

Family Newsletter

Issue # 18 - October 2000

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Reunion 2000

Due to the tragic death of our host, Peter Spaenhauer, the Reunion 2000 program in Switzerland was canceled. Peter Spaenhauer-Noor died in the evening of July 12, 2000 in Muttentz, Switzerland. Peter is survived by his wife Corry Noor-Spaenhauer; their son Andreas; and their daughter Sandra. Also surviving are his mother, Irma Richter-Spaenhauer; two brothers, Andreas & Thomas; and sister, Sylvia Spaenhauer. The many, many friends in America, share the sorrow, and extend their deepest sympathy to Peter's family.

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Family News

Christine Whicker, King, NC

Gary Spainhower of Pleasant Hill, Iowa wrote announcing the addition of two new Spainhowers. They are: Conner Jay and Cora Grace, born June 30, 1999 to Bradley & Tracey Spainhower of St. Anthony, Iowa. Gary writes that the twins are Bradley & Tracey's firstborns and all are doing fine.

Jeanette Spainhour Gregory & Dr. Herbert W. Gregory of Black Mountain, North Carolina happily writes of the addition of a grandson - Joshua Gregory Leo Authement. He was born November 12, 1999 in Springfield, LA. to their daughter Anne Gregory & husband Richard Harris Authement.

Born in the Evening at 8:36 pm on Thursday, December 23, 1999, Daniel Wesley Spainhour weighed in at 7 lbs and 5 oz, joining his brother Jacob Christian Spainhour {born Sunday, October 26, 1997} in the family of Myron & Lisa Spainhour of Tallahassee, Florida.

Mary Ellen White Jordan of Camden, South Carolina recently sent notice of the passing of her mother - Mrs. Kathryn Watson White, age 96, of Kernersville and Salemtowne in Winston-Salem. She died on June 12, 2000.

Mrs. White, a descendant of the early settlers of Bethania & Bethabara in North Carolina, was born in Pinnacle, in Surry County, N.C. Her parents were the late Thomas Oliver and Fannie Kallam Watson. Her grandmother was Ellen Esculine Spainhower. Mrs. White was educated at Pinnacle High School; Pineland School for Girls in Salemburg, N.C.; Guilford College and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She taught at Belvidere Academy and Winfall School in Perquimans County, N.C.

Mrs. White taught elementary school and joined her husband, the late F. Murray White, in leadership at Sedge Garden School for over 37 years. She was a member of Friedland Moravian Church and served in many areas of church activities.

Mrs. White is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Jack & Betty White of Kernersville; her daughter and son-in-law, Dean & Mary Ellen Jordon of Camden, South Carolina; her grandchildren, the Rev. Anna Kathryn Terman-White and husband Russel of Lincoln, Nebraska; Elizabeth Marie White of Falls Church, Virginia; Jefferson Dean Jordon & wife, Virginia, and Scott White Jordon & wife, Beth of Camden, South Carolina. Also surviving are three great-grandchildren, Caroline & Thomas Jordon and Campbell Jordon

of Camden.

Markus Schmid-Densler died on his 80th birthday, March 18, 2000 in MuttENZ, Switzerland He was a son of Otto, Sr. & Marie Spänhauer-Schmid, both deceased. Two brothers, Otto Schmid-Wirz, Jr. and Benjamin Schmid-Jourdan have preceded him in death. Survivors include wife, Verena Denzler-Schmid; their two sons, Urs and Nicki; sister Frieda Hugenschmidt-Schmid; and brother Konrad Schmid-Henselmann.

***** Martin Spänhauer-Thommen died on May 7, 2000 in MuttENZ, Switzerland. He was a son of Hans & Rosa Gleichauf-Spänhauer, both deceased. Survivors include his wife, Ruth Thommen-Spänhauer, the families of their two sons: Markus & Rebecca Spänhauer and Roger & Brigitte Stalder-Spänhauer; their daughter:Brigitte Spänhauer; seven grand-children; sister Rösli Rohrbach-Spänhauer; and brother Hans-Ueli Spänhauer-Pfeiler *****

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

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Cabin Furnishings Committee Report

Virginia S. Patton, Kure Beach, NC

Some Items We Have: Double Bed {plus ticking, & a quilt for this bed. The frame is oak. Ropes support the ticking}, Spinning Wheel, Hayrake, Shoe Molds, Broom, Picture Frames. **Some Items We Would Like to Have:** Table with benches, Pots, Pans, Bowls, & other kitchen equipment, Plates & Eating Utensils {These could be pewter, wooden, or ceramic types}, Dough Tray, Rolling Pin, Butter Churn & butter mold, Quilts for single (children's) beds, Oil Lamps, Bellows for fireplace, Wash Stand, Pitcher & Bowl for wash stand, Homemade Soap Cakes, Scrub Board & Laundry Tub, Chairs & small tables, Woven Oak Baskets, Candle Mold & candles, Clothes {for Papa, Mama, & the 13 kiddies}, Cedar Chest, Bonnets, Corn Shuck Dolls & Rag Dolls, Wooden Cradle, Winder to go with spinning wheel, Small weaving loom, Small or medium size Pie Safe, Corn Sheller. **Contact:**

VIRGINIASPATTON@cs.com

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Research Committee Report

James Spainhour, Arlington Heights, IL

Bob Laughon (Columbus, OH) is reviewing a large number of microfilm records from the St. Arbogast Church in MuttENZ. The data that Bob is collecting will be placed in our web site library. Our expectation is that this extensive effort will not only supplement the information we have obtained from other reports, but will also assist us in documenting one or two debatable family relationships.

