

# Muttenz Descendants, Inc.

# Family Newsletter



**Winter 2012** 

# Muttenz Celebrates 720th Birthday with "First of August" Festivities

Thanks to Corry Spaenhauer for the photos from their weekly newspaper "Muttenz Anzeiger". Our Swiss cousins recognize 1291 as the founding of the Swiss Confederation which began as an alliance of three cantons and grew through the years as other districts joined. In 1499 the Swiss Confederation gained its independence from the Holy Roman Empire.

Switzerland has long been recognized as a sovereign, neutral country thereby being spared involvement in either of the two world wars. Switzerland became a member of the UN in 2002 and is regularly the host country to many international organizations. The country is a multilingual nation with four official languages: German, Italian, French, and Romansh.

In 1994, August 1st was established as the national holiday in celebration of the founding of the Swiss Confederation.

As you can see in the photos, Muttenz saw a large turnout of citizens enjoying food, singing, dancing, and music.















# FROM The History Committee

www.muttenzdescendants.org

#### History & Genealogy Report

We have often mentioned a circle of about 30 miles in diameter in the four-county area of the Yadkin Valley within which our ancestors settled during the years before the Revolutionary War. Because western migration was essentially prohibited for the next 30-40 years, these surname families became more or less interconnected by marriages. Later, when crossing those mountains to the west became open to family groups, those "cousins" from that North Carolina circle migrated together Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana then Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, etc. - and bought land near each other thereby creating new circles in the western states with many of the same family surnames.

We want to further develop this picture by adding a series of family history stories. The challenge is how best to organize them. We will concentrate first on bringing the initial family groups into that North Carolina four-county circle (Forsyth, Stokes, Yadkin & Surry Counties).

Chapter One will include selected information which is available regarding the family prior to their emigration to America. Chapter Two will outline what we know about their immigration journey itself. Chapter Three will outline what is known about the family life in the early years before migration south to North Carolina. Chapter Four will relate what we know of that migration south, and Chapter Five will deal with the specific areas within that circle in which each family first settled.

When these stories appear on our web-site and in our newsletters, we hope that readers may offer

Page 2 additional information. Projects nearing completion are Spainhour and Shore.

Our genealogy program for some months now, has had three parts. First, we happily now regularly receive contributions of additional information on family groups via e-mails and add that to our online collection. In addition to that, there are two major projects. First -- our online files previously contained about half of the available information on the historical Shore family - so we are now adding the second half. Following that, we hope that more younger researchers will help make it more up-to-date. The second major project centers on including much new information on the Grabs family which comes from the impressive work of Seigfried Grabs of Ontario, Canada.

We want to revive our efforts to fill selected "gaps" which will enhance our understanding of the early life of our ancestors. A few of these "gaps" within the Spainhour family have been selected for the initial program. Besides our own research efforts – we plan to feature these on our website – in the hope of getting help from those who might read them.

Our website's current design dates from about 2002, and there is little new there since about 2004 except for the genealogy collections. The site needs another reorganization. We want to better interlink our site with related family sites -- such as the new Shore Family web site and the Spainhour Family Group page on Facebook, which Steve Spainhouer has developed. For our site to be a more effective contributor, we need to make it of more current interest – and narrow our focus so as to keep it under active development. Thanks to the internet and e-mail, volunteers who can help with this program do not need to live near each other. **SO** – if you can help in the revitalization of our web site -PLEASE VOLUNTEER.

- James Spainhour

# Kapp Cousins visit Muttenz

M. Keith Kapp of Raleigh, NC and family made a trip last fall to Muttenz Switzerland where they met our ambassadors of hospitality Corry Spaenhauer and Edith Spanhauer and took in the local sites.

Since their trip they have confirmed that their Kapp ancestor was baptized in Munchenstein which is the next town over from Muttenz. They hope to someday make another trip to Switzerland and spend some time there.





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#### The Reformation of Basle 1529

compiled by Edith B Spanhauer Muttenz Switzerland

In 1524, the priest of Liestal (the capital of the Canton Basle Country since 1833) by the name of Stephan Stor, took the first courageous step forward. He made it publicly known that he had lived in concubinage with his housekeeper for ten years now and that they had children. He then asked the Council of Basle to grant him permission to marry this woman. This permission was given, but he had to give up priesthood. After this, word began to spread that there is no such commandment in the Bible forbidding wedlock, and a number or priests got married in the Basle area, thus openly demonstrating disobedience to the Vatican.

