

Wolfensberger

Newsletter of the WOLFENSBERGER FAMILY ASSOCIATION

January 1997, Vol. 2, No. 4

MEMBERS ELECT 14 AS WFA DIRECTORS

In the organization's first election, seven new directors were added to the Wolfensberger Family Association's 1997 Board of Directors, bringing the total number of volunteer directors to fourteen.

In their first action, the new directors re-elected Lawrence M. Jones of Oklahoma City the association's executive director, an unpaid volunteer position, during their December meeting held by conference call. Larry founded the 250-member organization in 1994 and has served as its leader ever since.

The membership includes:

Mrs. B. J. DeLong. With her late husband, Joe, B.J. owned and operated two steel manufacturing plants. Descendent of one of first justices named to the Oklahoma Supreme Court. B. J. lives in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Larry Jones. Founder and Executive Director of the association. Lives in Oklahoma City.

Mrs. Myrna Liddell. Served two years on the Association's board. The daughter of Wilma Opal Wolfenbarger. Myrna and her husband, Rich, are active members of the Church of Latter Day Saints. Lives in Langley, Washington.

Mrs. Charlotte Lucas. Active in our association and a member of the Tulsa Genealogical Society. Set up an association display at a genea-

logical fair in Claremore. Lives in Tulsa.

Mrs. Ivylyn Martin. Former dietitian for Surry County, North Carolina. Served on our board for two years. Daughter of William Creasy Sparger. Lives in Mount Airy, North Carolina.

Vernon Osborn. Manages an overhead crane manufacturing firm he sold. Served two years on our board. Son of Willie I. Wolfenberger, he lives in Magnolia, Texas.

William H. Sparger. Vice president of engineering for Interstate Gas Co., a subsidiary of the Costal Corp. Lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

William F. Spargur. Retired military officer and currently a security officer at a military installation. Lives in Palmdale, California.

Michael D. Wolfenbarger. Long active in studying the history of the Wolfensberger family. He has written about his family in the Knoxville, Tennessee area. Lives in Lafayette, Colorado.

W. Frank Wolfenbarger. Owns and operates his own accounting firm in Irving, Texas. A major contributor to the memorial stone honoring the family's first couple, Johannes and Anna Wolfensberger, who emigrated to America in 1730.

Robert J. Wolfenbarger. Discovered the family's Swiss connec-

Continued on page four

A Crusading Knight And A Founding Father Knight Balderbert

Of the two ancestors who figure most importantly in the medieval Wolfensberger family history, the first is known as the Noble Knight **Balderbert** (1233-1259), who earned his knighthood – and presumably the Swiss land grant known for centuries as the Wolfesberg – for heroics in the ill-fated Seventh Crusade.

Family history is traced back to the 13th Century knight whose short life was capped by an act of heroism in one crusade. The only crusade to take place during Balderbert's 26-year life was the Seventh Crusade.

History records it as one of the least successful of eight crusades between 1099 and 1270 to free the Holy Land from the Turks. Led by

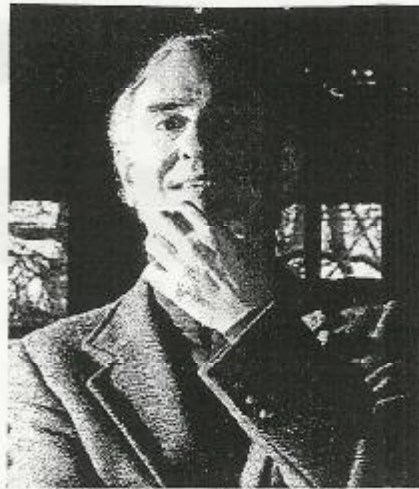
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John B. WOLFENBARGER
Knoxville, TN father of
Michael D. WOLFENBARGER
photo taken at reunion 1995



Wolf WOLFENSBERGER,
Ph.D., Syracuse, NY
Member of Board of Directors



Vernon OSBORN (Wolfenberger)
Magnolia, TX
Member of Board of Directors



Michael D. WOLFENBARGER, Lafayette, CO
Member of Board of Directors
J. C. WOLFENBARGER, Knoxville, TN
David WOLFENBARGER, Knoxville, TN
photo taken at reunion in Knoxville, TN 1996



Family of Guy Mitchell and Mary SPARGER
Jeffrey SPARGER, Leslie Dianne SPARGER,
Guy Mitchell SPARGER, Mary SPARGER
M+Airy, NC photo taken at reunion
in Galax, VA 1994



Jimmy Lay WOLFENBARGER and father
John Emmett WOLFENBARGER both of
Clatskanie, OR photo take at reunion in
Seneca, MO 1995



James E. SPARGUR, former member of the Board
of Directors, wife Jane SPARGUR. Harold William
SPARGUR, father of James SPARGUR, born 9 Aug
1908, died 23 Sep 1996. Photo taken in Waynesville,
OH 1993

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free ..."

