

Family Newsletter

Issue # 17 - March 2000

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2000 International Spaenhauer Family Reunion in Muttentz, Baselland, Switzerland

The initial expressions of interest in this trip have been received --- and work on the specific program is well underway. Between the Mittenza and the Basler Tor Hotels in Muttentz, there are rooms for 80 people from the United States. The plan is for us to arrive on Saturday, September 16. The Reunion Program itself will be completed on Saturday, September 23, so that those who do not remain for an optional tour (or for another purpose), will be ready for their return flight on Sunday, September 24th. Perhaps there will be time for church on Sunday morning, if you pack the night before -- more on such details when the final reunion program agenda is ready.

Daniel and David are working toward a package travel arrangement for us and will soon be able to provide those details by special letter to the interested parties. These details will include cost estimates for all parts of the trip. If you have NOT ALREADY told them that you are interested, and you want to consider the trip, it is maybe not too late, but since the total space available is limited, it is critical to let them know that you want to receive more information -- and DO THAT NOW!!!

Send your message:

-----via mail to:

David Spainhour, 8000 Stroupe Farm Road, Tobacoville, NC, 27050

-----or via E-mail to:

Daniel Spainhour <dspain@ibm.net>

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John Jacob Cabin Restoration

Charlie Spainhour, Aiken, SC

We dismantled the tobacco barn and the logs are stored at the cabin site for potential use in a kitchen (separated from the cabin itself). I understand that the city of King will include money for constructing the kitchen unit as part of its grant request for the park.

We started construction on a wheel chair ramp on the back of the cabin. It should be completed on my next trip --- during March or April.

If you are planning to be in the area this spring and wish to see the interior of the cabin, contact Francis Spainhour [telephone (336)969-5736; e-mail wfspain@attglobal.net] or Catherine Canter [telephone (336) 924-9565] --- they will bring a key and arrange to meet you there.

A formal open-house at the cabin is planned for later this year in conjunction with plans by the City of King for a dedication celebration for the Central Park in which the cabin is located.

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City of King Afghan

Featuring landmarks of King, North Carolina (including the Johann Jacob Spaenhauer cabin), this custom designed afghan measures 50 x 65 inches and is Jacquard woven in 100% cotton by Riddle & Cockerel, Inc.

This is not an advertisement (we don't do that), but we thought some of you may be interested, so we wanted to tell you that you can order "City of King Afghans" {\$50 each} from the Trinity United Methodist Church , 725 West Dayton Road, King, NC 27021.

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Family News

Christine Whicker, King, NC

News of Interest:

The Hauser/Hooser Family Group, with members from across the United States, has scheduled a Reunion Program in Bethania & Winston-Salem during June 30 through July 4, 2000. If you are interested in attending this program, you can get more information online at:

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Flats/7822> or contact Mr. Randy Hooser [tnrustic@integrityonline12.com]; or telephone (256)-837-8442].

Our American Spainhour/Spainhower family and the American Hauser/Hooser family share much common heritage, which includes both the little village of Bethania and many miles of that road westward across the mountains into Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, etc.

Richard E. Spainhour, a "Master Magician" from Winston-Salem was featured in the Senior "Herald" News last year. The article contained photos and a write-up describing Mr. Spain hour's talents as a magician. Richard is a retiree of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, and has been active in magic since grade school. He has traveled the east coast of the United States from Florida to New York entertaining people with his stage magic. A graduate of Chavez College of Manual Dexterity and Prestidigitation, he has spent many years performing on TV and in theaters, as well as for church groups, company parties, and children's events.

The article is wonderful. It was great reading how Mr. Spainhour has spent his spare time and now his retirement years entertaining and sharing his talents with others. This article and photos will be retained in the family library. Thank you Richard, for this nice write-up!

Mark Spainhower of LaBelle, Florida shared a copy of a booklet he gives to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren when they become 18 years of age. The booklet is entitled "Memories --- Things You Should Know About Me and the Spainhowers". In it, he writes of growing up in New York State and Florida, and shares his experiences fishing, hunting, and spending weekends and summers with Mom & Pop Spainhower; and other wonderful times of his youth. I enjoyed reading it, and I know that his grandchildren & great grandchildren cherish their copies --- and we are very happy to have a copy for our family library.