Reformative impulses also came from villages. In 1523 e.g., Muttenz made the suggestion to let the monasteries and nunneries gradually die out, since they were a manmade invention and quite a material burden on the population. In the process of Reformation, also the people of Muttenz became acquainted with the Truth of the Bible, and in a new uprising in 1525 they based their claims on the Holy Script. In doing so, they found moral and active support in their school master, Jorg Haas, who defied the oldfashioned priest. At the outskirts of Muttenz there were, in opposite directions, the Convent Engental (1268 - 1525) and the Monastery Rotes Haus. On February 13, 1525, the local nuns were encouraged to leave their Convent of Engental. Three months later, revolting peasants plundered the Convent, eating and drinking all the provisions the nuns had. On July 15 of the same year, the Council issued a prohibition for all Convents and Monasteries to accept novices. By 1533, all but four nuns had left Engental. For these four, a pension plan was worked out.

Their cattle was sold and the premises destroyed. The Monastery Rotes Haus and its monks underwent a similar fate. After the last monk had moved out, the land was sold to wealthy citizens of Basle. (In the early 1930's, the world-renowned Chemical Concern Geigy built factory complexes on it). In 1534, the parsonage was built next to St. Arbogast Church in Muttenz which is, to this day, being used as such.

In 1525, the priest of another village, secretly reading the Bible, made the discovery that:

- contrary to his belief, the Holy Communion did not consist of blood and flesh of Jesus Christ but was wine and bread. (This conception was one of the harshest subjects of disagreement between Luther and Zwingli).
- no Saints were necessary to intercede for men, but that men could very well pray directly to God.
  - the purgatory was non-existent.

If no one was capable of proving from the Bible that he was wrong, he said, he would henceforth preach the very Truth on the top of his voice.

A Humanist and Lawyer, reading at the University of Basle (founded 1461), by the name of Bonifacius Amerbach, made a statement in 1525 that the "swarm of clerics got totally out of proportion". As a matter of fact, the Cathedral alone kept 95 members of the clergy. Amerbach claimed that all of the clergy should be made subject to the Local Civil Law, and that they be forbidden to keep concubines. All clerical positions should, from now on, be obtainable free of charge, after due examination of both knowledge and conduct of the respective man. Furthermore, as a result of peasants' upheavals in 1525, "the incredible bunch of lazy, illiterate priests and

monks", as Amerbach put it, was drastically reduced to a reasonably moderate number and all contributions to the Vatican stopped. (Enormous sums had to be paid so far. Pope Leo X, needing money to complete construction of St. Peter's Dome, had urged the clergy to sell letters of indulgence).

Oekolampad took to preaching in German rather than Latin which was highly welcomed by his congregation. He began to exchange letters with Martin Luther at Wittenberg/Prussia (now Saxony), with Ulrich Zwingli (the major Swiss Reformer) in Zurich, as well as Berchtold Haller in Berne. They perceptions. interchanged their Oekolampad asked Luther and Zwingli for Bible interpretations and for sermon texts. In 1524, the first German hymn books, issued by Luther, came to Basle. Henceforth, German hymns were sung during services.

Martin Luther, now banned and excommunicated, was offered shelter at the Wartburg/Turingia by Kurfurst Friedrich dem Weisen (Elector Frederick the Wise), during which time he translated the New Testament from Greek (the work of Erasmus and Oekolampad) into German. In doing so, he created a literary German, the new "High German", that would be understandable to all the people speaking the innumerable German dialects.

The clergy of the Central Cantons utterly disapproved of the developments in Zurich, Basle and Berne and demanded that the priests preaching the Gospel be replaced. The Council of Basle, however, dreading unrest within the congregation, refused to adhere to this request. New pressure from the conservative Central Cantons even demanded that Basle be expelled from the Swiss Confederation (which fortunately did not happen).

# **Arbogast Society**

Let me tell you a little about the ARBOGAST SOCIETY.

Why a Society? The Board of Directors of Muttenz Descendants, Inc. wanted a way to honor special contributions, services and work. Why the name? First, Arbogast Spainhour, born in 1578, is the earliest identified male ancestor of Spainhours in Switzerland and America. Second, the most noted architectural feature in Muttenz, Switzerland. the village of our family ancestors, is the beautiful, historic church of St. Arbogast. It is the only fortress church building still standing in Europe. It was built in Roman times and after being burned was rebuilt in 1230. It is said to be "The greatest sight of the village". So, the name ARBOGAST represents our first known ancestor and our homeland.



