

OFA Bulletin

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear OFA Members,

Hope this finds everyone well and staying safe in these uncertain times and wish everyone a "Happy New Year" for 2021.

Sadly, we note that Spencer Overholser's (Past OFA President 1956 – 1986) wife Ruth passed away at 102 on Thanksgiving Day, and Past President Darwin Overholt's wife Jean recently passed away. Reverend John Weiler (Past OFA Chaplain, Necrologist) is 97 and doing well.

Dennis Oberholtzer's new book *Precious Treasures* is now available on Amazon, and is about how relationships are revealed through stones. He has also finished writing another book on the Stauffer ancestors, which goes back to the 6th Century A.D., and mythically back to the 1st century bce.

Dennis is also translating Johanna Oberholzer's book on the 300th Anniversary of the Oberholz Chapel. The translation of this book will include two chapters on the homesteading of the Oberholzer mountain plus many more stories that should be of interest to our American families.

Dennis is also writing several articles for future OFA Bulletins.

If you ever wondered how OFA arrived at the ancestral designations, such as MC, ML, JF, SL, HJ, JL, etc., it was accomplished by using the first letter of the first name of your immigrant ancestor along with the first letter of the County/Township where your ancestor settled in the Colonies/States. For Example, MC stands for Marcus Oberholtzer who settled in Chester County, PA., & so forth. You can find this information in detail in Barbara B Ford's *The Oberholtzer Book* – A Foundation Book of Oberholtzer Immigrants and Unestablished Lines.

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Overholser Family Association Bulletin

Vol. XXXXI No 1 Winter 2021

Editor - Dennis L. Oberholtzer 49 Paradise Lane Paradise, Pa. 17562 717-687-6950

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send all contributions to: Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer 24 Avalon Way Union, NJ 07083

CORRESPONDENCE

Earline Oberholtzer 49 Paradise Lane Paradise PA 17562-9654 717-687-6950 OFA@hughes.net

Welcome New OFA Members!!!

Mary Finkbinder

Lavern E Martin, Jacob & Mary Oberholzer Line

L:ianna Brewer

Barbara Vernes

Dave Oberholtzer

Linda Wanaseja

Gavin George Oberholzer, UK, from Africa Line

micam

Janetta Overholser

Michael Overholser

Ryan Miller

Kayln Bench

Susan Bradley

Susan K Hugus

New Way to CONTRIBUTE!

You can support the OFA by visiting our website at overholser.net and clicking the Donate button.

We have PayPal for your convenience. Please e-mail gmartin@overholser.net if you have any questions.

Life is a roller coaster, But the Holy Spirit is the magnet that keeps us on the rails! - Connie Oberholser

Mennonite Indebtedness

Many of the younger O's in our family know very little to nothing about the Reformation Period of Europe. Some may have heard the word Mennonite, but would not be able to give a historical connection. By the 16th Century, Europe was splitting into Christian religious factions. Primarily there remained the Catholic faith with its base in Rome Italy. Yet from the time of the Crusades there were those opposed to specific Catholic doctrines which did not have a theological foundation in the writings of Scripture. Those who confronted the Catholic Church concerning those false doctrines were called Protestants.

Menno Simons was the leader of one of the Protestant groups. His followers became known as Menno-nites. The Amish are from a similar group, but included the need to shy away from new technologies. These two groups came out of a larger group known as the Waldenses, named after Peter Waldo.

Today, in the 21st Century, the World-wide Mennonite Church have pressured local congregations into allowing non-biblical forms of living into its leadership. This has created a drift away from world-wide central control, in that many Mennonite Congregations have voted to become independent churches; having no unified control by a world-wide organization.

Therefore, young people need to be aware of the major contributions the previous Mennonites gave to the world before liberal-mindedness took control.

1) History is not made up of just government laws and actions. History can also be found in the documents of those who wrote of Protestant reforms who were willing to die for their beliefs. Ideas founded on the Holy Scriptures, given through the Spirit of the Creator of the Universe. Yes there is a Creator. The best scientists in the world know this.

