



# YODER NEWSLETTER



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## Steffisburg Joders Featured At 2017 National Reunion



Andreas and Hans Jakob Joder

Former Steffisburg official Hans Jakob Joder and his son Andreas, a prominent engineer (see YNL 34) will give the featured presentation at the September 2017 National Yoder Reunion in Shipshewana, IN. Steffisburg, where Joders have lived for more than half a millennium, is the origin point for all American Yoders. It is our "Heimat" – a German word which refers to a particular locale to which a family has a special ancestral, cultural and spiritual bond. The Joders will talk about the "Joder- Steffisburg Connection" using many photographs and illustrations from the town.

Hans Jakob Joder was born and raised in Steffisburg and served on the parish council. He also was a member of the town legislative counsel and a leading member in the renovation committee for the Steffisburg church during 1980-1983. At the age of sixty-two, Hans Jakob took an early retirement from his job as an electronic technician with the Swiss national phone company, and decided to sail around the world in 18 months together with 2 colleagues. They arrived back in Lisbon, Portugal for the opening of the World Exhibition in 1998. Since the return from his sailing trip, he spends much of his time with genealogy. He has digitized many of the old Steffisburg records/books (church, birth and other official registers) and other documents from the archives of Canton Bern. These archived registers go back as far as 1500-1600 and Hans Jakob has become an expert at reading and interpreting the old script. They will speak on "The Joder Steffisburg Connection".



Steffisburg with the Old Church at right  
(photo from John William Bieber)

JODERS FEATURED-CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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TOM MIX's YODER BROTHER-IN-LAW IDENTIFIED! Pg 2

## Early Yetters and Yoders

### SAMUEL YETTER OF CATAWISSA

In the early days of the Yoder Newsletter, we looked with great interest at one Samuel "Yetter" of Catawissa in Columbia Co., Pa. He was born about 1756, and married Maria Elizabeth Yocum. With all the spelling variations seen in our family, "Yetter" seems one which was reasonable to take a look at.

"Samuel" was a name which occurred in the Oley Yoder line, and there is one particular early Samuel in the second generation of the Yost line about whom we know next to nothing. But that Samuel was a generation earlier than the one in Columbia County.

On July 4, 1794 we see that Samuel and Maria had six of their children christened at the Schwanzenwald Church, Exeter Twp, Berks County, PA. These were Jacob, Daniel, Hannah, Samuel, Sarah, and Maria Christina. In YNL34, we ran a feature article which outlined the various branches of the Yoder family which can be found in the records of that church. Marriage records there include ones for descendants of Oley Yoders Yost and Hans, but also two descendants of the YR17 line (the one "widow Barbara" Amish Yoder line to remain in the area into the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Within a few years the Samuel Yetter family was located in Catawissa, then Northumberland Co, Pa (it became Columbia Co on Mar. 22, 1813). On Jan 7, 1798 at the St. John's Lutheran Church, in Catawissa, their daughter Elizabeth was christened. Two years later, at the same church, son Joseph was christened on 8 Aug 1800.



The late Bruce Starner Yetter researched this line for many years, and with the help of Dr. Joseph Meisner and others created several iterations of descendant data for this couple which we have shared on the Yoder Newsletter home page from the very early days of our research. A summary of the Samuel Yetter Family appears below:

Bruce Starner Yetter

YETTER/YODER CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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## Joseph Yoder and Mary Van Sickle Family Revealed

In YNL8, Oct 1986, John W. Yoder of Cogan Station, PA submitted a genealogical query about his grandfather:

*"LEVI BRIDEN YODER b.10/12/1849 in W.Va. m. 5/16/1867 in Markleysburg, PA to Emma Rilla Reckner. Children Thomas, Milton, Olive, James Walter, Albert, Ben Franklin, Wm. Lee, & Sidney Harvey Patterson Yoder. Any information would be appreciated."*

Twenty-three years later, when John W. died in 2009 at the age of 91, Levi Briden remained among our "unlinked" folks. As Levi lived in the SW Pennsylvania (Fayette Co), Melchior Yoder Line Coordinators Donald & Grace Honeywell tried connect him with the "Yoders" line of Greene and Washington counties. They expanded on the descendant data for Levi, but he also remained among their "unlinked" group of possible Melchior descendants.

Now, thanks to the wonders of the internet, we can unveil the names of his parents, Joseph Yoder and his wife Mary Van Sickle, and provide details about Levi's many siblings.

JOSEPH YODER CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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The Yoder Newsletter- Founded 1983 by  
Ben F Yoder (1913-1992), Chris Yoder &  
Rachel Kreider (1909-2015)

Chris Yoder, Editor, Saugatuck, MI; John W. Yoder, Circulation Manager, Middlebury, IN; Kenneth W. Yoder, Mail Manager, Goshen, IN; Donald Kauffman, YNL Webmaster, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Other Contributors: Richard H. Yoder, Bechtelsville, PA; Neal D. Wilfong, Cleveland, NC; and Ann Balderrama, Reading, PA. And our other Goshen area volunteer team members: Titus King, Cheryl Parsons, and Richard Yoder.

