



## ABRAHAM N. YODER MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

In earlier issues of the YNL, we've shared information about several Yoder politicians. The only Yoder Congressman (to date), the Hon. Samuel S. Yoder of Ohio, was featured in YNL 8. US Senate candidate John C. Yoder of West Virginia, was introduced in YNL 17. Montana is another state which had it's own Yoder politician. Abraham N. Yoder was elected Montana Secretary of State in 1904.



A. N. YODER,  
Nominee for Secretary of State.

Abraham was born July 8, 1856, into the Mennonite Yoder line which originated generations before with immigrant "Hans Yoder of Great Swamp" (See YNL 3). Abraham attended school in Lebanon, Ohio and in 1877 Mount Union College, near Alliance, Oh. For two years after that he taught school, and then clerked eighteen months in Columbiana, Oh. The biography written of him in Progressive Men of Montana tells:

*"In 1881, at the age of twenty five he went to Denver, Colo., where his first employment was that of a helper in a machine shop for a year. Subsequently he went to Salt Lake City, engaged in the livery business and also worked in a smelter. During his trip from Denver to Salt Lake they had to ford the Platte river, then overflowing its banks. The party lost everything except the teams and wagons, and were forced to sleep without blankets on the bare ground. The rest of the way, 200 miles, was traversed afoot."*

*"Mr. Yoder went from Salt Lake to Blackfoot, Idaho, where for six months he was employed in railroad work and in the spring of 1883 he came to Glendale, Mont., and thence to the Sheep Mountains, where for several months he prospected and worked in various wood camps. Coming to Butte, for ten months he was employed in the grocery of Alexander Cohen. Following this he was employed in the grocery of York and Anderson and was then with John Stanley and he then engaged in the loan business with J. M. Albiez as his partner. On February 24, 1898, Mr. Yoder was united in marriage to Miss Hattie C. Libby, who was called from the earth on June 10, 1899.*

*"In 1895 he was elected treasurer of Butte, and served two years. During the 1890s Mr. Yoder was interested in mining operations*

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## The Yoder Settlement of Wayne County, OH

Wayne County, Ohio became an assembly point for a diverse mix of Yoder lines. The book Creative Congregationalism, a history of the Oak Grove Mennonite Church by James O. Lehman, is an exceptional source of information on the Anabaptist settlement of Wayne county. It describes how the first white settlers came to Green Twp. in 1811 and to neighboring Milton Twp. in 1813. The Amish congregation of Somerset County, Pa. sent out land scouts in the summer of 1807. These folk traveled down the Ohio river and up to Iowa, returning overland through Ohio. It is believed they brought back word about lands in Wayne and other Ohio counties.

By 1813 and 1814, Yoders from Mifflin and Somerset Counties in Pennsylvania and from neighboring Tuscarawas County in Ohio filed for land grants in Wayne County.

From Somerset Co., Oh.  
11-12-1813 Jacob Yoder  
11-12-1813 Joseph Yoder\*  
5-19-1814 Christian Yoder  
5-19-1814 John Yoder

From Tuscarawas Co, Oh.  
12-1-1813 Stephen Yoder  
From Mifflin Co, Pa.  
10-21-1814 Christian Yoder\*

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## A Yoder Indian Massacre?



## THE HOCHSTETLER MASSACRE

Many Yoders of Amish ancestry share a connection to the Hochstetler family. The most famous immigrant ancestor of that family has to be Jacob Hochstetler, subject of the 1912 classic Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler<sup>2</sup>. DJH documents the exciting saga of the Hochstetler family as it was visited in 1757 by a hostile band of 8 or 10 Delaware Indians<sup>3</sup>. Mrs. Hochstetler, one son and one daughter were killed and scalped. Jacob and sons Joseph and Christian were taken into captivity.

An obscure reference offers a curious tale of an early Yoder family wiped out by Indians. This record was first pointed out to the YNL by reader C. J. Kurtz who identified Annals of the Penn Square<sup>4</sup> by J. Bennett Nolan. Keith Yoder of Ft. Wayne was able to review a copy and provide details of the content, he writes:

*The work is a series of seven: "episodes in the romantic history of an old Pennsylvania Square. The Square, like the historic town of*

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The Yoder Newsletter- Founded 1983 by  
Ben F Yoder (1913-1992); Chris Yoder & Rachel Kreider  
FROM THE EDITORS

Chris Yoder, Editor, Battle Creek, MI; John W. Yoder, Circulation  
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PA; Dr. Don Yoder, Devon, PA; Neil Wilfong, Cleveland, NC; and Dr.  
Delbert Gratz, Bluffton, OH

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**SEND YNL CORRESPONDENCE:**

-FOR CIRCULATION ISSUES ONLY such as new or renewed  
subscriptions, changes of address, orders for back issues to: Yoder  
Newsletter, P.O. Box 594, Goshen, IN 46527-0594.

- ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE- Dealing with ancestral  
queries or contributions for future YNLs or archives (such as reunion  
notices, letters to the Editor, copies of Bible records or other historical  
information) to: Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek, MI  
49015 (or by electronic mail to "75757.3371@compuserve.com").

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**YNL PRICE INFORMATION \$\$\$\$**

-The YNL subscription is on an annual basis-two issues for \$3.

-BACK ISSUES of the YNL are \$1 per issue.

-Yoder Newsletter Issues 1 Through 25 - bound 240 page volume  
includes a topical index of major articles, an "every name index".  
(Price \$28 post paid).

Order from: The Yoder Newsletter, P.O.Box 594, Goshen, IN 46527.