Thanks so much for both these items. I can always use more articles like these for the Family News Section. Let me know how you're spending your retirement or of your second career.

Travel News:

James and Marquita Spainhour attended a Spainhoward Family Reunion in Henderson, Kentucky last October. There were about 60 family members present at the event, which is held every other year. James & Marquita reported that they received a warm welcome and that they very much enjoyed the opportunity to meet some of these "new cousins".

These families are descendants of Thomas Spainhoward and Sarah "Sally" Kinser. Thomas was a son of John & Elizabeth Spainhower (son of immigrants Werner Spänhauer & Elisabeth Lohner) who moved from North Carolina into Kentucky about 1803. Thomas had three brothers, no sisters. Before hearing from this Kentucky group, we knew about Thomas's younger brother, Daniel Webster Spainhower, a little about his brothers John, Jr. and Werner, but nothing about Thomas and his descendants. Thanks to David Spainhoward (Spottsville, KY) and Aaron Bradshaw (Higley, AZ), we now have much more information and we look forward to having members of this group participate with us in various family events and projects.

Deaths:

Due to omissions and errors in the notice of the death of Donald Roy Spainhour which appeared in the October 1999 issue of this newsletter, I am reprinting it with corrections and with my apology to the family.

Donald Ray Spainhower passed away on March 3, 1999 at his home in Hayward, Wisconsin. He was born April 11, 1930 in Minneapolis, MN to Clifton and Luella (Love) Spainhower. Don graduated from the University of Minnesota. He served in the United States Signal Corp during the Korean War. He was co-owner, with his father, of Ajax Transfer Company in South St. Paul. After his retirement, Don volunteered for the Food Shelf, the American Cancer Society, and for Fishing Has No Boundaries (where he hosted fishing trips for disabled and handicapped persons). He became an accomplished stained glass artist. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Joanne May Moberg Spainhower, and their five children and their spouses: Laurie Lee Spainhower Anderson (Ronald), Scott Donald Spainhower (Carol Dischinger), Leanne Rae Spainhower Anderson (Kevin), Lynne Carol Spainhower Maczko (John), and Todd Steven Spainhower (Margaret McDuff); six grandsons and seven granddaughters.

Clifton Odell Spainhour passed away on December 31, 1999 at his home in East Bend, NC. He was born January 9, 1918 in Forsyth County, NC, to Charlie W. & Lula Bodford Spainhour. He was preceded in death by his wife, Stella Holt Spainhour in 1978. He is survived by three children: Joyce S. Hinshaw, Edith S. Strickland, and Roy Spainhour; seven grandchildren; and five great grandchildren. "Bill" (as we called him) and his family grew up on what is now Hanes Mall Blvd. in Winston-Salem.

We thank Bill's sister, Frankie Spainhour Caudle, for this notice.

Mr. Jesse Albion Giles, III, of Clemmons, NC passed away on January 10, 2000 at his home in Clemmons. He was born June 2, 1931 in New Kensington, PA to William Everette and Zora Matthews Giles. Mr. Giles was a graduate of UNC in Chapel Hill, the University of Alabama, and New York University. Before retirement he was a chemist with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. He is survived by his wife, Alberta Ratledge Giles of the home; one daughter, Elease Giles Bostic and husband, Woody, of Lewisville; two sons, Everette Giles and wife Pat Aldridge Giles of Orlando, FL and Alan Giles and wife, Karen Pelech Giles of Winston-Salem; three grandchildren, Kelly Giles, Jeremy Giles, and Candie Aldridge; and one great-granddaughter, Rachel Aldridge.

Mr. Giles was a descendant of Benjamin Culler and Margaretha Spainhower.

