

DESCENDANCY  
of  
**PETER RÜGSEGGER (b c1710) and CHRISTIANA ROSENBERGER (b 1709)**  
and  
**PETER RICKSECKER and ANNA [JUNG] (b 1723)**  
and  
**PETER RICKSECKER and ANNA BARBARA KLEIN [BORT] (b 1717)**

Peter's parents may have been Ulrich Rügsegger and Anna Magdalena Salzmann  
Barbara's parents were George Klein and Veronica Sachs  
Christiana's and Anna's parents are not known to us

*Note 1: Material in smaller type is written by BFE (Barbara Ann Fisher), wife of KFE (Karl Frederick Edler Jr), while material in larger type is from our family history database maintained by KFE.*

*Note 2: Unless otherwise indicated, much of the information in this Section is from Martha Claire Fisher Redsecker, James Straughn Redsecker, and Elisabeth Wall "Buffy" Redsecker (EWR).*

*Note 3: Names of direct ancestors of EWR are underlined.*

**I. Peter<sup>1</sup> Rügsegger** was probably born 4 May 1707 (or 20 Oct 1710) Eggiwil, Signau, Berne, Switzerland. His parents may have been Ulrich Rügsegger and Anna Magdalena Salzmann.

Peter married Christiana Rosenberger; probably at least three children. They probably lived in Basel, Switzerland. She was probably born 15 Jan 1709 Volklingen, Saarland. Peter, Christiana, and their two younger children emigrated from Switzerland to America in 1737, perhaps on the ship *Loyal Judith* from Amsterdam to Philadelphia. We don't know when Christiana died.

Secondly, Peter married Widow Anna [Jung] about 1743; three children. They lived Donegal Township, Lancaster Co PA. Born Aug 1709, she died 12 Feb 1751, age 41.

Thirdly, he married Widow Anna Barbara Klein [Bort] 5 Sep 1751; at least five children. They lived Lititz PA. She was the widow of Andreas Bort, whom she had married 18 Mar 1739 Lancaster PA. Barbara was born about 1717. Her parents were George Klein and Veronica Sachs. (This is a change from our earlier belief that her maiden name was Bechtel, see note on page 16-33.) Barbara died 27 Jan 1770 Lititz, age 53.

His fourth marriage was to Widow Maria Margaretha Thomas [Lieron] about 1770; no children. She was the widow of Daniel Lieron. Born 4 Apr 1723 Wurtemberg, she died 10 Apr 1771, age 48, only a short time after marrying Peter.

Fifth and last, he married Widow Anna Meyer [Schneider] about 1772; no children. She lived Warwick PA. He died 9 Feb 1778, age about 67 (or 65). Born 8 Mar 1720 near Worms, she died 24 Apr 1786, age 66.

PETER'S PARENTS – Ulrich Rügsegger was born 3 Mar 1671 Eggiwil, and died 18 Apr 1718 Gersweiler, Saarland, age 47. Anna Magdalena Salzmann was born 16 Mar 1665 Eggiwil, and died 1 Dec 1713 Klarenthal, Saarland, age 48. Some notes on possible ancestors of theirs, and locations of the places mentioned, are on page 16-2.

*Note:* as with all old families a researcher encounters, there are many variations in the spelling of Peter's surname. A few are Rickstacker, Ricksecher, Ricksaker, Redsacker, Rucksacker, Rickstracker, Richsecher, Rexsecher, Rexecher, and Ruegsegger, plus Rüdsükr or Rügsegger, used by Peter and his forebears in Europe.

Spellings weren't standardized for many years. Also, many of the early people were not formally educated, and the persons writing for them had to spell however they thought names sounded. We use Ricksecker and Redsecker most of the time in *All-People* because those are the most frequent spellings in the documents we have seen.

HOW WE FOUND THE INFORMATION IN THIS SECTION -- Although we had accumulated material on the Redseckers from sources such as family group sheets in the LDS Ancestral Files, we didn't know much about Peter until we made a trip to Lancaster Co PA in June 1997. We had a good time in that beautiful area, and it was quite satisfying to find some gravestones, and more information on the Redseckers in the Elizabethtown library and the Lancaster Historical Society.

Later, James Straughn "Jim" Redsecker, our brother-in-law, sent us additional material and we were especially pleased to learn from him more about Peter's probable forebears.

THE REDSECKERS IN SWITZERLAND AND GERMANY -- The listing which begins below is from Rosa Goodrich, as provided to us by Jim Redsecker. Unfortunately, we don't know anything about Rosa, when and where she did her research, or what sources she used. We're including it here because it appears to be reasonably complete, and is definitely intriguing!

Johannes **Rügsegger**, born Berne, Switzerland, 1563  
 married, Eggiwil, Signau, Berne, 1587  
 Magdalena **Haldemann**, born 1566

Ulrich **Rügsegger**, born Berne, Switzerland, 1592  
 married, Eggiwil, Signau, Berne, 3 May 1619  
 Barbli **Jost**

Nikolaüs **Rügsegger**, born Eggiwil, Signau, Berne, Switzerland, 1626  
 married, Eggiwil, April 17, 1654  
 Anna **Luthi** (of Aeschau)

Ulrich **Rügsegger**, born Eggiwil, Signau, Berne, Switzerland, 1671  
 died 18 Apr 1718, Gersweiler, Saarland (later Saarbrücken)  
 married, Eggiwil, 1699  
 Anna Magdalena **Salzmann**, born 1665, Eggiwil  
 died 1 Dec 1738, Klarenthal, Saarland (later Saarbrücken)

Peter **Rügsegger**, born Eggiwil, Signau, Berne, Switzerland, 4 May 1707  
 married Christiana **Rosenberger**, born 15 Jan 1709, Volklingen, Saarland (later Saarbrücken)

SOME NOTES ON GEOGRAPHY – Eggiwil is about 40 km ESE of Berne, which is about 150 km south of Basel (these are both in Switzerland), which is about 200 km south of Saarbrücken, just over the border in Germany.

Klarenthal is about 2 or 3 km west of Gersweiler, which is about 5 km west of Saarbrücken; today (2008) all of these are in the southwest part of Germany, close to the border with France.

THE REDSECKERS IN AMERICA -- We believe Peter, his wife Christiana, and their two younger children emigrated from Europe in 1737. We don't know why Nicholas, the oldest child, didn't come with them.

In 1740, Peter and his wife were members of the old Moravian church in Donegal township; Ricksecker was one of the earliest burials in the churchyard. We have seen references to Peter's dying 9 Feb 1788 and 11 Mar 1788. Unfortunately, the old church building has been gone for many years, and we couldn't find the old graveyard, so we don't know Peter's birth and death dates for certain. Fortunately, we now have some more information about the graveyard's location and, if we can, will try again to find it.

In 1741, Peter was one of several people who received grants of land from the two Penn brothers, sons of William Penn, the Proprietor of the Pennsylvania Colony. Peter and others then deeded part of this land for the old church building to be constructed. It was ½ mile north of present day Milton Grove, which is 5 miles east of Elizabethtown, and 5 miles northwest of Mt Joy.

A few years later, about 1750-51, a new church building was constructed in Warwick Township. A history book in the Elizabethtown library says that the first marriage in the new Moravian Church in Warwick Township was that of Peter Ricksecker and Widow Barbara Bort, in 1751.

The new Moravian Church in Warwick Township was a "country congregation", with members living scattered on their farms. Bethlehem and Nazareth, nearby communities, had "closed settlements" whose people lived closely together as a religious and social community, with everyone expected to work on missions as the church's special emphasis. At the end of 1757, Lititz and Warwick had 253 members, including children.

Warwick Township was one of the original townships laid out when Lancaster County was formed in 1729. In 1759 the assessment roll for Warwick Township shows Peter Ricksecker as a freeholder of 150 acres. Incidentally, the 1780 tax list shows slavery still existing in PA.

As time went by, other townships were formed from Warwick, and townships were combined or discontinued. As in other places, this is important for researchers to keep in mind. For example, a person may be shown residing in township A and, at a later time, residing in township B. Though the person may indeed have moved, the researcher should not assume that he or she did so. There may have been a reorganization or other change in township names. Several of the old townships in the area no longer (1997) exist.

ADDITIONAL RECORDS LOCATED -- We found contradictory statements in a good many early references to Peter and others in the Redsecker family. Often we would find references to persons with surnames Ricksecker or Redsecker, but with first names we had not encountered earlier. We were surprized to find a descendency list from the LDS Ancestral File, showing Peter's family with Anna Jung as his wife.

Then we found a carefully hand-drawn chart in the family folders at the Lancaster Historical Society. This gives much detail, and is even more surprizing. It shows Peter as married four times beginning with Anna. He is said to be a farmer, born 20 Oct 1710 in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, and to have died of "camp fever". At this point we were beginning to be totally confused.

On our return home, however, we studied all the information more thoroughly. All the names and dates are very similar if not identical, and nothing is incompatible. It all fits together beautifully! We are very pleased to fill out, tentatively, at least as of August 1997, our records about Peter, "The Immigrant" of the Redsecker family.

### **-- Children of Peter Rügsegger and Christiana Rosenberger --**

**A. Nicholas<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born in Basel, Switzerland, before 1737, possibly as early as 1713. He came to America later than Peter Rügsegger (who came about 1737 with his wife and two younger children).

A 27 Nov 1994 letter (in the family folders at the Lancaster County Historical Society) from Mildred Morton, 14618 Minnich(?) Rd, Hoagland IN 46745, says Nicholas' name was Johan Nikolaus Ricksecker, born circa 1713, and that he came from Klarenthal, Germany to America 15 Sep 1749 with his wife Ursula and their family. They settled in Lancaster County, Mt Joy township. (Note, Nicholas couldn't have been born in 1713 if his father Peter were born 1707-1710.)

*IT IS AT LEAST A POSSIBILITY THAT PETER AND NICHOLAS WERE BROTHERS,  
OR PERHAPS COUSINS, RATHER THAN FATHER AND SON.*

Nicholas and Ursula were sponsors for Elisabeth, daughter of John George Ricksecker and his wife Anna Maria Andereck. Elizabeth was born 19 Nov 1759, baptized 27 Dec 1759, page 16-7.

The only information we have of Nicholas' and Ursula's own children, if any, is that they may have had a daughter or granddaughter Anna **Rickstacker**, born about 1750, who married Jacob **Roudebush**.

**B. Georg<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born before 1737.

**C. Johann Georg<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker**, born 22 Mar 1735 Basel, Switzerland, married **Anna Maria Andereck** and married Anna Maria **Auxer**

-- see page 16-5.

**-- Children of Peter Ricksecker and Anna [Jung] --**

**D. Jacob<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker**, born 24 Apr 1745 Donegal Township, married Elisabeth **Frederick** -- see page 16-9.

Elisabeth may have been a sister of Rachel Frederick, wife of Jacob's brother Johann.

**E. Peter<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker**, born 18 Oct 1746 Donegal, Lancaster Co, married Elisabeth **Kruger** 1774; no children. Born 1751, she died 1778, age about 27. Peter married Barbara **Hohneisen** 29 Aug 1779; four children. He died 3 Apr 1796, age 49. Born 1755, she died 1830, age about 75.