For many years descendants of Elbeth, Heinrich, Werner, and Anna have wondered whether they had money to pay for their voyage to America or whether they had to serve a period of indenture after arrival to pay for it. There were also the questions of how soon after arrival in 1740 did the immigrant mother, Elsbeth die, where was she buried, and where Anna might have lived after Elsbeth's death (before 1749) and before Anna was married to Heinrich Tschudi in 1754. We now have answers to some of these questions.

Rev. Casper Stoever's records at the First Reformed Congregation in Lancaster, PA, document the marriage of Johann Heinrich Spänhauer and Elizabeth Lum (Linn) on June 11, 1742. Philip Spainhour (West Columbia, SC) found these records in an Internet search and Bob Laughon has found the same information in "Lancaster Co., Penn., Church Records of the 18th Century," by F. Edward Wright, vol. 3, p. 181. Bob further discovered in Volume 2, p 7 of this same publication a record of the baptism of Henry Christe on January 30, 1742. Henry was born on January 17, 1742, the son of John Christe and Anna Spänhauer. The sponsors were Henry and Elsbeth Spitteler Spänhauer.

So now we know that there was no indenture period for this immigrant family --- Mother Elsbeth was still alive and they were living together --- or at least in the same neighborhood of Lancaster County two years after their arrival in Philadelphia --- and Anna was living with her first husband.. Perhaps now that we know of Anna's surname change, we can document this connection between the Spänhauer and the Tschudi descendant lineages.

Our files previously identified Elsbeth's father as Mathis Spittler and her mother as unknown. Bob Laughon has documented her parents as Heinrich Spittler and Apollonia Schwab, providing another direct link with this Muttentz family.

If you would like to see what German script looked like in 1692, connect with our web site and use the document search engine. For the search subject enter: "Christening". After that, click on the search button. This first step will produce a "library card" which contains a link to the document itself.

John Spainhower, son of Wernhardt & Elizabeth Lohner Spänhauer, who was born on December 4, 1765, married Elizabeth (maiden surname unknown) about 1788 in North Carolina. About 1803, John & Elizabeth and their first three children, John Jr., Werner, and Thomas, moved into Casey County, Kentucky. This is a key family in our westward migration.

As previously reported, many descendants of John & Elizabeth's third son, Thomas Spainhower, and his wife, Sarah Kinser, still live in Kentucky.

John & Elizabeth's second son, Werner Spainhower, married (first) Polly Davenport and (second) Jane Cross; all of whom died in Kentucky. We know of only one child from Werner (with Jane Cross) --- John Henry Spainhower --- who moved to Missouri about 1848 and there later married Lucinda Jane Waltrip.

John & Elizabeth's fourth son, Daniel Webster Spainhower, was born some years after the couple moved to Kentucky. Daniel first married Mary Ann Canaday (1837) in Montgomery County, Illinois. This couple moved to Gentry County, Missouri. We know of many descendants from Daniel in Missouri.

John & Elizabeth's first son, John Jr, married Mary Elizabeth Canaday in 1817 presumably in Kentucky. Both John Jr. & Mary Elizabeth, however, are buried in Pisgah (Morgan County), Illinois. We knew something of this couple's first child, Jeremiah Spainhower, and his children with wife, Sarah Antle, but not much about the couple's other six children. The research of Sandra Burns (Morton Grove, IL) has contributed additional details about this family and has identified four more children from John Jr, with his second wife, Elenor (maiden surname unknown). Unfortunately all four of John & Elenor's children died at a very young age, and left no descendants.

By the way, our surname in the Pisgah cemetery records is mostly spelled "Spaenhower"

Mrs. Burns descends from Thomas Spainhower. The problem is that she has identified three or four of them. So if you need a Thomas, Sandra has two or three extra so she will sell ya one! We hope eventually to connect all of them to our tree, including Sandra's ancestor, so stay tuned.

These are some of the results we have recently obtained. I eagerly look forward to much exciting new information as our efforts continue --- and I hope future reports will mostly be written by the contributors themselves.

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MDI Communications

Our MDI mailing list now contains 600 families and we expect it to continue growing. We have also increased the number of people involved in producing this Newsletter. As a result we have realized several advantages. The larger volume saves postage per copy because we can use bulk-mailing methods, and it tends to lower unit production costs. The larger number of people who contribute to the Newsletter reduces the load on each individual involved. We are very happy about all this, and we hope the growth will continue

The overall operations to coordinate contributors, to collect material, to edit, print, seal, address, sort, and mail an issue, however, now take significantly longer than before. As a result we have not been able to increase the number of issues per year and the delivery to you is less timely than we would like.