Mrs. Julia Murphy Spainhour passed away on March 7, 2000 in Winston-Salem. She was born in Waterford, Ireland to the late Richard and Agnes O'Halloran Murphy. She was preceded in death by her husband, Numa Benson Spainhour, Jr., who died in 1990. She is survived by two sons, Richard B. Spainhour and wife, Karen, of Niskayunh, NY, and James E. Spainhour and wife, Ann Oliver of Chapel Hill, NC; two granddaughters, Selina Delgado of Florida nad Laura Spainhour of New York; one sister, Elizabeth Orrisey of Ireland; and one brother, Tom Murphy of Derby, England.

Julia was sister-in-law to our editor, James.

Thanks to all of you who sent items for our Family News Section -- and please continue !

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Research & Education Committee

James Spainhour, Arlington Heights, IL

It has taken a long time to develop a new and larger research program. Just collecting and sharing information from those on my personal correspondence list has been more than I could keep up with --- much less expand upon. In the previous issue of this Newsletter, Stephen Spainhour (Richmond, VA), our web-master, indicated that we were working hard to make our site on the world-wide-web part of the solution to this problem.

That was in October and we were full of enthusiasm.. By Christmas time that enthusiasm was fading again. Our problem was that we still didn't have an efficient method for storing information on family history and genealogy, then retrieving it for sharing with others --- especially with new contributors to our research program. We discovered that while our initial ideas would work --- the operations they required were much too complex and time-consuming to really be effective. We needed to rethink almost everything.

Marquita and I spent most of the Christmas Holidays in Wisconsin with our son Thomas and his family. I discussed our frustrations with Thomas, who gave me some valuable new concepts that we might try, but my first reaction was that they were just too complicated for us. The next two weeks --- while Marquita and I were recovering from the flu --- provided me with several hours to ponder the problem further. I didn't get very far alone,

but when Stephen and I began to exchange long e-mails with thoughts on the subject, some new ideas began to take shape between us.

Stephen created a "hidden" section on our web site and installed some new software tools within that section which he thought would be helpful. We began experiments with them in January. Our experiments were most successful. As a result we have designed a completely new system for information storage and retrieval of information and put it into operation on our MDI web-site. This new system is a major improvement in terms of sharing information among those members who are interested in our research committee program -- yet we consider it as still only a working prototype. Future developments in the software --- already underway --- will make the new system nothing short of revolutionary!

Now if you are really interested in seeing how this new prototype system works and want to understand why the next stage will be such a revolution, we will tell you how to perform a demonstration exercise (drop me an e-mail). Most of you, however, may prefer to wait a bit. Other volunteers are helping us completely restructure our web site to take full advantage of these new tools and to add some new features!! We expect to have this work completed by the end of this summer and then we will invite each of you to go online for an inspection --- sort of an online "open house" celebration. Watch for it!

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In the previous issue of this Newsletter there were stories about three veterans of the American Civil War who were on the Southern side of that bloody conflict. This issue will introduce two veterans who wore blue.

Meet David Riley Spainhower:

The following article, taken from the book "Owen County Cousins", edited by Rosemary Faulk Lovell, appeared in the "Bloomfield Indiana News" on September 7, 1922, under the caption: "Two Veterans of the Civil War answer last taps".

After an illness covering a period of just one month, death called David Riley Spainhower early Monday morning, and thus another veteran of the Civil War answered the last taps. He had been a resident of Bloomfield for many years, and in his early manhood, he followed the carpenter trade. Many of the old residences of Bloomfield are from his handiwork.

David Riley Spainhower was born in Owen County, IN, on November 20, 1839, and died September 4, 1922, aged 82 years, 10 months, and 11 days. On January 9, 1867, he was married to Caroline B. Edwards. To them, three children were born, two sons and one daughter. They are Lewis B. Spainhower of Peoria, IL, Alfred Judson Spainhower of Dos Palos, CA, and Mrs. Grover French of Linton, IN.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, David Riley answered his country's call for volunteers and enlisted with Company "A", 41st Regiment of the Illinois Infantry. He served until September 19, 1862, when he was honorably discharged from service due to a disability caused by a gunshot wound in his leg, and from which he was a sufferer more or less for the remainder of his life.

He is survived by his widow, the three children mentioned above, and ten grandchildren, besides a host of their relatives and friends.