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Over the past 34 years, subscriptions have allowed us to support advertising of national reunions, to provide funding for many of the DNA tests, and to pay for new research into Swiss records. All of our staff members are volunteers.

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#### SEND YNL CORRESPONDENCE:

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

- ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - 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, 551 S. Maple St., Saugatuck, MI 49453 or email at [cyoder@tds.net](mailto:cyoder@tds.net).

#### - YNL PRICE INFORMATION

-Annual YNL subscription (published Apr. and Oct.) for \$5.

-BACK ISSUES of the YNL are \$2 per issue. (or you can download them free 1 to 2 years after publication from the Yoder Newsletter web page: [www.yodernewsletter.org](http://www.yodernewsletter.org) -).

Visit: <http://www.yodernewsletter.org/subscribe.html> for the mail-in subscription form.

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YODER DATA ON DISK- Includes back issues of YNL text, census and county records, family group data and pictures and scanned images. The price for our "Yoder Data on Disk" is \$10 (postage included). Send to YNL address in Goshen. (Most of this info is also available free at the YNL Homepage and changes VERY slowly.)

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## YNL CONSOLIDATED VOLUMES NOW AVAILABLE

Volume 1 (Issues 1-25) and Volume 2 (Issues 26-50) are both available in soft cover volumes for order on-line. See:

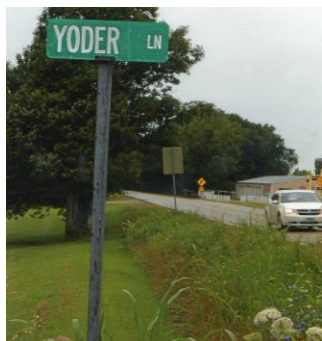
For YNL 1-25 [www.createpace.com/5154791](http://www.createpace.com/5154791) \$16.29 plus postage

For YNL26-50 [www.createpace.com/5051725](http://www.createpace.com/5051725) \$16.99 plus postage

Descendants of Bishop Christian Yoder Sr. (YR233) may also be interested in The Reuben Yoder Family and Its Ancestry at

[www.createpace.com/4122327](http://www.createpace.com/4122327) \$15.99 plus postage

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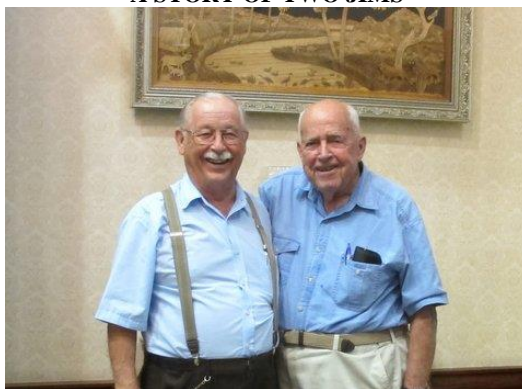


June and Edwin Yoder of Bonne Terre, MO live on "Yoder Lane" and shared photos recently. In YNL 6, Edwin and his late father Darwin Pete (Con15a4) provided a photo of Darwin's parents William and Anna Jane Ross Yoder, son of Peter Yoder who sold his land in NC around 1850 and traveled by covered wagon to MO. June writes: "Ed will be 75 years old Oct. 27, 2016. He has built a covered bridge at the end of our lake and made a

walking trail around the lake and he has also restored a 1920 Oakland Touring Car. He started all these projects when he was 70, and just 'keeps on tickin' and keeps that lectric a-flickin'... To Age Strong and Live Long"

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

### A STORY OF TWO JIMS



KANSAS JIM AND VIRGINIA JIM

On a recent trip from Newton, Kansas through the south we had an interesting experience that I thought might be of interest to readers. What are the chances of meeting a person with the same name that lives 1500 miles apart? Both 800 miles from home. We stopped in Greenville, Alabama and checked into a motel. We returned to the lobby area and the clerk asked if I was Jim Yoder. I said "yes" and she said there is another Jim Yoder here. We visited with them and discovered he grew up in North Carolina and now lives in Hampton, Virginia. I told him about my background, the Yoder Newsletter, etc. He did not have that information. He shared that he had been to the big North Carolina Yoder reunion a few years earlier. We exchanged addresses and e-mail addresses. Since our return we have been in contact and we have mailed him a copy YNL45 with my father's history. - Jim Yoder, Newton, Kansas

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## TOM MIX'S BROTHER- IN-LAW ID'D

Many thanks to Tom Sentman, a YR261 descendant, for sending along a death certificate for John Edward Yoder (Jun.11, 1872-Jun 24, 1915 Lancaster Co, PA) which provided the first clue to unraveling the ancestry of Emma Mix's Yoder husband. Emma was the sister of legendary western star Tom Mix, and we've touched on pieces of this puzzle before in YNL38 and YNL44. Now we can tell "the rest of the story"!



The death certificate gives his parents as Edward E. and Nancy (Burfield) Yoder. With this information we were able to find in the 1880 census in Cameron Co, PA: Yoder. Edward, age 46, common laborer, Driftwood; wife Nancy age 42; children" John A. age 8, Harry E, age 10, and step daughter Abbie Birfield. In the YNL census records we had already identified this fellow as probably YR17441. If true, his Yoder lineage would be: Edward, son of Eli Yoder (b. c1807 Mifflin Co) and Hannah Rhodes; Eli son of David "Long David" Yoder, b. 1767; David son of John Yoder YR17; John son of "Widow Barbara" and \_\_\_ Yoder (YR1).