This longer time-line is not so serious a problem for the Newsletters perhaps, but for scheduled events where specific timing is involved and especially when prompt response from readers is needed, this method is not satisfactory.

We must supplement the Newsletters with other methods for communicating with members. Of course we can use direct mail more often, and the telephone when necessary --- but using our web site and using E-mail, for those with that capability, offer the greatest potentials for improvement.

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What's on the MDI Web Site?

We realize that our web site can and must play a larger and larger role in communications between MDI and its members. For that reason we have completely restructured our site. We regard what we have now, however, as only a new beginning. New features will be announced as they are developed and added.

Our web site currently contains three major parts. The content within each of these parts is briefly explained below.

1. The News Room:

This page contains links to all the news about current MDI activities and projects, selected news about special events in the lives of our members, and a soon-to-be-added family scrapbook.

This part of the site, for example, contains a large section on the Cabin Restoration project --- including a photo-album showing various stages of progress during the reconstruction, and information from the cabin furnishings committee. There is also a Family-News Section, with subsidiary panels for various types of special events in the lives of our members.

The pages in the newsreel part are updated regularly as new information becomes available and each news page is dated so you can know when it was last changed.

2. The History & Genealogy Library:

The library contains various documents and pictures relating to family history and genealogy which have been donated to us, or which have been developed by members of our Research Committee. A document search engine is provided so that you can search the library for the specific subject matter that interests you.

The document search engine can search in a "key word" mode or in a "phrase" mode, depending on which box you check. Searching for "New River" using the "phrase" option returns four appropriate items. The same search words but using the "key word" option finds 28 items because the search uses only the first word, (New) and ignores the second one (River).

You should be aware that the program (using the "word" option) actually searches for the specific sequence of letters in the "word" you specify. For example, if you search for "indians" the program returns 6 references whereas a search for "indian" returns 8 --- because "indian" will include both indians and Indiana.

Integrated with the library is our innovative Genealogy Database. Using the database, you can search by name for any of your ancestors and the database will respond with all the genealogy information we know about that individual and his or her family. The database response will also include links to any library documents that specifically mention the individual --- including pictures if we should have them.

For more on this database, including suggested search terms for you to use in demonstrating the capabilities of the system, please read the item "Sharing History & Genealogy Information" which follows this one.

3. The Discussion Forums :

A Discussion Forum is like a bulletin board on which you can post questions (and hopefully get answers), make suggestions, or share information. In conjunction with these, there is a File Transfer Utility which you can use to share longer documents or pictures.

There are currently four Discussion Forums: one for Family History & Genealogy, one for MDI & Family News, and one for comments and suggestions specifically about the web site itself. The fourth is a Test Messages Forum --- where you can practice using a Fourm board --- without concern that you might do something wrong.

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Please --- Do These Two Things

The First Thing --- Respond to this Survey:

This survey of our readers is part of an overall effort directed at improving communications between MDI and its members. We need to await the results of this survey to see how best to respond. Our next Newsletter will present our conclusions --- but let me assure those of you who do not have E-mail, that you will continue to receive the printed Newsletter --- like our politicians --- we promise not to leave anyone out --- but we must look for ways to do a better job.

We know that more and more of you now have the capability to send & receive E-mail. If this includes you, please send a message to jdsainhour@home.com --- and please include in your message one of the two-word "vote-choices" below.

One more thing --- I need to cross-reference your E-mail address with name and your street address --- so if your name is not obvious from your E-mail address, please also include in your message your name or the name of the street on which you live, so that this cross-reference can be made.

The communications "vote choices" are:

1. Send the two words --- "EVENTS ONLY" --- to indicate that you wish to receive E-mail from MDI only in connection with scheduled events (such as a Reunion) in which you have already indicated an interest.
2. Send the two words --- "SHORT ONLY" --- to indicate that you welcome shorter messages from MDI via E-mail --- but you prefer that the Newsletter be printed and snail-mailed.
3. Send the two words --- "E-MAIL EVERYTHING" --- to indicate that you welcome ALL communications between you and MDI --- including the Newsletter --- be sent using E-mail.

The Second Thing --- Visit the MDI Web site:

We want you to visit the site and we want you to let us know you were there --- so please don't just look and leave --- log in to one of the discussion forums and share some new information with us if you have it --- perhaps information about a new member of your family , including a picture if you want --- but most important --- tell us what you don't like and what you do like about the site --- what's confusing and what's clear --- give us your suggestions as to what to expand upon --- and what to add or delete. We want to develop the site to serve your interests --- but we cannot do that very well without your feedback.

AT LEAST SAY "HELLO"!

Even that will help us more than you imagine!)