But back to the subject. Two books have been compiled for centuries. *Martyrs Mirror* and *Foxes Book of Martyrs*. They tell the true history of those who died for their faith, and why.

2) Even in today's world, more people world-wide die for their belief in an Eternal Resurrected Jesus Christ that those in past generations. People are willing to be persecuted to show others the One that can give them eternal life.

- 3) Mennonites and Amish are also known as Anabaptists. This means a person has a free will to choose to believe in Jesus Christ as the one who can give eternal life. The Catholic Church still performs baby baptism which cannot be true, for a baby cannot decide by his or her own free will.
- 4) Mennonites are against abortion. Science has proved a fetus has a heartbeat within two weeks of conception, as well as arms and legs and a head. It is wrong to kill those who cannot defend themselves. Every human conscience testifies to this.
- 5) Mennonites are against war. This philosophy has helped the world make great changes to Society, reducing the senseless slaughter of lives.
- 6) In 1688, Mennonites and Quakers joined in signing the first anti-slavery petition in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. William Penn sectioned off a part of Conestoga within his Penn's Woods where colored people could live in peace. While this did not last long, it brought a sense of freedom to the colored people living in the north-east. Put aside all the negative journalism and observe how far we have come. Today colored people can be just as rich and free as any white European. Good work ethics is all that is needed by all races in America.
- 7) I end with an old Mennonite philosophy. A person has a willingness to adapt to change without compromising one's moral character. A righteous and correct moral character comes from the lessons learned in the Holy Bible. It does not come from our own thoughts, ideas and ambitions.

There are many other perspectives to add, such as faith without works is dead. It is well-worth our time to seek out the lessons of Scripture and history, letting them guide us through the incalculable changes within this modern world. Remember, the Creator gave us all things (including man-made) for our good pleasure; NOT for our offensive behavior.

The Mennonite Church is not immune to the evil in this world, which continues to grow. My parents divorce when I was a baby was difficult for the family. Only by God's grace and our seeking for truth were my siblings and myself able to overcome the lack of love which brought separation. - editor

A Timeline of Three Generations of JA John Overholsers

- Bruce McCrea, Michigan

John Overholser I = the John Overholser who died in 1794

John Overholser II = his son,

the John Overholser who was born ca 1740 and died in 1809

John Overholser III his son,

the John Overholser who was born ca 1767 and died in 1840

Until the 1794 death of John Overholser I, he was John Overholser Sr and son John Overholser II was John Overholser Jr.

1740 - John Overholser I arrived in America from Ireland. Documentation needs to be located.

1756 - John Overholster received 58 LBS 4 sh and 6 pence for his service as a wagoner on General Bradock's 1755 expedition. [He was listed as a Dr, which meant a debtor and not a doctor - Geoffrey Martin]

1762 John Overholser did not appear on the Reading Twp tax list. He appears to be a single man added at the end of the Huntington Twp Reading Co PA tax list. (Surviving tax lists are very rare in the early years.)

27 Oct. 1771 - Hannes Oberholtz and wife were witnesses to the baptism of Anna Mary, daughter of Heinrich and Susanna Kranester. Lower Bermudian Church, Latimore Twp, Reading Co PA. (Hannes = Johannes = John)

1773, 1774, 1775, 1776 - Abraham Overholser, probable son of John Overholser I, appeared on the Barree Township, Bedford County tax lists. He and his family had moved west by 1773 to Bedford Co (present Huntington Co PA.)