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**YODER LISTSERVER UP TO 108 MEMBERS:** The Yoder  
"listserver" is an electronic mail discussion group focused on the  
Yoder family. If you have "email" you can subscribe by sending a  
message to "yoder-l-request@rootsweb.com" and put "subscribe" on  
the first line of the body of the message (not the subject line -  
anything you put in the subject line is ignored).

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**YODER DATA UPDATE-** Updated to the Homepage and data Disk-  
1) Several hundred family group sheets for Yoders married and with  
children between 1880-1900. Special thanks to Rachel Kreider for  
hours and hours of review and annotations! 2) Yoder Cemetery data  
from Wayne Co., OH--thanks to Jackie Mitchell of Norton, OH. 3)  
Several new files of Karl Joder and Ottmar Jotter works--  
Translations thanks to Fred Haines. 4) New and Detailed files from  
Bruce Yetter on the Desc. of Samuel Yetter of Columbia Co., Pa.

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**MAJOR CORRECTION!!!:** In the YNL 30 feature on the  
"Hamburg Christian" line, we made a major error! Under YR128-  
Joseph Yoder who married Elizabeth Jutzi we listed Joseph W.  
Yoder, author of Rosanna of the Amish as a descendant. This was an  
error! He is really a descendant of the line of Yost Yoder (YR26).  
(Thanks to Jess Yoder of Akron, OH for catching this!)

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**NEW OLEY YODER IDENTIFIED!!**

A real estate settlement dated 12 Jan 1785 identifies Barbara Joder,  
wife of Jacob Barr, residing in District Twp, Berks County, Pa. as  
being the daughter of OH1. It cited the settlement between "said  
Daniel Joder" (OH12) "and his sister Barbara (Daughter of the said  
above named John Joder now deceased)"-(John Yoder who d. 1779  
(will made 3/8/1779 proved 10/20/1779) -Thanks to R.H.Yoder for the  
news and also for a "new" marriage record: Isaac Yoder (OH1452)  
married widow Lydia Yeager 5/6/1835 by Rev. Roller.

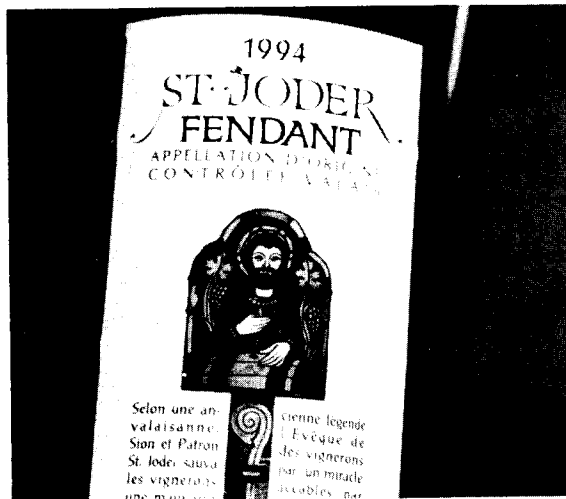
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**BELATED ELECTION RETURNS:** West Virginia State Sen. John C.  
Yoder (see YNL 17 & 21) ran last November as a Republican  
Candidate for State Supreme Court. In this heavily Democratic state,  
John received 172,776 votes to 290,390 for his opponent.

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Letter to the Editor

...I am also sending along photos and negatives of our  
namesake St. Joder wine which we discovered last year while traveling  
in Switzerland not far from the St. Joder Chapel at Grafenort. We  
picked up several bottles at a local grocery store. The label carries the  
story of St. Joder saving the grape harvest, certainly a sound basis for  
sainthood. We would characterize the wine as an unpretentious  
(judging from the fact that it has a screw top rather than a cork) yet  
stalwart white table wine befitting the handwork and dedication of  
our forebears. Following the instructions from a past issue of YNL,  
we ascended the winding road from Grafenort through the beautiful  
farms to the St. Joder Chapel. The road is now fully paved, though  
still quite narrow. The Chapel is an absolute jewel, in many ways no  
less grand, notwithstanding it's small scale, than the great cathedrals  
we were able to visit in other parts of Europe. Those cathedrals are  
monuments to wealth and power while the Chapel is a monument to  
the common people who still farm that exquisitely beautiful valley. My  
father, Joseph B. Yoder of the Yoder, Oregon, Yoders, would have  
relished the view from that hillside for its simple beauty as well as its  
significance to the Yoder heritage. I would encourage anyone  
traveling in that part of Switzerland to make the pilgrimage. And it's  
right on the way to Mt. Titless with some of the most spectacular  
mountain vistas in the Swiss Alps.--Douglas Yoder, Coral Gables, FL



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**HERITAGE TOURS:** We've had a couple of notes asking that we  
mention heritage tours which are planned for this year...both from  
very reliable and well reputed folk. --Chris Yoder, Editor, YNL

The first is by Lemar and Lois Ann Mast of Mennonite Family  
History magazine accompanied by Leroy Beachy. This yearly  
Mennonite Heritage Tour visits Switzerland, Germany, France,  
Holland, and Belgium. For information call (610) 286-0258.

