of our data claims they link to one particular son of Jost of Steffisburg, we as yet have no evidence to prove this.

How many of you here today are descended from: The Alsatian Yoders?

19th Century German Yoder Immigrants



Bavarian Yoders

- John Yoder to Wayne Co, Oh by 1820
- Michael Yoder (YRC) 1825
- Joseph Ioder, Bureau Co, Ill. 1836
- Jacob Yoder, Ill. 1866

German immigrants

A small number of Yoders came in the 1880s from Germany- some of these were Amish.

Summary of Yoder Immigrants

("A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME": Yoder, Yoders, Yother, Yothers, Youther, Yotter, Jotter, Joder, Ioder, Yoter, Yetter)

Oley Valley Yoders	Hans of Great Swamp	Amish Yoders	Conrad Yoder in N. C.	Melchior Yoder	Alsatian Yoders	German Yoders	Other
- 1672 & 1679 Hans (OH)* & Jost (OV)* b. Steffisburg, Swiz. - 1709 Hans Joder leaves Schwetzingen, Gy - 1711- Hans in Chester Co, Pa - 1714- Hans in Oley Twp, Berks Co, Pa - 1720- Hans & Jost sign township petition - 1741/2 Hans & Jost both die - 1777-8- Jacob Yoder -Rev. War - 1782- Jacob Yoder- 1 st Flat Boat down Miss.- New Orleans	- c1717 Hans Yoder (YB) in Great Swamp, Bucks Co, Pa - Hans Yoder buys land 1720 - Jacob Yothers b1742 - c1753 Hans Yoder dies - 1817 John Yoder to Leetonia, Oh	- 1742 "Widow Barbara ~ & Christian Yotter families arrive (YR1 & 2) on "Francis & Elizabeth" - 1776 Yoders to Somerset Co, Pa - Yost Yoder (YRB) - 1790 Yoders to Mifflin Co, Pa - 1810s Yoders to Oh - Michael (YRC)*- 1825 to Somerset Co,Pa	- Conrad Yoder (Con) arrives 1746/1751, Berks Co, Pa - To NC with Henry Weidner - c1753/63 - 1763 Conrad buys 200 acres in NC - Conrad Yoder dies 1790 - 1812 gsons in War - c1815 sons Jacob & Elias to Ind. - 1817 Elias dies - 1820 son Adam - Haywood Co, NC - 1830s Yother/ Yoder line in Ga. - descs. in Confed. Army	- 1765 Melchior Yoder (M) naturalized - 1774 taxed Hatfield Twp Montgomery Co - 1784 cousin Daniel Yoder dies - to 1796 Snyder Co, Pa - 1810 Jacob Yoders to Greene Co, Pa - Melchior Yoder dies 1820, Union Co, Pa - c1818 Yoders to Pickaway Co, Oh	- Capt. Jos. Yoder- 1825 -Stark Co, Oh (YA1)* - Christian Yoder- 1828-Wayne Co, Oh (YA3)* - Christian Yotter c1833-Stark Co, Oh (YA7) ?* - Joseph Yoder- 1833 (YA5)?* - Jacob Yoder- (YA8)* 1840 Stark Co, Oh - Jonathan Yoder- 1845 to NY - John Yoder- c1855 Williams Co, Oh (YA9)* - Michael Yoder- 1856- Fulton Co, Oh (YA6)	- John Yoder, Wayne Co, Oh < 1820 (AX) - Joseph Ioder- 1836 to (D) NY/Bureau Co,Il - Petter Jotter-by 1840 Butler Co, Oh (AZ) - Christian & Henry Yotter - 1850 NY, Ia (AQ)* - Yotters - to W. Point, Ia (AP,AM, AO)* - Jacob Yoder c1866 to Il (AG) - Peter Yotter- Galizien to Neb.- by 1900 (AN4)*	- Jacob Yoder- (AL) 1753 on "Queen of Denmark" - 1764 Daniel Yoder, York Co, Pa (AF) - Daniel Yothers, Centre Co, Pa (F) - Jost Jotter-Pa, NJ (BZ) - ?Johannes Jacob Yeater (CG) (Yoder)- 1747
Pa- Berks, Sch., other Cos; Ky	Bucks, Lehigh Cos, Pa; Oh; In, Ne.	Pa, Oh, In, Ia, Ks, elsewhere	NC, Ga, In, Mo, Ok, Tx	Pa, Oh, In, Mt	NY, Ia, Oh	NY, Ia, Il, Ks, Oh	Misc.
Yoder, Yoter, Yetter	Yoder, Yothers	Yoder, Joder, Yotter	Yoder, Yother, Youther	Yoder, Yotter, Yoders	Yoder, Yotter	Yoder, Yotter, Jotter, Ioder	
YNL1,5,9,12,14,23,32,33,35	YNL1, 3,12,17	YNL1,2,9,18,30	YNL1,3,4,10,15,16	YNL3, 16, 24, 26, 29, 33	YNL1,4,5,7,26, 27,28	YNL4,5,10	YNL29