1. Johann<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker** was born 2 Aug 1780 Lititz PA.

2. Johann Georg<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker** was born 14 Dec 1782.

3. Christian Anton<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker** was born about 1785. He was known as a very quiet and shy person. Sadly, he died suddenly about 1802, age about 17, and was found lying by a roadside.

4. Samuel<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker**, born about 1788, married Anna Justina **Beitel**; no children known to us. He died about 1854, age about 66. She also died about 1854, but we don't know her age.

Samuel Redsecker is said to have been a merchant in business in Elizabethtown from after the War of 1812 until 1820-1825.

**F. Johann<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker**, born 3 Jan 1749, married Rachel **Frederick** -- see page 16-10.

NOTE: *Peter Ricksecker and Anna [Jung] may also have had a daughter Catharine, born about 1744. If so, we don't know why she doesn't appear in the records we found. We were, nevertheless, interested to find the tombstone of Catharine Ricksecker, who died 7 Aug 1822, age 78 years, buried at Donegal Presbyterian Church, along with a few other Redseckers and her husband Walter **Bell**. Born about 1745, Walter died Sept 1796, age 51 years.*

A monument on the grounds of the Donegal Presbyterian Church says that a Bell family were members of Donegal Church in its early days. We don't know whether this was Walter's family and/or whether they were there at the time of an event in 1777 which also is commemorated in the churchyard, page 16-6.

**-- Children of Peter Ricksecker and Barbara [Bechtel] [Bort] --**

**G. Gertrude<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1755. Never married, she died 1792, age about 37.

**H. Johann Friedrich<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1757. He died 1758, age 8 months.

**I. Anna Johanna<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1759. Never married, she died about 1789, age about 30.

**J. Elisabeth<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1762. Never married, she died about 1782, age about 20.

**K. Matthew<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker** was born and died 1764.

**JOHANN GEORG RICKSECKER (b 1735) and ANNA MARIA ANDERECK (b 1739)  
and their descendants  
and  
JOHANN GEORG RICKSECKER and ANNA MARIA AUXER (b 1733) and their descendants  
from page 16-3**

John George's parents were Peter Ricksecker and Christiana Rosenberger  
Anna Maria Andereck's parents were Christian Andereck and Anna Caterina Jung  
Anna Maria Auxer's parents were Christian Auxier and Maria Barbara [Auxer]

**C. Johann Georg<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker**, born 22 Mar 1735 Basel, Switzerland, came to America with his parents and one brother in 1737. Sometime in his adult life, his surname was changed to Redsecker by a reformed church minister, his first name, Johann, was dropped, and he was known as George **Redsecker**.

He married Anna Maria Andereck about 1758; probably five children born Lancaster Co PA. She was born about 1739. Her parents were Christian Andereck and Anna Caterina Jung. Anna Maria died Dec 1769, age about 30.

Johann Georg married Anna Maria **Auxer** about 1770; probably seven children born Lancaster Co. She was born 1733 Alcase, France. Her parents were Christian **Auxier** and Maria Barbara [Auxier].

Johann Georg died 11 Mar 1788 Donegal, Lancaster Co PA, age 51 years and 11 days, buried Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co. Anna Maria died 1817 Elizabethtown, age about 84.

Unfortunately for family researchers, both of Johann Georg's wives had the same first and middle names, surnames which begin with the letter A, and fathers with the same first name. They appeared to have been confused in some of the records we first encountered on our June 1997 visit to Elizabethtown and other parts of Lancaster Co. However, after sorting through the new information and comparing it by dates with what we already had, we believe the information below is probably correct or reasonably so.

*Note: we refer to Johann Georg Ricksecker/Redsecker (born 1735) as Johann Georg, in order to keep him distinguished in this document from his son George Redsecker (born 1765). As indicated previously, references give Johann Georg's and George's surname variously, for example, Rucksecker and Redsacker.*

*Note also: Johann Georg is pronounced Yo-hahn Gay-org. For purposes of this document, we assume that all Swiss or German children born before 1800 were christened with the German version of their names.*

We found Johann Georg's stone in the Tunnel Cemetery. The dates, 22 Mar 1735 and 11 Mar 1788, agree with what we already had. He is identified as Johann Georg Rucksecker. The stone next to his, also elaborately lettered in German, identifies his wife as Anna Maria Rickseckern (meaning wife of Ricksecker). Her dates, 1739 and Dec 1769, also agree with what we had. Both stones are nicely carved, with a death's head centered at the top of each.

The following is from an undated, unsigned two-page paper in the family files of the Lancaster County Historical Society: "John George Rucksecker came to America 15 Sep 1749, from Switzerland or the Palatinate. Settled in Mt Joy Township in Lancaster Co, near Elizabethtown PA. With first wife (Anna Maria Andrecken) had Elisabeth, Catharine, Christian, John George, and John. With second wife (Anna Maria Auxer) had Anna Maria, Susan, Margaret and Barbara. An Irish school teacher, Tara Jones, anglicized his name." (*Please note the incorrect immigration date in this quoted paper. Other references, and our analysis of them, indicate that Johann Georg came to America in 1737 with his parents. The 1749 date has probably been confused with his brother Nicholas' 1749 immigration.*)

EARLY TAVERNS – The first-known settlers of the site of Elizabethtown were the Conoy Indians, who began migrating there about 1700. Traders began to come, and a man named Thomas **Harris** built the Bear Tavern in 1727 to care for white travelers as well as a headquarters for Indian traders. Elizabethtown became a half-way stop between Lancaster and Harrisburg (Harris' Ferry), on the old turnpike road which gave access to major trading and migration routes to the west and the valley of Virginia.

Over time, the Bear Tavern became known as a place for Scots-Irish settlers to congregate. Johann Georg is said to have felt that there should also be a place for German settlers, and built the Black Horse Tavern of logs in 1757. The same year, he received a license to sell wine and rum to the general public, but no "liquor of any kind" to the Indians.

THE BLACK HORSE TAVERN became well-known and was important in the community. For example, the first postoffice in Elizabethtown was established 1781 in the Black Horse Tavern, and Johann Georg was the first postmaster. His family continued operating the tavern, the original building of which stood until 1835. A stone addition was built about 1790, a replacement log building was constructed in 1835-36, and a second stone addition was made in 1836. This construction work was probably done by Johann Georg's son George. The replacement building was in operation at least as late as 1883, covered with weatherboarding.

On our June 1997 trip to Elizabethtown, we had dinner in the Black Bear Tavern, the current building of which was constructed in 1790 or soon after. It was the second oldest building standing 1997 in Elizabethtown. The oldest building still standing is a large house across the road, no doubt formerly handsome but now used for offices. Unfortunately, the Black Horse Tavern building no longer exists. We tried to find its site.

In recent times, the Black Horse's distinctive red-and-black identifying sign has been reproduced and has become a popular souvenir or home decoration. Below the illustration of the horse, there are the initials "J.R." and the date "1797". We don't know whether the initials refer to Johann Georg Ricksecker or to Jacob Ricksecker, and we haven't been able to find the significance of the specific date. Nonetheless, we like the idea that the sign is still being displayed and enjoyed.

OTHER COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES – In or near Elizabethtown, Johann Georg and his half-brother Jacob operated a grist mill which was a primary supplier of feed to Washington at Valley Forge. Johann Georg is also said to have been a "projector" of the Harrisburg, Portsmouth & Lancaster Railroad, later the Pennsylvania Railroad Mainline.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR -- Johann Georg was in the militia and saw service during the Revolution. In the churchyard of Donegal Springs Presbyterian Church, there is a large monument with "George Redsecker" on one side. It says he was a 1st Lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion, Col Alex L Lowrey's Regiment, and that the regiment was at Brandywine 11 Sep 1777. (It is believed they were also at Germantown.)

During a morning service in the Donegal Springs church early in Sep 1777, a rider brought news of the British heading toward Pennsylvania. The minister and the congregation went outside, and joined hands under an enormous old oak tree, vowing they would support resisting the British. This 260-year-old tree, for 200 years called the "Witness Tree", had to be removed 3 Jun 1991. A bronze plaque was placed in 1995 by the Donegal Society to commemorate the tree, the church members, and the event.

This church, founded in 1721 and today continuing as an active congregation, is located on Donegal Springs Road and Trout Run Road, east of Landis. The buildings, yard, walled cemetery, and the Donegal Spring itself are (1997) in excellent condition and a pleasure to visit.

THE TUNNEL CEMETERY -- Before we arrived in Elizabethtown and found it, we were curious about the name Tunnel (sometimes Mt Tunnel) Cemetery and why it should have such an unusual name. We wondered if it could be named for a Tunnel or Tunnelle family, and perhaps pronounced Tun-NEL. It turns out it really is "Tunnel" after all, meaning a shaft through the mountain (or hill in this case).

There are stories about the construction of the 800-foot tunnel, about the railroad (the building of which created the need for the tunnel), and how many of the townspeople were against the tunnel. We aren't including anything else on this here, but it would be a good research subject for a history or railroad buff. By the way, the tunnel no longer exists; it was replaced by a deep cut to accommodate parallel tracks.

JOHANN GEORG'S FIRST WIFE was Anna Maria Andereck. Her parents were Christian Andereck, born about 1704 Berne Canton, Switzerland, and Anna Catarina **Jung**, born about 1705, who were married 30 Dec 1735 Lancaster PA. Christian died 1785 Strasburg VA, age about 81. We haven't found anything else about the Andereck family, except for possible alternate spellings Andrecken and Anderegg, which could be useful to a future researcher. Johann Georg and Anna Maria had five children born in Lancaster Co, before she died in 1769. She may possibly have died in connection with the birth of an unrecorded sixth child, perhaps stillborn.

-- Children of Johann Georg Ricksecker and Anna Maria Andereck --

1. Elisabeth<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, born 19 Nov 1759, was baptized 27 Dec 1759, with Nicholas and Ursula Ricksecker, page 16-3, as sponsors. Elisabeth married Conrad **Meyer**.
2. Catherine<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker** was born 8 Oct 1761.
3. Christian<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker** was born 3 Jul 1763.
4. Johann Georg<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, known as George Redsecker, was born 28 Jan 1765, He married Susanna Ream -- see page 16-11
5. Johann<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, born 29 Sep 1767, died before 1788, age 20 or less.

JOHANN GEORG'S SECOND WIFE was Anna Maria Auxer. Her parents were Christian Auxier/Auxer, born 1710 Auxerre, France, and Maria Barbara [Auxier/Auxer], born 1715 France. They married 1732 Auxerre and came to America 1742, settling Lancaster PA. They had five children, one of whom died in infancy. Information is available on the surviving three, Elisabeth, Michael and Christopher. Both Christian and Maria Barbara died 1797 Lancaster Co, ages about 87 and 82.

Christian's parents were Michel Auxier, born 1685 Auxerre, Yonne Province, France, and Amelia **Christopher**. Michel's alien registration number is said to be FR29306. We found various stories about the Auxier family living in France, why they came to America, and things they did. Since they aren't in our direct line, we aren't including anything further on them here, but information is available.

