

# FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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Issue #5

March 1994

The goals for this newsletter are to encourage further development of our family history and to expand family friendship. It seeks to increase the circle of family members and to assist in the sharing of information about our family heritage. Your "editor" is: James D. Spainhour, 1210 Francis Drive, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005-2208.

## OUR MAILING LIST:

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YOU MAY HAVE A "SUBSCRIPTION" AT NO COST OTHER THAN TO LET ME KNOW THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED.

It has been a year since Issue #4 -- I certainly didn't intend it to be this long! Issue #6 is planned for June, and Issue #7 for September, 1994. Much of the "history research" has already been done for these and parts are already written.

Many of you have been sending additions and corrections for our family genealogy files. As a result, the collection now contains 1,243 family sheets and 5,754 individuals. Some more letters and packages of information are not yet included, so its growth will continue.

Several of you have sent clippings from your local newspapers with obituaries of family members. These are especially appreciated because they not only provide a little information to make the dry family sheets more interesting, but one of these recently provided the "missing link" for six families in our "lost" file so that they are now "attached to the tree".

Several of you have sent me names and addresses for other interested "cousins". I especially thank Virginia Atkins (Colfax, NC), who sent me names of Spainhour "cousins" she met in an ice-cream shop!

## REUNION IN 1995:

Chairman Jack White and his Reunion committee is working on a questionnaire related to the 1995 Reunion. Expect this about June. If you are receiving this Newsletter you will also be receiving that information. Excess contributions to the Newsletter will be turned over to Jack's committee to assist with their mailing expenses also.

Jack currently expects the Reunion to be a period of about four days. He is considering both Spring-time (around Easter) or early October, 1995.

Easter-time could allow interested persons to attend some of the Moravian Easter Services. At Salem, for example, you may attend a special service, accompanied by a brass and woodwind orchestra of perhaps 500 players. It takes place outdoors, at sunrise, in the church cemetery. Expect 20,000 others to come also. Both periods are attractive times for passing through the mountains in western North Carolina -- dogwood trees, mountain laurel and azaleas bloom in the spring and the fall colors usually peak about the second week of October.

During the Reunion, some time will be allocated for getting acquainted with other "cousins" -- some time will be allocated for tours of various family homesite, etc. which are in the area -- some time will be allocated for information exchange regarding family history -- one evening will be devoted to a banquet and some entertainment -- and some time will be allocated for you to more fully explore your special interests.

Jack White would like to hear from you if the Spring or Autumn period is especially desirable or especially awkward for you, and what would help Jack most, is for you to tell him what special activities will be most important to you during the Reunion itself or just before/after the Reunion Program.

## THE 92-EDITION GENEALOGY BOOKS:

I must apologize if some of you wanted a set of these books and have not received them. Unfortunately due to lightning from a thunderstorm, one of my computer files together with its backup file were both destroyed. That file contained a record of all who had requested copies and those to whom copies had been sent. I can recreate the list of requested copies from my correspondence files, but that file was my only record of most of the outgoing copies.

If you still wish a copy that is entirely possible, I will be happy to make one for you. Just let me know. Perhaps, instead, you may choose to wait for the 1996-Edition. During the meantime, if there is specific information of interest to you, I can send you copies of selected individual family sheets. This has now become possible due to improvements in the computer software which I use for the records. If you live in North Carolina, you can find a copy of the 92-Edition in the Forsyth County Public Library or in the Danville Public Library.

I still plan to put our genealogy information into the "Personal Ancestry File" database software offered so reasonably by the Mormon Church Family Center in Utah. It will be some time yet, however, before this is completed. If you are interested in this software, I shall be happy to send you the address and an order form.

## **FAMILY NEWS ITEMS:**

Edith Spänhauer (Muttentz), toured over much of the American west during last October, visiting CA, NV, UT, & AR. This busy lady also visited England (Cornwall & Devon), and Dresden in other trips during last year.

Andreas Spaenhauer (son of Peter & Corry), whose band played at our Friday Banquet during the Muttentz Reunion, will begin his study of Medicine in November this year.

Joe & Bonny Archer have moved to Logan, UT. You may remember this family from Newsletter #2 when I mentioned our visit at the bed- and-breakfast inn previously operated by this couple on Beech Mountain above Banner Elk, NC.

Christopher Arney has moved from New York City to Weatherford, OK. Chris, we sincerely hope you are doing well, and enjoy the delightful and "less stressful environment" for which I fondly remember my own years in Oklahoma.

Aaron Spainhour and family have moved from Arlington, TX to Fort Worth. Aaron's father, who lives in Shreveport, LA, was born in Elkin, NC in 1898! I am looking forward to Aaron sending some additional information on his father's family and his grandfather so that I can "connect" these "Texas Cousins" to our collective "Family Tree".

Betty & Nick Hennessee attended a Methodist Heritage Seminar in the Savannah, GA area this past year. Moravians were favorably mentioned for their influence on John Wesley and the shaping of his theology. Nick and Betty also attended an Elderhostel program at Gettysburg, PA. They recommend this program not only for Civil War "buffs" but anyone interested in important historical events. Betty found no Spainhour's in the Civil War battle at Gettysburg and I know of none. Have we missed someone you know about?

William & Kathleen Spainhour have moved again. They are now located in Richmond, Virginia. Kathleen is attending Virginia Commonwealth U. (a graduate program in writing), and Bill is concentrating on history. They too have been touring many Civil War Battlefields. Bill is especially interested in information about descendants of Jacob Israel Spainhour: Lucinda Speas, Jacob Franklin Spainhower, Clara Cook, Henry Spainhower, and Eliza Mickey. If you have such information, contact William at 14 West Lock Lane, Richmond, VA 23226.

Mr. John Plaster, you may remember from earlier Newsletters, has gathered much information regarding descendants of Samuel, Daniel, and John -- three sons of John & Elizabeth Spainhour -- who came west from NC into KY, IN, MO, & IL. John has shared much of this with our collective files. You will find these descendants beginning with Family Sheet # 6,008. If you have an interest in families who settled in this area, especially in MO, I suggest you write to John, he is very experienced in such research. His address is 1121 McNally Street, Apt. A, Chillicothe, MO, 64601.

Major Martin Thomas Spainhour is now Lt. Colonel Spainhour and in June, will take command of the 107th Finance Battalion at Fort Bragg, NC. Congratulations Tom! In Issue #4, I incorrectly referred to Tom's wife, Lisa, as Lisa, nee Rosser. Her maiden name should have been Lisa Thomas. Family Sheets # 11,207 & # 12, 286 are now corrected.

Edgar & Edith Spänhauer (Muttentz) took a wildlife trip to Canada this past , visited with a friend in Green Bay, WI; with

Mary Spainhour Lambert in St. Paul, MN; and also with Jim & Golda Young in Dallas, Freddie & Anna Spainhouer in Dallas, and several more of our Texas cousins. I am told everyone had a good time together. Some time ago, Edgar sent me a clipping from his Newspaper which reviews old family names for the Basel-Country Canton. Included therein are 54 from Muttentz. We see descendants from several of these families in North Carolina. More about this in the next Newsletter.

Harold I. Spainhour (High Point, NC) has gathered more information on the soldier named Eaton, who is buried in the small cemetery with Solomon & Maria Conrad Spainhour. This information will be included in a future issue of the Newsletter.

Many news items have surely been overlooked as I reviewed my files. I apologize, and I promise to do better in the June and September Issues, so please continue to send them to me.