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Sharing our History & Genealogy

Our objectives have changed since 1996:

Our program in family history & genealogy began with a project to collect available information from our members and consolidate it into a single file which would be available to future family researchers. We began with printed family group sheets which were linked between generations. These accomplished our initial objective and they were excellent for sharing specific lineage's with individual members, but they were not suitable for sharing more widely because they were expensive to produce.

How to share the information we have collected?

Our second project was to convert our collected information into an electronic form which would be inexpensive to reproduce and share. The plan was to enter the information into a genealogy database and then generate a GEDCOM file. This type of electronic file can be easily shared, and anyone with a personal computer and suitable software can read them. While this second project was in progress, however, we began to focus more effectively on our other strategic objectives for the overall program.

We restructure our objectives:

There are several areas in which additional research should contribute strongly to the understanding of our family history. In addition, much of our available information was undocumented and we observed several important conflicts in some information both between the various private packages we had collected and between the published sources. Our research should clearly include resolving these conflicts.. ***Conclusion: We should become much more active in our own research efforts.***

Our objectives to collect, preserve, and share genealogy information with our members would remain --- but these activities should be conducted using methods designed to stimulate our collection's continuing improvement and growth. ***Conclusion: We need an "official" collection with which our researchers can work to document, correct, and expand, and we need to keep it up to date.***

There was another important conclusion: ***Our research efforts should embrace family history and provide greater insights into our family heritage, as well as the genealogy information.***

Those are nice objectives --- BUT:

GEDCOM files allow easy exchange of "established" information. This methodology would allow us to share the old collection widely --- but as new research results came it, that file would need to be updated frequently. The more we worked with this system the more we realized that it could not satisfactorily support our restructured objectives. At this point, therefore, this project was abandoned.

Those printed linked family sheets could become the "official" collection but we needed a way to make these available to researchers --- and in their most recently updated version. The only effective short-term solution to this problem was to post electronic images of these pages on a web site using Acrobat software. This became our third project. Its first phase has been completed --- the first seven generations of our family tree are now posted on the site.

A new effort at sharing:

The family group sheets (FGSs) in the form of Acrobat files posted on the web site made the information available to researchers and each researcher can update his/her collection anytime they desire. Each FGS is accompanied by a documentation file --- so that all the available information concerning the family group is provided. Unfortunately, however, unless one knows the file names which contain the specific information of interest, there is no way to find it except to systematically browse through the sheets one by one.

Our first effort to improve on this was to develop a descendants tree, organized by family group. Each family group in the list was then linked to the appropriate record files. As research results began to make changes, keeping the appropriate record files up to date was a heavy burden, but the frequent updating of the descendants list and its links to the correct files became impractical.

Now What?

We will enter our genealogy information into a specially designed database which operates directly within the web site. Each individual in the database will be linked not only to his/her genealogy information, but also to any historical information available about that individual and his/her family.

This system is now functional in prototype form for the first seven generations of our family tree. The database makes the locating and retrieving of specific information of interest easier to do and eliminates the separate descendants list. "In prototype form" means that the database links still require the old Acrobat FGS files --- thus both the database and the Acrobat files still need to be updated together.

Already under development is database 2 --- a second generation program which will generate the FGS information (online) directly from the database records. This second generation database will become our "official" file. It will eliminate the Acrobat FGS files entirely (and completely change our FGS number system); and it will also greatly simplify the task of keeping the information up to date since only the online database itself will need to be updated.

Links between the database records and our online library files for documentation and for historical information will continue to grow as research results are added.

Privacy Concerns:

As the database is expanded to include later generations our plan is to either effectively prevent the system from providing any information about living individuals --- or we will not enter that information.

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For a demonstration of the capabilities of this system --- run a search. Go to the site and from the menu on the left, choose "Database". At the bottom of the page you will see the terms Short Search and Long Search. Choose the Short Search Form. In the Surname Box enter only the two letters "Sp" (that avoids the problem of how to spell our surname). In the First Name Box, enter "Johann". Finally, in the Middle Name Box enter "Heinrich". Skip the other boxes and click on "View Records" at the bottom of the form. The search returns two individuals . Using the links provided for each will demonstrate the system's ability to provide the appropriate genealogy information about them and also to allow access to appropriate historical materials in the Library.

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Selected Events --- 1785 - 1845

Editor's Note:

This chronology of selected events is included to help us put ourselves within the time frame of the discussion which follows it.

1785

- 0. Benjamin Franklin wrote in a letter that he had invented bifocal glasses.
- 0. German fairy tale writer Jakob Grimm was born.
- 0. Thomas Jefferson was named Minister to France, replacing Benjamin Franklin.
- 0. Ornithologist & artist John James Audubon was born in Haiti.
- 0. The first mules in America arrived in Boston from Spain -- gifts from King Charles III to George Washington.

1786

- 0. Mozart's opera "The Marriage of Figaro" premiered in Vienna.
- 0. Davy Crockett was born in Greene County, Tennessee.