Emma Lazarus

From Europe to America

The Wolfensberger Emigrants

At least six Wolfensbergers moved from Europe to America between 1730 and the present, according to family legend and genealogical records.

Other emigrants are possible, even likely, in the waves of families who poured into the United States in the 20th Century.

If your family's original emigrant is not among these six families, please contact WFA Executive Director Larry Jones (see back page) to help us revise family records.

1730

Johannes Wolfensberger
Anna Margaretha Ensminger

The first known family to emigrate to America was headed by Johannes Wolfensberger. He and his wife, Anna Margaretha Ensminger, and three children sailed into the Philadelphia harbor in 1730 aboard *The Thistle* of Glasgow.

It is believed the family left its home in Langensoultzbach in the Alsace, a short distance from the modern border of France and Germany.

To reach *The Thistle*, the family traveled through the Palatinate to Ludwigshafen on the western bank

of the Rhine. Ludwigshafen is a port city located a few miles from modern Mannheim in the western German state of Rhineland-Pfalz.

Aboard *The Thistle*, the Wolfensbergers joined German-speaking emigrants moving to William Penn's colony, Pennsylvania, in search of land and greater economic opportunity.

Johannes is believed to be the only son of Erhart Wolfensberger, born in Ettenhausen, Switzerland, on November 16, 1666. In 1688 at the age of 22, Erhart migrated from Ettenhausen to Wolsheim in the Alsace near Strasbourg, where he met and married Ursula Emm. Johannes was born in 1694, probably in Wolsheim.

As a young man, Johannes moved from Wolsheim to the northern Alsace to establish a home near the villages of Mattstall and Langensoultzbach. There he met and married Anna Margaretha Ensminger of Mattstall, a community two kilometers north of Langensoultzbach.

Four children were born to the couple: John Peter, born October 16, 1721; Maria Ursula, born August 29, 1724 (and died three years later); Jakob Friedrich, born June 1, 1727, and Johannes, born some time in 1730.

The infant Johannes (later John) was carried by his mother aboard *The Thistle* for its summer voyage across

the Atlantic, arriving August 29, 1730 in Philadelphia.

The family settled briefly in Lancaster County, then moved to Lebanon County where they settled in Schaefferstown, not far from Hershey. Two other children were born to Anna Margaretha there: Mary Catherine, born August 3, 1733 in Lancaster County, and John Philip, born February 14, 1739 in Lebanon County. An estimated 80 percent of all Wolfensberger family members are descendants of Johannes and Anna Margaretha.

1743

Hans Wolfensperger
Anna Regina Huber

The second Wolfensberger emigrants were Hans Wolfensperger and his wife, Anna Regina Huber, who arrived in September 1743 to settle in the Carolinas. Hans was born August 26, 1706 in the village of Uster, Switzerland; Anna Regina was born January 10, 1711 in Uster.

The couple had four daughters, all born in Uster. Their first child was Regula, born March 1, 1731. Elisabeth was born January 1, 1735; Anna, October 28, 1737; and of Medikon, Switzerland, who died when the younger Hans was three

Where Does Your Family Belong?

Six Waves of Wolfensberger Emigrants

years old.

No further records exist of Hans and Anna Wolfensperger or their daughters. If anyone has further knowledge of this family, please let us know. It's hoped someone will volunteer to trace the descendents of Hans' daughters.

1840

The Rev. Jonathan Wolfensberger

The third known emigrant was The Reverend Jonathan Wolfensperger. He is believed to come from the area around Baden Baden, in southern Germany, a few hundred miles north of Switzerland. Neither parents' names nor his birthplace are known.

He settled in Page County, Virginia, in about 1840, where he met and married Mildred Lillard. Mildred was born November 10, 1821, in Madison, Virginia and died at the age of 97 on October 5, 1918 in Stanley, Virginia. Jonathan died May 30, 1891 in Stanley.