The second tour is by Dr. Delbert Gratz, retired from Bluffton  
College and YNL Contributing Editor. You can learn the dates and  
itinerary, or request a brochure by calling 1-800-635-0963 and asking  
to speak to Tara Slaven. Dr. Gratz, like the Masts, has led heritage  
tours yearly and has developed excellent contacts and schedule. He  
also has offered that if enough folks are interested in a "Yoder  
Tour"...say a group of 25 to 35 people, he could orchestrate a special  
tour which concentrates on the points of Yoder heritage. He has done  
this twice for the Smucker family and once for the Hochstetler,  
Ramseyer and Kreihbiel families,

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**1900 PA Yoder Census by Dorothy Coffman**

Dorothy summarizes: "In 1880 there were 42 pages of entries. In 1900  
there are 86! And here I felt all the Yoders had "gone west". Shows  
what I know. Just for your info, there were 152 listings in Berks Co.  
and 138 in Mifflin Co. For the given names of heads of households,  
JOHN is the winner with 51. William had 40, and Samuel was next  
with 40. One of the Williams married a gal born in Sweden--Her name  
was Olga, what else." (Added to Yoder Data & Homepage files).

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## WWII HISTORY BY HATTEN S. YODER JR.

The U.S. Navy MOKO expedition was sent to Siberian in August of 1945 to forecast the weather in support of the planned invasion of Japan. In his book Planned Invasion of Japan, 1945: The Siberian Weather Advantage, Hatten S. Yoder Jr (see YNL 3) presents his personal memoirs of this important and unique expedition. Dr. Yoder served as a meteorologist on this expedition and was its designated historian. He is currently an active research scientist at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, after serving as Director of its Geophysical Laboratory for fifteen years.

Order from: American Philosophical Society. P.O. Box 40098, Philadelphia, Pa 19106. (\$25 post paid is U.S.)

Parents of THE IOWA SEPTUPLETS have signed with Wes Yoder of the Nashville Ambassador Agency as their agent for commercial endorsements. Seven in college at one time! Wow! Good luck!

The Diaries of R.A.Yoder, founder of Lenoir-Rhyne College are featured in the Fall 1997 issue of the college magazine "Profile".

## THE "YODERS" OF SOUTHWEST, PA. & THE "YODERS" OF WAYNESBURG, PA.

This nicely edited family work by Carl Miller Yoders and wife Mary Alice Suydam Yoders focuses on the portion of the Melchior Yoder family which settled in Southwestern Pa. and which we featured in YNL 24. Carl and Mary lovingly include photos, clippings and family group sheets on his immediate and extended family and also the known Melchior descent as of his compilation. Many family photos and details particularly on the family of M234 George W. Yoders who married Elizabeth (Zehring) Pendleberry. Copies of this attractively bound hardback may be ordered for \$55 (post paid) from: Carl Yoders, Flemington Gardens Apt. #4A, Flemington, NJ 08822.

## SWISS DATA THANKS TO HUBERT A. YODER

Andreas Joder of Bumpliz, Canton Bern, married Lucia Gerig in Muri March 27, 1727. The following children were baptized in Muri:

Niklaus	04 Feb 1731
Johanna Esther	07 Jan 1735
Rosina	19 Jan 1738

Thanks to DALE NOFZINGER of Adrian, MI for sending in a copy of his Fulton County Ancestral Charts which outlines the descent of Alsatian Christian Yoder (YA2) & Barbara Schott. Excellent Work!

## Highlights from the House of Yoder-by Lonnie Yoder

Thirty-one persons from Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, and Indiana gathered on Nov. 8, 1997 at Penn Alps in Grantsville, MD for the second annual meeting of House of Yoder, Inc. Those who attended were treated to an update on the Yoder House project (pre-1750 style house), a tour of the building under construction, and an informative slide presentation by Jan Gleysteen on Yoder origins in Europe. The tour of the building under construction was highlighted by exploring the unique root cellar on the lower level of the house which will serve as the archives for Yoder genealogical materials.

It was decided to set a fund-raising goal of \$125,000 to complete the construction and contribute towards the ongoing operation of the Yoder House. There are currently 73 active members of House of Yoder, Inc. The next (3rd) annual meeting will be held Saturday, November 14, 1998. Persons interested in contributing to this effort are encouraged to contact: Lonnie Yoder, Publicity/Membership Coordinator, Yoder House Project, 1066 Smith Avenue, Harrisonburg, VA 22802, phone (540-432-6467), e-mail (ltby@shentel.net). One year, five year, and lifetime memberships are available as well as several other ways to contribute to the building of this unique house dedicated to the Yoder name and history.

## YODER MUMS EXCEL!

From the Toronto Star, Sat Oct 4, 1997--"Yoder Brothers Inc of Barberton, Ohio, a little south of Cleveland, must be happy, though. [that few gardeners propagate future mums from those on hand]

Of the millions of garden mums sold across North America every fall, more than two thirds, including all of the top 10 bestsellers, are from the Prophet series that Yoder introduced just a little more than 10 years ago. (A Yoder operation in Leamington, Ont., breeds for Canada.) Their Number 1 bestseller is an early-September blooming red mum called Helen. . . " contrib by-ekjohnson@worldnet.att.net

## YODER SKETCHES BY LYNN LORAH



Talented area sketch artist Lynn Lorah created a number of original works to commemorate the Oley Valley "Heritage Tour". These beautiful sketches are still available. For further information contact: Lynn Lorah, RD2, Box 144, Oley, Pa 19547.