#### **CABIN RESTORATION:**

Hobart Spainhour Family
Winkie Thomas Family
Spainhour & Spainhour Grading
Daniel Spainhour
David Wayne Spainhour
Francis Spainhour\*
John Spainhour
Charles Spainhour\*
Doug Spainhour

Page 4 January 2012 John Michael Spainhour
Herbert Spainhour
David Spainhour
Michael Dee Spainhour
Calloway Welding (Bud)

#### FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS:

Jack E. Moore
Marquita Spainhour
Marcelline S. Mitchell
Walt & Heidi Tiefenthaler
Betty Hennessee
Mary Spainhour

#### **CEMETERY:**

Jackie Shelton
Fence Builders, Inc.
Hal & Virginia Patterson
Martha Keiger
Katherine Campbell

#### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Christine Whicker
Catherine Canter\*
Judy Bodenhamer
James D. Spainhour
Nick Hennessee\*
Jack White\*

#### OTHERS HONORED:

Patsy Ginns Robert Carroll Frances Hardee

\*Denotes charter members (5)

# Family Afghan Project



The directors of Muttenz Descendants, Inc. is considering the possibility of producing a "Family Afghan" as a fundraiser. The afghan would be custom woven and would depict images of importance to our family history such as the St. Arbogast Church in Muttenz. It would sell for somewhere around \$60.00. Before undertaking such a huge project, we would like to get a feel of the level of interest among the family. If you would be interested in purchasing such an item - please call or email Verna (contact info on pg. 7)

# Cabin Visitors





Justin Wright and girlfriend Dana Ricks visited the John Jacob Spainhower cabin during a recent trip to NC. Justin's grandmother and mother, Ruby Corley, and Debbie Corley Wright, are from TX and were here with us for the 2011 Heritage Day celebration. Hope to see Justin and Dana at this year's Heritage Day!

#### The Reformation of Basle 1529

....continued from pg 3

It is quite amazing to note how very much involved in church policy the Council of Basle was. They had quite a struggle to maintain peace among the priests and kept issuing new directives.

For the year 1524, the astronomers had predicted a "water misery", and it was apprehended that a new deluge was to occur. Instead, "the flood was caused by blood, not water", as Dr. Johannes Fabri, Vicar General of the Bishopric of Constance and fierce opponent to the Reformatory movement, put it in a letter to Indeed, a fratricidal war Basle. had broken out in what is now Germany, in which more than 100,000 men were killed and a great number of towns and citadels burnt down.

While in Basle the reformatory processes moved on, pressure from within and outside were

increasing. In early 1527, Fabri was sent to the "highly educated King of England" (Henry VIII before he broke away from Rome) by his "very gracious Master, the most honorable King of Bohemia and Hungary". From London. Fabri addressed a most disrespectful letter to the Council of Basle, in which he cynically remarked that Johannes Husschin, alias Oekolampad (Schin or Schein meaning light as well as appearance) was the re-appearance of Hus (the early Reformer of Bohemia, 1369 -1415, burnt alive at stake in Constance as a "top heretic". Hus' followers being the "Hussiten" and Moravians respectively).

The Council of Basle had indeed a very busy time. The liberation changes that were under way gave cause to big discussions and disputes not only among the clergy, but above all, among the

congregation which began to split up in three parties:

- the triumphant Evangelists
- the frustrated Old Faithful
- the Center Group

In order to put an end to the increasing unrest, the Council issued a resolution by which no priest was compelled to say Mass, and the congregation was free to go to Mass or stay away. Under threat of penalty, none of the parties should be allowed to advocate their own conception no criticize the one of another party.

Now, also the monks began to study the Bible, and the first ones to break up were the brethren of the St. Augustin order. They had learned from the Bible that Jesus Christ alone was the Savior and that the rules imposed on them in the monastery were man-made and not commanded by the Lord.

"The Reformation of Basle 1529" will continue as installments in future newsletter issues.

# Craig Dye - College Graduate What A Difference A Year Makes

Craig Dye graduated from Sam Houston State University in December 2011 with a BA in Criminal Justice. He has made a remarkable recovery from the injuries he received in a horrific car accident in January of 2011.