## **OUR FIRST TWO AMERICAN FAMILIES:**

Research since Issue #4 of this Newsletter has added some information regarding the families of Johann Heinrich and Wernhardt Spänhauer, so let's review the changes that have been made in their family-sheets since the "92-Edition". The question regarding the surname for Heinrich's wife is satisfactorily cleared up thanks to research by Catherine Canter (Pfafftown, NC) at the Bethania Moravian Cemetery where Elizabeth is buried. The burial records at this Church, and perhaps more compelling, her gravestone reads: "Spoenhauerin, Elizabeth Lum".

Heinrich and Elizabeth were married in Lancaster, PA in 1742. The book "Owen County Cousins" , and an article in the "Stokes County History" series, report their marriage as in 1743. This date probably came from Heinrich's Memoir, which gives this date as 1743. New information now available, however, indicates that this is incorrect.

The Family Sheet # 5,001 for Heinrich and Elizabeth has been changed as follows: Individual # 2.06, listed in the "92-Edition" as Heinrich, born 1746, is now listed as Johannes, born 1743 .

Johannes died in Bethania, NC in 1763 and is buried in the Bethania Moravian Cemetery. His surname on the gravestone is Johannes Spoenhauer, with the dates as stated above. This seems clearly to be the same individual that the book "Owen County Cousins" lists as Heinrich, but it seems very unlikely that his name would be Johannes Heinrich, so we will use only the one name as on his gravestone. His sister Maria Elizabeth, Individual # 1.06, is now listed as the second child. Additional information about Johannes and Maria will be included in the History Section of the next Newsletter.

Two additional children have been added to the Family Sheet # 5,003 for Wernhardt and Elizabeth Lohner, thanks to research by Mary Spainhour (Aiken, SC) at an LDS Family Records Center. The two new children, twins, are inserted between the fifth and sixth children on that family sheet in the "92-Edition". Individual # 56.06 is Johann Heinrich Spänhauer and Individual # 57.06 is Anna Elisabetha Spänhauer, both born August 5, 1762. This information is from records of St. Jacob's Union Church in Brodbeck's Township, York County, PA. These two children were baptized at this church on September 26, 1762.

Presumably these twin children of Wernhardt and Elisabeth died while still very young because we find no records of them in North Carolina (twins often did not survive very well in those

days). Unfortunately their death dates cannot be given because the burial records available for this church do not begin until 1772. The earlier records have been lost.

St. Jacob's Church was established in 1756, and Werner and Elisabeth were members there at least as early as October 7, 1761, when they are listed that day as "sponsors" at the infant baptism of Anna Elisabetha Hoff.

#### **YORK COUNTY AND YORKTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA:**

The first settlements within York County were west of the Susquehanna River at Kreutz Creek, near where Hanover now stands. The first people were English, but these were soon succeeded by "German" emigrants. Most of the German folks settled in the Kreutz Creek neighborhood, while the English located themselves in the area of Pigeon Hills. The first settlements started in 1729, and these two communities were the only ones until about 1733, when others began to arrive.

Early in 1733, twenty-four families, mostly from Wuerttemberg, came in one group, an Evangelical Lutheran Congregation. At least one member of this group, Mathias Schmeiser, appears later in records at the St. Jacob's Union Church at which Werner and Elizabeth Spänhauer were members.

In 1740, when our emigrant family arrived in PA, there was not one house within the present limits of the borough of York. The area was surveyed by Thomas Cookson in October 1741. He divided the area east of the Codorus into squares in the manner of Philadelphia. The first applications for these lots were made in November 1741, and 23 lots were "taken up" during that first month. A list of the individuals which "took" these lots is available. None was a Spänhauer.

Some family records state that Werner was one of the first twelve settlers in Yorktown. This is not necessarily ruled out by the information above, because while many took up lots, the actual building of the town proceeded slowly. This was because many were not able to comply with all the required conditions. In this case, their lots were forfeited and granted to someone else. A record of April 10, 1751 shows 50 lots with buildings, of which three were churches. Two of the churches were German Lutheran and the other was German Reformed.

The "Stokes County History" books indicate that Johann Heinrich and Elisabeth resided in Pigeon Hills, PA, where their first child, Elizabeth was born in 1746. It goes on to indicate that they then moved to York County about 1750, where Heinrich, Jr. was born. Does anyone know where Pigeon Hills was? Perhaps more research can clear this up. We also do not have the specific birthplace for their first child, Johannes, so we can add that to our research list.

Notwithstanding a little confusion about details, we have a reasonable outline for Johann Heinrich -- with arrival in 1740, marriage in Lancaster in 1742, and three children born in Pigeon Hill(s) during the years 1743, 1746, and 1748. We know that he made a return trip to Switzerland during 1748 and 1749, and soon after his return, according to his Memoir, "I moved to York County" -- where their other two children were born in 1750 and 1752. Again according to his Memoir, "a couple of years thereafter (after returning from Switzerland) I moved into Virginia and to New River in 1755."

In his Memoir, Werner and Verona's son, John Jacob, says "I was born on the seventh of November, 1750, near Yorktown on the Codorus". Our records indicate that Werner's

& (second wife) Elisabeth's son Michael, and daughter Mary Eve, were born in Yorktown during 1753 and 1755, respectively, and we find this couple living in Brodbeck Township (near the Codorus) in September 1762. Our genealogy records, however, indicate them to be in Virginia during 1758 when Heinrich was born, and in Maryland during 1761, when Maria was born. Assuming all this is correct, they must have gone to Virginia in 1756-1757 (to visit with Heinrich and Elizabeth?) and returned to Pennsylvania via Maryland in 1759-1760-1761. During this time, Johann & Elizabeth moved to North Carolina, arriving in Bethabara early in 1759.

The following "chapter" will attempt to put this family information into its context of Colonial History.

#### **WHAT LIES WEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE?:**

For more than 100 years after the first settlement at Jamestown, all but one of the English Colonies were confined to the flat coastal plain of North America between Maine and South Carolina. The largest towns, Boston, Annapolis, Williamsburg, and Charleston were ports as well as colonial capitals. Pennsylvania was the only "inland" colony, but even there, settlements were limited to the southeastern part of that state around the ports of New Castle and Philadelphia on the Delaware River. This was necessary because the colonists looked toward the sea and toward England both for imports of manufactured goods and for exports of their agricultural products. Travel between the colonies was by boat, along the eastern seaboard.

What lay behind the Appalachian Mountains to the west was essentially unknown. The peaks were awesome and they were covered by dense growths of pine trees. The Indians referred to the land west of the mountains as "dark and bloody", populated with savage tribes.

In Virginia, the oldest colony, people talked about exploring and even settling in and beyond the mountains, but very few had seen any of this area personally. By 1715, however, a few hardy settlers had established themselves within clear sight of the easternmost range called the Blue Ridge Mountains, and the challenge to explore beyond was no longer resistible.

Colonel Alexander Spotswood, governor of the Virginia Colony, asked the Virginia Council to sponsor an exploration to go the peak of the Blue Ridge and to discover what lay beyond. Sixty three horsemen rode out of Williamsburg together two months later, with the governor himself leading. They spent the night in the frontier settlement of Germanna on the Rapidan River (this is about 15 miles SE of present-day Culpeper). A group of Dutch and German settlers had cleared trees and built homes here two years before on a tract which had been assigned to them by Spotswood (at that time Lt. Governor).