The couple had six children, all of whom were born in Page County. They include William, born April 13, 1844; Sarah, born June 12, 1847; Cecelia, born October 26, 1849; Harrison, born May 28, 1852; George, born September 19, 1857; and Robert, born May 16, 1866. Today, approximately 125 family members can be traced to The Rev. Wolfensperger.

Records of Jonathan's family are maintained by Alice Wolfensberger Foutz of Page County, as well as by Harry Wolfensberger of Orange Park, Florida, and WFA Director Judy Wolfensberger of Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey.

1843

Martin Wolfensberger
Katherine Sherrer

Martin Wolfensberger, his wife Katherine Sherrer, and son Franz came to America in 1843 from their home in Hartzviller, France, some 30 kilometers from Saverne in France's Alsace region. Martin, born about 1800 in Hartzviller, and Katherine, born about 1802, arrived in New Orleans and went upriver to St. Louis. They later settled in Mascoutah, Illinois, some 30 to 40 miles east of St. Louis.

In addition to Franz, the couple had five children: Michael, born January, 1844; Christina, born May 1849; Joseph, born April 1850; Caroline, born 1854; and Lillian. All except Lillian and Franz were born in Mascoutah.

Martin died February 17, 1860 in Mascoutah. Katherine died in 1880.

Association records list 176 members of this family, including Charles Wolfensberger of St. Louis.

1884

Dr. Isaac Wolfensberger

Dr. Isaac Wolfensberger came to America in 1884 from The Netherlands. Born in 1854, he lived in Pennsylvania and died in 1926 in Hutchinson, Kansas.

Family records indicate Isaac married twice, once to a woman with the surname of McMullan. The couple had two pairs of twins, including Patrick McMullan Wolfensberger. Patrick's son, Charles Patrick Wolfensberger, had a son, the Reverend John D. Wolfensberger of Chino, California, who supplied these facts.

1950

Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger

Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger, a WFA Director, moved to the United States from Mannheim, Germany in 1950. He married Nancy Artz from Indiana. The couple have three children: Margaret, Joan and Paul.

Wolf obtained a PhD in clinical psychology and is currently a professor at Syracuse University. A student of family history, Wolf traces his family to Hans zu Wolfsberg through Hans' youngest son, Friederich von Wolfsberg.

Wolf's ancestors originally migrated to Canton Lucerne in Switzerland in 1550, then to Southern Swabia in 1650.

1892 newspaper tells tale of brakeman's harrowing accident

The article below was adapted from an 1892 newspaper clipping from Somerset, PA. It was submitted by Mrs. Betty Winters of Pittsburgh, PA.

A yellowing Somerset, Pennsylvania, newspaper article of February 1892 tells a harrowing tale of the death of Edward Wolfersberger, killed in a freak accident on a freight train in central Pennsylvania, near his hometown of Rockwood.

Mangled and crushed after falling under a wheel of the train, Edward remained alive but in excruciating pain for a last ride home to see his wife, mother and father, and friends in Rockwood.

Edward, the mid-twenties son of David H. Wolfersberger, owner of the landmark Rockwood House, had volunteered as a brakeman on a Baltimore & Ohio Railroad freight headed for Johnstown late one night. He'd agreed to make the night run, turning down his wife's plea that he get some rest after a full day's shift.

When the freight returned from Johnstown, Edward stepped between the train's coal tender and a freight car. It was a cold night, and his rubber overshoes stuck to the frozen rail. Edward tripped, falling under a moving wheel that rolled over his hip and leg, leaving it virtually severed.

When Edward screamed out in pain, the rest of the crew rushed to his aid.

But it was quickly apparent Edward was mortally wounded and couldn't expect to live through the

night. Carried tenderly to a caboose by his colleagues, he was stoic as he lay in pain, talking with his friends.

"Well Mac, I'm afraid I got it this time," he said to the train's conductor. "Yes," murmured the conductor, "you had better turn your thoughts to your God."

"I'd Like So Much To Live"

"I'd like so much to live for the sake of my wife and baby," he said weakly. When physicians summoned to the site told him he had little chance of survival, Edward said simply, "Well, if there's no hope, I'm willing to die."

When the train reached Rockwood, Edward was taken to the Rockwood House. By then, the physicians attending him saw his life could not be saved. In the company of his family, he was administered an anesthetic and slipped into an easy death.