8 Dec 1774 - John Overhoutz appeared on the Reading Twp tax list. He also appeared with various spellings on all the following 1770's surviving tax lists: 1777, 1778, 1779

17 Dec 1781 - Johannes Chronister's York PA will names as an heir his daughter Mary, wife of John Overholser.

1783 - The 1783 tax list has many more details than earlier tax lists. John Overholtzer had 12 (accounted for) inhabitants, 4 horses, 5 horned cattle, 14 sheep, 195 acres of land. 1 house, and 2 outhouses

April, July, Oct 1783, Jan 1784 Quarter Sessions - John Overholser II selected to four consecutive 3 month terms as Reading Twp constable

27 Oct 1787 - Survey A-604 - Survey of a tract of land containing 165 acres 140 perches in Reading Twp for John Overholser. The original warrant (York Warrant Register V-4) was on 19 Sept 1751 for 100 acres for John Vance; so John Overholser I moved to this land some time between 1751 and 1785, possible between 1762 when he did not appear on the Reading Twp tax list and 1774 when he appeared on the Reading Twp tax list. The 7 December 1897 copy of the survey shows the name John Oberholtzer in the center of this tract and the name John Overholtzer on an adjacent tract. The adjacent tract is Survey A-622 - Warrant 23 Nov 1762, 50 acres to Charles Boyer (York Co Warrant Register B-108) - Survey 16 Feb 1790 of 259 acres 90 perches to Nicholas Myers - Survey 5 Oct 1809 of 420 acres 100 perches to Nicholas Myers. Could it be that the adjacent land labeled John Overholtzer on the copy of the survey reverted to Nicholas Myers on the death of John Overholser II and that was the reason the land was resurveyed soon after the death of John Overholser II with an increase in size of 161 acres?

25 March 1789 - John Overholser II was selected as one of two Supervisors of the Highways.

1789 tax list - John Overholser II (Sr) in trade of blacksmith

1791 - Abraham Overholser, probable son of John Overholser I died in Woodberry Twp, Bedford Co PA

1792 tax list - John Overholser I was taxed on 192 acres, 4 horses, 5 cows

1793 tax list - John Overholser I was taxed on 193 acres, 4 horses, 5 cows. This is the last surviving tax list before the death of John Overholser I. John Overholser blacksmith appears separately with no land and 2 cows.

1793 - John Overholser, Abraham Overholser, and a second John Overholser appear on the 1793 Reading Twp Septennial Census

19 April 1794 - "I am quite confused about the date of death given in the Orphan's Court records for John Overholser Sr of Adams County. It said 4/19/1794." - Barbara Ford letter to Charlene dated July 11, 1990. I cannot find this in either Adams County or York County Orphan's Court records. (If the death was before 1800 when Adams County was formed it should be in York County records, not Adams County records.) The footnote in OFA Family lines simply states "OC records" without any details.

John Overholser II became John Overholser Sr and John Overholser III became John Overholser Jr.

16 June 1794 - Survey A-632 - Reading Twp - York Warrant Register O-47 - John Overholtzer warrant for 72 acres - 23 Dec 1794 Survey 72 acres 149 perches - Patent 10 June 1839 to Lucy Overhotzer

18 June 1794 - John Overholser III (Jr) posted a notice that a stray steer, red and white, about two years old in appearance was found on his "plantation" about 20 May last. "The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges, and take him away."

1795 tax list - John Overholser SR (now John Overholser II) had 310 acres, 4 horses, and 4 cows. John Overholser blacksmith (John Overholser III) had 60 acres of land, 2 horses, and 1 cow. He is almost certainly the John Overholser who made the 5 July 1795 60 acre land purchase below:

5 July 1795 - Survey A-685 - Reading Twp - York Warrant Register O-51 - John Overholtz warrant for 60 acres in Reading Twp Adams Co PA - 15 Dec 1796 Survey 60 acres (John Overholser III)

1797 tax list - John Overholser Sr had 192 acres, 2 horses and 4 cows, and on the next line - 122 more acres for a total of 314 acres. John Overholser Jr had 50 acres, 2 horses and 2 cows. Jacob Overholser blacksmith had no land.

1798 tax list - similar to 17907 but Jacob was not listed, and John Jr had 59 acres.

26 March 1798 - John Overholser (II) was selected as one of two Supervisors of the Highways.

1800 tax list - John Overholser Sr (II) listed as "farmer" had 314 acres, 3 horses and 5 cows. John Overholser Jr (III) was listed as a laborer with no land and 1 cow. His 60 acres were gone.

1802 tax list - John Overholser Sr (II) had 192 acres, not 314. John Jr is listed as a blacksmith with 2 cows.