## Folks submitting family information:

William F Yoder, Jr, Paso Robles, Ca.-Wm F.Yoder, Sr (OY433816)  
James Miller <alvinmiller@hotmail.com>--Barbara Yoder (YR2343)  
Anna Belle Yoder Emery <annab@azstarnet.com>- Rev. Edwin Stanton Yoder (YB13994)  
Marian Y Payne <mpayne@crosslink.net>-John E Yoder -YR253613  
Barbara Taurinsky <taurinsky@juno.com>-Catherine Yoder (YR11)  
Shirley Platt <Aaadeaf@aol.com> Jacob Yoder (YR233852)  
Jean Scarlett <JScarl1070@aol.com> Thornton L. Yoder (YRB693)  
Dale Nafzinger, Adrian, MI- Christian Yoder (YA2)

## Jacob Hochstetler Descendants Plan Big Gathering

The third continent-wide gathering of the descendants of Jacob Hochstetler is planned for July 18, 1998. For a free copy of the quarterly family newsletter and more information about the planned gathering, write H/H/H Family Newsletter, 1008 College Avenue, Goshen, IN 46526, or e-mail DHochstetler@CompuServe.Com.

## RECIPES WANTED! PLEASE SEND NOW!

The Oley Yoders have launched a "new" project of collecting, editing and publishing a Yoder Cookbook of favorite recipes. We are requesting Yoders and family members everywhere, to send us your cherished culinary specialties. The responses to date has been limited, hence we are asking for your direct help.

The Cookbook edition will be sold as a fund raiser for the long term maintenance of the Pleasantville Union (Yoder Family) Cemetery. This historic cemetery is the original burial grounds of the Hans and Yost Joder (Yoder) family, who came to America as early as 1709 and settled in the Oley Valley.

So, we are soliciting your help now! Send us your 2 or 3 special recipes for publication. The committee of Alice Yoder, Nancy Yoder, Rose Yoder and Mary Jane Gofus will ensure that the name of the author/sender will appear in the publication. The deadline for submission of recipes will be July 18 th, the day of the annual Oley Yoder 1998 Reunion. The cookbook edition will be completed in time for purchase as a Christmas gift. The fall edition of the YNL will contain purchase details.

Please mail all recipes with your name and address to :  
Alice E. Yoder, 433 Manor House Lane, Souderton, Pa. 18964-2802 or e-mail to: ryoder@wcupa.edu or jyoder@bellatlantic.net.

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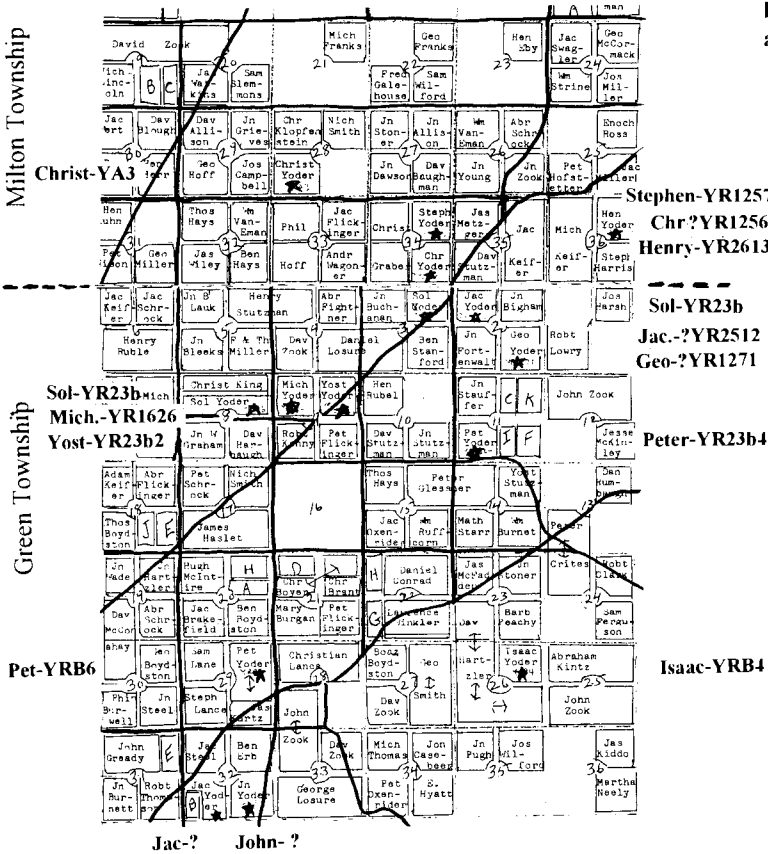
Although some of these applicants did not follow through on their grants (marked as \*), several Yoder purchases are recorded before 1820 and the census lists four Yoder families in the county:

**1820- Ohio Census**

- Wayne Co., Page 147, Wayne, Jacob Yoter (YR162)
- Wayne Co., Page 159, Greene, John Yoter (?)
- Wayne Co., Page 160, Greene, George Yoter (believed YR1271)
- Wayne Co., Page 160, Greene, Solomon Yoder (YR23b)

In the summer of 1817 a group of Amish came from Switzerland to Somerset County, Pa. In 1818 they settled in Wayne County, where it is speculated that there may already have been a congregation of American Amish in place. David Zook of Mifflin County is reported as the first bishop in this community. From this early date, members from diverse backgrounds joined this community and brought a special flavor unique from many of their more insular brethren in Pennsylvania and other locations. Over the next 30 years, members were to come here from Mifflin and Somerset Counties in Pa, Holmes and Stark Counties in Ohio, the Alsace, Canton Bern in Switzerland, the German Palatinate, and from "Prussia".