As the group rode out the following morning, the Governor was dressed in a green velvet suit, Russian boots, and a jaunty hat with a flowing plume. The group was heavily armed and well equipped for a long journey. Packhorses were laden with plenty of food and a big supply of wine, brandy, rum, champagne, etc., etc.

The travel was easy for the next three days because the Indian and hunting trails were well worn and the land was open and rolling. Soon, however, as they moved more deeply into the hills, the forest closed in. There were many streams to cross, their clothes were torn by the tree limbs, and the heat, hornets

and mosquitos of lowland Virginia in August began to plague them.

Five days out from Germanna, they reached the base of a high mountain. It was a tough climb, but they successfully reached the peak of the Blue Ridge range at Swift Run Gap on September 5, 1716. Here, for the first time, they looked down into the Great Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. This valley is part of a broad plateau which lies between the older Blue Ridge Range and the newer Allegheny Mountains farther west. If you have driven along today's Blue Ridge Parkway, you know what a breathtaking sight this was!

Spotswood's troop remained awhile at the top of the Blue Ridge not only to enjoy the view, but also to enjoy several rounds of toasts to King George, etc., etc. After these refreshments, they started down the western slope into the valley. After seven more miles, some of which required them to wade through grass and pea vines as high as their horses, they arrived at the banks of the river named by the Indians, "Shenandoah" (Daughter of the Stars). Spotswood dubbed it the "Euphrates" ! They crossed the river and made camp. They emptied several more bottles and had a good dinner of turkey and deer plus grapes, currants, and cucumbers which they found growing abundantly all around them. They finished by emptying several more bottles, then Governor Spotswood wrote down a claim to this land for King George I, put it into one of those empty bottles, and ceremoniously buried it.

Spotswood's group was only about midway across the rectangular plateau lying between the Blue Ridge and the Alleghenies. They were in the area where Massanutten Mountain splits the valley, which is over 200 miles long and 20-70 miles wide. It is enclosed on east and west sides by parallel mountain ranges. It is drained by the Shenandoah and its tributaries flowing northeastward into the Potomac.

The next morning, Governor Spotswood and most of the others began their return to Williamsburg. This was as far as they needed to go, because they thought they had found an easy passageway to the Great Lakes (about which he had heard from the Indians) and would only take a short time for Virginia to take possession of the Great Lakes region to forestall any claims which the French might make. They were sure that the Great Lakes would be clearly visible from the peak of the western range ahead. Obviously, they knew nothing about the breadth of the Alleghenies and the formidable challenge they would present to western migration.

This broad plateau was no longer a permanent home for any Indian Tribes. It was a neutral hunting ground with many buffalo, elk, deer, panther, fox, wolf, and beaver. There are plenty of springs with clear mineral water, and many excellent sites for farms, homes, and towns.

After their return, Governor Spotswood dubbed his horsemen "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe" and gave each a golden emblem inscribed "Sic Juvat Transcendere Montes" (Behold, We Cross the Mountains).

While most of Spotswood's group returned, a few remained to explore more of the valley. Near the river these rangers found notches cut with a hatchet into the sides of trees, part of the famous Indian footpath which went northward from Virginia into western Maryland and then into central Pennsylvania and finally to the Iroquois Confederacy villages around Lakes Ontario and Erie. To the south of Virginia it skirted the

headwaters of the Roanoke River and led to the villages of the Cherokees and Catawbas in the Carolinas.

Both these groups of Indians were Iroquoian subgroups which split off from the Great Siouan group in the central plains of North America west of the Mississippi River and migrated into the then uninhabited eastern third of what is now the United States. Archeology evidence shows that this migration took place prior to the thirteenth century. It may well have been as early as the seventh or eighth century. The point to be recognized, is that this foot trail, the "Great Warriors' Path", had been known and used by the Indians for many generations, perhaps for several hundred years, before the Colonists came. The northern Iroquoian tribes of the Great Lakes region, in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and western New York, and the southern Iroquoian tribes in western Virginia and the Carolinas, still used this trail regularly to get back and forth between their territories both for trading and for occasional raids on their enemies.

The trail, for the most part, followed paths created by woodland buffalo and other animals along the banks of streams. This trail later becomes the roadway over which a growing stream of settlers, especially from Pennsylvania, and including our Spänhauer ancestors, traveled southward to settle in western Virginia and in central and western North Carolina.

#### **A NEW TREATY WITH THE INDIANS:**

The Iroquois Indians, both northern and southern tribes were generally peaceful toward the colonies, but bands of warriors from the Five Nations group in the north would occasionally come south over the Warriors' Path and molest isolated tribes in Virginia and the Carolinas. Spotswood devoted the rest of his governorship to three objectives: to strengthen the peaceful relations between the colonies and the Iroquois Five Nations, to protect the small and peaceful tribes living in eastern Virginia, and most importantly, to secure peaceful use of the Warriors Trail. Control over use of this trail was a critical factor for the colonies so that they could effectively shield themselves from France's growing interests in the region across the mountains to the west.

In 1722, Spotswood arranged a meeting with the Five (Six) Nations and the governors of New York and of Pennsylvania. The meeting was held in Albany, near the Iroquois settlements. With the help of gifts and drink, a new treaty was "signed". This treaty contained a map denoting the Warriors' Path, and, among other things, secured Spotswood's other two objectives: the peaceful use of the Warriors' Path by both the colonists and the Indians, and a promise that the Indians would stay to the west of the Blue Ridge and to the north side of the Potomac (stay out of eastern Virginia). Increasingly after 1722, the settlers began using the Warriors' Path.

#### **FROM PENNSYLVANIA SOUTH:**

There were several factors encouraging settlers to migrate south from Pennsylvania. The continuing influx of settlers through Philadelphia drove up land prices near Philadelphia, so land was much cheaper to the south and west. For several years already the English politicians in Pennsylvania had been worried about the large percentage of "Germans" within their colony, so they encouraged these settlers to move south. As towns grew, merchants and artisans often found themselves in much greater demand along the colonial frontier.

Thus we see Lancaster, which is some 65 miles west of Philadelphia, laid out as the capital of Lancaster County in 1730, and the first settlers had reached into York County, another 25 miles west, about this same time. Germanic settlers formed much of the early population not only of Lancaster, York, and Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, but also in the area which became "Hagers Town" (now Hagerstown) in Maryland, continuing that march of "civilization" down the Great Warriors' Path.

Noticing the rapid growth of Germanic and Scottish settlements in Pennsylvania, Lord Baltimore, Maryland's Proprietor, sent a proclamation northward to encourage such settlers to come south. At this time the Maryland Colony had a population of only about 14,000 adult males. Lord Baltimore offered each family 200 acres free of quit-rents for three years and afterward a rent of only 4 shillings per hundred acres. It worked.

Jacob Stover, an immigrant from Switzerland and Adam Müller (Miller) led a group of Swiss and German emigrants down the Warriors' Path along the South Fork of the Shenandoah River and began a settlement on a tract of 10,000 acres at "Massanutten Mountain" in Virginia in 1726. So far I have not been able to precisely locate this spot -- "Indian old fields". The Massanutten Mountain begins near the present town of Front Royal, Virginia, and extends some 40 miles south-southwest.