-- Children of Johann Georg Redsecker and Anna Maria Auxer --

6. Anna Maria<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, born 28 Mar 1771 Lancaster Co PA, married Andrew **Kergher**.
7. Catharine<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, born 19 Jul 1773 Mt Joy Township, Lancaster Co, married John Michael **Balmer**, son of Obediah Balmer.

We found many tombstones and written references to the Balmer family in and around Elizabethtown, but did not follow the Redsecker/Balmer/Palmer line very far. We don't know whether Balmer was changed to Palmer before the children were born, whether they changed it later themselves, or whether there was a misspelling along the way.

*Note: Changes in spelling and/or pronunciation are often encountered by researchers. Some individuals or families even made changes more than once. This can be a source of frustration for anyone who insists that his/her family surname has "always" been spelled a certain way. Ancestors are best identified by dates and places (and nowadays perhaps by DNA testing) rather than by exact spelling.*

- a) Barbara<sup>4</sup> **Palmer**, born 20 Sep 1798 Chambersburg, Franklin Co PA, married John Peter **Finfrock** 1815 Franklin Co. She died 22 Apr 1875, age 76.
- b) Jacob<sup>4</sup> **Palmer**, born about 1801 PA, married Catherine **Hackard**. She was born abt 1804.
- c) Catherine<sup>4</sup> **Palmer**, born about 1804, married John **Brindle**.
- d) Michael<sup>4</sup> **Palmer**, born about 1808, married Sarah [Palmer].
- e) Elisabeth<sup>4</sup> **Palmer**, born 18 Mar 1810 Franklin Co PA, married Christian **Harmony** 20 Mar 1834 Chambersburg PA. He was born 14 Apr 1807 Franklin Co PA. She died 14 Feb 1889, age 78. He died 9 Jun 1892 Miami Co OH, buried Oramie Township, Shelby Co OH.
- f) Jonas C<sup>4</sup> **Palmer**, born about 1814 in PA, married Catherine C **Flack**. She was born about 1820 in PA. He died Aug 1889, age about 75.

8. Margaret<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker** was born 7 Dec 1774.

9. Maria Barbara<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker** was born 8 Nov 1776.

10. Susanna<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, born 19 Jan 1779, married Rinehart **Houser**.

11. Magdalene<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker**, born 11 May 1781, married Phillip **Negler**.

We found Phillip's surname spelled various ways, including Negele and Nageli.

12. Barbara<sup>3</sup> **Redsecker** was born 26 Mar 1786.

Note: If we read all this correctly, in 1788 Anna Maria Auxer [Redsecker] was left a widow with a two-year-old and ten other living children and stepchildren. We assume she was helped by some of the older children.



**JACOB RICKSECKER (b 1745) and ELISABETH FREDERICK (b 1747)  
and their descendants**

from page 16-4

Jacob's parents were Peter Ricksecker and Anna [Jung]

Elisabeth's parents are not known to us

**D.** Jacob<sup>2</sup> **Ricksecker** was born 24 Apr 1745 Donegal Township, near Mt Joy, Lancaster Co PA. He married Elisabeth **Frederick**; probably five children born Warwick Township, Lancaster Co. She was born 9 Nov 1747 Milton Grove, Lancaster Co. He probably died 9 Jan 1806 Lititz PA, age 60.

Jacob is thought to be the first of the Ricksecker/Redsecker family born in America.

He worked together with his older half-brother Johann Georg Ricksecker (and later also with Johann Georg's son George) in operating the Black Horse Tavern on the Black Horse Pike, Elizabethtown's postoffice, and the Rickseckers' grist mill.

**1. Johann<sup>3</sup> Ricksecker**

**2. Peter<sup>3</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1770.

**3. Mary<sup>3</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1772.

**4. Rachael<sup>3</sup> Ricksecker** was born about 1774.

**5. Maria Elisabeth<sup>3</sup> Ricksecker**, born about 1777, married Peter Abraham **Kreiter**; at least two children. He was born 17 Mar 1771 Lancaster Co.

**a. Frederick<sup>4</sup> Kreiter** was born 1804 Lititz PA.

**b. Maria Rachael<sup>4</sup> Kreiter**, born 18 Apr 1810 Lititz, married John William **Kraemer**; at least one child. He was born 17 Apr 1803.

**i. Amanda Cordelia<sup>5</sup> Kraemer**, born 15 Sep 1832, married Samuel Emmanuel **Grosh**. He was born 10 Oct 1834 Lititz.

JOHANN RICKSECKER (b 1749) and RACHEL FREDERICK (b 1759) and their descendants  
from page 16-4

Johann's parents were Peter Ricksecker and Anna [Jung]

Rachel's parents are not known to us

**F. Johann<sup>2</sup> Ricksecker**, born 3 Jan 1749 Donegal Township, Lancaster Co PA, married Rachel **Frederick** about 1778; four children. He was a shoemaker and later a farmer. She was born 9 Mar 1759 Milton Grove, Lancaster Co. She died 22 Jan 1813 Lititz PA, age 53, and he died there the next day, 23 Jan 1813, age 64.

1. Mary<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker** was unmarried.

2. Jacob<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker**

3. Friedrich<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker**

4. Johann<sup>3</sup> **Ricksecker**, born 6 Jun 1789 Lititz PA, married Fredericka **Fisher**; nine children. Born 13 May 1794 Surinam, Dutch Guinea, she died 1857 Lititz, age 63. He died 29 Jan 1871 Mt Joy PA, age 81.

Fredericka's parents were English missionaries in Surinam, where Fredericka and her sister Louisa were born. When Fredericka was nine, the two girls were sent to Bethlehem PA and placed in a Moravian school. Both were married by lot, Louisa to Gen John **Curtiss** of Ohio. We would like to know more about this lottery.

a. Maria S<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker**, who died 1848, was unmarried.

b. Caroline<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker**, who died 1848, may have been a teacher at Lititz Seminary.

c. Augusta A<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker**, who died 1901, married R F **Rauch** of Lancaster.

d. Louisa F<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker**, who died 1893, married F M **Rauch**.

e. Permania<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker** died 1867 Lititz. He was a hatter by trade.

f. James F<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker** died 1887. He was a cabinet maker by trade.

James was a soldier in the "War of the Rebellion." He was a private, Co F, 1st Pa Regiment, mustered in 20 Apr 1861. In 17 Jul 1864 he was a captain, Co B; mustered out 21 Jun 1865.

g. Edwin<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker** died 1846.

h. Emmanuel A<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker** died in infancy.

i. Levi<sup>4</sup> **Ricksecker**, born 21 Jul 1822 Lititz, married Elisabeth F **Gormley** 24 Sep 1850; at least two children. She was born 1830. Her parents were Michael Gormley (-1861), a native of Ireland, and Catherine **McDonald** (1799-1888), a native of Scotland. Elisabeth died 1901, age about 71.

Levi attended Lititz schools until he was fourteen, when he was considered old enough to learn a trade. Instructed by his elder brother Permania for four years, he learned every detail of the trade of hatter, and became a careful and competent workman. He worked in Bethlehem PA two years and in Philadelphia two more years. Then he took a journey through the country, working in various towns, staying several months in Toronto in 1846. He continued on through Marietta PA and settled in 1847 in Mt Joy, where he became a prominent businessman.

i. Frank G<sup>5</sup> **Ricksecker** died in infancy.

ii. Onata<sup>5</sup> **Ricksecker** married Dr M O **Putt**; no children. She died May 1895.

JOHANN GEORG REDSECKER (b 1765) and SUSANNA REAM (b 1765) and their descendants  
from pages 16-7 and 16-13

Johann Georg's parents were Johann Georg Ricksecker and Anna Maria Andereck

Susanna's parents were Isaac Ream and Barbara Mosser

4. Johann Georg<sup>3</sup> Redsecker, usually called Georg or George, was born 28 Jan 1765 Lancaster Co PA. He married Susanna Ream; eleven children born Lancaster Co. *See note on page 16-13 concerning a possible twelfth child.* She was born 24 Oct 1765. Her parents were Isaac Ream and Barbara Mosser.

George died 19 May 1838 Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co, age 73 years, 10 months, 21 days. Susanna died 1 Sep 1851, age 85 years, 10 months, 7 days. They were buried Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown.

THEIR GRAVES -- Their flat stones are on the ground in Tunnel Cemetery, and their dates agree with what we already had. Although the stones are beginning to be obscured by acid rain, one can see that George's was beautifully carved and elaborately decorated. In German, it gives his name as GEORG RIDSECKER and, apparently, a review of what he did during his lifetime. It tells about the accomplishments of his which he considered most important, so we suspect he wrote it himself. We could not read all of it, but believe it says such things as he started a mill (in 1786?), married Susanna in 17--, and that he was one of the founders of this church (dieses Gottes haus) in 1816 (in jahr Christ 1816). We found this very touching, and wished we could read it better. Susanna's flat stone, next to George's, is also very nicely carved. In German, it identifies her as SUSANNA, wife of George Redsecker.

Both George's and Susanna's graves were moved to their present site. It is believed they were originally in "the burying ground of the old Reformed Church on the Ridge in West Donegal township" and were moved after the church burned and the graveyard site was being cleared for (we think) a parking lot. Others say they were originally buried in the Mennonite Church Cemetery, Elizabethtown.

-- See page 16-12 for some information about the REAM family --

BLACK HORSE TAVERN -- George was a builder and, before 1798, had built a brick building for the Farmers Bank and probably other structures as well. He probably built the first stone addition to the Black Horse about 1790, the replacement log building 1835-1836, and the second stone addition 1836. In 1798, he is on record as "still" keeper of the Black Horse Tavern, founded by his father Johann Georg Ricksecker. George Redsecker lived Elizabethtown borough 1812-1825.

- a. John G<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 11 Aug 1787, married Catherine **Huffman** -- see page 16-14.
- b. Johann Georg<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 6 Nov 1789, married Catherine **Myers** -- see page 16-15.
- c. Barbara<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 23 Mar 1792, married Robert M **Ross**. She died 17 Mar 1878, age 85.
- d. Isaac<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 12 Dec 1794, married Catherine **Oldweiler** -- see page 16-16.
- e. Elisabeth<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, twin of Isaac, was born 12 Dec 1794. She married Phillip **Fisher**. She died 11 Jan 1881, age 86.
- f. Jacob<sup>4</sup> Redsecker, born 16 Jun 1800, marr'd Harriet Martin and marr'd Annie **Martin** -- see page 16-17.
- g. Susannah<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, twin of Jacob, was born 16 Jun 1800. She married George **Peters**. She died 16 Jul 1868, age 68.
- h. Samuel<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 13 Mar 1803, married Jane Cameron **Whitehill** -- see page 16-19.
- i. Anna Maria<sup>4</sup> (Mary?) **Redsecker**, born 16 Dec 1805, married Abraham **Breneman**. She died 2 Jul 1886, age 80.
- j. Michael<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker** was born 4 Jun 1810. He died 1 Feb 1811, age 7 months, 27 days.
- k. Abraham<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 1813, married Elisabeth **Fisher** -- see page 16-20.