Yoder farms in Green and bordering Milton Twps. as of 1826 include:



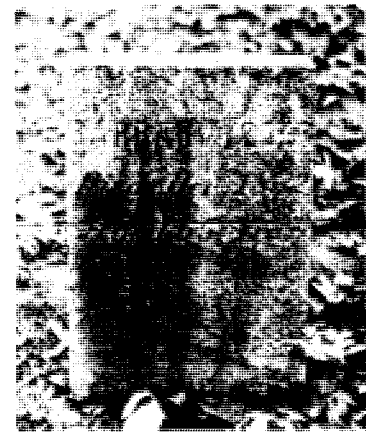
Wayne County where the congregation accepted him without condition. This act led to open conflict. Somerset County bishop Christian Yoder Sr. (YR233) twice came to the county trying to effect a peace, to no effect. Ministers meetings were held in 1826 and 1827, and accomplished little. A large conference of ministers was held 10/3/1830 hosted by Bishop Yoder's congregation in Pa. Although this agreed that Mennonite baptism could not be recognized, the Wayne County delegates were not able to effect this decision within their community. In 5/25/1831 another conference was held in Wayne County, recorded by Hannes Yoder "an elder minister of Ohio" (YR251), which resulted in concessions on the point of baptism.

This broader tolerance for ideas which was found from the beginning of this congregation was a natural outgrowth of the diversity of its members. The early dispute appears a natural precursor to the split into Amish and "Amish-Mennonite" which occurred several decades later. Jacob D. Yoder (YR16241) who came from Mifflin County, Pa. and married in Wayne County around 1841 held a strong belief in favor of stream baptism. When he was selected by lot as bishop of the Oak Grove Congregation in 1850, a great controversy arose. John Yoder (YR1621) and Emanuel Hochstetler withdrew with a small group from the congregation. After John Yoder died in 1855, the rest of this group gradually returned to fellowship.

The congregation began to erect tombstones in the 1830's, another sign of their "progressive" nature. Thanks to the help of Jackie Mitchell of Norton, Ohio, we've added a listing of Yoder burials to our web archives. Some of the more senior Yoder burials are highlighted below:

**Paradise Cemetery, Green Twp:**

- YODER, Magdalena 11-7-1878 74-7-27(YR1628)
- Jacob died March 1837 A ed 75 yrs.(YR162) (Jacob Yoder wife Barbara Hooley--received assessments in 1820 in 3 twps. settled in Wayne but also had land in Green and East Union.)
- Barbar.y. d. Dec. 1832 65 yrs.(w/o YR162)
- Jacob Jr. d. Feb. 1846 aged 51 yrs.(YR1625)
- Christian 9-6-1850 54-1-0 (YA3) (Alsatian immigrant)
- John 6-23-1855 69-9-8 (YRB11)
- Mary w/o John 8-29-1866 76-4-26? (w/o YRB11)
- YOUDER, John 12-17-1849 aged 75.yrs. (YR1621)



Jacob Yoder (YR162) and his wife Barbara Hooley Yoder

**Oak Grove Church Cemetery, Green Twp:**

- YODER, Christian J. 2 September 1827-6 April 1909 (YA33)
- Catherine (wife)18 August 1829---29March 1901 (w/oYA33)
- David P. 7 September 1923 92-9-25 (YR23b4)
- his wife Barbara Zook died 15 May 1904 71-9-13 (w/oYR23b4)
- Elizabeth d. Nov 8 1882 82-10-26
- Joash d. 23 May 1899 79 yrs, 11 months (YR12a32)
- Catherina d Jan 12, 1889 70 yrs, 5 months (w2 YR12a32)
- Jonathon d. 1866 (?YA34)
- Joseph July 26, 1801- May 1, 1886 (YR23b3)
- Maria w/o Joseph March 26, 1811-May 18, 1897 (w/o YR23b3)

By the 1830 Census, Yoders in Wayne Twp included: Daniel Yoder (YR2517); John Yoder (YR251); Jacob Yoder (YR162); and in Green Twp.: John Yoder (?);Jacob Yoder (YR2512);Yost Yoder (YR23b2); Solomon Yoder (YR23b); Peter Yoder (YRB6); Isaac Yoder (YRB4); Peter Yoder (YR23b4); Christian Yoder (?YA3); John Yoder (?);George Yoder (?YR1271).

Such a varied community brought with it varied ideas. The first identified major Amish controversy in the U.S. came with a member of the Swiss group named Hans Burkholder. He had been baptized in Europe as a Mennonite, settled for a while with the Amish in Mifflin County. In 1820 when he asked for membership with them the brethren there asked him to be rebaptized. He refused and moved to

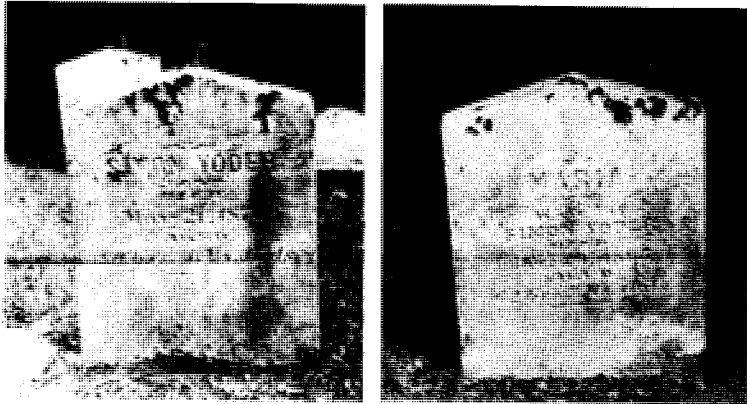
Maria (Yoder) Yoder w/o Christian Nov. 25, 1790--Apr. 9 1882  
 91y (w/oYA3) (husband at Paradise Cemetery)  
 Simon, d. May 21, 1870 80 yr. ( prob. bro. of YA3)  
 Maria, w/o, Simon, d. Dec. 20, 1865 62-3-10d (w/o above)(per  
 Huckel- Marie Ann Stucky, m1 \_\_ Schlatter, d/o Barbara Stucky)  
 Peter, d. Oct. 29, 1849 45-3-7 (YR23b4)  
 Fanny, d. Jan. 10, 1855 46-6-14  
 Samuel, d. May 31, 1878 70 y.?(YR162a)  
 Samuel D. s/o I.S. & C. Yoder, d. June  
 Yost, d. Oct. 13, 1878 (YR23b2)  
 Rachel, d. Mar. 9, 1871 (w/oYR23b2)