John Edward Yoder was buried in the Greenwood cemetery, Lancaster, PA and his widow Emma Mix, later remarried to a Mr. Swartz, is buried in the Morningside Cemetery, DuBois, PA. The Civil War veteran "Edwin E. Yoder" buried with a military headstone in the Rumsberger cemetery at Dubois, seems likely to be the father of John Edward...shown as "Edward E" in the 1880 census and in the 1890 Vets Schedule living in DuBois. He enlisted Aug 1, 1861 and served until Aug 24, 1864 in Co C 3<sup>rd</sup> PA Cav. The Company fought in many battles, including Antietam, Gettysburg, and Bull Run. He applied for an invalid pension on Feb. 13, 1879.

While the stone shows no death dates, the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center Obituary Index shows that an Edward E Yoder died in PA at age 60 on Oct. 29, 1894.



**-JODERS FEATURED-CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Son Andreas Joder was also born and raised in Steffisburg. After his regular schooling in Steffisburg and Interlaken, he moved to Zug (between Zurich and Lucerne) for his education in physics and his study as an Electronics Engineer at the University of Lucerne. Andreas spent 9 years of his professional life in the USA - three years in Lafayette, Indiana (1982-1985) where he met YNL co-founder Ben Yoder in Goshen for the first time, three years in Minneapolis, and three years in the Silicon Valley as Manager of the hearing aid Companies Rexton and ReSound. Andreas took an early 'semi-retirement' in 2010 and since then he has focused on leading technology projects, board memberships and investment in local technology companies.

Hans Jakob and Andreas say they "are looking forward to meeting the large American Yoder family in September 2017!!!!"



Joe Springer, Curator Mennonite Library, Goshen College

Another confirmed speaker is Mr. Joe Springer, curator of the Mennonite Historical Library at Goshen College since 1986. With close to 75,000 volumes, the library is the world's largest collection of published material by and about Mennonites, Amish and related groups. Mr. Springer will provide an introduction to the Anabaptist movement, and the Amish division in Switzerland and Alsace. He will also describe the early Amish Mennonite community around Montbéliard, France. His talks will include information about several different Yoder family branches who lived there, many of whom immigrated to the United States beginning in the 19th century. Springer recently published *Montbéliard Mennonite Church Register, 1750-1958: A Sourcebook for Amish Mennonite History and Genealogy*, a work which will certainly become a classic reference on the Amish Mennonites in Alsace. Joe has agreed to bring some copies of his book and do a book signing for those who may be interested.

Local Amish historian Floyd Miller, librarian of the Northern Indiana Amish Library, is scheduled to tell about the first Amish settlers to northern Indiana, which include members of the Yoder family.

Chris Yoder of the Yoder Newsletter will give an overview of the various Yoder branches in America.

Past National Reunions held since the Yoder Newsletter was founded in 1983 have been hosted by family groups like the Oley Yoder Heritage Association, the Yoder Family in North Carolina, or the House of Yoder. The Yoder Newsletter has funded registration mailings to our readers and provided secondary support to the very hard work done by the host committees. These reunions have all been held in the Eastern part of the country, in: Pleasantville, PA; Newton, NC; or Grantsville, MD. Now, a National Yoder Reunion will be held in the Midwest, and is being organized by volunteers with the Yoder Newsletter itself.

The first of the Anabaptist Yoders to come to America, Mennonite "Hans Yoder of Great Swamp", is thought to have arrived with other members of his congregation in 1717. Based on this we are declaring this reunion to be a "celebration of 300 years of

Anabaptist Yoders in America", and the Anabaptist branches of the family and the Anabaptist traditions and culture will be a focus of the event. Shipshewana, Indiana is a key tourist area in the heart of northern Indiana's "Amish Country".

Activities will center around the Blue Gate Garden Inn and the Shipshewana Event Center. Major local features we plan to take advantage of include:

- the Menno-Hof Amish/Mennonite history museum, Buggy Rides, Amish Home Dinners, Amish and Mennonite singers, the Hudson Car Museum, shopping, and many other local attractions.

- the renown Shipshewana Flea Market,

- the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale (22-23 Sept. 2017) at the Elkhart County Fair Grounds, 17 miles and 22 minutes away in Goshen.

- regional research opportunities will be available for Yoders whose family came through the area on their way to Iowa, Kansas, and elsewhere. These include: the Mennonite Library at Goshen College (19 miles); the Elkhart County Genealogy Society in Bristol (22 miles), The Northern Indiana Amish Library in Lagrange (c8 miles), the famous Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne (52-57 miles), and perhaps meetings with local historians and genealogists.



Blue Gate Garden Inn



Menno-Hof, the Amish-Mennonite Story

Registration fliers will be sent out to YNL subscribers in the spring of 2017.