– **Some information about the REAM family** –  
referenced on page 16-11

The name Ream is thought to be derived from a German word meaning strap or thong, or from one meaning harness-maker. Variations in spelling include Reeme, Reahm, Rheam, Rheim, Reem, Rihm.

On our June 1997 trip to Lancaster Co PA, we found quite a lot of Ream family information, and it is interesting, so we are including parts of it here. The family was prominent in Lancaster County. Papers in the family files of the Lancaster County Historical Society (regrettably, many of them undated and unsigned), along with history books there, are our sources. We believe the following is probably correct, or nearly so.

**Hans Andreas Riehm** was, as far as we know, first in the Ream line in America. He was born 1642, was burgomeister and butcher in Leimen, near Heidelberg (now Germany), and died 19 Feb 1719, age about 77.

He is said to have had "supporting history" to Nicklaus **Rim** in 1490 in Berlin. However, some believe that the Riehm family was French, and only lived in Germany about 60 years. We don't know anything about Hans Andreas' wife.

Probable children of Hans Andreas Riehm:

Martin Conrad Riehm (1665-1728)

Nicholas Riehm (1668-1762), proprietor of Bear Hotel in Leimen

Johann Enders Riehm (1673-1734)

Anna Elizabeth Margareta Riehm (1678-1748)

Johann Matthais Riehm (1683- )

**Johann Eberhard Riehm** (1687-1779), below

**Johann Eberhard Riehm**, born abt 1687, married **Elisabeth Schwab**. They emigrated 1717; it's said many people left the Palatinate (a province along the river Rhine) after the Edict of Nantes was revoked in 1685 and Louis XIV sent troops to exterminate all who would not bow to the Pope's decrees.

Eberhard apparently settled between Swiss Mennonites and French Huguenots along the Pecqua Creek. In 1721 or 1722 he moved to Cocalico Township, purchased 200 acres, and was probably the first white settler in what is now Reamstown, Cocalico Valley, Lancaster Co PA.

An old story, perhaps true, says the real reason he left the Pecqua Creek area was that neither the Mennonites nor the Huguenots would have anything to do with him (he was not of either of their religions).

Another old story says he got consent from the Indians who lived along Cocalico Creek to live in their neighborhood. The reasons this may be true are that there are no records of Indians ever attacking any of the Riehms, and that at least one grandson went on hunting trips with the Indians.

He purchased 400 acres in 1725, and became a naturalized subject of Great Britain 4 Oct 1729. He also purchased 389 acres in 1734, and 113 acres in 1750.

Yet another old story, perhaps true, is how Reamstown got its original name of Zoar. Eberhard was a very religious man and had read the Bible story of how Abraham had many troubles and finally moved to Zoar (near Sodom and Gomorrah). So, Eberhard called his new location Zoar.

He died 1779, age about 92, buried Ream's cemetery nearby, also known as Reddig's cemetery.

Probable children of Johann Eberhard Reihm and Elizabeth Schwab:

**Johann Jacob Rihm** (1712-1777), below.

Catherine Riehm, born about Shrove Tuesday Feb 1714 Leimen, Alsace, married John **Leinbach** Oley Township, Berks Co PA. Her second marriage was to Francis **Schudy**. An item of note is that Francis may possibly have been of the family which much later became the well-known **Judy** family of West Virginia.

Abraham Rihm

Nicholas Rihm

Johann Rihm, born 1723 Earlington, Earl Township, Lancaster Co PA

Matthew Riehm, born 25 June 1726

Andreas Riehm

Julianna Riehm, born 1 June 1731

Tobias Riehm, born 28 March 1734

Andrew Riehm, born July 1736

**Johann Jacob Rihm**, born June 1712 Leimen, near Beydelbert, married **Christiana Heller** May 1735 Lancaster Co PA. She was born Fastnacht day 1717 Alsace, "three hours from Weissenburg". He died 31 Oct 1777, age about 65. She died 1801 Mt Joy, age about 84. They were buried Ream cemetery.

Probable children of Johann Jacob Rihm and Christiana Heller:

Abraham Rihm, born 16 Mar 1737 Muddy Creek, Lancaster Co, married Margaret **Zimmerman**; he died about 1818, age about 81.

Barbara Rihm, born 14 Apr 1739, married Jacob **Balmer**.

**Isaac Rihm** (1741-1820), below.

Jacob Rihm Jr, born 16 Feb 1743, never married, died 21 Feb 1814, age 71.

Daniel Rihm, born 28 Sep 1745, married Maria Elisabeth **Delweeler**; he died 17 Feb 1812, age 66.

Simon Rihm, born 28 Oct 1747, died 1752, age about 5.

Samuel Rihm, born 10 Jan 1749, married Ann Catherine **Delweeler**; he died 23 Dec 1809, age 60; she died April 1814.

Elisabeth Rihm, born 28 Apr 1752, married Michael **Barringer**.

Benjamin Rihm, born May 1762, not mentioned in father's 1775 will.

Esther Rihm, born 12 Nov 1763, married John **Parthemore**; she died 31 Oct 1806, age 43.

**Isaac Riehm**, born 27 Oct 1741 Donegal township, married **Barbara Mosser**; four children, at least some of whom were baptized Blazers Reformed Church near Elizabethtown. All we know about her is that she was born 1 Mar 1747 Berks Co, and that her father was Caspar Mosser.

Isaac died 15 May 1820, age 78. She died 26 Apr 1826 Donegal Township, age 79. They were buried Reihm Cemetery.

Probable children of Isaac Riehm and Barbara Mosser:

**Susanna Ream**, born 1765, married **Johann Georg Redsecker**, page 16-11.

Barbara A Ream, born 28 Apr 1767, married John **Kuhns**.

Henry Ream, born about 1769, died about 1770, age about one year.

Catherine Ream, born about 1771, married Abraham **Bumbach**; she died about 1855, age abt 84.

*We also found a stone in Tunnel Cemetery for Barbara, wife of Adam Reem, 18 Jan 1818 - 23 Mar 1883, and a small stone nearby for Adam Reem, 1818-1912. We don't know how Adam and Barbara are related to Susanna Ream's family, if at all. (At first we thought Adam's birthdate was compatible with his being a twelfth child of Susanna's, but she would have been 53 years old when he was born (not impossible but unlikely).*

**JOHN G REDSECKER (b 1787) and CATHERINE HUFFMAN (b c1790)  
and their descendants  
from page 16-11**

John's parents were Johann Georg Redsecker and Susanna Ream  
Catherine's parents are not known to us

**a.** John G<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, a farmer, was born 11 Aug 1787 Lancaster Co PA. He married Catherine **Huffman**; five children born Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co. She was born about 1790 Lancaster Co.

He died before 27 Aug 1836, Hamilton, Butler Co OH, age less than 49. She died 27 Feb 1880, Logan Co IL, age 90, buried New Holland Cemetery, Sheridan Township, Logan Co.

John's descendants have documents that show his middle initial as G. We show it that way here, but wonder why his name is so similar to his next younger brother, Johann Georg Redsecker (1789-1840), page 16-15.

**i.** Sarah<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 24 Dec 1820, married Gerard **Mckinnie** 23 Sep 1841 in Illinois. She died 24 Dec 1902, age 82.

**ii.** George Huffman<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 21 Feb 1823, married Martha A **Sanders** 17 Apr 1849 Menard Co IL. She was born 29 Sep 1826 Henry Co KY. He died 12 Aug 1881 Athens, Menard Co IL, age 58, buried Irish Grove Cemetery, Menard Co. She died 30 Nov 1906 Illopolis, Sangamon Co IL, age 80.

**iii.** Eliza Ann<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born about 1825, was unmarried.

**iv.** Anna<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born about 1827, married Edward **Robin** 5 Mar 1850 in Illinois.

**v.** Rebecca<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born about 1829 (age 16 in 1845), married Edward **Copeland**.

**JOHANN GEORG REDSECKER (b 1789) and CATHARINE MYERS (b 1794)  
and their descendants  
from page 16-11**

Johann Georg's parents were Johann Georg Redsecker and Susanna Ream  
Catharine's parents may have been Abraham Mayer and Anna Maria [Mayer]

**b. Johann Georg<sup>4</sup> Redsecker**, usually called George, was born 6 Nov 1789 Lancaster Co PA. He married Catharine **Myers**; six children born Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co. He died there 1 Feb 1840, age 50. Born 10 Nov 1794, she died 24 Mar 1861, age 66. They were buried Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown.

George was a miller, distiller, and farmer, and carried on these industries for many years in Dauphin Co, two miles from Elizabethtown, "becoming very wealthy". We located the site of the mill, on Conewego Creek. We believe it was the mill operated by George's grandfather. After George died, Catharine moved into Elizabethtown. We found adjacent tombstones for Abraham Mayer (b 1756) and Anna Maria [Mayer] (b 1762) and believe they were Catherine's parents. This is further supported by a reference (p.314) in the Biographical Annals volume in the Elizabethtown Library. On her tombstone, however, Catherine's maiden name is Myers.

**i. Abraham M<sup>5</sup> Redsecker**, born 8 Nov 1824, married Lydia **Wiegand**. Born 5 Jun 1836, she died 28 Jul 1895, age 59. A miller, he died 11 Feb 1911, age 86.

A nearby stone in Tunnel Cemetery identifies Isaac Newton Redsecker, who was born 20 Oct 1864 and died 1 Feb 1939, age 74. We think he may have been a son of Abraham and Lydia. The stone has "Brother" on the top, a name he could have been called by his siblings.

**ii. Susan<sup>5</sup> (Susannah?) Redsecker**, born 21 Dec 1826, married Abraham **Rieser** (Risser?). They lived Paris IL. His brother John Rieser married Susan's sister Sarah Ann. Abraham and John were sons of Rev Peter S Risser and Mary Groff of Mt Joy Township.

**iii. George R<sup>5</sup> Redsecker**, born 20 Jan 1829, married Ann **Clendennon** about 1856 Campbelltown, Lebanon Co PA; four children. Born about 1834, she died about 1906, age about 72. He also died about 1906, age about 77.

He was a miller, learning the trade from his brother Abraham. For thirty-five years he operated the mill, in Dauphin Co two miles from Elizabethtown, making a wide reputation by his honesty and fair dealing.

**a) Miriam L<sup>6</sup> Redsecker** married H G **Gingrich**, a farmer and cattle dealer of Lebanon Co.

**b) Henry C<sup>6</sup> Redsecker** was born about 1858. He died about 1859.

**c) Harvey S<sup>6</sup> Redsecker** was born and died about 1862.

**d) M (Mary?) Katharine<sup>6</sup> Redsecker**, born about 1864, married John L B **Miller**, a telegraph operator in Altoona PA. Born 1864, he died 1937, age abt 70. She died abt 1944, age abt 80.

**iv. Mary Ann<sup>5</sup> Redsecker**, born 31 Oct 1830, married Jeremiah **Rohrer** -- see page 16-21.

**v. Sarah Ann<sup>5</sup> Redsecker**, born 24 Oct 1834, married John **Rieser** (Risser?). They lived Paris IL. He was a brother of Abraham Rieser, who married Sarah Ann's sister Susan.