1 April 1803 - John Overholser Sr (II) purchased Survey A-603 from Jacob Albert and his wife Susanna. The original warrant was 21 June 1742 100 acres to George Ulrie. Lancaster Warrant Register U-6-Survey 20 Dec 1765 to George Ulrie 181 acres 136 perches - The patent was 25 Jan 1790 for 181 acres 136 perches to Lawrence Albert. Jacob Albert was the son and heir of Lawrence Albert deceased.

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Notre-Dame of the Hermits, an Oberholzer Patronage

- 2020 Dennis L Oberholtzer





"About 1998 Kathy and I [Will Overholtzer] had been hiking in Switzerland Alps. When we were about to cross into Italy to hike the dolomites, we came into the small village of Einsiedeln where we saw a huge Catholic Church. Kathy wanted to stop and visit. As we entered we were shocked to see our Coat-of-Arms in the tiled entrance floor!"

The following is a short history of Einsiedeln and the known O connections with the monastery.



In the heart of Switzerland is a famous **Swiss** pilgrimage abbey Einsiedeln. A Count of Hohenzollern named Meinrad, born at Sulchen about 797, selected the site as the most remote he could find in 838. But was murdered on January 21, 861 AD. A monastery was eventually built over his gravesite, when Duke Hermann of Swabia and his wife Reginlinde provided enough land for its perpetual use. The name Einsiedeln means the "Notre-Dame of the Hermites". It is one of the famous pilgrim resorts in the world. It includes the Benedictine Abbey founded in 934 by Eberhard, a Canon of Strasbourg. Three years later it became a Royal Abbey, and its leader, called an abbot, became a prince of the Holy Roman Empire.

As the Abbey of Einsiedeln grew, it became a pilgrimage site for those seeking a more holy life. But fire has taken a toll on the complex on five other separate occasions. In 1029, 1226, 1465, 1509, and in 1577. And the Chapel of Grace was destroyed by the French as they plundered the Abbey in 1798. During the Thirty Years War peace negotiations between the French and the Bavarians occurred there.

The lower choir and the confessional church were built from 1674 - 1680 by Hans George Kuen. The Abbey Church was built in 1735 by architectural plans of Caspar Moosbrugger (1656 - 1723), who was from Au in the Bregenz Forest. His brother Johann took charge of the construction itself. Originally Romanesque in style, then Gothic, and incorporating many Baroque features. A highly polished dark bronze statue of the Virgin is the main feature of attraction. The church is considered one of the finest examples of Baroque architecture in all Switzerland. But the floor evidently need refurbished, and was done so in 1884 by the Abbot Basil Oberholzer. It was commemorated by having the Oberholzer Coat-of-Arms inlaid into the entrance floor.

Portraits are hanging of emperors William I, Francis Joseph, and Napoleon III. Statues of Otto II and Henry II line the entrance. The Oberholzers had a major part to play in the long term success of the Abbey. There are certainly documents telling of Oberholzers in the Library at Einsiedeln. It contains over 100,000 volumes of books!

Basil Oberholzer Floor Inlay



Listed in the Directory of Voting in Oberholz Manner (*Verzeichnis der stimmfahigen Manner im Oberholz im year 1798*) is Josef Anton Kalin of Einsiedeln in the year 1798. Oberholz Chapel had two Chaplains (*Seelsorger*) from Einsiedeln. Nikolaus Gyr in the early 1800's, and Thomas Ochsli from 1844 - 1851. On a list of Drawn Stickers in Oberholz from 1881 to 1890 (*Zugezogene Sticker im Oberholz 1881 - 1890*) is Franz Kuriger 1860, oo 1885 of Einsiedeln.

The most notable Oberholzer was the Abbot Basilius Oberholzer who originated from Uznach.



Portrait of Abbot Basileus Oberholzer from Eindiedeln In The Dark Wood

In the
19th century,
the monastery stretched
its tentacles throughout
Europe and America.
By 1950
the convent had
200 members,
including 127 priests
and 59 lay-brothers.