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## **CORRECTION ON OH13 DATA**

Thanks to Ric Tobin for reporting an error in our on-line data at the YNL web pages: Under the INDEX TO APPOINTMENT AND DISCHARGES-ORPHAN COURT RECORDS-BERKS CO, PA, Yoder records copied by Richard H Yoder 1990, it reads:

1774 Samuel (OH13) 2-173 Elizabeth, widow of Samuel, left 7 children, 3 under 14. Peter, David, Abraham

Looking at the original, "7" should be "several". Named children in estate settlements add oldest son George, and daughter Maria.

Samuel Yetter (c1756-Apr.8, 1830 Catawissa, PA)  
m. Feb. 12, 1780 at St. Michaels and Zion Church, Philadelphia, PA  
Mary Elizabeth Yocum (chr. Oct. 30, 1756 -1820)

continued\_

**Johannes**  
(10/8/1780 -2/3/1836)  
m. Susan Foster  
d. Catawissa, PA

**Jacob**  
(12/7/1782-12/9/1853)  
m1. Christina Kreiger  
bur. Union Cem, Catawissa  
m2. Catherine Knorr  
bur. Hillside Cem., Catawissa  
Jacob bur. Hillside Cem.

**Daniel**  
(10/26/1784 – 8/13/1857)  
m. Sarah Bitler  
both bur. Union Cem.  
Catawissa

**Hannah**  
(1786-by1831)  
m. Samuel Benjamin

**Samuel Lewis**  
(10/9/1788-1/14/1865)  
m. Elizabeth Richard  
Samuel d. Bear Dam, WI

**Sarah**  
(1791- ? )  
m. Jacob Ihler

**Maria Christina**  
(1794- ?)  
m.  
Alexander Mears

**Elizabeth**  
(1797-1876)  
m1. Hannaniah  
Cleaver  
m2. John B. Moyer  
Eliz. Bur. Dixon, IL

**Joseph**  
(1800-1851)  
m. 1825 Elizabeth \_\_\_\_  
Joseph bur. McIntyre  
Cem., Catawissa

**YETTER/YODER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Samuel may be the "Samuel Yaters" shown in the 1790 census as living in East Nottingham, Chester Co, PA- the genders and number of children match exactly. The 1800 census for Catawissa, Northumberland County shows Samuel "Yoters" with a household containing: males - 1 25-44; 1 16-25; 3 10-15; and 2 <10; and females: 1 25-44; 1 10-15; 3 <10. In 1810, Samuel "Yetter" is listed as a farmer with 9 in his household, sons Jacob ("farmer") and John ("shoemaker") are listed separately with young families.



Jacob Yetter



Daniel Yetter



Elizabeth Yetter Moyer  
(photos from Find-A-Grave, thanks to Gary, Bruce, Dave & Pam Jindrich, and JGB)



Joseph Yetter

Jacob (farmer), Daniel (wheelwright), Samuel Jr. (farmer), and Joseph (single). We also see David Yoder (millwright) and John Yoder (tanner). These last two are Oley Yoders OH1119 and OH1116, sons of OH111- Daniel Yoder and Maria Margaretha Oyster, heir to the Hans Yoder Homestead.

The Berks County and Catawissa connections with members of the Yoder family made a Yetter-Yoder relationship seem possible, and two Yocum marriages took place in the Oley Yoder line when two daughters of Daniel Yoder (OY3), Mary and Susannah, married brothers John and Moses Yocum respectively in 1774 and 1781. Was this Samuel a branch of the Oley Yoders?

Bruce Starner Yetter was one of the first to volunteer for Y chromosome DNA testing, and the results showed the Yetter profile he carried did not match the Yoder ones. So he must not have shared with the Yoders a common male ancestral line.

Further research located the Feb. 12, 1780 marriage record for Samuel Yetter and Maria Elizabeth "Yockum" at the St. Michaels' and Zion Church in Philadelphia. Other Yetters to be seen at St. Michaels' and Zion Church include:

Johannes Joetter	m. Anna Margaretha Korst	Aug. 2, 1748
Christopher Yetter	m. Margaret Hart	Feb. 26, 1765
Catherine Yetter	m. Philip Miller	Mar. 20, 1765
Ludwig Yetter	m. Margaretha Bader	Jun 7, 1768

Researchers of this line now report that this Johannes Joetter was born Apr. 1, 1724 in Stuttgart, Germany and identify him as having immigrated on the ship "Restoration", arriving in Philadelphia on Oct 9, 1747. They trace Johannes to Derry Twp., Mifflin County, PA and give his death date as June 1805. Ludwig (Ludwick), a reputed son, was also in Mifflin Country, living in Derry, in 1800 and 1810. Family researchers have varied constructions of the Johannes Yetter family, but a common one includes as children:

Catherine Yetter	who m. Philip Miller
Ludwick Yetter	b. Mar. 1749 d. Jun. 5, 1829 Decatur Twp, Mifflin Co, PA
Samuel Yetter	(as above)
Andrew Yeater/Yater	b. c1760 d. Aug. 8, 1829 Greene Co, PA

In 1821 a Pennsylvania Septennial Census was conducted and in Catawissa we see: Samuel (Farmer); sons: John (shoemaker),

YODER/YETTER-CONTINUED PAGE 5



## YETTER/YODER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Andrew Yeater appears in the 1790 census for newly formed Mifflin County. By 1810 he had moved his family to Greene County in southwestern PA. His male descendants kept the spelling "Yeater" and spread into West Virginia.