It is said that Mary Ann and Sarah Ann may have been raised by their Uncle Samuel, but we aren't certain of his identity, and don't know the circumstances under which this might have happened.

**vi. Catharine<sup>5</sup> Redsecker** was born 11 Oct 1835. She died 1 Dec 1859, age 24.

**ISAAC REDSECKER (b 1794) and CATHARINE OLDWEILER (b c1806)  
and their descendants**  
from page 16-11

Isaac's parents were Johann Georg Redsecker and Susanna Ream  
Catherine's parents are not known to us

**d.** Isaac<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born 12 Dec 1794 Lancaster Co PA, married Catharine **Oldweiler** 15 Mar 1822; five children born Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co. He died 9 Jul 1853, age 58 years, 7 months.

Catharine's stone in Tunnel Cemetery gives her dates as about 1806 to 25 Apr 1891, age 85 yrs and 5 days. Incidentally, we noticed an ad in one of Elizabethtown's local papers for the "Olweiler" Insurance Company. We couldn't help wondering if this firm is operated by descendants of Catharine's family.

Also in Tunnel Cemetery, we found a small stone with "Catharine OLDWEILER, 30 Jun 1849 - 30 Jul 1935" and two small footstones, "CR" and "\_R" close by. We wonder who this woman was, possibly a niece of Isaac's wife Catharine.

**i.** Elizabeth Ann<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 20 Apr 1824, married James **Young**. She died 9 May 1896, age 72.

**ii.** Jane Hoffman<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born about 1834 (age 16 in 1850).

We are a little curious about the ten year gap between the births of the first two children. That length of time between children is unusual. It's possible, of course, that Catherine may have had one or more pregnancies in that period. Did some tragedy take the lives of one or more children actually born in that time, was Isaac away in military service, were there miscarriages or stillbirths?

**iii.** Catharine<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born about 1838, married Solomon **Detweiler**.

**iv.** William<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born about 1842 (age 8 in 1850).

**v.** Susanna<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 29 Apr 1843, married Samuel **Davis**; no children known to us.

Secondly, she married George Lewis **Plitt**; one child. Born Dec 1838, he died 29 Nov 1869, age 30. She died 6 May 1891, age 48.

**a)** George Redsecker<sup>6</sup> **Plitt** was born 14 Sep 1869. He died 30 Jan 1870, age 4½ months.

We don't know anything about Susanna's first husband except his name. Perhaps he was her second husband, rather than her first, but she is buried with George and their baby.

We didn't know she had married a second time until we found the Plitts' large casket-shaped tombstone in the Tunnel Cemetery. How tragic to have the father die so soon after the baby's birth, and then little George himself to die only two months later.



## JACOB REDSECKER (b 1800) and HARRIET MARTIN (b 1808) and their descendants from page 16-11

Jacob's parents were Johann Georg Redsecker and Susanna Ream  
Harriet's parents may have been Christian Martin and Elizabeth Frank

**f. Jacob<sup>4</sup> Redsecker**, born 16 Jun 1800 Lancaster Co PA, married **Harriet Martin**; eight children. Based on the birthplaces of the children, the family apparently moved several times before settling again Lancaster Co. Born 21 Dec 1808 Berks Co PA, Harriet died 20 Jun 1847, age 38.

Secondly, he married Ann S **Martin**; no children. Her parents were Christian Martin and Elizabeth **Frank**. Jacob died 14 Oct 1868, age 68. Born 21 Dec 1806 Mt Joy, Lancaster Co PA, Ann died 3 Feb 1889, age 81.

Jacob's two wives were probably sisters. It was fairly common for one sister to marry her brother-in-law after her sister died. Because of the work in taking care of a household and family in those days, it was virtually necessary to be married. Harriet was the mother of Jacob's eight children.

Jacob was Justice of the Peace in District #7, the townships of Donegal, Mt Joy, and Rapho, 7 Dec 1835 until 31 Oct 1836, and again after 14 Apr 1840. (In 1739 the General Assembly had passed an Act to divide the County into Justices' Districts. In 1811 there were 12 districts. Afterwards there were 8 districts and then 7.)

*We believe that Justices of the Peace were more important, and had more responsibility, then than they are now. Each was, in effect, "The Court" within his jurisdiction.* In 1848-49 Jacob was also clerk of Elizabethtown Borough, which had been incorporated in 1827. He became postmaster of the Elizabethtown postoffice in 1836.

A story that we liked was in one of the history books in the Elizabethtown Library. It seems that school was kept in a local church many years. Then in 1834 it was proposed to have a free school law. The question of free schools or no free schools was to be decided in Mt Joy township and Elizabethtown by a majority of the combined vote of town and country. A majority of Elizabethtown was in favor, but the majority in the country would have overwhelmed the town's votes, except for unforeseen circumstances. On Election Day a heavy snow fell 3 feet deep, covering fences and preventing the country opposition from coming into town to cast their ballots. Thus, the Elizabethtowners won the election for free schools.

Next day, the country people came to town on horseback, in sleighs and sleds, and on foot, by the hundreds, to get the Justice's office to upset the election of the previous day. It is said there was much commotion and hullabaloo, it was feared there would be trouble. In the corner of the room was a large box stove, roaring and crackling with a huge fire of dry hickory. The stove was almost red hot, the room crowded and uncomfortably warm, although the outside was nearly zero.

Finally, when the temper of the angry mob as well as the atmosphere had reached its highest heat, there was a sudden change, an unexpected outbreak. Every man had a hacking cough or rasping sneeze. All rushed for the door and fresh air. The room was cleared in less time than it takes to tell. The remonstrators were deflated, trouble was avoided, and the country people went home in a few hours. Some mischevious person had thrown a large handful of red pepper upon the stove.

**i. Sarah A<sup>5</sup> Redsecker** was born 4 Jul 1831 Mount Washington, Allegheny Co PA. She married Henry S **Greenawalt**; at least one child. He died 19 Aug 1887, age 40 years, 7 months and 26 days. She died 18 Jun 1917, age 85.

**a) Abraham Redsecker<sup>6</sup> Greenawalt** died in infancy, buried in Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co PA.

On our trip in June 1997 we saw the tombstones of Sarah, Henry and Abraham in the Tunnel Cemetery. We also found numerous references concerning the Greenawalt family, which evidently was prominent in the area. Although information is available, we didn't pursue this collateral line.

ii. George Henry<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, was born 3 Jul 1832 Mount Washington, Allegheny Co PA. He died 7 Nov 1835, age 3.

iii. Mary A<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 13 Jul 1834 Mount Washington, married Abraham **Beetem**. She died 12 May 1889, age 54.

iv. Harriet Sally<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 13 Aug 1836 Mount Washington, married Charles **Kunkel**. She died 11 Jun 1895, age 58.

v. Jacob H<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born 15 Feb 1839 Lebanon Co PA. He died Apr 1909, age 70.

vi. Anna E<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 28 Feb 1842 Baltimore MD, married William H. **Bougnés**. She died 19 Feb 1892, age 49.

vii. Abraham Ream<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 17 Mar 1844 Pitt, Lancaster Co PA; married Martha **Peifer**; three children. He was horse manager for the Pittsburgh Stockyards.

Born Sep 1845 Cumberland Co PA, she died Dec 1909, age 64. He died Feb 1920, age 75. They were buried Mt Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co PA.

a) Charles Clifton<sup>6</sup> **Redsecker**, born 6 Sep 1868 Baltimore City MD, married Laura Lee **Straughn** -- see page 16-22.

b) Sally<sup>6</sup> **Redsecker** married (--?--) **Baumgardner**.

c) Camellia<sup>6</sup> **Redsecker** married (--?--) **Whitehurst**.

viii. John Butler Cameron<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born 26 Oct 1846 Lancaster Co PA. He died 23 May 1849, age 2½.

SAMUEL REDSECKER (b 1803) and JANE CAMERON WHITEHILL (b c1840)  
**and their descendants**  
from page 16-11

Samuel's parents were Johann Georg Redsecker and Susanna Ream  
 Jane's parents were John Middleton Whitehill and Elisabeth Cameron

**h. Samuel<sup>4</sup> Redsecker**, born 13 Mar 1803 Lancaster Co PA, married Jane Cameron **Whitehill** 4 Jul 1830; seven children born Lancaster Co, including those shown below. She was born 28 Jul 1812. Her parents were John Middleton Whitehill and Elisabeth **Cameron**. Samuel was a merchant, and in 1840 became postmaster of the Elizabethtown post office. He died 14 Aug 1864, age 61. Jane died 23 Jun 1905, age 92. They were buried Donegal Presbyterian Church, along with some of the Whitehill family.

THE FAMILY OF JANE CAMERON WHITEHILL:

Robert **Middleton**, a freeman, died about 1781.

Mary **Middleton** married John **Whitehill** 1783.

John Middleton **Whitehill** married Mary **Moderwell**.

John Middleton **Whitehill** married Elisabeth **Cameron**.

Jane Cameron **Whitehill** married Samuel **Redsecker**.

**i. Jane Elizabeth Cameron<sup>5</sup> Redsecker**, born about 1840, married Samuel Cochran **Slaymaker** 26 May 1862; three children, including one shown below. Born 22 Apr 1828, he died 2 Feb 1894, age 65.

Samuel Slaymaker was a well known civil engineer who had worked on the survey of the Honduras Inter-oceanic Railway. As a young man, he had farmed the estate "White Chimneys", which he later inherited from his father. Portraits of Samuel and Jane, and his father, hang in the mansion.

SAMUEL'S PARENTS were Henry Fleming Slaymaker (1789-1860) and Rebecca **Cochran**. Henry's father was Amos Slaymaker (- 1837). A considerable amount of historical material is available on the Slaymaker family, originally **Schleiermacher** (meaning veil maker), and the **Fleming** and Cochran families. However, we haven't followed these collateral lines in this document.

"WHITE CHIMNEYS" is well known also, and its history has been documented at least twice. We found a detailed article in the January 1957 Lancaster County Historical Society Journal. Then our brother-in-law "Jim" Redsecker shared with us an original 25 Aug 1967 *Life* magazine containing an illustrated article about the estate and the Slaymaker family.

Incidentally, the article says that Jane Redsecker was wealthy when she married Samuel Slaymaker. We aren't aware that Jane's father Samuel Redsecker was wealthy himself. Could the presumed wealth have come from the Camerons and/or the Whitehills? Perhaps the article overstated the situation, or we just misunderstood the family circumstances.

**b) Samuel Redsecker<sup>6</sup> Slaymaker** married Mina Louisa **Cohr** about 1895; at least one child. He died about 1940.

Samuel was an engineer, who in 1888 purchased a Swiss lock patent, founded the Slaymaker Lock Manufacturing Co, and became one of Lancaster's prominent businessmen. As of 1967, his grandson, Samuel Redsecker Slaymaker II, was managing the lock company and the White Chimneys estate.

**ii. Anna Mary<sup>5</sup> Redsecker** was born 8 July 1842. She died 7 May 1922, age 79.

**iii. George Samuel<sup>5</sup> Redsecker**, probably known as Samuel, was born 4 Apr 1844. He was a soldier in the Union Army. We think he may have had at least one child, Carry A Redsecker (6 Feb 1862-4 Jun 1943).