During his tenure as Abbot, Basil entertained the following distinguished people:

1875 Earl Dupantoup of Denbigh

1877 Archbishop Paul Melchers of Cologue

1878 Archbishop Langenieux of Rheims

Abbot Bagnoud of Bethlehem

1880 Apostolic Vicar Machelbeuf of Colorado Abbot Horner of St Peters at Salzburg

> Duke Louis of Nemours, SWI Archduke Henry and family

Prince Jerome Napoleon

Princess of Furstenberg

Prince Czartoryski

1881 Count Albert of Thun, SWI

Duchess of Norfolk

Count Henry of Chambord



Einsiedeln Church Interior in the Baroque Style. Floor installed by Abbot Basil Oberholz in 1884.

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Art of the High Gothic Era, 1966 Marcel Aubert, Greystone Press NY
Switzerland, Otto Siegner, Office Du Livre, Fribourg
Letter from Will Overholtzer to Dennis Oberholtzer 5/26/2019
Leben im Grenzbereich, 2007 Alois Stadler
Will and Cathy Overholtzer vacation trip, including pictures
Einsiedeln In The Dark Wood, 1883 Anne R Bennett

1804 tax list John Overholser Sr (II) had 373 acres. John Overholser Jr had no land 2 horses and 1 cow.

1806, 1807, 1808, & 1809 tax lists are very similar to the 1804 list

1809 - John Overholser II died intestate. His heirs went to Adams County Orphan's Court to have his land distributed. This decision went to a 12 member jury. The land the jury examined was two adjoining tracts of land in Reading Township. Surveys A-603 and A-604. A-632 apparently went to his son Samuel. I have not yet discovered what happened to Survey A-685. A-603 and A-604 were re-surveyed. It was determined that A-603 actually contained 202 acres and 64 perches and A-604 actually contained 190 acres and 129 perches. The 2 January 1810 decision was that his oldest son Abraham, would receive the larger tract of land, and his next son, John, would receive the smaller tract of land. Each of them was required to make annual payments to the widow as long as she lived and payments to the other heirs. (Volume A of the Adams Co PA Orphans Court Records pages 370 to 375)

It needs stated that the art of surveying was only coming into vogue. Earlier surveys were often performed with only triangular equipment. After the development of the transit, it still required time to produce the equipment for the large amount of surveying happening in this wide country.

This decision was a key source for the names of John Overholser II's children, their birth order, and the names of the husbands of his older daughters. Abraham was ordered to make payments to "Mary intermarried with David Weaver, John Overholtser, Jacob Overholtser, Samuel Overholtser. Barbara intermarried with Samuel Arnold, Catherine intermarried with John Cronister, Esther Overholtser, Henry Overholtser, and Peter Overholtser, or unto the Guardians of such of them as are minors."

The list of people John was ordered to make payments to was identical except it begins "Abraham Overholtser, Mary intermarried with David Weaver". Abraham was the first child, Mary was the second, John was the third, and the others folow in birth order. Mary, Barbara, and Catherine were married by January 1810 and their husbands were named, but Esther was not yet married. It does not appear that the statement "or unto the Guardians of such of them as are minors" had any impact. The next to last child on the list, Henry, was born 7 August 1783 and was 26 years old when the decision was made. The last child on the list, Peter, was born ca 1788 which would make him about 21 years old when the decision was made. Esther would have been older than Henry and still unmarried. Perhaps she remained at home to care for family members.

1810 tax list - John Overholser Sr (II) is crossed out and replaced with Henry Overholser with 374 acres 2 horses and 2 cows.

1811 tax list - John Overholser III paid tax on the 180 acres he inherited, 2 horses and 3 cows. Henry Overholser paid tax on the 190 acres that Abraham Overholser inherited, 4 horses and 4 cows. 1812 through 1823 tax lists are similar.

1824 - John Overholser III sold his land to Abraham Overholser and John Overholser's name is crossed out on the tax list.