The article went on to describe Edward as a young man whose character was admired. It reported that he was a favorite among the employees of the railroad. According to the article, his fellow employees placed wreaths of roses and lilies on his coffin.

Story to share?

*If you have an interesting story about a family member, why not share it? The newsletter's next deadline is **March 1**.*

Pennsylvania's Campbelltown is early home to legislator, militia officer

Campbelltown, Pennsylvania, an early home to the Wolfersberger family in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, figured importantly in the early history of central Pennsylvania.

The first Pennsylvania turnpike connecting Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, chartered by the Commonwealth Legislature in 1803, passed along the main street of Campbelltown.

An early tavern and store on what is now Main Street was a popular meeting place for turnpike travelers and residents, including our ancestors.

Philip Wolfersberger, son of the Swiss-born John and Margaretha Wolfersberger, was one of the community's most prominent citizens. He was apparently the first Campbelltown resident to serve in the Pennsylvania Legislature, elected to three terms between 1826 and 1829. Philip also served as a captain in the Pennsylvania Militia and a Lebanon County commissioner.

According to Lebanon County history, Philip was a local merchant and grain dealer and the son of one of Campbelltown-Schaefferstown area's first "German" settlers. He is buried in the Salem Reformed Church cemetery.

Crusader and Founding Father key figures in early family

Continued from page one

King Louis IX of France, the Seventh Crusade sought to recapture Jerusalem and the Holy Land by taking Egypt.

Instead, the Turks captured Louis and extracted what historians termed a king's ransom for his freedom. Louis died of the plague in a final Crusade in 1270.

After Balderbert's return from the crusade, the Swiss knight built Castle Wolfsberg on the slope of a gentle mountain just outside present-day Bauma in northeast Switzerland. Listed in the *Book of Castles of Zurich*, a Swiss tour guide of castles in the canton.

Balderbert and others are believed to have endowed a monastery at Ruti, a nearby village, where the family coat of arms was first displayed and where many of the family are buried.

Hans Zu Wolfsberg

The second historic Wolfensberger is **Hans Zu Wolfsberg**, born in 1395, who lived in the family castle, subsequently called the Hof Wolfsberg, with his wife and five sons.

The generations between Knight Balderbert, who died in 1259, and Hans Zu Wolfsberg, born 140 years later, are not fully connected.

All known members of the Wolfensberger family descend from this historic family figure.

Family records do not name Hans' wife, with whom he had five sons.

The sons include Herman, born about 1436, Ulrich, born about 1439, Hans, born 1443, Frederich, born 1445, and Konrad, born 1446.

30 New Members Sign Up For 1997

Loma W. Barrett, Mt. Airy, NC (Sparger)
Nancy B. Chanz, Highland Village, TX (Wolfensberger)
Glenna Kelly Duke, Houston, TX (Wolfensberger)
Kelley Kristine Feller, Houston, TX (Wolfensberger)
Kahla Jo Gilliland, Genoa, IL (Wolfensberger)
Amy R. Hay, Pittsburgh, PA (Wolfensberger)
Chris S. Hay, Somerset, PA (Wolfensberger)
Philip J. Hay, Los Alamos, NM (Wolfensberger)
Tina M. Hay, State College, PA (Wolfensberger)
Gerald G. Hopkins, Sun City, FL (Wolfensberger)
Dr. Kevin Jones, Midwest City, OK (Wolfensberger)
Ruth S. Lytton, El Paso, TX (Sparger)
Alyson A. Marshall, Alpharetta, GA (Wolfensberger)
Katherine K. Marshall, Alpharetta, GA (Wolfensberger)
Charles Pendergraft, Miami, OK (Wolfensberger)
Shirley Rouse, N. Augusta, SC (Wolfensberger)
Claude I. Spargur, Manteno, IL
Richard Lee Spargur, Brentwood, MD
William Lee Spargur, Honolulu, HI
Diane Stober, Wenatchee, WA (Wolfensberger)
Dwain Vice, Bristow, OK (Wolfensberger)
Daniel C. Wolfensberger, Spanaway, WA
O. K. Wolfensberger, Mertzen, TX
Max Wolfensberger, Stacfa, Switzerland
Alyce Wolfensberger, Stuart, FL
Frank G. Wolfensberger, Palmyra, PA
Rev. John D. Wolfensberger, Chino, CA
William Wilson Wolfensberger, Winchester, PA
Jimmy Paul Wolfenbarger, Green Forest, AK
William Lee Wolfenbarger, Imperial, MO

IN MEMORIAM

Harold W. Spargur, 88, born August 9, 1908 in Highland County, OH, died September 25, 1996, in Waynesville, OH. Survived by son James E. Spargur and his wife, Jane, a sister, Ruth Carrol of Chillicothe, OH.