**v. John W<sup>5</sup> Redsecker** was born about 1849 (age 11 in 1860).

**vi. Arabella<sup>5</sup> (W?) Redsecker** was born 18 May 1858. She lived Columbia PA and was an active member of the Lancaster County Historical Society. She died 5 July 1935, age 77.

**ABRAHAM REDSECKER (b 1813) and ELISABETH A FISHER (b 1826) and their descendants**  
from page 16-11

Abraham's parents were Johann Georg Redsecker and Susanna Ream  
Elisabeth's parents are not known to us

**k.** Abraham<sup>4</sup> **Redsecker**, born about 1813 Lancaster Co PA, married Elizabeth A **Fisher**; at least five children, only two of whom lived to adulthood.

He died 21 Mar 1867, age about 54. Born about 1826, she died about 1881, age about 55.

Abraham was apparently in several lines of work. He was a druggist, and later was in charge of the Columbia Locks. From 1860 until 1865 he was a clerk in the post office in Philadelphia.

Various tombstones are grouped around those of Abraham and Elizabeth in the Tunnel Cemetery, and we believe they are their children.

**i.** Isaac R<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born about 1847. He died about 1848, age probably a year or less.

**ii.** John C<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 1852, married Kate **Murray** Nov 1877; at least one child. She was born about 1854. Her parents were Charles W Murray (landlord of the "Washington Hotel" for many years) and Margaret **Jacobs** of Elizabethtown. Kate died about 1879, age about 25. John died about 1926, age about 74.

John C entered the local telegraph office 15 Mar 1871 and became "a master of every detail of the railroad business, so that in seven years he was made the ticket and baggage agent for the Pennsylvania Railroad". In 1884 he was put in charge of the freight office. In 1903 he was said to be "regarded as one of the capable men on the road, and is slated for a more remunerative position". He is also referred to as Major J C Redsecker, who "discontinued" the Depot Hotel about 1870.

In his outside activities, he was vice-president of the Friendship Fire Engine and Hose Company No 1 in Jan 1881, in 1882, and again in 1883, the publication year of the history book in which this information appears. The company was organized in 1836. John was also a charter member of the cornet band, which was incorporated in 1876.

**a)** George A<sup>6</sup> **Redsecker**.

In 1903 George was assistant in the railroad and express work under his father.

**iii.** Mary V<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born about 1853, married Samuel R **Nissley**; children not known to us. She died about 1916, age about 63. Born about 1842, he died about 1923, age about 81. They were buried Tunnel Cemetery.

Samuel may have been a member of the family which founded and operates the well-known Nissley Winery in Lancaster County.

**iv.** Laura E<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born about 1856. She died about 1857, age probably one year or less.

**v.** Harry H<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker** was born about 1858. He died about 1861, age probably about three.

MARY ANN REDSECKER (b c1830) and JEREMIAH ROHRER (b 1827) and their descendants  
from page 16-15

Mary Ann's parents were George Redsecker and Catharine Myers  
Jeremiah's parents were David Rohrer and Mary Parthemore

iv. Mary Ann<sup>5</sup> **Redsecker**, born 31 Oct 1830 Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co PA, married Jeremiah **Rohrer** 24 Mar 1853; eight children. He was born 29 May 1827 Lebanon PA. His parents were David Rohrer and Mary **Parthemore**. Jeremiah died 23 Oct 1910, age 83. Mary Ann died 2 Apr 1912, age 82.

The Rohrers were prominent in the area, and information about the family is available. Jeremiah was a major in the Union Army, became a liquor dealer, and was active in political and civic affairs.

David Rohrer's father was John Rohrer, who swore allegiance 17 Nov 1777 and was in the army at Valley Forge.

a) Dr George Redsecker<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer**, born 11 Dec 1853, became a well-known physician. He married Adelaide **Crohen**; at least three children. Henry Ward Beecher officiated at their wedding.

Adelaide's father was Hermann Crohen of Brooklyn NY. Born 22 Jan 1860, she died 11 Aug 1929, age 69. George died 31 Mar 1935, age 81.

i) George Hermann<sup>7</sup> **Rohrer**, born 1 Mar 1893, married Anna **Carl** of Rockland Township, Berks Co PA 15 June 1916. She was born 7 Dec 1892. He died 21 Nov 1943, age 50.

ii) Henry Augustus<sup>7</sup> **Rohrer**, born 6 Apr 1900, married Clara Jane **Bower** 16 Sep 1925; three children, including the one shown below. She was born Fort Wayne IN 17 Jan 1901. Her father was a physician.

(c) Henry Augustus<sup>8</sup> **Rohrer** Jr, born 19 Dec 1928, married 11 Apr 1952; one child. He died in an airplane crash 18 Nov 1953, age 24. He was a Naval Aviation Lieutenant and was testing an aircraft.

iii) John Jay<sup>7</sup> **Rohrer**, born 29 Apr 1901, married Charity L **Brown** of Pittsburgh PA, 28 Mar 1928; at least two children She was born 20 Aug 1904.

b) David<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer** was born 26 Jun 1855. He died 25 Nov 1856, age 1 year 5 months.

c) Jacob Bomberger<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer**, born 31 Aug 1857, married Jennie **Winchester**, of Memphis TN, Dec 1886. He was a civil engineer in the Hawaiian Islands. He died 7 Feb 1936, age 78.

d) Marie Louise<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer** was born 5 Jan 1860. She died 17 May 1907, age 47.

e) Mary<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer**, born 27 Apr 1862, married Dr Frank **Christy** 29 Jan 1897. She died 10 Mar 1944, age 83.

f) Grant<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer** was born 18 Oct 1864. He died 12 Dec 1916, age 52.

g) Howard<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer** was born 28 May 1867. He died 19 Dec 1937, age 70.

h) Daisy Marguerite<sup>6</sup> **Rohrer** was born 27 Apr 1877. She died 17 Aug 1938, age 71.

**CHARLES CLIFTON REDSECKER (b 1868) and LAURA LEE "Lolly" STRAUGHN (b 1873)  
and their descendants**

from pages 16-18 and 16-23

Charles' parents were Abraham Ream Redsecker and Martha Peifer  
Lolly's parents were James Henry Straughn and Laura Maria Simmons

**a) Charles Clifton<sup>6</sup> **Redsecker****, born 6 Sep 1868 Baltimore City MD, was an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He married Laura Lee "Lolly" Straughn 16 Oct 1894; seven children, including the six shown below.

She was born 15 Sep 1873. Her parents were James Henry Straughn and Laura Maria Simmons.

Charles, Lolly, and their children lived Baltimore MD, Pittsburg PA, and Centreville, Queen Annes Co MD. He died 8 Sep 1942 Centreville, age 74. She died 1952 Centreville, age about 79. They were buried Chesterfield Cemetery, South Liberty Street, Centreville.

**i) Charles Straughn**<sup>7</sup> **Redsecker**, usually known as Straughn, was born 4 Aug 1896. He drowned 29 Jul 1913 at the Centreville wharf, age 16, buried Chesterfield Cemetery.

**ii) Abraham Ream**<sup>7</sup> **Redsecker II**, usually known as Ream, was born 8 Feb 1900 Baltimore City. He married Alice Louise **Jones**; four children. Born 4 Mar 1903, she died 3 Jun 1952, age 49, from breast cancer, buried Chesterfield Cemetery. Ream married Ada **Cook** in 1952. He died 19 May 1968, age 68, buried Chesterfield Cemetery.

**iii) Elizabeth Laura**<sup>7</sup> **Redsecker**, born 21 Jan 1903 Baltimore, married Edward **Casey**; one child. They were divorced and she married George Edward **Wittman**; two children. She died 9 Jul 1965, age 62.

**iv) James Henry**<sup>7</sup> **"Jim" Redsecker** was born 22 May 1905 Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co PA. He married Sadye Patricia "Pat" Simon 8 May 1926; one child. She was born 5 May 1905 Toledo, Lucas Co OH. Her parents were Isaac Simon and Annabell Landy.

Jim was a toolmaker and mechanic, and liked to fish in his spare time. He and Pat lived Colorado Springs CO and Baltimore MD. He died 2 Mar 1972 Baltimore, age 66, and she died 2 Feb 1978 Baltimore, age 72. They were buried Meadowbrook Cemetery, Baltimore.

Pat's father, Isaac Simon, is said to have been German. Isaac and Annabell also had other children, including daughter Hattie.

**(a) James Straughn**<sup>8</sup> **"Jim" Redsecker**, born 21 Jul 1934 Colorado Springs CO , married Dorothy Ann **Suter** and married Martha Claire Fisher -- see page 16-28.

**v) Harry Greenawalt**<sup>7</sup> **Redsecker**, born 4 Jul 1906 Pittsburg PA, married Alma **Keyser** Feb 1935; two children. He died 21 Jul 1971, age 65, buried St Paul's Lutheran Church, Arcadia, Baltimore Co MD.

**vi) Lee Straughn**<sup>7</sup> **Redsecker**, born 14 Oct 1909, was in the Navy in WWII. He served in the Pacific, receiving and surviving an "amazing" chest wound. He married Mary Ellen **Dandy** 12 Apr 1960. He died May 1987, age 77. Born 24 Jun 1914, she died Nov 1994, age 80.

**JAMES HENRY STRAUGHN (b 1840) and LAURA MARIA SIMMONS (b 1850)  
and their descendants**

from pages 16-22 and 16-25

James' parents were Theodore Ringgold Straughn and Elizabeth Jarman

Laura's parents were Thomas Washington Simmons and Julia Mills Woodford

4. James Henry<sup>3</sup> Straughn, born 7 Jun 1840, married Laura Maria Simmons 28 Nov 1872; four children. Her middle name was pronounced Mariah. A painter in oils, she was born 22 Mar 1850.

Her parents were Thomas Washington Simmons and Julia Mills Woodford.

James and Laura kept hotels in Centreville, Queen Anne's Co MD, known for their elaborate Christmas decorations. The earliest one was the Straughn Hotel, and two later ones were the

Arlington. He died 19 Mar 1901, age 60. She died 25 Apr 1927, age 77. They were buried Chesterfield Cemetery, Centreville.

-- see page 16-24 for some information about the STRAUGHN family --

-- see page 16-26 for some information about the SIMMONS family --

-- see page 16-27 for some information about the WOODFORD family --

a. Laura Lee<sup>4</sup> “Lolly” Straughn, born 15 Sep 1873, married Charles Clifton Redsecker -- see page 16-22.

b. Irene Alanna<sup>4</sup> “Reenee” Straughn was born 20 Nov 1874. A prolific writer and watercolorist, she had wanted to become an actress, but broke her hip and afterwards wasn't able to walk well enough. She helped her sister Buffy run her millinery shop. Reenee died 1940, age about 64, buried Chesterfield Cemetery.

c. Rev James Henry<sup>4</sup> “Buddy” Straughn, born 1 Jun 1877, married Clara Bellamy Morgan; one child. She was born 18 Nov 1888. Her parents were William L Morgan, from Wales, and Helena Bellamy, from Sheffield, England. Clara died Jul 1965, age 83. Buddy died Sep 1974 Baltimore MD, age 97.