You may remember, Craig Dye's miracle started on Sunday January 30th 2011 at approximately 11:45 p.m. in Huntsville, TX when God protected Craig in a head on collision between his Honda and an 18-wheel tractor trailer loaded with drill pipe. The truck flipped over trying to avoid him.

After a brief hospital stay and a period of therapy Craig has gone on to complete his studies and is now a college graduate.



# Heritage Day

As a response to multiple requests to have Heritage Day on a date prior to school starting back so that more families are able to attend, Heritage Day will now be held the first Saturday in August beginning August 4th, 2012. Make plans now to attend!



Get Well Soon!

Best Wishes for a speedy recovery to MDI board member
Jane Browder.

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## In Memory of Family and Friends

**DOUB** - Mr. Homer Alvin Doub, 87, of Winston-Salem, died Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at Forsyth Medical Center. Mr. Doub was born in Winston-Salem, November 20, 1923, son of the late Albion Newton and Dora Nelson Doub. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and retired from Roadway Express and was a member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Kernersville. Mr. Doub loved bowling, fishing, and spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mr. Doub is survived by his wife, Fannie Queen Doub, of the home; three daughters: Barbara Jean (Kemp) Wilson, Winston-Salem, Brenda Gail (Steve) Hege, Lexington, Sandra Kay (Dave) Russell, Winston-Salem, and one son: Ray (Ginger) Doub, Lewisville, 12 grandchildren: Reggie (Angie) Doub, Justin (Mutsumi) Doub, Joey (Amaya) Doub, Devin (Ricky) Hedrick, Josh Doub, Jeremy Doub, Jeffrey (Hannah) Wilson, Alicia (Lyndeane) Gammon, Brian (Kristie) Hege, Wesley Hege, Damien (Salem) Kirby and Ashley (Sam) Broadus; 23 great grandchildren; one sister, Margaret Wolfe, Winston-Salem, and one brother, Larry (Sonja) Doub, Lexington and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Monday, October 24, at Salem Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Parklawn Memorial Gardens. Memorials may be made to the Tab Williams Center, 231 Melrose Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. the Alzheimer's Association or to the charity of the donor's choice. The family would like to thank the staff of the 8th Floor Palliative Care at Forsyth Medical Center for their care and Page 6 compassion for

Doub and his family.

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Arbor Acres Fitzgerald Health Center. her residence since 2005. A memorial service was held at Centenary United Methodist Church. Survivors include husband M. N. (Nick) Hennessee of Arbor Acres; son Scott and wife Mary of Rocky Mount; grandsons Sean of Palo Alto, CA; Ryan of New York City; and Aidan of Rocky Mount; siblings Jackie S. Shelton of Winston-Salem, and Harold Spainhour of Sophia. Her parents were Viola Ingram and Ralph Alexander Spainhour of Winston-Salem. Descended from Swiss immigrants who were among the first settlers of Bethania, Betty preserved and contributed to Spainhour family history collections. Her penpal relationship and exchange visits with Edith Spanhauer of Muttenz, Switzerland, inspired Edith to organize a Spainhour International Reunion in Muttenz in 1990, followed by an international reunion in Bethania and Winston-Salem in 1995. From that also came Muttenz Descendants, Inc., an association of families whose ancestors migrated from Muttenz. Betty graduated from Reynolds High School, Mars Hill College, Graduate Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Salem College. She was Medical Records Librarian and founder of Baptist Hospital School of Medical Records Library Science. She also was a teacher at Forsyth Country Day School and a Bethabara Park interpreter. At Centenary United Methodist Church she was choir president, life member of United Methodist Women and member of the Official Board and Forum Class. An avid tennis player, she was a founder of the Westwood Club. Betty bequeathed her body to the Wake Forest University Department of Neurobiology Anatomy. Memorial considerations include Arbor Acres UM Retirement Community Employee Education Fund, Centenary United Methodist Church and Arbor Acres United Methodist Retirement Community in Winston-Salem, and Cemetery Fund of Muttenz Descendants PO Box 2127, King, NC.