Rose by any other name

I call this my "rose by any other name" chart. From the different family lines who came to America, all apparently originating with the Joder family of Steffisburg, we have descendants in America today with the following spellings: Yoder, Yoders, Yother, Yothers, Youther, Yotter, Jotter, Joder, Ioder, Yoter, Yetter).

[illegible]

- was 1,118th most common name

- **Approx 35,000 of us**
(.011% of US Pop)

[illegible]

Yoder populations

How many are there of us and where do we live? Well, on this chart we trace the different spelling as they appear in the censuses to 1930. Based on phone records from a number of years ago half of us live in just three states, PA, OH, and IN.(USE POINTER) Throw in the Amish Yoders without phones and the % for these states goes even higher.

From the 1990 census we find that Yoder was the 1118th most common surname in the US -- representing an estimated 35,000 people.

Yoder Populations in the US 2000 Population-US Census

name	rank	count	prop100k	cum_prop100k	pctwhite	pctblack	pctapi	pctaian	pct2prace	pcthispanic
YODER	707	44245	16.4	36514.65	98.11	0.14	0.18	0.18	0.71	
YOTHER	30552	721	0.27	78806.54	93.62	(S)	(S)	2.64	1.94	
YOTHERS	52935	367	0.14	83032.17	98.09	(S)	(S)	0	(S)	(S)
YOTTER	58130	327	0.12	83700.24	95.72	0	(S)	(S)	(S)	2.75
YODERS	64750	287	0.11	84456.76	97.56	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)	(S)

Other spellings – less than 100

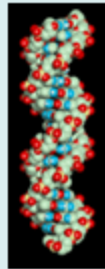
**YODER- As of 2000-
707th most common name, over 44,000**

2000 census

In the 2000 population census, we can see an increase. By then we had grown to be the 707th most common name, with a head count of 44,000. Perhaps we have our Amish cousins to thank for doing all the begetting that jumped our counts over 10 years.



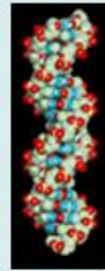
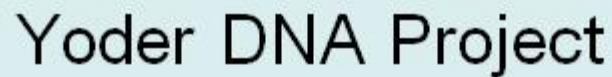
Yoder DNA Project Background



- “Y Chromosome” DNA is handed down from father to son with little change
- “Markers” on the DNA give it a unique “fingerprint”
- People with matching markers have a common male ancestor
- The degree of match gives a probability of closer ancestral links
- We are Partnered with “Family Tree DNA”
 - **They Are Working With National Geographic Society**

Yoder DNA Project Background

New technology has expanded to tools available for research. We began a Yoder DNA project seven years ago and have learned quite a bit through over 100 tests to determine the profile or fingerprint of the Y-Chromosome,,, handed down in the male line from generation to generation.



- The Yoder Y DNA Profile (67 Markers)

Kit #- or progenitor	Haplo	393	390	19	391	385a	385b	426	388	439	389-1	392	389-2
Common Ancestor	I	14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30

458	459a	459b	455	454	447	437	448	449	464a	464b	464c	464d
15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20	27	11	14	14	15

[illegible]

For full stratification see: www.yodernewsletter.org

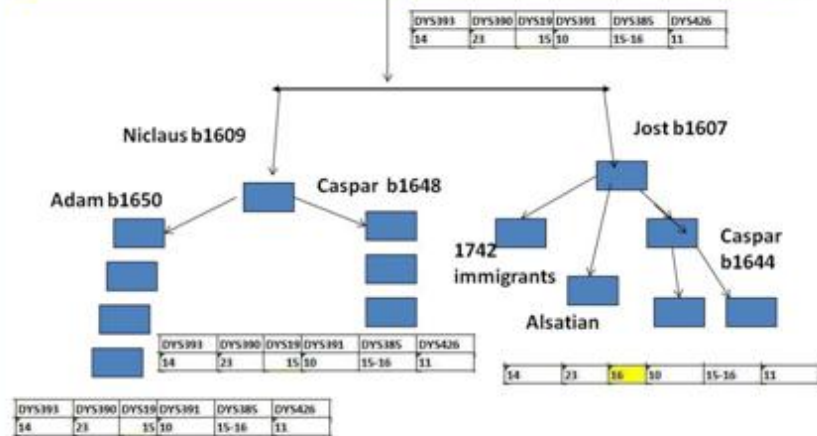
Yoder DNA Project

On this chart you'll see the Common Yoder Y DNA profile measured at the 67 marker level. You can see here the name of a marker location, and then the measured value for that marker. For example: 393..... 19..... A full stratification of the test results can be found on the Yoder Newsletter web page.