He was a Methodist Protestant minister, serving mostly in Maryland, Delaware, and Ohio. In 1936 he became the President of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Buddy was much involved in helping prepare for a uniting conference held in 1939. Its purpose was to combine the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Protestant Church (which had separated from the Methodist Episcopal Church about 1928), and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South (which had separated from the Methodist Episcopal Church about 1844).\*

He was one of the three leaders of the conference. It succeeded and The Methodist Church was formed. The other two leaders of the conference were bishops, but Buddy was not, because the Methodist Protestant Church had not had bishops. (That had been a reason in the separation.) Early in the conference, its delegation elected him, and the minister who had been the President before him, as bishops. They were consecrated as members of the Council of Bishops in the new church a week later.

Buddy achieved many things and made many contributions to Methodism and to the world. We wish we had space to tell more. Information is available and we highly recommend some reading.

i. Laurlene<sup>5</sup> Straughn, born 20 Aug 1911, married Robert William Pratt 22 Aug 1943; one child. He died 1946. She taught English and drama in Baltimore City schools and several universities. She was director of Theatre Hopkins 1955-1986 (their daughter succeeded her). She died 21 Jun 2003, age 91.

d. Elisabeth<sup>4</sup> “Buffy” Straughn was born 11 Feb 1879. She was a milliner in Centreville, and was involved in community theatre and in the suffragette movement. She died 1968, age 89, buried Chesterfield Cemetery.

We note the spelling of Elisabeth, and the nickname Buffy, which were carried forward to her great-grandniece Elisabeth Wall “Buffy” Redsecker.

\* In 1968, after another uniting conference, The Methodist Church joined with the Evangelical United Brethren church, becoming The United Methodist Church.

**-- Some information about the STRAUGHN family --**

referenced on page16- 23

*Note: The information on this and the following page is from Martha Claire Fisher Redsecker (primarily from notes handwritten before 1910 by Laura Maria Simmons Straughn); from Wally G Straughn via the Internet (citing Caroline Co MD marriage records and "Tombstones of Queen Anne's County MD, Vol 2"); from correspondence, notes, and interviews with Elisabeth Wall "Buffy" Redsecker; and from various US Census records.*

**I. Theodore<sup>1</sup> Straughn**, born about 1780 in MD, married **Priscilla Harrington [Slaughter]** 27 Sep 1802 Caroline Co MD; two children. She had married her first husband 9 Oct 1787; three children, including Lee and James. We haven't been able to identify Theodore's or Priscilla's parents.

**A. Thomas<sup>2</sup> Straughn**, born about Jul 1800 Caroline Co MD, was a farmer. In the 1850 census, which was taken 29 Sep 1850, his age is given as 47. He married Sarah (Sallie?) **Price** 3 Mar 1828 Caroline Co; four children. She was probably born about 1809 (age 41 in 1850 census).

**1. James Henry<sup>3</sup> Straughn**, born about 1829 in MD (age 21 in 1850 census), was a farmer. He married Sarah Elizabeth **Cox** (age 18 in 1950); one child, who died young.

**2. Susan<sup>3</sup> Straughn** married Samuel **Richardson**. A wheelwright, he was born about 1825. We don't know her birthdate; she isn't listed in the 1850 census with her parents' family. We think she may have been born about 1830 and perhaps left home before the census was taken. In Sep 1860 Susan and Samuel and their children were living Centreville, with her brother Thomas, age 22, in the household. Four children: Samuel (age 6 in 1860); Caroline (age 4); James (age 2); and Sarah (age 6 months).

**3. Sarah<sup>3</sup> "Sallie" Straughn**, born about 1834 (age 16 in 1850), married (--?--) **Spark**; four daughters. There is a Sparks Road in Caroline Co, but we don't know whether it was connected to his family.

**4. Thomas W<sup>3</sup> Straughn**, born about 1840 Caroline Co (age 12 in 1850), was a wheelwright, age 22, living in his sister Susan's household in 1860. He married Mary Augusta **Pippen**. She was born about 1837 (age 13 in 1850, 22 in 1860, and 33 in 1870). Her parents were James Pippen, a farmer (age 51 in 1860), and Permelia [Pippen] (age 35 in 1860); who had eight other children. In 1870 Thomas was a carpenter, and in 1880 a farmer. He died Mar 1901, age about 61.

One child: Norman C, probably born about 1877 in MD, married (--?--) **Wells** (Walls?).

**B. Theodore Ringgold<sup>2</sup> Straughn**, born 9 Feb 1805 Caroline Co MD, was a farmer. He married Hester **Knotts** 14 Mar 1826 in MD; at least two children. We don't know her parents or when she was born or died, except that her death was before 1834.

He married **Elizabeth Jarman** 28 May 1834 in MD; five children. She was born 5 Jan 1812. Her parents were **Robert and Sarah Jarman** of Ruthsburg, Caroline Co. Elizabeth died 23 Mar 1857, age 45. In the 1860 census of Queen Anne's Co MD, Theodore was living with his son, and his occupation was sailor. Theodore died 19 Jan 1885, age 79. He and Elizabeth were buried Chesterfield Cemetery, South Liberty Street, Centreville, Queen Anne's Co MD.

Hester died when her younger child was only a year or two old, and Elizabeth died when her children were still young. It wasn't unusual for mothers to die young, perhaps in childbirth, but how tragic it must have been. We don't know who took care of the small children left behind.



1. Elizabeth Jane<sup>3</sup> **Straughn**, usually known as Jane, was born May 1828 in MD. She married Charles H **Roberts**, a carpenter. They lived Centreville in 1870, and Baltimore in 1880.

Born 26 Dec 1828, he died 17 Feb 1896, age 67, buried Chesterfield Cemetery. She died 22 Oct 1905, age 77. Three children: Ella S; Bessie L; and Florence (may have married Martin C **Savage** before 1880).

We visited the Chesterfield Cemetery 2 Feb 2008, and found Charles' gravestone. His was the only one in the plot with a surname other than Straughn or Redsecker. There appears to be enough space between his grave and that of his father-in-law, Theodore Ringgold Straughn, for his wife to be buried. Although it looks as if it could be the site of a burial, there is no stone there, and we've been told that Jane's cousin Laurlene Pratt said Jane is buried Greensboro, Caroline Co MD. We don't know why.

2. Hester Ann<sup>3</sup> “Annie” **Straughn**, born 9 Aug 1831 in MD, married (--?--) **Covington**; two sons and three daughters.

3. Mary Elizabeth<sup>3</sup> “Molly” **Straughn** was born about 1835 in MD (age 24 in 1860). She married Thomas J **Satterfield**; three sons and two daughters. In 1860 the family was in Queen Anne's Co, with Joseph T (age 5), Thomas (age 3), and Mary (age 1). Molly died 1907 in MD, age about 72.

4. James Henry<sup>3</sup> **Straughn**, born 7 Jun 1840, married Laura Maria **Simmons** -- see page 16-23.

5. Harriet Matilda<sup>3</sup> **Straughn**, usually known as Matildz, was born 6 Jun 1842. She married John **Nippard**; four sons and two daughters.

6. Rev John Lee<sup>3</sup> **Straughn**, born 16 Oct 1844 in MD, married Bertie **Acquith**; five children.

a. John<sup>4</sup> **Straughn** was born 1878. He died 1890, age about 12.

b. Lillian Lee<sup>4</sup> **Straughn** married Clarence Weston **Jones**; four children.

i. Ruth Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> **Jones** provided notes on her family in Sep 1977.

ii. William<sup>5</sup> **Jones** married Jean **Whelpton**; one daughter.

iii. Mary Lee<sup>5</sup> **Jones** married Grafton **Buchanan**; two sons.

iv. Alice<sup>5</sup> **Jones**.

c. William Ringgold<sup>4</sup> **Straughn**, born 23 Apr 1882, married Dorothy **Lloyd**. They lived Mardella Springs, Wicomico Co MD. He died 1936, age about 54. One child: William Ringgold Jr, born 1913.

d. Blanche<sup>4</sup> **Straughn** married Rev J F **Mzschmzn**(?).

e. Leonidas<sup>4</sup> **Straughn** married Mabel **Goztee**.

7. Susan Virginia<sup>3</sup> (or Virginia Susan) “Susie” **Straughn**, born about 1848 in MD, married (--?--) **Peters**; three daughters.

*A note concerning possible early ancestry of the Straughn family* – a letter, dated 1938, from Warren S Ely, Conveyance and Genealogist, Doylestown PA, to Laura Straughn Redsecker in Baltimore. It states that Launcelot Straughn (or Strawhan) came from Wales about 1710, and married Mary Cooper, widow of Henry Cooper, in 1715. They had one child, Jacob (1718-1801), who married Christina Pursell about 1740 and had at least twelve children. Mr Ely's letter indicates that he believes the Straughns of Maryland may have come from the oldest of these children, Thomas, born 1742. We have not pursued anything in the letter, but mention it in case of possible interest to a future researcher.

-- **Some information about the SIMMONS family** --

referenced on page 16- 23

**I. Thomas Washington Simmons** was born 1 Sep 1818 Cecil Co MD. We haven't identified his parents. He married **Julia Mills Woodford** 8 May 1844 Elkton, Cecil Co; four children. She was born 17 May 1827 Machais, Washington Co, Maine, daughter of James Woodford and Julia Mills.

Thomas may have been a minister. One of his descendants has a photograph of him wearing a clerical collar, and has said he wrote "all his sermons" on a table shown in the picture.

Julia Mills Woodford [Simmons] died 22 Jan 1859 Baltimore MD, age 31, buried Baltimore. (Some have said she died in her twenties.) After her early death, her mother, Julia Mills [Woodford], brought up the children. She and her daughter Marion were in Thomas' household in 1860.

He died 1 Sep 1891, his 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday, buried Chesterfield Cemetery.

-- **See page 16-27 for some information about the WOODFORD family** --

Recently we looked again at some Census records we had forgotten, and realized we had failed to tell about a second family Thomas Washington may have had. In 1870 Baltimore, T W Simmons is 52. In his household are Anna, wife, age 25; Albert, son, age 22; Laura, daughter, 20; Irene, daughter, 14; and Lavinia, daughter, age 2.

In 1880 he is 61, with household of Anna, wife, 34; Laura L, daughter, age 11; James, son, age 10; Robert E L, son, 5; and Warner, son, 2 mos.

In 1900 Anna, age 54, is head of household, with sons James A, 25; Warner A, 20; and Charles B, 15; daughter Laura B Grimes, 31; son-in-law Lewis Grimes, 33; grandson Marion, 9; and granddaughter Margaret A, age 8; and two boarders.

In 1910, Anna is 64, with Robert E L, 35; James T, 34; Warner, 30; granddaughter Anna M, 12; grandson Thomas W, 11; and two boarders. With Louis N Grimes, 43, are Laura B, 41; and son Marion, 20. With Charles B Simmons, 25, are Mabel E, 22; and Laura B, 3/12.