Another group of German emigrants led by Joist Heydt (Hite), a native of Strassbourg in Alsace, began a settlement near the present town of Winchester, Virginia in 1732. Heydt bought 40,000 acres from Van Meter brothers and was granted another 100,000 acres by the Virginia Assembly. A third settlement was started soon after that at "Peaked Mountain". This spot was near the present town of Elkton on the South Fork of the Shenandoah, at the southern end of the Massanutten Mountains. If you don't see Elkton on your map, it's about ten miles east of Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The first settlers reached the New River area of Virginia in 1740 or 1741. The initial settlement in this area was in "Horseshoe Bottoms", a section of the New River which includes the mouths of Thoms (Toms) and Stroubles Creeks on the east side and Back Creek on the west side. This is a distance of about 5 miles. This area is located, about 5 miles north of present-day Radford, Virginia. After the bottom lands contiguous to the "horseshoe" were taken, the settlers next chose land on the plateau around the site of what became Price's Fork on the east side of the river.

### **A TRIP DOWN THE WARRIORS' PATH:**

In November 1743, two Moravians, Leonhard Schnell, a German, and Robert Hussey, an Englishman, began a journey down the Warriors' Path from Philadelphia. Parke Rouse, Jr. provides us a description of their experience in his book "The Great Wagon Road".

Two days after leaving Philadelphia Schnell & Hussey arrived at Lancaster (66 miles), and two days after that, they had reached York. The innkeeper at York rounded up an assembly of villagers and insisted that Schnell preach them a sermon, which, of course, he did. Leaving Yorktown early in the morning, they crossed the Conewago River in Adams County. As they descended into Maryland they had three more shallow rivers to cross. Schnell carried Hussey across the last one, the

Monocacy, because he was too tired from the 40 miles they had walked since sunup. In the vicinity of Frederick, Maryland, they found many Lutherans and German Reformed members, who also insisted on a sermon.

Along the twenty-mile hike between Frederick and the Potomac River, they saw only two houses, but could get nothing to eat because the householders themselves had no bread. They crossed the Potomac near present-day Harper's Ferry and spent that night in an English tavern.

In upland Virginia, near present-day Winchester, they came to the inn of Joist Heydt (Hite). Schnell asked Heydt the way to Carolina. Heydt described a path which included 150 miles through Irish settlements. The "Irish tract" was an area of the Valley of Virginia which later became Rockingham, Augusta, Rockbridge, and Botetourt Counties. Schnell did not want to go that route!

Early the next morning, Schnell met settler Stephan Schmidt who told him of another path which would avoid the dreaded Scotch-Irish settlements. Schmidt was a German Catholic, but he too wanted a sermon!

At the Shenandoah River they had first to convince the ferryman that they could pay the fare before he would take them across. Knowing that the next house was 24 miles away, they were reluctant to go farther that day, so they spent the night with an English family, who reluctantly gave them shelter. At first they were told that they could get no food and would have to sleep on the floor, but in the end they received something to eat and also a good bed. They paid and left the following day.

Often they encountered areas in which the path was overgrown so that they needed to use a hatchet to clear the way. At Goose Creek, Schnell felled a tree to serve as a footbridge. While on this "detour" around the Scotch-Irish settlements, they encountered a German family in a settlement near present-day Warrenton, Virginia. One man in this settlement described his voyage to America, during which 150 emigrants drowned. The settlers asked them to stay and preach a sermon on Sunday. They had a church building, but no minister, and had not heard a sermon in six months. Moved by his sermon, the villagers asked Schnell to stay and be their minister.

November rains had arrived as the two started south again, so they found creeks swollen and muddy. When they reached the Rappahannock River, they were able to cross in a canoe and stay at an inn kept by German immigrant Christopher Kuefer. For the next several days they plodded through the Virginia highlands in the rain. They were stopped in Orange County near the courthouse by an English settler demanding to see their passport. Schnell was, at first, reluctant, so several farmers conducted him with rifles to a county justice of the peace. After inspecting their passports, they were allowed to proceed.

On December 2, they reached the Roanoke River on the boundary between Virginia and North Carolina. Here they found the rich farmlands which Colonel William Byrd II had purchased 20 years earlier and which were described in Byrd's "Gefundnes Eden in Virginia" (Newfound Eden in Virginia). This book was published in Switzerland in 1738 for use in encouraging Swiss and German emigrants to come south through Pennsylvania to Virginia and North Carolina.

In Craven County, North Carolina, the two travelers met Jacob Schuetz, an elder of the German Reformed settlers living near the Trent River. They were also eager for a sermon, because they had not heard one in German "for several years".

About 40 people gathered. Food was packed for use by the travelers as they continued their journey. Snow began to fall and at night they could hear wolves and other animals. Abandoning the back country, the pair turned eastward and finally reached Charles Town (Charleston) on Christmas Eve, 1743.

### **ONE PROBLEM SOLVED:**

Thomas, the sixth Lord Fairfax of Cameron inherited from his mother Catherine, daughter of Lord Culpeper, a tract of land in Virginia. This tract included the area lying between the Rappahannock and the Potomac Rivers. Thomas became interested when he learned that the land was in demand and might be worth a lot of money. The problem was that no one knew where the headwaters of these two rivers were, and that defined the western boundaries of his tract.

Fairfax arrived in Virginia in 1735, with an order from the King to have the tract surveyed. Lt. Governor William Gooch appointed William Byrd II of Westover on the James to head the survey project, but Fairfax didn't like Byrd and decided to employ his own crew. Fairfax placed Thomas Lewis in charge. Lewis' father was a Scotch-Irish immigrant who had settled near present-day Staunton in 1715. His chief assistant was Peter Jefferson, descendant of a lowland Virginia family who had moved upland into Albemarle County. Peter Jefferson's son Thomas wrote the American Declaration of Independence.

The issues between Fairfax and the Virginia Legislature were resolved in 1745. The agreement was that Virginia would accept the Fairfax land grant, but that Fairfax would honor their minor grants to independent settlers already in the territory. He would, however, have the right to collect quitrent. The agreement allowed Virginia to extend its government throughout the disputed area and, of course, it was of critical importance to those settlements led by Joshua Heydt and Jacob Stover (plus several more settlements) because these lay entirely within the Fairfax tract.

Beginning their survey near the Rappahannock River headwaters, Lewis' team of 40 men worked from September 1746 until February 1747. They found that the tract contained more than 5,000,000 acres -- most of northern and western Virginia. This area today embraces nineteen counties of Virginia and five counties in West Virginia. It covered several hundred miles of the Warriors' Path. Fairfax himself moved into the valley in 1737. On 10,000 acres he had reserved for himself, he built a house and a land office which he called Greenway Court. It was 11 miles SE of the settlement at Shawnee Springs which later developed into Winchester, Virginia.

In 1748, he befriended a young surveyor named George Washington, and employed George at age 16 to help more clearly to define his property lines. Fairfax was a sour, pudgy, middle-aged bachelor who hated all women (he was jilted by a lady of rank), who lived "alone" (there were numerous servants and slaves), who entertained men friends lavishly, but who never allowed a woman into his house. From here he watched the tide of settlers move slowly up the valley toward the eastern continental divide at the headwaters of the James and Roanoke rivers.

### **ANOTHER TRIP DOWN THE WARRIORS' PATH:**

Moravians made this trip several times during these years as the German settlements grew from Pennsylvania south across the Great Valley between the Blue Ridge and the Alleghenies. After about 1744, this "trail" slowly became a "road" as "civilization" spread southward toward the New River and beyond.

The Reverend Ulysses S.A. Heavener (how's that for a name?) in his book "New River German Settlements", tells a little of another journey down this Warriors' Path. This journey involves the same Moravian, Leonhard Schnell, but this time his traveling companion is another German named Bradenmüller.