### PETER YEATER OF VIRGINIA

Another very early Yeater line is found in Virginia. Peter Yeater, reportedly from Germany, appears in the 1782 Continental Census for Hampshire County, VA. He purchased land there in 1788. He appears in the first Kentucky Tax list of 1789 in Madison County. His daughter Catherine, born 12/15/1766 married in Hampshire Co, VA Joshua Younger, a Revolutionary War soldier who served in the 12<sup>th</sup> VA Regt under George Washington. By 1788 the Youngers were in Nelson Co., KY and appear there still in 1791. By 1796 they were in Madison Co, KY, and by 1799 in Hardin Co, KY. In 1804 they appear in Garrard County.

Also in Garrard County was a Henry H. Yeater (later Yater). He was born Aug. 15, 1765, in Germany (according to census records of a child). Henry appears on the 1792 Madison Co., KY Tax list (Madison and Garrard are neighboring counties) as Henry "Yoter". Henry married Nancy MCMANUS in KY on Jun. 23, 1790 and died Sep. 26, 1834 in Lancaster, Garrard County. Henry's descendants migrated to Indiana and Missouri and took on the spelling "Yater". Henry's widow Nancy moved to Missouri where son William lived and is buried in the Terrill Cemetery, Philadelphia, MO. The late Chester Yater of Houston, TX was one researcher of this line.



Henry Yater Stone -Yater Family Cemetery  
Paint Lick, Garrard Co., KY (Picture from FAG, Patty)

Conrad Yeater was born Apr. 1, 1769 and married Sarah Honeywell in Virginia about 1789. By Jan. 18, 1790 when their first child was born, they were living near Mt. Sterling, in Bourbon Co, KY. In the fall of 1817 he moved his family to St. Charles Co, MO. The 1876 work Pioneer Families of Missouri, reports "Conrad Yater, of Germany, came to America and settled first in Virginia, where he married. In 1818 he came to Missouri and settled in Warren County. During his residence here he built four mills (one run by water, two by horses, and one by oxen), and one distillery." He died Aug. 15, 1834 in Fulton, Callaway Co., MO.

There are children in both the Conrad Yeater and Henry Yater family named Peter, Henry and Conrad. Conrad in particular is not a common name. It seems a reasonable hypothesis that the family of Peter Yeater of Hampshire Co, VA included:

Henry     b. Aug. 15, 1765  
Catherine b. Dec. 15, 1766  
Conrad    b. Apr. 1, 1769

## DNA COMPARISON OF YETTER/YEATER/YATERS

The Y chromosome profile (a genetic fingerprint which stays fairly constant over many generations of males) has become a wonderful tool for genealogists. Beginning with the profile identified thanks to Bruce Starner Yetter, we have continued to seek sampling within the lines of comparable spellings. We have been able to add 25 marker samples in the lines of Ludwick Yetter of Mifflin County, Henry Yater of Gerrard Co, KY, and one more from the line of a later immigrant John George Yetter (Jetter) (b. 1808) and Katherina Wuest-Meyer of Vollmersweiler, Rheinpfalz, Germany.

See DNA profiles on page 6.

The variation between Ludwick, Samuel and Henry is rather slight, and would support the possibility of a common male ancestor between these German Jetter/Joettters lines. The variation with the 19<sup>th</sup> century immigrant line is only slightly greater and could also imply a more distant ancestral linkage. The towns of Stuttgart and Vollmersweiler are just over 66 miles apart.

The Yoder Newsletter is continuing to look for male descendants of Conrad Yeater of MO and Andrew Yeater of southwest PA to add to the testing, as well as representatives of other identifiable early Yetter branches.

### "YETTERS" WHO ARE REALLY "YODERS"

We've established that some suspect "Yettters" ARE NOT "Yoders". But DNA testing has also confirmed that some using the "Yetter" spelling ARE actually linked to the Joder family of Steffisburg, Switzerland.

In YNL 32 we identified the family of Martin Yoder (OH112) whose family settled in Allegheny Twp of Westmoreland Co, PA. His son Daniel adopted the spelling "Yetter" and retain it to this day. His ancestral line is clear back through Oley Hans Yoder and his DNA results match the "non-Amish" Yoder Y chromosome profile of Oley, Conrad, Melchior, and "Hans of Great Swamp" lines.

In YNL53 we discuss the family of Andrew Yoder Jr of Jackson Twp, Lycoming Co, PA. A "Yetter" spelling is seen in this line over parts of the early 1800s, although more recently the "Yoder" spelling has been used. At one point this fellow was confused with the Greene Co, PA Andrew, son of Johannes Joetter, but that idea has been disproved by the DNA results. He also matched to the "non-Amish" Y chromosome profile of Steffisburg. An independent "clue" to dismiss the Johannes Joetter linkage should have been the fact that he is referred to as "Andrew Jr" – meaning we need to look for a "Sr" someplace. The article goes on to identify an Andrew in 1769 Philadelphia tax records who would have been old enough to be the father. (Note: It is interesting to see that one "Andreas Jotter" appears in the Karlsruhe Archives 1768 list of Mennonite residents charged "Protection money" to be allowed to stay in the area, living then at Mussbach. Mussbach was the home place of Johannes, son of Oley Hans and Yost's brother Nicholas. Perhaps one day records will be found which give the details of his family... but if they exist they have so far eluded even such skilled researchers as the late Dr. Don Yoder).