1787

- 0. The U.S. Constitution was completed and signed by a majority of the delegates to the constitutional convention in Philadelphia. Delaware was the first state to ratify the Constitution, followed by Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- 0. The sailing ship Columbia left Boston on the first voyage around the world by an American ship.

1788

- 0. The U.S. Constitution was ratified by New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, and then took effect when New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify it. Georgia and Virginia became the tenth & eleventh states to ratify it.
- 0. Maryland ceded a 10-square-mile area for the nation's capital.
- 0. Land speculator John Cleve Symmes, leading a group from New Jersey, established the town of Losantiville -- which became Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 0. *Johann Heinrich and Elizabeth Lum Spoenhauer both died in Bethania.*

1789

- 0. George Washington was elected and inaugurated as the country's first President, and John Adams was sworn in as the first Vice-president. Washington had to borrow 500 pounds from Richard Conway of Alexandria, Virginia, to pay for his move to New York.
- 0. The U.S. Treasury Department was established with Alexander Hamilton as Secretary.
- 0. Thomas Jefferson was appointed as the first Secretary of State.
- 0. The citizens of Paris stormed the Bastille and released its prisoners at the start of the French Revolution.
- 0. North Carolina became the twelfth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
- 0. New Jersey became the first state to ratify the first ten amendments to the Constitution, "The Bill of Rights".
- 0. Captain William Bligh of the British ship "Bounty", together with 18 sailors, were set adrift on a launch in the South Pacific by other sailors within his mutinous crew.
- 0. German-born fur trader John Jacob Astor bought his first piece of real estate in America -- on Bowery in New York City.

1790

- 0. Benjamin Franklin died in Philadelphia at age 84.

- 0. Tennessee was organized as a Territory.
- 0. Rhode Island ratified the U.S. Constitution (last of the thirteen original colonies).
- 0. The United States Government issued its first patent -- to Samuel Hopkins of Vermont for a process to make Potash & Pearl Ash.
- 0. Congress established the District of Columbia as the permanent seat of the Government.
- 0. The first official U.S. census was taken to determine representation in Congress. There were now almost four million people in United States..

1791

- 0. The District of Columbia was organized.
- 0. Vermont became the 14th state.
- 0. The first ten amendments to the Constitution -- the Bill of Rights -- went into effect when Virginia ratified them.
- 0. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute" premiered in Vienna and the composer died at age 35.
- 0. Deposits of Anthracite (hard) coal were discovered in Pennsylvania.
- 0. America's first macadam road was finished -- the turnpike between Philadelphia and Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

1792

- 0. President George Washington signed an act creating the U.S. Post Office.
- 0. France declared war on Austria.
- 0. Kentucky became the 15th state.
 - ◆ The New York Stock Exchange was founded.
 - ◆ John Paul Jones died in Paris.
 - ◆ The cornerstone of the United States mint was laid in Philadelphia by David Rittenhouse, its first Director. This was the first building erected by the federal government for public use.
 - ◆ George Washington was reelected President for a second term by unanimous vote of the Electoral College. George laid the cornerstone of the President's House -- which later was called the White House.

1793

- 0. Frances' King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette were both beheaded, and France adopted its first Republican Constitution.
- 0. The Louvre Museum in Paris was opened.
- 0. President Washington laid the cornerstone of the Capitol building.
- 0. Eli Whitney invented the Cotton Gin.
- 0. Sir Alexander MacKenzie became the first white man to cross the North American Continent as he canoed down the Bella Coola River to the Pacific Ocean -- in present-day Oregon.

1794

- 0. Dr. Jesse Benett performed the first successful Caesarean Section (in Edom, Virginia) -- on his own wife!
- 0. Eli Whitney was issued a patent for his Cotton Gin.
- 0. Joseph Priestly -- that English scientist who first isolated oxygen from the air twenty years ago -- arrived in Philadelphia, in flight from persecution in England.
- 0. Powdering of men's hair is now out of fashion, but the black ribbon remains at the back.

1795

0. The Treaty of San Lorenzo between Spain and the U.S. settled Florida's northern border and gave the U.S. navigation rights on the Mississippi River.

0. Poland was divided by Russia, Prussia, and Austria.

1796

0. Napoleon Bonaparte married Josephine de Beauharnais.

0. Tennessee became the 16th state.

0. George Washington gave his farewell address, warning against American involvement in foreign disputes.

0. British physician Edward Jenner gave his first vaccination against Smallpox -- to an 8-year old boy.

0. The Cumberland Gap first became passable by wagons.

1797

0. Composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.

0. Nathaniel Briggs of New Hampshire patented the washing machine.

0. The U.S. Frigate "Old Ironsides" was launched in Boston Harbor.

0. John Adams began his first term as the second President of the U.S.

1798

0. The federal government created the Mississippi Territory.

0. Napoleon captured Alexandria, won the Battle of the Pyramids, and occupied Cairo in Egypt.

1799

0. George Washington died in Virginia, at his Mount Vernon home, at age 67. In his eulogy before both houses of Congress, Richard Henry Lee described George as "First in War, First in Peace, and First in the hearts of his countrymen".