From Philadelphia, in 1749, these two walked through Frederick and Hagers Town (Hagerstown) in Maryland, then up the Potomac Valley to Warm Springs (now Berkeley Springs, West Virginia), and then further up the Potomac to the South Branch of that river where there was a German settlement. After a visit, they continued further up the Potomac valley to Patterson Creek, where there was another German settlement. These two settlements were located in fertile valleys just across the Maryland border from present-day Cumberland, Maryland. Heavener describes these as the "edge of civilization" in this area, and notes that the next "edge" toward which our travelers were heading was 250 miles SSW at New River.

Returning to the first settlement at the mouth of the South Branch on the Potomac, our two Moravians then turned up the valley of the South Branch "with no signs of other humans" to the Greenbriar River. From here, they crossed the Shenandoah River Valley to visit those German Settlements at Massanutten Mountain and at Peaked Mountain.

Continuing their journey to the James River -- which they had to swim in November! -- they arrived at an Irishman's hut near present-day Fincastle, Virginia, in Botetourt County, where they were allowed to spend the night and have a meal of bear meat and johnnycake. From here it was a 30-mile walk to Jacob Harman's, who lived in Horseshoe Bottoms.

By this time in 1749, the German settlements along the New River had expanded to include the area between Sinking Creek (about five miles north of the horseshoe and about 10 miles north of present-day Radford) and Reed Creek (about 20 miles south of the horseshoe and about 15 miles south of Radford). There was also a Swiss settlement at Newbern on Peak Creek about 10 miles WSW of Radford.

The settlement at Price's Fork (adjacent to Horseshoe Bottoms) was a stopping point for all early expeditioners who came through this area because here is where the road forked -- one road leading west to Adam Harmon's Ford just below the mouth of Thoms (Toms) Creek on the north side of the horseshoe, and the other road leading south to Pepper's Ferry on the other side of the horseshoe -- the two ways for crossing the New River at this time.

### **A MAP IS DRAWN:**

Not long after surveying the Fairfax grant, Peter Jefferson and Joshua Fry received a commission to extend further west, the boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina. William Byrd II had surveyed this line in 1728, but it now needed to be carried further west. Fry was an Oxford graduate who came to Virginia, taught mathematics at the College of William & Mary, then went to work as a surveyor with Jefferson on the Fairfax project. Lewis was now a dignified member of

the Virginia Council and was busy with land sales in western Virginia.

Peter Jefferson and Joshua Fry were again chosen, in 1750, when the Lords of Trade in London ordered the Governor of Virginia to have a map drawn up showing the inhabited portions of Virginia. By this time, both these men were leaders in the growing frontier along the Warriors' Path. Fry was presiding magistrate, head of the militia, and official surveyor for Albemarle County, in effect its most prominent citizen. Jefferson was not far behind as a magistrate or justice of the peace. Their map was completed by the autumn of 1751. It was printed in England in 1754. Entitled: "A Map of the Inhabited part of Virginia, containing the whole Province of Maryland, with Part of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and North Carolina", Jefferson & Fry's map showed a wagon road from Pennsylvania, crossing the Potomac into Virginia at Watkins' Ferry (later Williamsport).

In 1744, the Virginia Assembly had ordered a ferry on the "Potomack river from Evan Watkin's landing opposite to the mouth of Anagochego Creek to Edmund Wade's land in Maryland. This is where the road had previously crossed a shallow ford. The ferry made the crossing faster and safer. The Jefferson-Fry map projected from Watkin's Ferry, slanting southwest, "the Indian Road" to the western uplands of North Carolina. Watkin's Ferry, in time, became Light's Ferry, then Lemen's Ferry, and finally Williams' Ferry before becoming Williamsport, Maryland.

In 1749, some of the western settlers petitioned also for a ferry across the New River near Big Lick (which later became Roanoke, Virginia). The Burgesses chose for this operation a 33-year old Englishman named William Ingles. We'll hear more about William Ingles and his family later. After Ingles' Ferry was established, settlers could travel by horse and wagon (at least with some assurance) from Pennsylvania to New River, and, with luck, all the way to the Yadkin River in North Carolina, although from New River the road became progressively worse.

#### **ANOTHER GROUP CROSSES THE NEW RIVER:**

On March 14, 1750, six men rode up the old Indian road leading to Big Lick (Roanoke). Crossing the eastern continental divide at Buford's Gap on a road recently created to connect the lower settlements east of the mountains with the "advanced outposts" in the Roanoke Valley between the Blue Ridge and the Alleghenies. Eight days out of Charlottesville, they were following the path of explorers named Batts and Fallin, who had journeyed this way in 1671. Batts and Fallin had found a wilderness untouched by civilization. These horsemen, led by Dr. Thomas Walker, found frequent clearings and scattered cabins of settlers. Walker's group was employed to locate a boundary to 800,000 acres in the frontier of western Virginia which would be suitable for settlement.

They reached Big Lick on March 15. This bottom-land area got its name from salt springs which seeped up through the mud. It had long been a rendezvous for herds of buffalo, elk, deer, etc., but these animals were already scarce in the area because the settlers had killed them for sport, as well as for food and skins.

From Big Lick, the road led across the New River at a ford where William Ingles had recently built a mill on a tributary creek, then to a new settlement of Tunkards (Dunkards) in a

bottom on the west side. I conclude that Ingle's mill and the ford where the Warrior's Path crossed the New River were at the southern edge of the present-day town of Radford. Walker and his companions lingered here for three days. They bought corn from the Dunkards, and at Reed Creek, they bought bacon from another settler. Continuing their journey, they reached the headwater for the middle fork of the Holston River on March 22, and made camp four miles downstream.

On March 26, they rode west on Reed Creek and crossed a branch of the north fork of the Holston. This was the outer edge of the advancing settlements in 1750. Three nights later their dogs were restless. The next morning they discovered the tracks of about 20 Indians who had passed by during the night. The men caught two young buffalo, killed one, marked the other, and let it go. Continuing down Reed Creek, they found fine timber, including an elm which was 25 feet around. They also found two groups of Indian houses built of logs and covered with bark. These houses were littered with bones, pots and pans, and pieces of mats and cloth, indicating a considerable period of occupancy. Four miles further, they camped on the Holston River across from a large Indian Fort, remaining there over Sunday, April 1. Walker carved his name and the date on several beech trees here.

The discoveries by Walker and his group on this trip in 1750 are highly important in the next chapter of our history, but for now we'll leave them here on the Holston River and pick up their story again in Newsletter #6.

The Moravians and our Spänhauer immigrant families will begin their journeys down the Warrior's Path to New River and then on to North Carolina next, but first another look at "the big picture".

#### **THE ENGLISH COLONIES IN 1750:**

The four New England Colonies have now grown to about 350,000 people: Massachusetts 180,000; Connecticut 100,000; Rhode Island 35,000; and New Hampshire 30,000.

The middle Colonies now were about 300,000: Pennsylvania plus Delaware 150,000; New York 80,000; and New Jersey 65,000.

The southern Colonies were now about the same size as the New England group in terms of Europeans, but they also contained about 200,000 Africans. The populations, including blacks, were: Maryland 140,000; Virginia 250,000; the Carolinas 150,000; and Georgia, where settlement had just started, 5,000.

The grand total had now reached about one million Europeans plus the 200,000 Africans.