In YNL61 we reported one of our biggest surprises from the DNA testing. A 12 marker test by a "Yetter" who has links to the Yost Yetter line of Northampton Co., PA and Sussex Co., NJ came back as an exact match to the Amish Yoder Y chromosome profile. This particular branch of the family went from PA to OH, but it is known that the in-laws were married in Walpack, Sussex Co and the mother-in-law was actually born there.

We also, in YNL57, identified the family of David Yetter (1795-1880), son of Abraham Yoder (OH135) having the unique Samuel Yoder (OH13) Y-DNA profile.

See DNA profiles on page 6.

## YETTER/YODER CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Y CHROMOSOME PROFILE

DYS393	DYS390	DYS19	DYS391	DYS385	DYS426	DYS388	DYS439	DYS389I	DYS392	DYS389II	DYS458	DYS459	DYS455	DYS454	DYS447	DYS437	DYS448	DYS449	DYS464
Ludwick Yetter b.1749																			
13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	14-15-16-17
Samuel Yetter b. c1756																			
14	24	14	11	12-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	15-15-16-17
Henry Yater b. 1765																			
14	24	14	11	12-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	30	14-15-16-17
John Yetter b. 1808																			
13	24	14	11	13-14	12	12	12	13	13	31	19	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	14-15-17-17

## YETTERS/YATERS/YEATERS

DYS393	DYS390	DYS19	DYS391	DYS385	DYS426	DYS388	DYS439	DYS389I	DYS392	DYS389II	DYS458	DYS459	DYS455	DYS454	DYS447	DYS437	DYS448	DYS449	DYS464	DYS460
Non-Amish Yoder Profile																				
14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20	27
Yetter of SW PA																				
14	23	15	11	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20	27
Andrew Yoder of Lycoming Co																				
14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30									
14	23	15	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30									
Amish Yoder Profile																				
14	23	16	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	20	27
Yeters of Walpack NJ																				
14	23	16	10	15	16	11	13	11	12	12	30	15	8	10	11	11	24	14	21	27

## YETTERS WHO ARE YODERS

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 JOSEPH YODER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

## Joseph Yoder

b. c1809 MD or PA

d. &gt;1880

m. Mary Van Sickle (c1810 MD- &lt;1870)

1840: Preston Co, VA (later part of WV) (as "Yoter")

1850: ?

1860: Somerfield, Henry Clay Twp., Fayette Co, PA (as "Yodder")

1870: Mannington, Marion Co, WV – widower

1880: Grant, Preston Co, WV- widower with Moyers

continued

Samuel  
 b. c1834  
 d. >1870

Jackson M.  
 b. c 1837 VA  
 d. 2/28/1899 WV  
 bur. Fairmont, WV  
 m. Annie Elizabeth Arnett  
 (1843-1899)

Susan Anna  
 b. c1840 VA  
 d. 12/19/1897 WV  
 m. Jackson J Moyers  
 (1827-1899)

Levi Briden  
 b. 10/12/1843 VA  
 d. 10/22/1917 PA  
 bur. Redstone Cem,  
 Brownsville, PA  
 m. Emily R. Reckner  
 (1846- ?)

Mary  
 b. c 1849 VA  
 m. George D Koon

## Continued

Emanuel Enos  
 b. 12/11/1846 VA  
 d. 6/3/1902  
 Bur. Pisgah Church Cem.  
 Brownsville, PA  
 m. Sarah Anna Dawson  
 (1846-1927)

Elizabeth Avrora  
 b. 4/12/1851 VA  
 d. 4/23/1940  
 Bur. Thomas Cem,  
 Markleysburg, PA  
 m. Robert Glisan  
 (1847-1926)

Martha Jane  
 b. 7/21/1854 VA  
 d. 1/2/1919 Grant WV  
 m. Alexander J. Fike  
 (1853-1936)

Missouri B.  
 b. 4/28/1858 VA  
 d. 5/1/1933 Fairmont, WV  
 m. Felix A. Hawkins  
 (1858-1894)

JOSEPH YODER CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## JOSEPH YODER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

When we began digging around for this family earlier in the year, it was heartwarming to see that a number of family historians had posted trees including Levi in on-line data bases. All of these trees stopped with Levi, as did the tree John W. constructed thirty years ago. We found two pieces of information that provided a break through! The first and most significant was the death certificate for Levi B. Yoder. It names his parents as "Joseph Yoder and Mary Van Sickle".