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Family places. Bauma is the site of Castle Wolfsberg, the family's Swiss ancestral home. Langensoultzbach

and nearby Mattstall in the Alsace region were home to the first emigrants to the New World.

SIX 1997 REUNIONS SET

WOLFENBARGER-WOLFINBARGER June 21, 1997

Wyandotte, Oklahoma
Coordinator
Anna Ruth Crabtree,
8080 Norway Road,
Neosho, MO

WOLFENBARGER June 28, 1997

Knoxville, Tennessee
No additional information

In Memoriam (cont.)

Continued from page 6

An accomplished musician, he taught music at Hillsboro High School for many years.

Mossie Lucille Cardwell

Wolfenbarger, 89, born February 28, 1907, died October 21, 1996 in Knoxville, TN. Survived by two sons, Wayne and Ron Cardwell, and seven daughters, Emma Lee Watkins, Barbara Mann, Sonja Hall, Brenda Bidwell, Linda Clarke, Yvonne Graubman and Rose Osment and 109 other descendents.

Ola M. Wolfenbarger, 90, born July 31, 1906, in Ottawa, OK, died November 23, 1996, in Alpine, CA. Survived by his wife, Viven, to whom he was married for 66 years.

Lost Assets In Utah

The State of Utah's Unclaimed Property Division lists "WOLFENBERGER ESTATE SLC UT" as an owner of unclaimed assets. Contact Larry Jones for details.

WOLFENBARGER-WOLFINBARGER SPARGER-SPARGUR August 9, 1997

Clatskanie, Oregon
(US Highway 30, about 12 miles west of Interstate 5 from Kelso, WA)

Coordinator
Jimmy L. Wolfenbarger,
18445 Coop Road,
Clatskanie, OR 97016

SPARGER August 16, 1997

Galax, Virginia.
Coordinator
Guy Mitchell Sparger,
338 Sparger Road,
Mt. Airy, NC 27030

WOLFINBARGER September 6, 1997

Irvine, Kentucky
Coordinator
Dick Gault,
PO Box 295,
Trenton, OH 45067

WILKINSON-WOLFINBARGER September 14, 1997

Blue Springs, Missouri
Coordinator
Olen Wilkinson,
900 West "B" Street,
Blue Springs, MO 64015

(Anyone with knowledge of any other family reunions who would like that reunion date listed here, please contact Larry Jones.)

New Directors

Continued from page one

tion in 1962. Owns and operates his own public relations consulting business. Lives in Summit, New Jersey.

Joseph Wolfenberger. Retired U.S. Army colonel who has served in many professional and volunteer positions in the Army and after his retirement. Lives in Hutchinson, Kansas.

Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger. A clinical psychologist and professor of sociology at Syracuse University, he is a 1950's emigrant to the United States from Germany. Lives in Syracuse, New York.

Mrs. Judy Wolfersberger. Represents the family of the Rev. Jonathan Wolfersberger, who came to America in the 1840s. Named as a board member in 1996. Lives in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey.

Heini Wolfensberger. Member of the original Swiss family that traces its origins back to the Crusader Knight Balderbert. Honorary Life Member, he lives in Bauma, Switzerland.

WFA Annual Meeting, Reunion is scheduled August 9 in Oregon

The 1997 Wolfensberger Family Association Annual Meeting will be part of the Wolfenbarger-Wolfinbarger, Sparger-Spargur reunion to be held August 9 at Clatskanie, Oregon.

Interested members should contact coordinator Jimmy L. Wolfenbarger at 18445 Coop Road, Clatskanie, OR 97016, for details.

Update of a Wolfensberger History Classic, "The Swiss Connection" By Raymond Bell

These are excerpts from "The Swiss Connection" a family history by Raymond Bell of Washington, Pennsylvania, and recently updated by WFA Director Myrna Liddell of Langley, Washington. First of two installments.

The family's name in Switzerland is Wolfensberger. It originates in the town of Wolfensberg, where the earliest recorded date in family history is 1233. In 1467, three Wolfensbergers lived in Ettenhausen: Conrad, Frederick and Ulrich.