Of the roughly 120,000 Indians who were living east of the Alleghenies when the Colonial settlements began, there were about 20,000 left in 1750. Some of them, such as the Delaware, tried to make a new home for themselves west of the mountains, but most of the missing 100,000 were dead, either of diseases such as tuberculosis and smallpox or in warfare. The technology, the numbers, the drive and ambition of the white settlers were overwhelming. The hunting-gathering lifestyle of the Indians plus their lack of unity were characteristics which gave the Indians only two alternatives -- adapt or die. It took almost 400 years (1500-1900), and it was, of course, cruel and unjust, but also clearly inevitable. Perhaps we should not blame our European forefathers too much -- after all, nomadic and

pastoral people had been conquered by "more advanced" and better organized societies since the beginning of their history.

The flow of settlers down into western Virginia and on into western North Carolina encountered, therefore, little or no resistance from the Indians. Meanwhile, however, a new "hot" period was developing in the 70-years long conflict between England and France, and from the American point of view, the upcoming battle would be "the big one". Ultimate control of North America would be at stake.

### **TELL THE FRENCH TO GET OUT!**

The French and the English had different religions, different habits, and very different ways of life -- which inevitably pitted them against each other in North America. France wanted fur trade (highly profitable for them) and religious converts among the Indians. The English weren't so interested in converted Indians. For the most part they wanted the Indians out of the way. The French built little forts for trading posts around the Great Lakes and down the Mississippi Valley. The English build compact communities of fishermen and farmers.

Church and State in French Canada united in a strategy to build forts down the Mississippi Valley from Quebec to New Orleans (the Jesuits actually planned to extend these all the way to Peru!). But their plan was to use these forts to create a vast sweeping movement like a door with its hinge anchored in Quebec and closing upon the English colonies from the west so as to keep them east of the Alleghenies, and maybe even push them into the Atlantic Ocean.

The conflict was only "warm" while the French were along the Mississippi, but when they also started building forts along the Ohio, their threat became clear to the Colonists, and things began to "heat up". Now against that 1.2 million in the English Colonies, there were in Canada only about 80,000 Frenchmen. It doesn't seem like much of a threat. But all 80,000 were responsible directly to the French King while England had 13 separate colonies which could barely govern their own territories, and which were almost constantly involved in disputes with each other. The French had reason to be confident.

The Iroquois Indians of the Five Nations were also in the path of this closing door. These tribes lived in the Mohawk Valley of New York and this valley was an important gateway between Canada and the Great Lakes, and from there, on down the Mississippi Valley. The French had longstanding alliances with the Algonquin and Huron tribes to the north and west, and while the Iroquois would sometimes raid the Huron to capture their fur-laden canoes, the French knew that they were not that close with the English, so they might either stay neutral, or they might be wooed into joining the French side. This wasn't unreasonable -- the Iroquois had formed loose alliances of convenience with both sides, playing one against the other to their own advantage whenever possible.

France sent 1,500 men down the St. Lawrence to Lake Erie, beginning their efforts to secure the Ohio Valley. They built a fort at Erie which they named Presq'Isle, and another on nearby French Creek, which they named Le Boeuf. These forts would give them a supply link to Fort Duquesne located at the site of present-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Now Fort Le Boeuf was within the territory claimed by Virginia (remember Spotswood's buried bottle?), so it was

incumbent upon Virginia's Governor Dinwiddie to do something! He sent a 21 year old militia major named George Washington to Fort Le Boeuf to tell the French to get out, because they were on English land. Washington was chosen because he knew the territory -- it was within that land he had surveyed for Lord Fairfax. Needless to say, the French politely refused. This was in 1753.

The war which follows isn't particularly important to our family history, so we could ignore it completely -- except for one aspect -- the Shawnee Indians. These tribes were France's chief allies. They lived in the highlands of the Appalachian range of Pennsylvania and in the Scioto Valley of Ohio west of the plateau crossed by the Warriors' Path. They resented the growing encroachment by the settlers moving down the Warrior's Path and they responded eagerly to France's inducements to attack along this frontier. These Shawnee attacks will have a direct impact on our family.

### **WACHAU AND BETHABARA:**

Recognizing the contribution of the German farmers to the Colony of Pennsylvania, caused other colonies to invite these immigrants too. Lord Granville, President of the Privy Council in London, owned a very large tract of land in North Carolina. He offered Count Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf of Austria a portion of this land on very reasonable terms. Zinzendorf was benefactor and sponsor of the Moravian Church. North Carolina appealed to Zinzendorf because it offered access to several Indian tribes (Cherokees, Catawbias, Creeks, & Chickasaws) to which he would send Moravian missionaries, and North Carolina offered the possibility of an undivided tract of land on which the Moravians could live exclusively and undisturbed by misunderstanding neighbors as they were experiencing in Pennsylvania. Lord Granville's offer of 100,000 acres was accepted at a meeting of the Moravian Church in London on November 29, 1751. Moravian Bishop August Gottlieb Spangenberg, also known as "Brother Joseph", was sent to select the new tract. Spangenberg was essentially "second-in-command" of the Church.

On August 25, 1752, six men left Bethlehem, Pennsylvania on horseback. With Spangenberg, were Henry Antes, Timothy Horsefield, Joseph Miller, Herman Lösch (Loesch, Lash), and John Merk. Proceeding southward over the Great Warriors' Path, they arrived at Edenton, North Carolina on September 10, where they met a man named Churton, the agent and surveyor-general for Lord Granville. They remained here a few days because the entire party was ill with fever. Horsefield was too ill to continue, so Miller also stayed at Edenton to care for him while the other four Moravians, two hunters, and Churton headed for the Catawba River -- which they reached at the end of October. Here Spangenberg wrote: "Hitherto we have been on the Trading Path where we could find at least one house each day where food could be bought; but from here we turn into the pathless forest".

Here, "at the end of all civilization", they had bread for 14 days journey into the wilderness. It was nearly 14 weeks before their quest was completed! Eight weeks were spend along the Catawba, near the headwaters of the New River, the Mulberry Fields (Wilkes County), and in the mountains. No suitable tract of appropriate size was found. Finally reaching the Yadkin River at the end of December, they gladly accepted the offer of some settlers to stay with them a few days. While talking with



settlers here, they were directed to a tract of rolling woodland which sounded like it may be just what they had been seeking to the west. They began surveying on December 27 at what would become the SW corner of the tract. On January 13, 1753, they had completed 14 parcels with 73,037 acres. Churton later surveyed 5 more parcels for them, bringing the total to 98,985 acres. The Moravians called this tract "Wachau" because the bottom-land or "Aue" along the principal creek or "Wach" resembled a valley in Austria with that name which was in the Zinzendorf ancestral estate. The name was later modified to "Wachovia" because that sounded more musical.

On August 7, 1753, John, the Earl of Granville, via 19 deeds, passed title to this tract to James Hutton of London, the Secretary of the Moravian Church. This tract lay in the three forks of the Gargalee or Muddy Creek in Rowan County, North Carolina. Through the dividing and subdividing of Rowan County, this tract was first in Rowan until 1770, then Surry until 1789, then Stokes until 1848, then Forsyth until the present.

Because the purchase of Wachovia coincided with a major financial shortage for the Church in England, they could not pay for the land and the American group was much too poor to do so. To solve this problem a Land Company was formed to open subscriptions among members and friends who had money to invest toward buying the land, satisfying the annual quitrent, and paying the expenses for the first settlement. Each subscriber was to pay a certain sum and also bind themselves to contribute to the needs of the colony for 5 years in exchange for 2,000 acres.