	DYS393	DYS390	DYS19	DYS391	DYS385	DYS426	DYS388	DYS439	DYS389I	DYS392	DYS389II
Non-Amish	14	23	15	10	15-16	11	13	11	12	12	30
Amish	14	23	16	10	15-16	11	13	11	12	12	30

^

Caspar Joder who m. Margret Hennig



The Yoder Profiles

The first item which became apparent in testing from our initial 12 marker tests was that there was a difference (a mutation) at marker 19 which appeared in the testing of Amish Yoder descendants. The Amish immigrants of 1742, and of the 19th century have a 16.

IMMIGRANT YODERS

Immigrant Line	Hap lo																				
		3	3	1	3	8	8	4	3	4	9	3	9	4	5	5	4	4	4	4	4
		9	9	1	9	5	5	2	8	3	-	9	-	5	9	9	5	5	4	3	4
		3	0	9	1	a	b	6	8	9	1	2	2	8	a	b	5	4	7	7	8
Adam Joder b. 1650 (Oleg)	Ilc	14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20
Hans Yoder, Menn. (YB)	Ilc	14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20
Conrad Yoder (Con)	Ilc	14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20
Melchior Yoder b. 1735	Ilc	14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20
Peter Yorde (Pa by 1717)	Ilc	14	23	15	10	15	15	11	13	11	13	12	30	16	8	10	11	11	24	14	20
Amish Progen (YR)	Ilc	14	23	16	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20

The Immigrant Profiles

The standard value, present with the Oley, the Mennonite, the North Carolina Yoders, the Melchior line and even the Steffisburg Joders today is a "15". Only the Amish have a value of "16".

SURPRISES IN OLEY BRANCHES

OH1- John Yoder m1. Barbara _____ m2. Elizabeth ()												
Keim (h2) d. 1779 (will made 3/8/1779 proved 10/20/1779)												
+OH11- Hans (John) Jr. b. c1726												
Profile:												
11c	14	23	15	11	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30
+OH12- Daniel b. c1723 -had girls- Y-DNA profile not known												
+OH13- Samuel b.												
Profile:												
R1b1	15	24	14	10	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29
+OH14- Peter b.												
Profile:												
R1b1	13	23	14	10	11	15	12	13	12	13	13	29
OH15- Maria Johanna b.												

Unmatched folks Identified

OH146- Jacob Yoder (c1792-1863) of Lewisburg

OH135- Likely Abraham Yoder (1768-) family

Surprise in the Oley Branch

Early in the testing, we had a big surprise in the Oley branch. John Yoder, born c1700, was the son of Hans the immigrant. He had a family of 4 boys. The first son passed along the ancestral Joder profile. Another son had girls and could not be tested. But two other boys in the family Samuel and Peter Yoder, turned out to not be biological sons at all. Each had a completely different profile from the ancestral Joder line and neither matched to one another. This remains one of the great unsolved mysteries in our family history.

As confusing as this situation has been, it's been helpful in our genealogical research. It's helped us identify the ancestry of previous "unlinked" lines of Yoders in the 19th century.

National Yoder Reunions

- Yoders of NC (1995,2000, 2012)
- Oley Yoders (1996, 2001, 2014)
- Yoder House, Grantsville (2006)



National Reunions

Over the past 32 years, the newsletter has been very pleased to have co-sponsored National reunions with the NC Yoders in 1995, 2000, and now 2012; with the Oley Yoders in 1996 and 2001; and in 2006 with the Yoder House at Grantsville, MD.

1996 Oley National Reunion



Inn At Reading Welcomes Yoders- Flag Mourns TWA 800 Crash



Seven Buses Load In Readiness For Tour



Bus One



Bus Two



Bus Three



Bus Four



Bus Five



Bus Six



Bus Seven



Bus Eight



Bus Nine



Bus Ten



Bus Eleven



Bus Twelve



Bus Thirteen



Bus Fourteen



Bus Fifteen



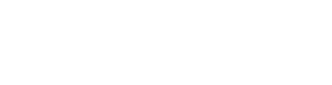
Bus Sixteen



Bus Seventeen



Bus Eighteen



Bus Nineteen



Bus Twenty



Judy Yoder Howe Of Allentown Goes Dowsing



Youngest and oldest- Eva Mae Barton,93, and Devon Yoder

Pictures 1

Here are some photos from the 1996 Oley reunion- anyone here who attended that event?