Among numerous spellings, the most common are: Wolfe(r,n,l)s(b,p)erger and Wolfisberger.

The American branch is traceable to Jacob Wolfensberger of Ettenhausen, Switzerland, who married Elsbeth Knecht of Wetzikon in 1575. The village of Ettenhausen was a part of the parish of Wetzikon, a village in northeastern Switzerland. All marriages were performed there.

Five generations lived at Ettenhausen. The generations included Jacob m 1575, Erhart m 1611, Hans m 1635, Ulrich m 1655 and Erhart m 1689 in Alsace. Erhart's son, John, migrated to Pennsylvania in 1730 after marrying Margaret Ensminger in 1721.

The source for this history is *Deutsches Geschlechterbuch*, vol. 65 (also known as *Deutsch-Schweizerisches Geschlechterbuch*, vol. 4) 1929.

Lineage Since 16th Century

JACOB Wolfensberger c1550-c1588 + m 2.10.1575
Elsbeth Knecht

- 1 Hans 15.3.1579 - bef 1653
- 2 ERHART 12.2.1581 - c1622
- 3 Georg 1.4.83 c1611
- 4 Ulrich 27.5.1588

ERHART m 26.11.1611 Margaretha Lutz (of Hinwil)

- 1 Barbara 14.6.1612 - 9.9.1629 of the pest*
- 2 Jacob 18.1.1614 - 23.9.1685
- 3 HANS 24.12.1615 - 15.2.1688
- 4 Anna 19.7.1618 - 22.6.1629 of the pest
- 5 Margaretha 1.4.1621 - 4.9.1629 of the pest

* Presumably the bubonic plague

HANS m 28.4.1635 Margaret Banwart - tablemaker
1 Barbara 15.5.1636 - 15.5.1691
2 ULRICH 14.11.1637 - 1678+
3 Hans 25.5.1640 - 5.9.1690
4 Erhart 20.10.1645 - c1680
5 Katharina 7.6.1647
6 Jacob 28.8.1649 - c1651
7 Adeli 14.9.1651 - 1670+

ULRICH m1 3.4.1655 Anna Kagi d 13.1.1673, m2
27.3.1673 Katharina Kindlemann d 18.3.1677 - shoe-
maker

- 1 Jacob 21.10.1655 - bef 1670
- 2 Elsbeth c1657
- 3 Mathus 28.8.1659 d yg
- 4 Anna 1.12.1661 - 29.9.1669
- 5 Hans 30.10.1664 d yg
- 6 Erhart 18.11.1666 - 12.7.1710*
- 7 Mathus 1.1.1669 \Wolschheim
- 8 Maria 24.1.1671
- 9 Hans 5.4.1674
- 10 Jacob 18.3.1677 - 15.12.1677

Erhart married Ursula Emm 8.5.1689 at Wolfisheim.

Lineage Since First Immigrant

John Wolfersberger (the surname has many spellings) landed at Philadelphia August 29, 1730. With him were his wife, Margaret (Anna Margaretha), 33, and sons: Peter 9, Frederick, 3, John, a baby.

John, the father, was a son of Erhard Wolfersberger of Wolschheim, Alsace.

Margaret was a daughter of Philip Ensminger Jr who lived in Mattstall, Alsace, in 1721. Philip Jr. was a blacksmith.

In 1727, John Wolfersberger was living at nearby Langensoultzbach. French records give data on their marriage and on three of their children. A sister of Margaret's and several brothers also came to Pennsylvania in the following years.

The French church records (translated from the German) are for the year 1721:

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Excerpts From "The Swiss Connection", A 750-Year History Of The Wolfensbergers

Continued from page 5

1 Epiphany Sunday,, 12 January, was announced for the first time;

2 Epiphany Sunday,, 19 January, at Mattstall for the second; and

3 Epiphany Sunday there for the third time; and after that married there Monday, the 27 January, John Wolffsberger, legitimate son of John Erhard Woffisberger, citizen at Wolschheim, and Anna Margaretha, legitimate maiden daughter of Phillipp Entsminger, a (black)smith and resident of Mattstall.

Johan Peter was born Thursday, 16 October 1721, at Mattstall; baptized there Sunday, 19 October; son of John Wolffsberger and Anna Margaretha born Entzminger. Godparents were John Peter Knobel, carpenter there; and John Emming, citizen and nailsmith in Uttenhoffen, both Reform. Rel.; also Maria Catharina Trauttmann, wife of John Peter Entzminger, citizen and smith in Mattstall.