On October 8, 1753, fifteen Moravian "brothers" hitched six horses to their homemade wagon and headed south over the Warriors' Path, which we can now start calling "the Great Wagon Road". Crossing the Potomac at Watkins' Ferry they greatly admired the reddening of the maple trees along the Valley hillsides. Leader of this group was the minister Bernard Adam Grube and second-in-command was warden Jacob Loesch (Lash). The warden was in charge of temporal affairs. The others included Dr. Hans Martin Kalberlahn, a Norwegian physician, a tailor, a baker, three farmers, two carpenters, a gardener, and a tanner-shoemaker. Also along were Nathaniel Seidel and Joseph Haberland of Bethlehem, PA and Gottlob Konigsdorfer, who was visiting from a European Moravian congregation.

This group passed through the settlement at present day Winchester, VA, then arrived at Augusta Courthouse, a village of 20 houses, (later Staunton, Virginia) on October 24. Their trip record notes that "here the bad road begins". It was uphill and down so that they had constantly to help the horses by pushing the wagon or by holding it back with ropes fastened on the rear. They crossed the Blue Ridge at Evan's Gap and passed Upper Sauratown, arriving at the northern border of North Carolina on November 13. They reached the spot which would become Bethabara, NC at 3:00 pm on November 17, where they took shelter in a small empty cabin which had been built and formerly inhabited by a German named Hans Wagner.

In ten days they had cleared the dense forest from and plowed three acres using a plow built by Brother Heinrich Feldhausen. Brother Loesch planted the first wheat on December 4. Konigsdorfer, Sidel, Haberland, and another of the group left to return to Pennsylvania on December 19, while the remaining eleven prepared for winter. One of the eleven was

sent 40 miles into Virginia to get salt, one was sent to Dan River to buy oxen, and others went to the Yadkin River (2 days journey) to get corn and flour. Within five months they were growing wheat, corn, potatoes, flax, cotton, tobacco, barley, rye, oats, millet, buckwheat, turnips, squash, sugar peas, beans, and pumpkins. In a fenced garden to keep out rabbits and squirrels, they grew cucumbers and various "salat greens". They also had visited "neighbors" to buy apple and peach trees, livestock, and poultry. Soon, they would have everything they needed except salt, nails, glass, and coffee.

The following spring, in April 1754, John Jacob Fries came to replace Grube as minister. Fries was born in Denmark and was an accomplished scholar, especially in Hebrew. In September 1754, Bishop Peter Bohler arrived. It was during his visit that the name Bethabara was assigned to this temporary settlement. Bethabara was intended only as a temporary settlement which would sustain them while they selected and laid out the site for their main settlement which was to be located near the center of the tract.

The number at Bethabara increased on October 26, 1754 when seven additional men arrived, led by Brother Christensen, who was to supervise the erection of a mill. The cornerstone for their first house was laid on November 26, 1754. Soon they would also open a store and bring a gunsmith and other craftsmen from Pennsylvania. While their frontier neighbors found these Moravians very "strange", they also found them very useful. A Scotsman visited to have a tooth pulled, others asked them to make shoes and leather breeches for them, and some wanted nails from the smith, brandy from the distiller, or cooking ware from the potter.

The stage is now set for our first Spänhauer family to leave York County and proceed down that Great Wagon Road to New River, VA, and later to Bethabara, NC.

Actually we don't know anything about this journey for the Johann Heinrich Spänhauer family or exactly when it started. My copy of his memoir says "soon after returning from Switzerland (1749), I moved into York County, and a couple of years after that, into Virginia and to New River in 1755". Our genealogy records indicate that the last child of this family was born and died in Pennsylvania during 1752. Assuming that is correct, their journey might have started as early as late 1752 or early 1753. If so, then they may have lived somewhere along the way in Virginia for a couple of years before arriving in New River. One may speculate that several of the Muttenez emigrants who came back to America with Johann Heinrich on his second voyage in 1749 may have migrated directly into Virginia and were living in one of those German settlements near present-day Winchester, or those along the South Fork of the Shenandoah near Massanutten Mountain. Perhaps Johann Heinrich and his family visited and lived with them for a year or more before going on to New River, or perhaps their journey began later, say in 1754 so that they would be in New River in time for planting winter wheat, etc. More items for our research list!

Our stage in 1755, is as follows: Wernhardt Spänhauer and his family are still living in York County, PA; the Moravians have built a thriving temporary settlement at Bethabara.; Major George Washington is making himself famous in Ohio; The Shawnee Indians are poised to start making trouble; and Dr. Walker is suspended in time and camped on the Holston River waiting for us to join up with him again. Johann Heinrich (age 39) and Elizabeth Lum Spänhauer (age 36), together with their

three surviving children, Johannes (age 12), Maria Elizabeth (age 9), and Johann Heinrich, Jr., (age 5), have settled in New River, VA. Our saga continues with a story by Robert Kincaid in his book "The Wilderness Road".

#### **NEW RIVER, VIRGINIA:**

William Ingles stands within an area called Draper's Meadows, near where is present-day Blacksburg -- 4 or 5 miles up the road from Prices Fork and the German Settlement in Horseshoe Bottoms. Corn is in the milk, vegetable gardens are green and luxuriant, and the grain fields are turning golden as the residents of this little settlement in the New River Valley are getting ready to harvest it. Ingles is reasonably proud of what he has accomplished. He owns this fine land, has a wife and two little sons, and is prospering at age 25 -- not bad for a penniless Irishman after seven years of hard work.

William Ingles has been here since 1748, when he and John Draper, another Irish teenager, were directed there and staked to a start by a friend and benefactor, Colonel James Patton. Colonel Patton had known John's father, George Draper, who had immigrated from Ireland a few years before with his wife and two children. William Ingles had married John's sister, Mary Draper in 1750 -- the first wedding in the English Colonies west of the Blue Ridge. Mary Draper Ingles was just the type of wife needed on the frontier. She was strong, athletic, could ride, shoot, cut wood, or work in the fields. As we will see, she also possessed one other characteristic needed along the frontier -- a strong will to survive.

On that cool early morning of July 8, 1755, Ingles and Draper went to their separate grain fields, leaving Colonel Patton in the Ingles' Cabin. Patton was busy writing, with the broadsword he always carried lying on the table in front of him. Patton and his nephew, William Preston, had come for an unexpected visit and had brought disturbing news about the alliance between the French and the Indians to resist the westward expansion of the English Colonies. Patton and Preston brought gunpowder and lead shot for the settlers in Draper's Meadows ... just in case. Preston had gone to Sinking Creek (the Spänhauers lived on Sinking Creek) -- about 15 miles away.

When William Ingles heard gunfire and screams from the clearing where their cabins were located, he rushed home to see a band of Shawnee Indians assaulting the cabins. There were too many for him to attack, so he tried to hide. Two warriors, unfortunately spied him and gave chase. Ingles ran into the woods, jumped over a fallen tree, stumbled and fell. The Indians ran around the fallen tree without seeing him, which allowed him to slip deeper into the woods and escape. When things quieted down, he returned to the clearing, where he found John Draper. At Draper's smoldering cabin they found John's infant son, his head broken open. In the Ingles' cabin they found the body of Colonel Patton, scalped, and the bodies of two Indians which he had cut down with his broadsword before he was shot. The bodies of John Draper's mother, and that of a neighbor lay nearby. Another neighbor who was seriously wounded but still alive told them that John's wife had been shot in the arm as she fled with her baby. A warrior caught her, took her baby and smashed its head on the end of a log. The wounded Mrs. Draper, Mary Ingles and her two children, and several other neighbors were captured and taken away by the Indians. Mary Ingles was near time for birth of their third child.