experience in public affairs, I have never met a man who was so intensely loyal to his concept of duty....I have never known a man who I regarded as so steadfastly honest, especially with regard to the little things which many of us, regarding them as of minor importance, sometimes do not like to hear about."

Abraham left a wife, but no children. Testament is born him however by a memorial plaque in the "new" wing of the Montana State Capital building in Helena which was completed in 1912.

#### THE MENNONITE YODER FAMILY IN OHIO

Abraham (YB13727) came from a prominent and distinguished Ohio Mennonite family. His father and namesake Abraham Yoder was born in Upper Saucon Twp, Lehigh Co., Pa. on July 7, 1819, the child of Peter Yoder and wife Elizabeth Brunner. In 1826 the family moved to Ohio, settling in the western part of Beaver township, Columbiana County. On Oct. 6, 1842 Abraham senior married Elizabeth Nold, and by 1856 or 57 became the owner of a 153 acre farm near Leetonia where he was to live the rest of his life. In addition to farming, Abraham senior also mined and sold coal from deposits on his property.



Simon Yoder and his wife Marie Ann Stucky Yoder

#### President's Cemetery, Wayne Twp (also called Plank's cemetery):

YODER, Anna d.6/18/1877 91y3m8d (YR2515-w/o YR2613)  
 Barbara, d.1/6/1870, age 81y 10m 26d (YR2516- w/oYR12a1)  
 Barbara Yoder, no date (w/o John Yoder) (w/o YR251)  
 Catherine, w/o Stepen Yoder, d.7/12/1850 age 25y 7d (w/o 2511g)  
 Henry , d/ 3/21/1866 age 78y 9m 21d (YR2613)  
 John, h/o Barbara d. 1839 (no other info available) (YR251)



The children of Abraham and Elizabeth Nold Yoder, North Lima, Ohio in 1888- Back row: Jacob, Enos, Noah, Katharin, Abraham (the focus of this article); Front row: Peter, John, Sarah, and William.

Two interesting revelations appear from these records: 1) In YNL 28, page 6 we speculated that the Simon Yoder found in the 1850 Adams County, Ind. census could be the brother of YA3. This appears supported by finding that Simon and his wife left Indiana and are buried with the family of YA3. 2) Dates of death appear to have been found for John Yoder (YR251) (born c1754) and his wife Barbara Rickenbach (born c1755).

Thanks to Jackie Mitchell of Norton, OH for sharing information and photos to support this article.

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 and in 1900 made a trip to Cape Nome, Alaska. Being a steadfast Republican, he had continued his political activity, and while away in Alaska he was nominated for Montana secretary of state, but defeated by a very small margin at the polls during a Democrat landslide. Following the death of his first wife, Abraham married in 1902 to Lillian Alice Greiner. In November 1904, Abraham was first elected secretary of state, taking office in January 1905. He was subsequently reelected for three successive terms. "

The announcement in the "Butte Miner" indicated that at the time of his sudden death in Helena, Dec. 7, 1911, a boom had just been launched propelling him for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in 1912. The "Anaconda Standard" mentioned his close personal friendships with former U.S. Senator Lee Mantle and many prominent businessmen.. many of whom had been active on his behalf in a preliminary gubernatorial effort and maintained that "It was confidently expected he would land the Republican nomination." The "Montana Daily Record" carried tributes from Governor E.L. Norris and other dignitaries. State Auditor Cunningham said "In all my

Abraham and Elizabeth were to become the parents of eleven children: Katharin, who married Isaac Flohr; Anna, who died at age twelve; William, who moved to Nebraska in 1881 becoming a carpenter and contractor; Noah, who bought a farm in Wadsworth, Medina County, OH and served as a County Commissioner; Jacob, for eighteen years a grocer in Toledo, OH and subsequently retired in Los Angeles; Owen, a farmer at Jefferson, OH who died early, age 32 years; Abraham (the subject of this article); Peter, businessman and like brother Abraham a public servant (serving as Medina County Coroner 1897-1901, three terms as Medina County Treasurer at the advanced age of 80 years elected state representative); Enos, a merchant in East Palatine, OH; Sarah, who married Eli Blosser of North Lima, OH; and John, who first taught school, then founded a flourishing gardening and florist business, and served as an official in Beaver Township.

Credits: One of Abraham's nephews, Lester L. Yoder of Leesburg Florida, did extensive research into this family and it is thanks to him that we have much of the reference material. Thanks also to Carl E. Yoder of Wilton, CT for sharing his photograph of the children of Abraham and Elizabeth Nold Yoder. The YNL would also thanks Mr. Mike Cooney, the current Montana Secretary of State for sharing material from the state historical society about Abraham Yoder.

continued from page 1

Reading which it dominates, owes its origin to Thomas Penn, son of the Proprietor, who journeyed up through the wilderness from Philadelphia in the forgotten days of King George II and selected the site." (quote from the introduction).