On 8 September 1727, Maria Ursulais is buried in Soultzbach. Aged 3 years, 10 days, she is the daughter of Hans Woffenberger and Margaretha Ensminger.

1 June 1727, Soultzbach. Johannes Wolffsberger and his wife Margaretha Ensminger,, have a little son who is baptized and named Jacob Friederich.

Godparents are Jacob Bohli, Gastgeber at Löwen; Anna Maria, wife of Jacob Sagerberger; John Friedrich Müller, son of Hans Müller, miller; and Maria Elisabetha, surviving daughter of Hans Michael Weymer. (Mattstall - LDS film 767, 276; Langensoultzbach - LDS 717, 147).

Migration Aboard "The Thistle"

Fritz Braun in his 1959 pamphlet, *Auswanderer Aus Der Umgebung Von Ludswighafen (a. Rh.) Auf Dem Schiff "Thistle Of Glasgow" 1730* traced the origins of some of the passengers on the ship that carried the Wolfensbergers to Pennsylvania.

Aboard the *Thistle* were 260 persons (77 families) on board. Braun identified 89 persons (27 families). Seventy-three came from the region around Ludwigshafen on the Rhine River.

Margaret Ensminger's father, Philip Jr., was born about 1666. About 1691 he married Elizabeth at Waldhambach, Alsace. His father, Philip Sr, b 1639, died there in 1712. Philip Ensminger Jr left Waldhambach about 1695. He appears in Mattstall records between 1719-1723 and in Langensoultzbach records from 1723-25. It is not known where or when he died or where Margaret was born in 1697.

First Pennsylvania Home

Upon John's arrival, he first moved to Cocalico, Lancaster County; then moved later to what is now Lebanon County..

Subsequently, John became a landowner, and naturalized citizen on these dates:

■ **1734 Feb 20**, received a grant of 100 acres, patented in 1741 to Ludwig Mohler.

■ **1744 Apr 11**, John was naturalized in Philadelphia.

■ **1744 Apr 11**, received another grant of 671 acres.

■ **1761 May 6**, land patented to John's heirs:

Sons Peter, Frederick, John, Philip;

Daughters Catharine, wife of Jacob Frey,, and Anna Mary, wife of Martin Hefflefinger.

Help received from Sue Lessenberry, Myrtle Braun, Wayne A. Huss, Elizabeth M. Newton, Aubrey H. Baldwin, Frances C. B. Francis, J. B. Sparger, W. Creasy, and others.

HISTORY

The Swiss Connection

By: Raymond M. Bell
413 Burton Avenue
Washington, PA 15301

Acquired from:

McClung Collection

East Tennessee Historical Center
Knoxville, Tennessee

Also found in:

L. D. S. Family History Center
Salt Lake City, Utah

CLASSIC

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVE EMBROIDERED FAMILY BADGE!

WFA Membership Application

The Wolfensberger Family Association is a not-for-profit association formed for the purpose of providing communications about family events, reunions, queries, obituaries, histories and news to families who are descended from the Wolfensberger family of Switzerland. To join, please complete this form:

Name _____
Address _____

Telephone _____
Date _____

Membership is open to any family member. 1997 dues, effective January 1, 1997, will be \$10 per person. Annual memberships expire at the end of each calendar year, although members who register later in the year will receive all four issues of this newsletter. *New members receive a six-color embroidered family badge based on the family's coat of arms. Absolutely free!*

Please circle or write in the name of your family:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| WOLFENSBERGER | WOLFENBARGER |
| WOLFERSBERGER | WOLFENBARGER |
| WOLFERSPERGER | WOLFENBERGER |
| WOLFENSBERGER | SPARGUR |
| SPARGER | |

Registration instructions: Please complete form and send check payable to the Wolfensberger Family Association for a year's individual membership. 1997 dues are \$8. Mail form and check to the Wolfensberger Family Assn., 6400 Ann Arbor Terr., Oklahoma City OK 73132.

Wolfensberger
WOLFENSBERGER FAMILY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

WOLFENSBERGER FAMILY ASSOCIATION
6400 North Ann Arbor Terrace
Oklahoma City OK 73132
Executive Director, Lawrence M. Jones

Phone: (405) 721-4383



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Editor, Robert J. Wolfenbarger
30 Harvey Drive, Summit NJ 07901
Phone (908) 273-7631. FAX (908) 273-7738