Meet James D. Spainhower:

The following article, taken from the book "Owen County Cousins", edited by Rosemary Faulk Lovell, appeared in the Worthington Indiana Newspaper on January 18, 1934.

James D. Spainhower, aged 90, survivor of the battle of Vicksburg, died Tuesday afternoon in his home following a stroke of paralysis. His death leaves only two other veterans of the Civil War in this community: S.P. Markle of Worthington, and King S. Dyar, who lives north of town. Plans for the funeral for this Thursday afternoon include a sermon by Rev. E. W. Fitch, Masonic Rites, and the firing of a final salute over the body of the old soldier.

James David Spainhower was born November 8, 1843, at Old Point Commerce, Indiana. His parents, Abraham Spainhower, who came here from North Carolina in his young manhood, and Priscilla (Abbott) Spainhower were among the early settlers of this community. They were married in a little log cabin at Point Commerce, and established their home in a house just over the hill toward the river on the old Ferry Road.

James David was the eldest of nine children. When he was five years old, the family moved across Eel River to the new town where they lived in a large frame house which stood on the corner where Donald Schloot's home now stands. James David went to school in Point Commerce. The reminiscences of his later years contained references also to attending a school in the old "Swamp Tavern" in Worthington as well as a school which a Mrs. Lockwood conducted in her home.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, James enlisted, serving four years and six months in Company "C" of the First Indiana Heavy Artillery. He fought in the battle of Vicksburg and also took part in engagements around Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He was never wounded, but he suffered somewhat in his general health as a result of his military

experience. After his discharge, he returned to Worthington and took up the trade of carpentry, which he followed all during his active life.

On May 12, 1868, he was untied in marriage with Mary E. English, a native of Ohio, who had moved from Ohio with her parents when she was a child. Their first home, which was built by the young man himself, is still standing on the east side of Worthington. James and Mary Spainhower had two daughters and eight sons, three of whom died in childhood. Following Mary's death on January 27, 1915, he made his home with his children.

James took pride in the military record of his family. His maternal grandfather, John Abbott, fought in the Revolution. His uncles George and Abumlee Abbott were soldiers in the War of 1812, and his son Frank Spainhower fought in the Spanish American War.

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Mr. Maynard C. Arney (Spring Lake Park, MN) has been doing genealogy research for many years and has shared his information very generously with many, many others, including, I am happy to say, me. In recent years he has been assembling data (marriages and obituaries) from a series of scrapbooks kept by his Aunt Mamie. Aunt Mamie's scrapbooks (24 of them) cover events in Marshall County, Iowa over the period 1894 through 1998. Mr. Arney's printouts total about 700 pages. There are no Spainhowers in the Master Index, but there are many Spainhower "cousins" with surnames such as Hauser, Hunter, Speas, Shore, Fiscus, Fulk, Helsabeck, and others, as well as Arney.

Mr. Arney's printouts have provided me, and others who have received them, with many hours of delightful reading and we all owe a deep debt of gratitude to both Maynard and his aunt Mamie. I will look forward to sharing a little of them with you in future newsletters.

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Meet Samuel Richard Shore:

Samuel Richard Shore was born in Bethania, NC, on April 1, 1821 to Jonathan William Schor & Frances "Fanny" Phillips. He was a grandson to Petrus Schor & Anna Maria Ranke and a great grandson to Heinrich Schor & Barbara Müller-- immigrants from Muttentz, Switzerland.

In Leo Jane Shore's book "The Frederick Shore Family" we note the following which appeared in "The Oak Grove Missouri Banner" dated Friday, April 6, 1906:

Hale and Hearty at 85, Richard Shore Celebrates his 85th birthday Sunday. Was Born in North Carolina.

Very seldom indeed do men live to be octogenarians and still possess nearly, if not quite all, the faculties they had in their younger days. Yet this can be said of Samuel Richard Shore, who celebrated his 85th birthday Sunday, April 1, 1906, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. S.F. Davis, 6 miles south of Oak Grove. A surprise dinner, which had almost the magnitude of a feast, was given in his honor, and seventy of his kin -- children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. They all had a splendid time, but none enjoyed it more than the venerable Mr. Shore.