In the first of these unconnected "episodes", titled "The day of wrath", the author, without giving any dates, tells of a prerevolutionary military company who captures a french lieutenant from the regiment of Rousillon whose party comprised of half French soldiers and half Onondaga warriors had been out six weeks and "had taken many scalps and burned many dwellings." This officer had lost his party during a moonlight crossing of the Susquehanna and was captured by Captain Busse's men.

During interrogation, the French officer warned the captors that "for any indignity that I may suffer my countrymen who come after me will exact retribution. We are as numerous as the leaves on the trees, and the fate of Braddock will be that of those who seek to gainsay us. At Quebec our regiments are mustering - Look ! There is our star." With dramatic gesture he pointed through the window to where great Arcturus hung in the western sky, red, malevolent, and menacing."

The councillors and militia were sobered by this threat and subsequent conversation ensued wherein they decided they would not "abandon this town of Reading, as it would not likely ever again be rebuilt". One of the leaders, Henry Haller spoke: "If you are all bent upon this madness it shall not be said that I drew back for fear of my own skin. If you will indeed abide, then let the able-bodied men be mustered. Send a messenger at once to Governor Morris at Philadelphia. As for ammunition-----"

"His import was lost in shrill outcry from the street, and the lights of the candles paled in a strange sudden glare as a frightened servant rushed into the council chamber shrieking,

"Up! Your worships! The Mohawks are upon us!"

Without was a scene of wild alarm. The villagers were gathered in the middle of the Square, gesticulating towards the further side of Schuylkill where lurid tongues of flame sho against the skyline. There was a quavering chorus:

"It is the barn of Caspar Yoder on the Tulpehocken. The red devils have burned his home and scalped the family. Woe to us that we remain here for a like fate!"

The glow of the distant conflagration lit up the great Square, shining upon the group of dismayed councillors, upon the awed faces of the militia escort and the derisive sneer of the French lieutenant. High in the wintry heavens burned the evil arrogant star, and the Interpreter glancing from it to the blaze on the western horizon knew that the Day of Wrath was come. (End of the episode.)

What could we decipher from this text? Penn Square is in the center of the town of Reading. Tulpehocken Creek runs into the Schuylkill River just north of Reading. Gen. Braddock died in 1755, so for Nolan to say "the fate of Braddock will be that of those" must mean this episode took place later than that. There was a Governor Morris--in New Jersey, not Pa, and he served from 1738 to 1746. We turned to our expert in Berks County land and estate records, Mr. Richard H. Yoder of Bechtelsville, Pa. He writes<sup>5</sup>:

"I have been unable to find the name of Casper Yoder in any documents. I looked in the index of the wills and administrations and checked a number of them looking for Casper but no luck....I've checked the letters I, J, Y for various spelling. I also went to the Recorder of Deeds and went thru the grantor and grantee indexes and also the misc. indexes but found nothing. Being that the location was on the west side of the Schuylkill River it is possible that the records may be in Lancaster since that is the county that the west side came from.

"Penn Square (in Reading) is the section of Penn street between 4th and 6th street. Fourth St. is only 4 blocks from the river and at that period of time I doubt that many buildings were tall enough to block the view of a fire across the river. The indians murdered about 150 in northern Berks county and the names of many

of the victims are listed in Morton Montgomery's 1909 edition of Berks County History and no Yoder names are listed but that doesn't say they were not victims since some are not identified. There were several Indian tribes in the general area but the Mohawks were not one of them. There was a section in northern Berks that was abandoned for approximately 20 years (now Schuylkill County) due to the indians, in fact there were 6 or 7 forts erected for the settlers protection if they had enough time to escape to there safely.

"There was a major indian trail crossing the Schuylkill just south of the Penn Street location and there was some concern that the indians might attack the Village of Reading which was founded in 1747 so it could not have been large when this problem took place."

There were three known Caspers in colonial America, but these were in the Mennonite line, living further east in Bucks County. Casper Yoder of Milford Twp., Bucks Co., Pa. (YB2-c1720-1781); his son Casper Jr of Milford Twp. (YB23-c1750-4/1843); & Casper Yoder of Northampton Co (YB11-c1745-9/1798).

Casper is a name which appears frequently among the Joders of Steffisburg. One Casper which makes for interesting speculation is the brother of Oley immigrants Hans and Yost.

- c74- Adam Joder m 1/9/1671 Barbli Ochsenbein
- c741- Hans b 3/10/1672 (see OleyHans)
- c742- Niclaus b 10/5/1673
- c743- Barbara b 4/9/1676
- c744- Jost b 10/5/1679 (see OleyYost)
- c745- Caspar b 9/9/1683

Karl Joder and Ottmar Jotter write of this Caspar and the brother Niclaus as both going east to Romania, but present no documentation on this. By the late 1750s, being over 70 by the time of this episode, you would expect that this Caspar would have left a grown and dispersed family. It would have been natural for either Hans or Jost to name a child after their brother, but as both died by 1742 and left wills, one would think such a living Caspar would be mentioned.

A final possibility, and one we'll tend to believe until some evidence arises that there may be a Casper Yoder at that location, is that the whole story is a bit apocryphal and that a fictional name was selected for some reason we'll never learn. That there are other items in the story which appear not to be factual, may give some credence to this conclusion. It's fun to speculate about this, however. Perhaps one of our readers will find some proof?