**A. Ralph Simmons** was born 1845. He died 1846, age about one year, buried Elkton.

**B. Albert Woodford Simmons** was born about 1848 (age 12 in 1860). His whereabouts after 1885 are said to be unknown.

In a photograph of him dated 1863, when he would have been only about 15 years old, he is wearing a CSA uniform. It is said that he didn't return to the family after the war. We thought the reason was perhaps that most of the Straughns, as well as many others in Centreville, were probably Union sympathizers.

But, now we note that he was in his father's household in Baltimore in 1870, where his occupation is given as mariner. We surely wish we knew more about him

**C. Laura Maria Simmons**, born 22 Mar 1850, married James Henry Straughn -- see page 16-23.

**D. Irene Louise Simmons**, born 6 Apr 1856 Elkton, married Charles Henry Maury **Gogel** 8 Aug 1877; four children. He was a telephone company manager. She died 23 Oct 1946, age 90.

1. Irene Susanne "Tante" **Gogel** was born 24 Oct 1879. She died 20 Feb 1948, age 68.

2. Charles Henry **Gogel**, born 18 Apr 1881, married Frances Eleanor **Fitzpatrick** 11 Aug 1908. He died 16 Feb 1938, age 56. Born 15 Aug 1883, she died Sep 1971, age 88. One child: Frances Eleanor Gogel, born 6 Aug 1909.

3. Julia Marian **Gogel**, born 7 Mar 1883, married Grafton **Halstead** 5 Sep 1908. She died 21 Oct 1965, age 82.

Two children: Grafton Charles (15 Nov 1910) and Jean Marian (15 Jun 1914).

4. Wallace Woodford **Gogel**, born 21 Aug 1887, married Lena **Tere** 20 Dec 1905; no children. He died 6 Jul 1944, age 38.

-- **Some information about the WOODFORD family** --

referenced on pages 16-23 and 16-26

**I. James Woodford**, born about 1799 in Connecticut, married **Julia Mills**; three children. She was born about 1808 in CT. We have looked unsuccessfully for both James' and Julia's parents.

In the 4 Jun 1860 census, Julia was in the household of James, a blacksmith, in Chestertown MD.

He died about 1862, age about 63. She died after 1880, age at least 76. They were buried Chesterfield Cemetery, Centreville, Queen Anne's Co MD, with their names on an obelisk.

In the census of 13 Jul 1860, Julia Mills [Woodford] and her daughter Marion (age 24), were in the household of her son-in-law Thomas in Baltimore City, caring for her grandchildren Albert (age 12), Laura M (age 10), and Irene (age 4). We note that Julia and Marion were evidently counted twice in the 1860 census. Perhaps they were visiting when the duplicate censuses were taken.

**A. Julia Mills Woodford**, born 17 May 1827 Machais, Washington Co ME, married **Thomas Washington Simmons** -- see page 16-26.

**B. Marion J Woodford**, born about 1834 (age 15 in 1850, 24 in 1860 in Philadelphia), married George Ward **Joy** 31 Dec 1868 as his second wife. Born 30 Jun 1812, he died 22 Mar 1886, age 73. One child: daughter Marion, born about 1877 Washington DC.

**C. James W Woodford**, born Jul 1837 in MD, married Anna H [Woodford] about 1860; five children. He was a mail contractor in Queen Anne's Co MD in 1870 and 1880; and was a magistrate in 1900.

He died 1908, age about 71. Born Apr 1837, she died 1912, age about 75. They were buried Chesterfield Cemetery, with their names on the same obelisk with his parents. Above his name there is a Masonic symbol.

On the side of the obelisk with Anna's name is another name, Sarah F **Reeves**, with no dates or other information. We wonder who Sarah was and why her name is on the obelisk.

- 1. Harry R Woodford** was born 1862. He died 1866, age about 4, buried Chesterfield Cemetery. His name is on his grandparents' obelisk.
- 2. William J Woodford** was born about Feb 1865 in MD (age 7 in 1870, 16 in 1880).
- 3. Marion J Woodford** was born about 1868. He died about 1938, age about 70, buried Chesterfield Cemetery. His name is (2008) on a modern gravestone with his sister Elizabeth.
- 4. Thomas Woodford** was born about 1872 (age 8 in 1880).
- 5. Elizabeth J Woodford** was born 1872. She died 1955, age about 83, buried Chesterfield Cemetery. Her name is on a modern gravestone with her brother Marion.

We note that the modern gravestone of Marion and Elizabeth gives the appearance that they were husband and wife, rather than brother and sister. The stone is a few feet from the obelisk of their parents and grandparents. We think the modern gravestone is probably a replacement for an earlier one.

**JAMES STRAUGHN REDSECKER (b 1934) and DOROTHY ANN SUTER (b 1936)  
and their descendants  
and  
JAMES STRAUGHN REDSECKER and MARTHA CLAIRE FISHER (b 1937)  
and their descendants  
from page 16-22**

Jim's parents were James Henry Redsecker and Sadye Patricia Simon

Dorothy's parents were William Suter and Edna May Schwamm

Martha's parents were Claire Cole Fisher and Johnnie Epperson Wall

(a) James Straughn<sup>8</sup> “**Jim**” **Redsecker**, called “Buddy Jim” by his family, was born 21 Jul 1934 Colorado Springs, El Paso Co CO. He married Dorothy Ann **Suter** 29 Jan 1955 Baltimore MD. She was born 20 Mar 1936. Her parents were William Suter (born 17 Nov 1903, died 6 Oct 2007, age 103) and Edna May **Schwamm** (died age 99). Jim and Dorothy separated about 1961, and the children remained with their mother in College Park MD. They divorced 1963. She died of a brain hemorrhage 27 Dec 1991, age 55.

He married Martha Claire “**Marty**” **Fisher** 4 Jun 1963 Clarendon Methodist Church, Arlington VA. She was born 31 Jul 1937 Knoxville TN, daughter of Claire Cole Fisher and Johnnie Epperson Wall.

Jim suffered from diabetes. He died of a heart attack 5 Jul 2001, age 67, Riverside, Riverside Co CA. His memorial service there was attended by many local officials as well as friends and co-workers. His memorial service in Centreville, Queen Anne's Co MD, attended by family and many others who knew and/or worked with him, was held 21 Jul 2001, followed by burial Chesterfield Cemetery, South Liberty Street, Centreville.

First marriage, two children: Thomas Charles (1956) and Donna Lee (1959).

Second marriage, two children: Elisabeth Wall “Buffy” (1968) and Laura Irene “Lolly” (1971).

With the marriage of **James Straughn Redsecker** and **Martha Claire Fisher**  
our **REDSECKER** lineage is joined by our **FISHER** lineage  
– see [{Section 7}](#) --

JIM'S MIDDLE NAME Straughn was in honor of his granduncle James Henry Straughn, a Methodist bishop, whose family nickname was Buddy. Jim's own family nickname, Buddy Jim, was given to him when he was born, and all his life meant a great deal to him. During Jim's childhood and youth, he lived with his parents in Baltimore MD. Many visits and all vacations were spent in the Centreville area with relatives, where he began his lifelong interest in the history of his family, the Eastern Shore, the state and the country.

He was in the Coast Guard 1952-1955. He attended schools in MD and colleges in MD, NY, DC and CA, receiving a BS degree in Education for Industry from the University of Maryland in 1960.

HIS CAREER – He spent most of the early years with several different companies and the Navy Department, in Washington DC and New York, usually in administration. Then the rest of his career was with the US Customs Service, beginning in Washington. He was assigned to March AFB, Riverside CA for several years before his death. An outstanding achievement of his was developing a system for Customs which tracks aircraft coming across the border. It is based on, and ties together, information input from all over the country.

OTHER ACTIVITIES – In Riverside, Jim served on the police review commission of the city. He was called the “voice of reason” by the mayor for his humane approach to law enforcement.

He had many personal interests. The roses he cultivated and tested added their beauty to the yards of the various houses where he and his family lived. While the family lived on the Corsica River in Centreville MD, he especially enjoyed crabbing, boating and exploring the river, and tending to his orchard.

Jim was a welcome chaperone for school trips, including one to Canada with his older daughter's French class, because even the boys felt comfortable talking to him, and all were happy to have an adult male along. His younger daughter celebrates his memory with the trophy won by her softball team, coached by Jim. Bookbinding was another of his hobbies, and he amassed an impressive collection of books. Not least of the things he did was rescuing lost, ill and abandoned animals in all of the places they lived.

As far as we are concerned, Jim died too young, and we miss him.

-- This is the LAST PAGE of our REDSECKER lineage in this document --

**--SOME OF THE RESOURCES USED IN SECTION 16 --**

*Biographical Annals of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*, 1903, 1524 pp, no author, J.H.Beers & Co, publishers, no address given; seen in Elizabethtown PA municipal library.

Ellis, Franklin, and Samuel Evans, *History of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*, 1883, no publisher or address given; seen in Elizabethtown PA municipal library.

Redsecker family flat file, including unsigned and undated loose papers, Lancaster Co PA Historical Society, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster PA 17603.

*History of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, with Biographical Sketches of many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men*, Franklin Ellis and Samuel Evans; Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1883.

*Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, Vols 19 and 43.

Personal visits June 1997 to cemeteries in Lancaster County PA: Tunnel Cemetery, Elizabethtown PA, and Donegal Springs Presbyterian Church Cemetery, East Donegal PA

Personal visits 2001, 2008, and other years to Chesterfield Cemetery, South Liberty Street, Centreville, Queen Anne's County MD.

*Tombstones of Queen Anne's County, Maryland*, Volume II and Addendum and *Cemeteries of Caroline County*, Volume II

Seen at Upper Shore Genealogy Society of Maryland, Rt 313 (Greensboro Road), Greensboro, Caroline County MD; mailing address (as of 2008) P O Box 275, Easton MD 21601.

Wally G Straughn of Phoenix AZ, Correspondence Dec 1996, citing *Tombstones of Queen Anne's County, Maryland*, Vol II.

U S Census records

Family Group Record Archives, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), Family History Library, Salt Lake City UT.

Richard Magoteaux of Columbus OH, letter of 14 Mar 1995 with Balmer/Palmer pedigree chart.

Hugh Williams of Hillsborough NJ, e-mail dated 16 Apr 2000.

Cecelia Evans of Sandy VT, e-mail dated 31 Oct 2000.

*Baltimore County Cemeteries*, Baltimore County Historical Society, Family Line Publications, 1985; Vol 4.

*The History of American Methodism*, Vol III, Abingdon Press, New York and Nashville, 1964, pp 458-459.

Jerry Osborne, e-mail of 24 May 2008, states that Anna Barbara Klein, daughter of George Klein and Veronica Sachs, married Andreas Bort 18 Mar 1739 Lancaster PA. Later he became a member of the Moravian Church in Lititz, along with George Klein and Peter Ricksecker. Andreas died about 1750, and his widow Barbara married Peter 5 Sep 1751.

World Connect file of Henk Wolda, "Descendants of Jacob Rychen".

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Bertie 25	Christy	Gingrich
Andereck	Frank 21	H.G 15
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Christian 5	Ann 15	Charles Henry 26
Auxer	Cochran	Charles Henry Maury 26
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Auxier	Cohr	Julia Marian 26
Christian 5	Mina Louisa 19	Wallace Woodford 26
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	Wiegand	Margaret 13
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