For Drop Dead gorgeous pictures and maps and a full account of the first three generations of the JA John Overholser Line and AB Abraham Overholser family, go to our overholser.net website and check out the article

Abraham Oberholser, Farmer, Sawmill Operator, Brethren Minister by Bruce McCrea

We can thank Bruce McCrea for the time, finances, and effort he put into finding and verifying this information. It was quite a shock for many of us when Dennis Oberholtzer realized there were three Johns, and not just two. But it was the only way the records could harmonize with the evidence. Thanks again, Bruce!

Additional Obituaries:

David O Sensenig 91 yrs of Ephrata, s/o Ezra & Anna O Sensenig, husband of Esther H Good. Farmer, member of Springville Mennonite. Survived by 6 children 7 5 siblings. SL

Jonathan Brinton Detweiler 2/15/1932 Caln Twp - 5/11/2020 , s/o Ralph & Grace O Detweiler; Petro engineer, philanthropy. Wife Gloria, 5 children survive. SL17453.61

Robert P Oberholtzer Sr 12/16/1925 - 4/1/2020 s/o Kenneth F & Mildred Carl, husband of Joyce E Harris; Survived by one son & one daughter. Royersford PA AS1214.1

Continued from Page 1

While not out of the realm of possibility, please sketch the first Friday evening through Saturday of August into your new 2021 Calendar. Depending on the course of future events, a decision for safety will be made for the 2021 Reunion with necessary information expected to be published in the 2021 Summer OFA Bulletin.

Michael L Shrader (MC Line), OFA President 2020 - 2021

O bituaries

Jean Myers Overholt May 17, 2020 at 90 years, wife of the late Darwin Overholt of Doylestown PA Darwin was OFA Past President

The following sent in by Ross Gordon Gehart III:

William W Overholt May 17, 2020 at 79 years s/o William Clark & Mary Loretta Oldreyd Overholt Born in Philadelphia, husband of Janet T Overholt in Solebury Township

Edwin T Oberholtzer Jr 9/22/1955 - 9/4/2020 of Abington s/o Edwin Oberholtzer Sr & Jean Meehan; Survived by daughter Candice L Vigorita & Crystie Murwin

Llaura Laydeen Yoder at 83 years, d/o William L & Florence L Overholtzer Avery

Lois Moyer died Oct 6, 2020 at 74 years. d/o Ralph D & Helen Mae Oberholtzer

John C Oberholzer May 22, 2015 at 79 Flourtown PA s/o Francis & Gertrude Munday

Miriam E (High) Johns Jan 25, 2016 d/o Howard J & Elsie M (Overholt) High

John P Overholtzer Jr Jan 19, 2020 of Bechtelsville PA

William S Oberholtzer 100 of Lititz PA died Feb 1, 2020, s/o Samuel L & Mary E, husband of Mildred (Smith); members of Masons Lodge 464, survived by Michael W of Lititz, and brother Robert D of AZ; preceded by sisters Kathleen & Phyllis

JF11545.2f1 **Gerald Lerch Oberholtzer** 5/9/1935 Allentown - 11/2/2020 Lawrenceville GA s/o Gerald Heller Oberholtzer & Verna May Lerch

The Following from Patrick McGarry:

Eloise W Eberly 4/28/1927 Warsaw IN - 10/10/2020 N Manchester IN

Herbert Lloyd Sease 8/4/1923 - 10/8/2020 s/o Herschel Webster & E Wissinger, Laura OH

Nancy Ann Brovont 1/14/1936 - 9/28/2020 Rossville, d/o Herman & Cathrine (Mohler) Flora

Neoma (Flory) Webster 89 died on 9/29/2020 Xenia OH, d/o Allen & Clara Flory

Kenneth Edward Miller 11/11/1933 - 9/6/2020 New Lebanon OH, s/o J Wm & Dora (Stoner) Miller Old German Baptist; 3 sons

Goldie June Oberholtzer Wonder 11/30/1920 Annville PA - 8/2/2020 Pulaski

husband of Franklin Dewey Wonder; d/o Christian Richard O & Magdalena E Lutz; bros: Adam Troutman, Carl Oberholtzer, Richard O, Bob O, sisters Hildo O Christman, Doris Bates