1800

0. The District of Columbia became the capital city of the United States, and Congress held its first session in the partially completed capital.

0. The Library of Congress was established with Thomas Jefferson's entire private collection and a fund of five thousand dollars.

0. Napoleon conquered Italy with his defeat of the Austrian forces at the Battles of Montebello and Marengo.

1801

0. John Marshall was sworn in as the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

0. The House of Representatives broke the Electoral College tie between Thomas Jefferson & Aaron Burr. Thomas Jefferson was elected President and Burr became Vice-president.

0. Napoleon captured Barcelona, Spain.

0. Russian Czar Paul I was assassinated & succeeded by Alexander I.

0. Mormon leader Brigham Young was born in Whitingham, Vermont.

0. In England, the first locomotive to haul a passenger was operated by George Stephenson.

and 95% was rural. In 1840 the numbers were perhaps 10% urban and 90% rural.

There were five seaport cities in these years: New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, and New Orleans. Each of these had 90,000 or more people in 1840, with the largest, New York, having about 312,000. The book reminds us that because goods, livestock, people, information, and ideas flowed first into these cities --- then out into the smaller towns and farms --- the cities were of much greater importance than their size would suggest. They were also crowded, very noisy, and very dirty --- they had to be, because most residents had to walk to get from one area of

the city to another --- and movement of goods was also necessarily slow. The rural population, in contrast, was obviously spread over the relatively vast countryside. Life in the larger cities was very different from life in the countryside.

0. Farm Tools:

1. Plows, hoes, shovels, axes, rakes, scythes, etc. were traditionally made and repaired by farmers themselves or with the help of a local blacksmith if one was available. The tools were heavy and awkward to use. Shovels and the moldboards of plows were traditionally made of wood then edged with iron or the working surface was covered over (shod) with iron.
2. Later in this period almost every farm tool had been changed. Most critical parts were now made entirely of iron --- yet they were lighter as well as stronger. The *Boston Cultivator* in 1839 advertises a new manure fork which is claimed to reduce the farmer's stall-cleaning labor by one-third. The age of labor saving tools had begun!

3. Clothing and Floors & Walls:

4. In 1800 clothing for the great majority of Americans was made at home from fabrics produced at home. Wool, linen, and tow-cloth (made from the shorter fibers of flax) were used alone and in various combinations.
5. Clothes were scrubbed clean by hand using kettles of very hot water and homemade soap. Mama often ended the laundry day with "bleached and parboiled fingers".
6. In 1800 carpets were known only by a few of the wealthiest families and curtains were also not available until factory-produced cotton arrived. Walls were also mostly bare. Most homes would have a framed mirror or two, but perhaps no more than ten percent of homes had a print or a painting.
7. But all this changed. By 1830 there were hundreds of water-powered factories that picked, carded, spun fibers and wove fabrics. Flax was rarely grown anymore because the factory-produced cotton fabrics had become so generally available. Factory-produced woolens came after cotton, but by 1840 even farm families had consigned their looms and spinning wheels to the attic.
8. As the quantity of available fabrics grew, families could have not only another shirt, another dress, another towel, and another sheet, but now they could also make curtains for the windows, carpets for the floors --- and underwear!
9. Under their trousers, men and boys wore only their shirts --- which had long tails reaching at least to mid-thigh and sometimes to the knees. Under their dresses and petticoats, women and girls also wore long shirts (called chemises), and knee-length stockings. Early in the period most slept in their daytime shirts, but later on they had separate nightshirts and nightgowns. Underwear in the form of drawers and panties was generally not used until late in this period.

10. The Bedroom:

11. Farm homes often had only two rooms and the entire family slept together in one of them. For the more prosperous, and later in the period, Mama and Papa might have a separate bedroom and the children slept in a loft above..
12. Throughout the period, though, there was a clear-cut difference between rich and poor in the bedroom. It was a matter of feathers or straw inside the tick. Only personal experience can convey the enormous difference.

13. Cooking:

14. In 1790 cooking was done in an open fireplace using heavy iron pots and kettles that sat directly on the coals or hung on a crane which swung over the fire. It required a lot of lifting and stooping!
15. Beginning around 1800, "tin kitchens" began to become available. These were half-cylinders --- like a tin can cut open from top to bottom. Meat was put on a spit and turned inside the tin kitchen in front of the fire. It roasted the meat far more evenly --- and made it taste better too.
16. Iron cook stoves began to become available during the late 1830's. It may surprise some that the iron cook stove was a great labor-saving device. Not only did it relieve Mama of much backbreaking work with those kettles, but it was far more efficient than the open fireplace in terms of fuel consumption --- so Dad and the boys had much less wood to cut.