This Joseph had been among our other "unlinked" Yoders with a code of "BB" (Levi was "BU") and we knew some things about his family from 1840 (Preston Co, VA-later WV after that state had been created) and 1870 (Mannington, Marion Co, WV) census records. Names of individuals other than the head of household are not listed until 1850, and by the available 1870 census, no "Levi" is shown in the household. Initially, both 1850 and 1860 census records for Joseph and Mary could not be located. We discovered that transcription error by the person indexing the 1860 census had been made, and Joseph and his family were found near Somerfield, Henry Clay Twp, Fayette Co, PA, under the spelling "Gadden"- the actual script says "Yodder", and includes son Levi of the correct age in the middle of the list of children!

Over the space of the next several days, further details revealed themselves which let us build the family group chart presented on page 6. Mary Van Sickle was the daughter of Louis Sickel (1776NJ-1863 Fayette Co, PA) and his wife Eleanor Dean. Louis was in Allegheny Co, Maryland by 1810 and that is where Mary had been born. Louis's father, Zachariah, was born in NJ c1740, and was reported to have died in Preston County, VA about 1810.

The 1860 census lists all of the children and shows them all to have been born in "VA"- presumably Preston Co. The oldest child was son Samuel, born about 1834. The 1860 census shows him as being 26 years of age and describes him as an "idiot"- a term likely to mean he may have suffered from Downs Syndrome. He seems to disappear after the 1860 census.

Next in age was Jackson M., born about 1837. The 1860 census adds a bit of confusion to the picture by referring to him as "Zachary" - perhaps a nickname after his maternal grandfather-but the 1840 census shows only one male child born between 1835-1840 and Jackson and "Zachary" must be one and the same. Confirming this is the 1860 occupation listed as "Blacksmith" which also is shown on Jackson's 1880 census record (at which time he lived in Garret Co, MD). He appears in the Jul. 1, 1863 Civil War draft registration as a "Railroader", but does not show a service record. Perhaps he was exempt as being in a critical defense occupation. In 1870 he lived in Marion Co, WV and is still shown as a "railroad master". On. Nov. 12, 1863, Jackson married Annie Elizabeth Arnett. They had four children. His date of death is not yet known.

Third child was Susan Anna b. c1840, who married Jackson J Moyers. He apparently had a first wife, and it is as yet unclear which children were by Susan. She died Dec. 29, 1897 in Glade Farms, Preston Co, WV.

Fourth child was our Levi Briden, who married Emily Rilla Rechner on May 16, 1867, according to grandson John W. in Markleysburg, PA. Their first 6 children were born in WV until 1874, but the last 2 after 1876 in PA. Levi B. served in the Civil War with Co B 11<sup>th</sup> Regt PA Cav (108<sup>th</sup> Vol), entering as a private and leaving as a Sgt. He died Oct.22, 1917 in Fayette Co and is buried in Redstone Cemetery, Brownsville, Fayette Co., PA. The 1880 and 1900 census lists him as a "farm laborer" or "laborer", by 1900 back in West Virginia at Mannington. He and Emily had eight children. One of these Thomas Jefferson homestead in Canada in 1907 and there is a record of Levi and a son going there in December of 1914 for a visit. Thomas Jefferson Yoder died in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan in 1943.

Fifth child was Mary, b c1849. She married George D. Koon in Marion Co, WV on Jul. 25, 1869. We do not know when she died.

Sixth child was Emanuel Enos, born Dec 1846. He married Sarah Anna Dawson on Apr. 29, 1869 in Marion Co, WV. They had 3 children. Emanuel reportedly died Jun. 3, 1902 at Weston, Lewis Co, WV and is buried in the Pisgah Church Cemetery, Smithtown, WV. Emanuel was a farmer.



Emanuel Yoder



Elizabeth Yoder Glisan

(Photos from Find A Grave, Memory and MFD)

Seventh child was Elizabeth Avrora, born Apr. 12, 1851 (although her stone says 1852) and married on May 19, 1867, Robert Mitchell Glisan. They had 4 children. She died Apr. 23, 1940 in Fayette Co, PA and is buried in the Thomas Cemetery, Markleyburg.

Eighth child was Martha Jane, born Jul. 21, 1854. She married Alexander J. Fike in 1875 and died Jan. 2, 1919 at Grant, Preston Co, WV. They had 3 children.

Ninth child was Missouri B. born Apr. 28, 1858. On May 6, 1878, she married Felix A. Hawkins, and they had 4 children. Missouri died May 1, 1933 at Fairmont, WV.

Reports differ on the place of birth of Joseph Yoder, but the preponderance seem to indicate that he was born in Pennsylvania. We have not been able to identify his parents, but are hopeful that a male Yoder in the line might join in the DNA testing and that the results will provide a clue as to which branches of the family to rule out and which to concentrate on. We'll report on any results in a future newsletter.

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## ANOTHER UNLINKED YODER FOUND!

In YNL5, Apr. 1985, a query read

*"Who were the ancestors of Howard Christian Yoder, b 4/24/1867 at Gap PA, d. 2/15/1928 in Phila. PA, m Anna Blaise. Reply to H. A. Yoder, Jr"*

The answer is Howard Christian Yoder was YR142422- second child of Andrew Dague Yoder (2/-/1842- ) m 4/10/1862 Chester Co, PA Anna Matilda Good (3/-/1842- ), res 1880 in Philadelphia (1900-Phila, Phila Co., PA)

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## AFTER THE ELECTION?