HENNESSEE -

Hennessee died November 12, 2011 at

Betty Spainhour

SPAINHOUR - Mr. Jeremy Dylan Spainhour, age 24 of King, passed away Thursday, December 15, 2011. He was born March 26, 1987 in Forsyth County to Donna Temple and Roy A. Spainhour. Survivors include: mother, Donna Temple and her husband Charles Hocamp; brother, Jesse Spainhour; maternal grandparents Dr. Don Temple and Melrose Temple; paternal grandmother, Betty Spainhour; uncles, Bruce Temple, Randy Spainhour, and Ray Spainhour; aunts, Teresa Thompson, Sandra Shank, Kelly Wagoner, and Lisa Spainhour; cousins, Jillian Davis and Paul Shank. A memorial service was conducted Sunday, December 18, 2011 at Elkin Funeral Service Chapel. The family requests that memorials be made to NAMI, 309 W. Millbrook Road, Suite 121, Raleigh, NC 27609.

NEWSOME - Thomas David Newsome, 47, of Rural Hall died Sunday, January 29, 2012 at Forsyth Medical Center. He was born August 16, 1964 in Forsyth County. David served in the Air Force in Germany and worked for the Kontos brothers, Nick and George with the Coronet Seafood Restaurant of Rural Hall. David was preceded in death by his father, Thomas Edward Newsome and one brother, Michael Patrick Newsome. David is survived by his mother, Sara Anderson and brother, Paul Newsome both of Rural Hall: sister, Beth Newsome and husband, David McKnight and niece, Sophie Anderson McKnight all of Durham; sister, Carol Newsome and Dick Stephens of Greensboro; many aunts, uncles and cousins. A memorial service was conducted Friday, February 3, 2012 at Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church, 460 Bethania - Rural Road, Rural Hall, NC 27045 with Pastor Stacie Loizeaux officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 519, Rural Hall, NC 27045

### **HELP WANTED**

Calling All Cousins! The Muttenz Descendants website needs your help! We are backlogged with all kinds of data that we need to move from "paper" to "digital". We need anyone with HTML file transfer skills (or anyone who wishes to learn) to contact James Spainhour. James has devoted untold hour upon hour to our organization for over 20 years and it's time he had some help. You can do as much or as little as you like. Contact James at jspainhour001@triad.rr.com or by phone at 336-766-3549.



# Honorariums and Memorials

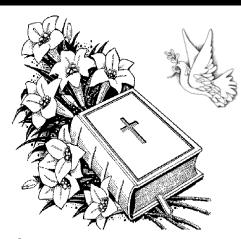
Albert & Elizabeth Harris

Eleanora M. Spainhour

Frankie Mulder

Gene Spainhour

Thomas Wayne Marshall



David & Robin Spainhour

David & Carolyn Spainhour

James & Marquita Spainhour

#### "In Memory Of" and "In Honor Of" Donations:

John & Martha Shelton In Memory of Betty Hennessee

> Ginny Wagner In Honor of Verna Spainhour Brewer

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MUTTENZ DESCENDANTS, INC.

1951 Tobaccoville Road, Rural Hall, NC 27045

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#### Spainhour-Neely

Kristen Nicole Neely and Luke Curtis Spainhour, both of Raleigh, exchanged marriage vows September 10, 2011 at First United Methodist Church in Wilson. The Rev. Ray Warren and Dr. Mark Pierce, uncle of the groom, officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Miles Neely, Sr. of Wilson. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Noel Byrd, Sr. of Warsaw and the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson Neely, Sr. of Clinton. She graduated from James B. Hunt High School and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism/Public Relations. She is a member of the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority. She graduated from Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University in May and was admitted to the North Carolina State Bar in August. The bride was presented by the Terpsichorean Club at the 2003 North Carolina Debutante Ball.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reggie Spainhour of King. He is the grandson of Clifton Spainhour of Tobaccoville and the late Betty Pfaff Spainhour and Mae Spainhour of Rural Hall and the late Reggie Thomas Spainhour. He graduated from West Stokes High School and North Carolina State University with a degree in agriculture business and communications.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore a strapless, asymmetrical silk dupioni gown that featured a contoured neckline and dropped waist. The ruched bodice was adorned with beaded lace appliqués. The bubble tier skirt was beautifully embellished with intricate scalloped and beaded lace trim with a chapel-length train.

A reception at The Wilson House in Bailey hosted by the bride's parents followed the ceremony.

The couple has returned from a honeymoon to Hawaii and are living in Raleigh.