17. Child Labor:

18. Children of any time period need to be taught the skills they must have to be successful in life. Life in the agricultural age under discussion was physically demanding. That children should participate in helping the family was therefore not something "demanded" or "expected" by the parents --- It was their preparation for life.
19. Hard work was simply an accepted condition of life for almost everyone. Without it, life was primitive --- but with determined effort {and some skills} each succeeding year brought better living.
20. Boys usually began working in the fields by age 8, doing whatever chores at which they were physically capable. By age 11 most could handle a gun responsibly, by age 12 most could handle a horse & plow, and by age 13 {like Abe} most could split rails.
21. Girls at age 10 did almost any household chore --- including the care of younger children.

22. Roads & Transportation:

23. Roads usually began as a single-track bridle path. Trees were cut to clear the way, but stumps usually remained. Later these tracks were widened to allow use by carts and wagons. Wagons often became mired to the hubs. In low areas this often led to "corduroy" stretches where a series logs were placed across the path. Turnpikes were wide enough to allow two wagons to pass abreast.
24. Thousands of miles of new roads were built (and old ones were repaired and improved) in the new nation between the years of 1790 and 1840. The government and many private groups were eager to promote westward expansion. Wagon and stagecoach travel needed to expand to allow movement of materials, livestock, and people. This, in turn, required bridging streams and building crowned roads which would allow rain water to drain to the sides and reduce the frequency of ruts and potholes.
25. In 1800 a family's "neighborhood" --- an area containing a few dozen farms or less --- was the normal range for everyday movement. Beyond this they made less frequent trips to shops, taverns, and churches which were usually located in villages or crossroads settlements. By 1830 folks could move more easily, farther, and more often.
26. Longer distances involved the stagecoach. In 1790 these were modified freight wagons with backless benches for seats. They had no top of any kind. All passengers entered from the front and all sat looking forward. It was necessary to climb over the benches in front to get in and out. These wagons had no springs to soften the ride.
27. By 1830 the passenger compartment was suspended from its frame with leather straps or with "braces" which gave some protection from the jolting of the rough roadways. Nine passengers could sit on the three seats (with backrests) and the front passenger seat was turned to face the rear of the vehicle. Passengers entered more easily via a door in the side. The middle seat was occupied last and usually had only a leather band

for back support. Unless they were all small of build (a rare circumstance) nine passengers would be tightly packed. A tenth passenger could sit outside with the driver --- but still had to pay full fare. These stages were covered with an open framework --- "for free ventilation" --- so they were highly permeable to the dust and the weather --- but their openness did help with those passengers who chewed tobacco and those who took their last bath two months ago (both encountered frequently).

28. With good roads, good weather, and strong rested horses, a stagecoach could manage eight or nine miles an hour. In 1830 even a small railway engine could pull a few cars over bad track even in bad weather at twice that speed. It was clearly the transportation of the future --- folks could go overland farther and faster than ever before.
29. There were, however, less than seven hundred miles of railroad track in the nation of 1835 and only three thousand miles in 1840, so only a small fraction of Americans traveled by train in this period. This would change rapidly after 1840 as the industrial revolution and "king cotton" both continued their momentum --- and led the nation toward Civil War.

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The Internet - Some Historical Highlights

Editorial comment: It is sometimes hard for those of us who have become familiar with today's Internet to remember how very recently this World Wide Wonder has developed. This item contains only a few selected highlights from the history of the Internet. It is included here to remind us that this revolution in communications technology owes its existence to many brilliant technical contributors from around the world --- almost none of which foresaw the system as it has now become.

Where should we start?

I have read four books on the History of the Internet. My favorite, and the book which deserves the major credit what follows, is "**History of the Internet**" by Christos J.P. Moschovitis, Hilary Poole, Tami Schuyler, and Theresa M. Senft. I am a fan of James Burke and his television series called "Connections". If you are too --- then stop here and read the book -- because these authors' story begins in 1834.

Most histories of the Internet, however, begin with the creation of something called the "ARPAnet". This was a computer network sponsored by the United States Military. The idea was to create a system which would allow a number of different computers in different locations to be connected together in order to exchange data and messages. The group which was to develop this system, the "*Advanced Research Projects Agency*" (ARPA) was organized in 1958 --- the same year that NASA was organized.

The first operational trial of the ARPA network system involved four computers --- one at the University of California in Los Angeles, one at the University of California at Santa Barbara, one at the University of Utah, and one at the Stanford Research Institute. Each computer was connected to a special device called an Interface Message Processor (IMP) and these IMPs were connected to each other through dedicated telephone wires. This trial was conducted successfully in December of 1969. By the spring of 1971, nineteen other government and university computers across the country had connected.

Several networks are developed:

The ALOHAnet in Hawaii was developed using computers which communicated not through telephone wires, but over radio connections --- and the SATnet was developed, connecting computers in the United States with several sites in Europe using satellite communication systems. Meanwhile, the ARPAnet had continued to grow. Several new innovations were needed before different networks could be connected together. The first message to be successfully transmitted across all three networks was sent in July of 1977.

The first electronic message-posting network --- the Computerized Bulletin Board System (CBBS) --- was developed in Chicago, in 1978 --- by Ward Christiansen & Randy Suess. (*perhaps Randy may be related to our Swiss ancestor Elsbeth Suess?*).