As a final gesture of victory, the warriors stopped at the cabin of Philip Barger, a white-haired old man living alone. They cut off his head and put it into a bag, then while passing the cabin of Philip Lybrook on Sinking Creek, they gave the bag to Mrs. Lybrook, telling her to look inside for a friend.

Now on the following day, news reached these New River settlements regarding the death of General Braddock in western Pennsylvania. Braddock was leading an English army group to attack that French Fort, Le Boeuf. He refused George Washington's advice, attacked with open troop formations, and was soundly defeated. This combination of events was enough to terrorize the settlers all along the road between the lower Shenandoah and the New River.

With Braddock dead, Governor Dinwiddie turned over command of his colonies militia at Winchester to now Colonel George Washington, and those at Staunton to Major Andrew Lewis.

During her third night of captivity, Mary Ingles gave birth to a little girl. Knowing that she and the child would be killed if they could not continue the journey, she convinced the Indians that she could go on the following day. She rode a horse, holding her new daughter in her arms. They were taken to a Shawnee village on the Ohio River in what is now Kentucky. After several weeks with the Indians, Mary Ingles and an old Dutch woman, another captive that the Indians had made in Pennsylvania, were taken by a group of Indians to Big Bone Lick (in what is now Boone County, Kentucky). Here, using pots and kettles which the Indians had taken during the raid at Draper's Meadows, the two women helped the Indians make salt. Mary noted bones of prehistoric animals of enormous size lying about in abundance at this place.

Mary and the old Dutch woman had often talked about escaping. Their opportunity came one day at the salt lick when the warriors were hunting. What to do with her three-months old daughter? It was obviously impossible to carry a baby over several hundred miles through the wilderness and there was no way to prevent her from crying and thus betraying their presence to pursuing Indians. Mary cried, but put her baby in a bark cradle, tucked a blanket around it, kissed it, and turned away. She and the old Dutch Woman took blankets and a hatchet, and slipped into the forest.

They knew no direct way back to Virginia, so they decided to take the longer but more sure way by following familiar streams. They went first to the bank of the Ohio River and then up its south side. If they could find the Kanawha River where it enters the Ohio (at today's Point Pleasant, West Virginia), Mary knew that this became the New River in Virginia, so they would follow that stream all the way back to Draper's Meadows.

After several days of travel through canebrakes and marshes, across streams and over mountains, sometimes finding a cave, a hollow log, or a deserted indian camp for overnight shelter, and living on nuts, berries, papaws, roots, and bark, they came upon a patch of corn in an old abandoned Indian field across the Ohio River from the Shawnee village where they had at first been taken. Here they were able to "feast" on parched corn, and to take a supply with them. They also lucked upon a stray horse with a bell around its neck grazing in a meadow. They were able to catch him, silence the bell, and take turns riding him.

Upon reaching the Big Sandy River near present-day Catlettsburg, Kentucky, they were not able to cross this steam

near its mouth, so they turned upstream until they came to a log drift which would allow them a safe crossing. Getting the horse across was another problem. The old Dutch woman insisted that the horse could walk over the drift, but a short distance from the shore his legs fell through, leaving his body suspended helplessly on top of the logs. They took the small amount of corn which was left, the old woman took the horse's bell, and they left him stranded in midstream.

Returning down the other side of the Big Sandy, they followed the Ohio again, crossing the Guyandot River, and finally reaching the mouth of the Kanawha. Here, Mary Ingles took courage even though she knew the worst of their trip was still ahead. It was cold in these woods, they were tired and very hungry for night after night. Weak from fatigue and hunger, the old Dutch woman began to blame Mary Ingles for their suffering and threatened to kill her. Mary tried to sooth her ranting companion but the old woman's mind had broken and her outbursts became more frequent and more violent. Finally completely insane, the old woman threatened to kill Mary and eat her body. Mary proposed that they draw straws to see who would eat the other. Mary lost. She then tried other arguments and made promises of big rewards to the old woman when they got back, but nothing worked. The old woman grabbed Mary and the two rolled around on the ground for several minutes.

The old woman was larger, but Mary was younger and stronger. Mary managed to get free and stumbled off into the forest abandoning the old woman screaming after her.

Mary found a leaf-filled canoe along the riverbank and using a broken branch from a tree which had been split open by lightning, she poled herself across the river, then continued upstream. Two days later she noticed her companion on the other side of the river as she crossed a break in the trees. The old woman pleaded with Mary to rejoin her.

After struggling several more days through the gap in the mountains cut by the New River, Mary finally came out into the Valley near Eggleston's Springs (now Eggleston), about 15 miles from home. Adam Harman had a cabin here and answered Mary's cries for help. Mary had been traveling for 40 days, her clothes were in strings, and her arms, legs and feet were bruised and swollen. When she saw Adam Harman she collapsed. When food, a bath, and sleep in Harman's cabin had revived her, Adam took her to the Dunkards' Fort on the southern side of the German settlement where several settlers, including her husband, had taken refuge. Mary asked that a search party go to look for the old Dutch woman. They found her at the edge of the valley riding leisurely along on an old horse with a bell around its neck. Actually not long after she had last seen Mary across the river, she came upon a hunter's camp in the forest which contained a supply of food. She rested there until regaining her strength, then caught a stray horse, put the bell around its neck, and rode into the settlement in style! Meeting Mary, they embraced and ended their former troubles. Later, the Dutch woman joined a group going through the area to her home in Pennsylvania.

For greater safety, William and Mary Ingles moved from the Dunkards' Fort to Vaux's Fort which was near present-day Radford. They stayed there for some time, but Mary grew more obsessed with the fear of another Indian attack and convinced her husband to take her south of the Blue Ridge into Bedford County. The first night after they left, Shawnee raiders attacked Vaux's Fort and killed or took prisoner all of its occupants.

Among those killed were two of William Ingles' brothers, plus the wife and child of one of them. With his own wife now safely in Bedford County, William Ingles joined the Augusta County Militia to go against the Shawnees.

Wernhardt Spänhauer & family make their journey from York County to New River, to visit with Heinrich & family at their farm was on Sinking Creek about this time. They appear to have been here in 1758 when their son Heinrich was born -- see Family Sheet # 5,003. Sinking Creek enters the New River at Eggleston (where Mary Ingles came out), and runs along through the hills about five miles north and west of Radford and Blacksburg. Any location along this stream looks like it must have been particularly vulnerable to an Indian attack. We will explore some of the possible reasons for Werner's visit in the next Newsletter.

Early in 1758, William Ingles took some time away from the fighting and built a cabin on his land at the place where the Warriors' Path crossed the New River. This old Indian trail was fast becoming a military highway. Ingles' mill was there. William also built a small fort to help protect the nearby settlers. When it was safe he brought Mary back there and together they prospered by assisting caravans of west-bound settlers. The "Pennsylvania Road" was now suitable for wagons all the way across Virginia to the Ingles home, to Ingles' mill, and to Ingles' Ferry across the New River. Meanwhile Wernhardt has taken his family back to Maryland, where, apparently, Maria Elizabeth was born; then, finally reaching York County, Pennsylvania again.

The continuing threat of attacks caused many settlers in the area to move south to the supposedly safer North Carolina where the western flank was protected by the friendly Cherokees. Heinrich Spänhauer's Memoir states: "I resolved to move to North Carolina to the Brethren or in their neighborhood. I moved into the fort at the mill in 1759."

The Brethren are the Moravian Brethren, and the mill is at the now fortified little village of Bethabara. "More" in the next "chapter".