2001 Oley National Reunion



Pictures 2

How about the 2001 Oley reunion?

2014 – 300th Anniversary of Hans Yoder Homestead



Oley Yoders- Berks Co., PA

2014-300th anniversary

And now we are here at this wonderful and historic 300th Anniversary gathering.

YNL on the Web



YNL On the Web

I mentioned our webmaster, Don Kauffman, and his work. On our web pages we have family tree data, census records, church and civil records from America and Switzerland, old newsletters, and much, much more...

In 2010 we joined the "Facebook" world and today have over 1000 "friends" there... are any of you on facebook? Have you all "liked" the newsletter?

HOUSE OF YODER



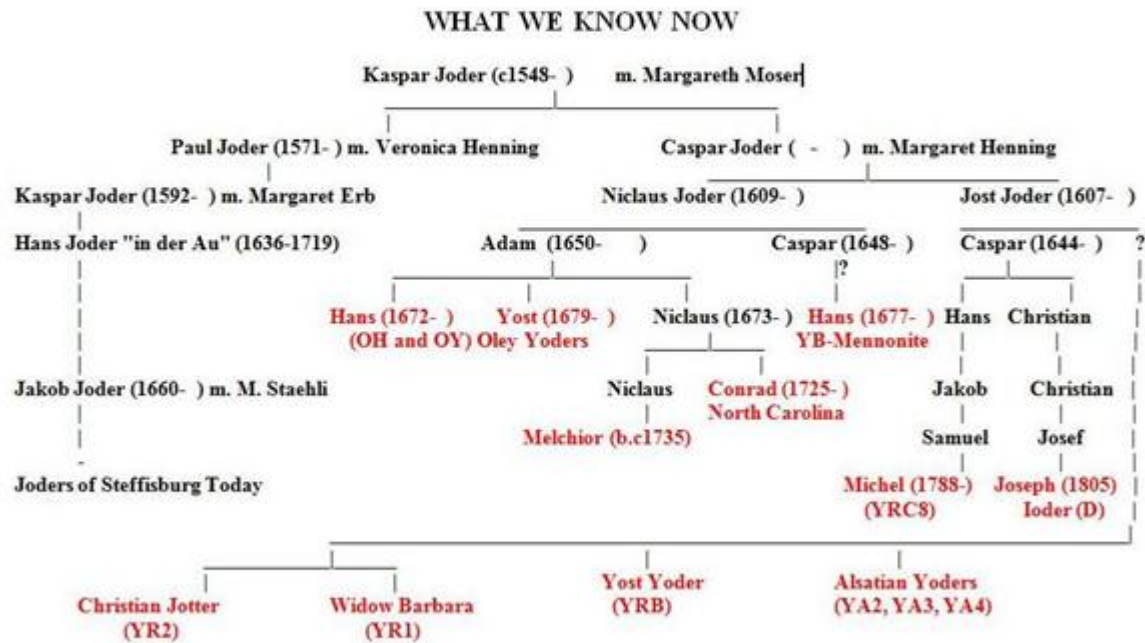
**Spruce Forest Artisan Village
in Grantsville, Maryland.**



House of Yoder

Thanks to our hardcopy newsletter subscribers, we've had a kitty to do many things... including mailouts to advertize the national reunions, paying for some of the European research, and many DNA tests. We were also able to make contributions to the building of the House of Yoder in Grantsville, Maryland and recently gave another \$500 for the refurbishing of its roof. The House of Yoder is a wonderful Swiss style home in the Penn Alps Art community.

A Summary



In Summary

In summary, here's what we look like.....30 years ago we were a bunch of lines leading up to question marks. There are still question marks, but the lines are much clearer, and we know we can truly call each other "cousin".

TALK THE CHART WITH POINTER

Steffisburg Joders- Nicolaus's descent- Josts- both proven and linked by DNA

The Yoder Newsletter
thanks you for your support!



- RACHEL KREIDER AND ESTHER YODER-
- Used with Permission South Bend Tribune, Photo by Greg Swiercz

- Thanks for your attention and
enjoy the fellowship

Thank you Chart

In conclusion, I'd like to thank you all for your support of the Yoder Newsletter over the years, and for your attention this afternoon. Please enjoy the wonderful fellowship of all those here assembled thanks to the Oley Yoders.

May God continue to Bless you all, as he's blessed our family over the generations.