Will there be two Yoder Congressmen, one Republican and one Democrat, canceling out each other's votes? Kevin Yoder (R- Kansas 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist.) is favored for reelection. Former Miss Indiana (see YNL20 and 21) Shelli Yoder (D) is seeking election in the 9<sup>th</sup> Dist. of Indiana in what many political observers call a "Toss Up". Time will tell!

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## YODER PASSINGS

- Paul R Yoder, 89, (Feb.6, 1927-May 26, 2016) Norwalk, CT. A pioneer in the development of laser eye surgery. Paul was an opto-mechanical engineer who designed optical components and instruments used by the US military, NASA, the US government for spy satellite intelligence gathering during the Cold War. Author of "Stephen Yoder, Pioneer, Farmer, Preacher, & Family Man ", YNL 48. (YR2511g)



-Bruce Starner Yetter, 87, Hackettstown, NJ, (Mar. 28, 1940 -Jun.14, 2014). He was the son of Matthew P. & Catherine Starner Yetter, and the major genealogist of the line of Samuel Yetter of Columbia Co., PA.

- Chester "Chet" Yater, Jr., 82, Houston, TX (Aug. 29, 1927-Sep. 13, 2009) – a genealogist of the Henry Yater family.

- Charles "Max" Yoder, 92, of rural Goshen, IN (Sep.25, 1923-June. 29, 2016) He was the son of Menno (YR2354431) and Orpha (Leatherman) Yoder.

- Lydia H. (Bontrager) Yoder, 104, Garnett, MD, formerly of Shipshewana, IN (Jun 10, 1912-Jun 25, 2016). Widow of Felty S. Yoder (YR23374356).

- Melvin Lester Yoder, Hesston, KS, (Feb 22, 1927-May 2, 2015) Son of Samuel J. (YR2611346) and Mary (Schrock) Yoder. He was active in the Gideons for many years.

- Richard Berry Yoder, 79, West Chester, PA (Mar. 4, 1937-May 3, 2016), the son of the late Walter Reuben (OH1452682) & Elizabeth Berry Yoder. Richard was a past President of the Oley Yoder Heritage Association, Professor at West Chester University, and two term mayor of West Chester, PA.



- Allen Yoder Jr., 88, Goshen, IN (Aug. 4, 1927 to Apr. 19, 2016) son of Allen and Sophie (Ummel) Yoder Sr. 1958 Elkhart County "Farmer of the Year". President of Jayco, from 1985 to 1993. Gave \$1,000,000 to Bluffton College in the spring of 1995.

- Moses R. Yoder, 75, Davidsville, PA, (Nov. 12, 1940-Apr.24, 2016) Son of the late Moses D. (YR2344887) and Blanche (Croyle) Yoder.

- Daniel White Yoder (Nov. 16, 1921-Sep. 19, 2015) son of Daniel (OY433834) and Iva White Yoder (his wife Helen wrote the YNL9 article on Jacob Yoder who m. Maria Keim (OY4).

- Crist A. Yoder, 88, Huntington, PA, died Aug 23, 2015. Son of Levi A. (YR253c215) and Cora E. (YR2571336) Yoder.

-Richard Yoder, 88, East Petersburg, PA died May 31, 2016, son of Lester (YR1435312) and Mary Ott Yoder.

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## Updated Find-A-Grave Counts

Visit the site at: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com). As of Jan. 28, 2016 the counts for interments were: 17,744 records (an increase of +639 from Aug. 2015) –Yoder; 455 (+11) – Yother; 282 (+11) – Yothers; 249 (+10) – Yotter; 64 (+2) – Yoter; 233 (+17) – Yoders; 55 (+1) – Ioder; 84 (+5) – Joder; 43 (+3) - Jotter family members; 1 (+0) - Joders.



Jonathan C. Yoder  
(YR1462b)  
Birth: Feb. 26, 1829  
Mifflin County, PA  
Death: Aug. 27, 1895  
Logan County, OH

Yoder Cemetery  
West Liberty  
Logan County, OH

Photo by Mark and Julie Slaybaugh, FAG

Sylvanus Yoder  
Con673  
Birth: 1843, IN  
Death: Jul. 23, 1862,  
Bartholomew County, IN

Old Bear Creek Church Cemetery  
Scipio, Jennings Co. IN  
Photo by Traci at FAG



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## Yoder, Oregon Summer 2016

The Eightieth Annual Yoder Reunion was held August 7, 2016 at Smyrna United Church of Christ in rural Canby, Oregon near the community of Yoder. About 75 gathered for the potluck lunch and program. Joel Daniels shared a power point presentation of the 125th anniversary of the church organized and built shortly after a large contingent of Yoder's arrived in the Willamette Valley migrating from Illinois and Missouri. The oldest member present was Lucia Eyman Schuebel, 101, granddaughter of Jonathan S. Yoder. Her sister, Roberta Eyman Daniels, died in September at age 101. Another sister, Anna Lou Eyman Case, died in October at 98. Mary Yoder Bickers was reelected president of the group which plans to meet again next year on the first Sunday of August at the church.