Blanche Ione Cook 5/19/1921 Bradford OH - 5/3/2020 Bluffton OH, d/o Staley V Kress & Ethel Ann Miller son Gary Robert of Lakeland FL, 3 dau: Sandra Liechty of Bluffton, Judith Lee Reed of Columbus OH, & Roberta Lou Weiss of Carlsbad CA Methodist Church

Daniel Lee Besecker 9/1/1950 Greenville OH - 8/7/2020 at home, s/o Verlin & Juanita Besecker; survived by wife Patricia Muhlemkamp, sons Mark, Dustin, Jesse, step-d Jason

Howard D Ruby 3/10/1928 Richmond IN - 1/23/2020 St Johns MI, s/o Mike & Bertha Long

Julia K Overholser 8/5/2020 at 94 years, wife of late Jack E Overholser

Charles D Landis 7/17/1941 - 11/7/2020 husband of Sara Jane Groff, a financial Manager for most of his life. mem Landis Valley Christian Fellowship; Gideons International; survived by sons Jonathan and Joel. He is s/o Isaac Landis & Esther Myers

Harold Horace Overholtzer died Nov 9/2020 Pottstown PA at 95 years, s/o George Washington & Lydia A (Heydt) Overholtzer. WWII Army Air Corp Veteran; Lutheran, worked as a chemist. Survived by son Harold Lincoln of Lansdowne and brother George & wife Betty of Honeybrook.

Lewis E Overholt died Nov 1, 2020 Bushkill Twp, Husband of late Catherine R Werner Born to Howard M & Mildred (Panovec) Overholt of Easton PA. WWII Army Air Force; worked for Pfizer Specialty Minerals in Easton PA. Survived by Maryann Templin, and Patricia Johnson, 3 grandchildren, 5 great-grd-children; preceded by brother Howard F.

Ruth Overholser 102 Years Old 2/13/1918 - 11/26/2020, Wife of Spencer Overholser, longtime 37 year OFA President. Ruth died peacefully without Covid-19. She is survived by her son Chris Overholser of VA, and daughter Josephine in CA who cared for her for a long time. Ruth wrote a song for the OFA Reunion which has been sung many times over the years.

It is pertinent to say that without Spencer and Ruth holding the Reunion together when others were not very involved, the Overholser Association would not have survived. Because they remained faithful to their goal, the OFA has grown dramatically. And many who lost track of their family can now have a stonger sense of direction, knowing who they are and why they are on planet Earth. May God Bless Spencer & Ruth now that they are both together with the Lord.

OFA REUNION, Southeastern PA, **Friday Night August** 5th **and Saturday August** 6th **2021** at St John's Church of Christ, Bowmansville PA. Check our Summer 2021 OFA Bulletin or contact any of the OFA Officers for schedule changes.

Fretz Reunion

Brubaker Reunion In CANADA for 2022, see the Brubaker Website for details.

Check out the OFA Website: http://www.overholser.net or Contact Us at info@overholser.net

If you need more information, contact one of the OFA Websites, or one of the OFA Officers.

Send us your O meeting place and date so we can post it here in our Bulletin.

The Second printing of *The Oberholtzer Book, 1995 by Barbara Ford*

is now available. Price of \$40.00 includes shipping. It includes the first five known generations of Oberholzers in America and Canada.

Contact Geoffrey Martin, Treasurer for purchase information.

Newly Published 2020 by Lavern E Martin: *The Jacob and Mary Oberholzer Family*of Franklin County PA

Bible record shows Jacob was born in Lancaster County, s/o Abraham and Susanna G (Wenger) Oberholtzer Contact Lavern E Martin, 14578 Wayne Highway, Waynesboro PA 17268 \$13 tax included, cell phone 717-404-5822 Monday-Friday 7 -5pm

Saint Peter must be subsidized by the government;

For all the times I robbed him to pay Paul.

We are now on FACEBOOK:

Just type in Facebook: Overholser Family Association