Mr. Shore was born in Stokes County, NC, where he spent his boyhood days. In November 1835, he came to Lafayette County, Missouri...

When Mr. Shore arrived in Lafayette County, there was no established road except a trail from Lexington to Harrisonville. The Missouri River was the great artery of commerce, and Lexington was a noted shipping point for a large amount of territory which extended south to the Ozark Mountains. Hemp was the chief product of Lafayette County, and it was cultivated by slave labor. The prairies of Lafayette and Jackson Counties were covered with herds of deer, wild turkeys abounded in the woods, and wild honey could be found in almost every hollow tree.

Mr. Shore lived to see Western Missouri grow from a wilderness to a high state of civilization. Railroads have taken the place of the boats, and the weekly mail carried by stagecoach has been replaced with daily deliveries. Mr. Shore was married to Surrilda Parrent of Lafayette County on October 11, 1840. Eight sons and six daughters were born to this family...

Mr. Shore, a lifelong Democrat, cast his first vote for James K. Polk. He is a typical pioneer of Missouri, the like of which is rapidly passing away. The Banner has a tender place in its heart for the men and women who subdued the wilderness.

And so do we all.

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UNDERGROUND CAMERAS STUDY HISTORY

from The Associated Press - March 20, 2000

SALISBURY, N.C. (AP) - Time has erased almost all traces of one of the Confederacy's most notorious prison camps, save for a fenced cemetery on a hill where a monument notes that 11,700 unknown Union prisoners were buried in mass graves. For decades after the Civil War ended, the U.S. government and historians believed the Union prisoners at Salisbury died from malnutrition, unsuitable clothing and lack of shelter.

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Another thought for St. Patrick's Day:

What brought those hundreds of thousands of Irishmen to America? The Irish Famine began about 1846 with a blight which left the Irish potato fields covered with black rot. It spread across Europe and food prices soared. Some ate the rotten products and became ill. Irish farmers could not pay their rent. Landlords evicted them, so they gathered into disease-infested workhouses. Parish priests often stopped buying coffins for the dead and used that money to buy food for their starving flock. Many dead went unburied. Soon entire villages were infected with cholera and typhus. Over the next four years, the toll from hunger and disease reached a million souls.

Many landlords paid for their tenants to emigrate to America., often aboard "coffin ships" which lost a third of their passengers during the journey.

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PROFESSOR USING DNA TO STUDY IRELAND'S POTATO BLIGHT

-- from The Associated Press - March 20, 2000

RALEIGH, N.C. - A North Carolina researcher is using DNA analysis of 150-year-old potato leaves to get to the bottom of Ireland's Great Potato Famine of the 1840s, the agricultural disaster sent a huge wave of immigrants across the Atlantic to America. Jean Ristaino, a plant pathologist at North Carolina State University since 1987, has identified DNA from the pathogen, Phytophthora infestans, in the dried leaves of blight-stricken potatoes preserved from the famine. "We are the first group to successfully (replicate) plant pathogen DNA from old historic samples," said Ristaino. "Now what I want to do is track where it came from."

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It has been a long time since the previous issue of this Newsletter --- yet this issue is very short. That doesn't mean the activity level in our organization has dropped --- on the contrary. It reflects instead that almost everything we are doing is in a transition phase at the moment --- so much work is in progress, but there isn't much we can say about it yet - except please stay tuned - there's much more to come!!

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ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This Family Newsletter is supported by donations to and is provided to interested parties without charge by Muttentz Descendants, Inc., a tax-exempt organization honoring the frontier heritage of Muttentz descendants and their neighbors. Our mailing list now numbers more than 550 families across the United States and in Switzerland.

General Editor:

James D. Spainhour, 1210 Francis Drive, Arlington Heights, IL 60005-2208; E-mail: jdspainhour@home.com

Family News Editor:

Christine Whicker, PO Box 122, King, NC 27021-0122;

For changes of address & for additions to the mailing list, please contact:

Catherine Canter, Secretary, Muttentz Descendants, Inc., 4321 Transou Road, Pfafftown, NC 27040

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