Some graduate students at Duke Univeristy in Durham and at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, developed a network of news and discussion groups called the "Usenet". Soon this idea of an electronic forum for gathering and exchanging information between two campuses grew into an international phenomenon with similar groups in Europe and Australia. About this time also the government began to consider connecting its ARPAnet to smaller independently established networks such as these.

The Internet is Born:

On January 1, 1983, the ARPAnet officially adopted a standardized software system called the "TCP/IP Networking Protocol". From that point onward all the networks that were connected using the TCP/IP system are referred to --- collectively --- as the Internet.

Please note that most of the folks involved during the 1980s are computer professionals and some university students. The public was not much aware of this Internet because it was for the most part not accessible to them. This, however, began to change as that decade closed.

Meanwhile:

The first personal computer was announced by Model Instrumentation Telemetry Systems (MITS) in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1975-- the Altair 8800. In that same year, Bill Gates and Paul Allen wrote programming software for the Altair machine -- and established a company called MicroSoft. The Altair was followed by other machines developed by Apple, Commodore, and Radio Shack --- and IBM finally introduced its first machine in 1981.

The first desktop computer to use a Graphic User Interface (GUI) with a mouse, icons, and folders was the *Xerox Star*. This machine, introduced in 1981 was a marketing failure due to its high price, but it was followed in 1984 by the Apple *Macintosh*. MicroSoft's *Windows* program soon brought the GUI to IBM machines and their clones. While personal computers were slowly becoming of interest not just to professionals and technical hobbyists but also to ordinary people, the Internet continued its development.

The www is Born:

In 1984 CERN (Centre Européen pour la Rescherche Nucléaire) near Geneva, Switzerland connected itself to the Internet, and by 1989 it became the largest Internet site in Europe. Tim Berners-Lee, a computer consultant at CERN, became frustrated by the different systems used for storing and retrieving information from their many computers and the absence of a network to link their massive stores of data --- so he developed a program to remedy the problem. He called it "Enquire-Within-Upon-Everything", but he soon left CERN and the program was hardly touched by anyone else.

In 1989 a company called Quantum Computer Services changed its name to America Online and began an aggressive effort to expand its small customer base.

Also in 1989, Tim Berners-Lee returned to CERN and wrote a report outlining the advantages of his hypertext program over the traditional information storage and retrieval systems. The project to install the new program began in 1990 and over a lunch in the CERN cafeteria Tim and Robert Cailliau decide to call this new system the "World Wide Web". They proceeded to introduce Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and Universal Resource Locator (URL).

In 1991 the protocol and the language were launched onto the Internet (and into the public domain), and Internet programmers around the world began to use, modify, and improve this system --- and today's World Wide Web was born.

Though Clinton & Gore began talking about the "Information Superhighway" in 1990, it was still unlikely that you had even heard of the web unless you were in a computer science laboratory somewhere. At this time the Internet was a commerce-free system which was used only by those who were savvy enough to master the technical protocols needed to navigate it. Many people began to realize that the Internet needed a much less difficult navigation system if people were going to use it.

Browsers are developed:

A program called *Gopher*, developed at the Univeristy of Minnesota was one of the early programs in a category we now call *Browsers*. It was introduced in 1991 and it was much easier to use than the protocols which preceded it, but it was popular mainly within the academic community. Marc Andreessen and Eric Bina of the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois developed a program called *Mosaic*, a browser which included a Graphic Users Interface, and this was distributed free beginning in early 1993. The first version was written for the Unix computer language used in academic machines, but later in the year other versions were released for use with the *Macintosh* and with *Windows*. By the end of 1993 the total number of Internet users was about 25 million and newspapers were reporting that Internet user volume was doubling every eighteen months. One million of these were already using the new Mosaic browser. Many more people now began to pay attention.

One of these was Jim Clark --- who provided \$3 million in capital for Marc Andreessen to start a new company to develop a still better browser program. Clark and Andreessen hired six other programmers from the University of Illinois, and their company *Mosaic Communications* was born. As a result of a disagreement with the University, however, the company became *Netscape Communications*. The first version of their new browser program called *Navigator* was released in 1994. By mid-1995 *Navigator* had replaced *Mosaic* as the way to navigate the www.

In 1984 there were about 1,000 host-sites on the web; by 1987 about 10,000; by 1989 100,000; and by 1992 about 1,000,000. In 1993 the Mosaic browser caused an explosion in volume, and in 1995 AOL , Prodigy, etc., all began offering access to the general public.

The Internet and its World Wide Web as we know them today, then, is only about six years old! And today's key topic of discussion is the growth of the wireless web --- enabling connections while we are waiting in the airport, or taking our daily stroll around the neighborhood

In this year of 2000, more than 70% of American adults will have web access at home or office --- the number of women online will exceed the number of men --- and the number of E-mail messages will exceed the total number of telephone calls.

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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, Muttenez Descendants, Inc., 4321 Transou Road, Pfafftown, NC 27040

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