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1. Sketch from a flier on the Hochstetler massacre published years ago by "Roadside America", in Derks Co, Pa.
2. Descendants of Jacob Hochstetler, by Rev. Harvey Hostetler, 1912 (reprinted several times).
3. Various dates are given for the Hochstetler to include Aug. 17, 1757 and several dates in September 1757. YNL editor Chris Yoder's g-g-grandReuben Yoder, whose grandmother was Anna Miller, granddaughter of Jacob Hochstetler gave the August 17 date.
4. Annals of the Penn Square by J. Bennett Nolan, p15.
5. Letter from Richard H. Yoder, Bechtelville, Pa, dated 11/28/ 1997.

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1880 OHIO YODER CENSUS by Keith Yoder..Thanks to Keith Yoder of Ft.Wayne for his hard work collecting and typing this information. (Now available in Yoder Data Disk and Homepage)

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SCHWEITZER CHRISTIAN YODER CEMETERY in Somerset Co.,Pa.- Collection started for plaque & restoration. Send Contribution or Volunteer for early summer "clean-up weekend": Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek, MI 49015

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JOHN S YODER HOME- Sugarcreek, OH. Falling behind on fundraising, Your support appreciated. Tax deductible. Write: The Amish heritage Foundation, Box 704, Sugarcreek, OH 44681.

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\*\*\*\*\*Queries\*\*\*\*\*

The YNL will publish Yoder related inquiries or exchanges at no charge. Please limit as possible to include a full return address. All inquiries are checked against our records to see if we can help too. If you receive added info, please share it with the YNL for our files. Send to: Chris Yoder, 203 Lakeshire Rd., Battle Creek, Mi 49015

Still seeking info. on Casper Yoder Sr, born 1720, died 1780's or 1790's and married a Barbara. Lived in the Great Swamp area, Pennsylvania. Ellen J. Chestnutt, 718 Pioneer Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Trying to locate Warren Yoder, who was working as an engineer in Iran in the 1960's. The Peabody Museum currently holds a collection of Iranian antiquities made by Mr. Yoder between approximately 1963 and 1977. We would like to locate Mr. Yoder or his heirs in order to resolve questions of ownership to this collection. Can be reached by phone at 617-495-4298 or by e-mail at gfisher@husc.harvard.edu.--Genevieve Fisher, Registrar, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, 11 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138

Looking for living (and dead) relatives from Allentown PA, Father was James Allen Yoder (B) 01-18-08, his father was Ira S Yoder born sometime in 1886 I believe, married Grace Haines from Fleetwood PA. Last known address was Allentown PA, believe there was another son, possibly Robert who moved to Florida. Jaydine Yoder Knight, 4982 Jasper Rd, Springfield OR 97478 <djknigh@ix.netcom.com> Springfield, Or

Can you post a query and see if anyone knows where Jacob and Barbara Yoder (YA8) are buried? I do not believe they died in Stark County. They do not have a record and the records are really quite complete for that time period. Thanks Jackie Mitchell, 5238 Taylor Rd., Norton, Oh 44203

Frances (Vroni) Yoder, b: abt 1680, d: abt 1735, daughter of Daniel Yoder, m: Michael Denlinger, b: abt 1685, d: Feb. 1735 in Lancaster Co., son of Jakob Denlinger (?). They came from Ibersheim, Germany, to America. I am descended from Michael and Vroni's son Jacob Denlinger, married to Anna Schenk. I would also appreciate hearing any further information. Joe Miller, P.O. Box 885, Southeastern, PA 19399

Trying to locate any information about the above named Veronica YODER and Michael DENLINGER. Supposed parents of Mary DENLINGER b 1728 Lancaster Co,PA who mar Jacob HOCKMAN, Joseph FUNK and Michael KLIPPLE in Shenandoah Co, VA per From the Rhine to the Shenandoah by Daniel W. BLY. Mike Judd ,21623 Nesting Court, Lutz, FL 33549 <Elaphe2@aol.com>

My grandmother was Lillie May Yother m. John McAdams. They lived in Texarkana, AR all of their married lives. I believe that Lillie was born in Little River Co, AR, in 1889. Lillie's father was Isaac Yother m. Martha Adeline Williams. He was born in GA about 1865 and Martha was born in MO. around 1868. Isaac's mother was Nellie Melinda (last name unknown). Nellie Melinda must have been widowed by 1888 because she is listed in AR land records in 1888. I do not know the county though. Isaac left Martha when the children were very young so I my grandmother didn't know much about him. WStrip@aol.com, Joan Striplin, 1236 Thornhill St.,Alma, AR 72921

My Grandmother was Barbara Yoder out of Franklinton, Pa. I was born in Harrisburg, Pa to Robbie Parker. Lost all contact with my father's family (Yoders) about 7 years ago. Would like to know about my relatives. --Jamie Bonnett, 4019 N. 60th St, Omaha, NE 68104

Would like to hear from anyone who knows origin of Helen Yoder of Liberty, Pa..married to a Bailey--Robert Yoder <Redoy@MSN.COM> Duquesne, Pa

QUERY: Ref. 1860 Census; Jackson Twp., (Andrew) MO, #714: Conrad YODER (66/NC); wife, Mary (60/NC) & sons, David (37/IN) & Phillip (20/IN). Need info for Rebecca "DWYER" DUIRER (14/IN) who was also living in household. Other DWYER children lived with nearby families of John and Melinda (ROBERTS) TOWNSEND; Peter & Luannie WELLS; and Marion and Sarah WELLS. Is YODER family related to the DWYER, ROBERTS, TOWNSEND or WELLS families? F. M. Miller, 8500 Evanston Ave., Raytown, MO 64138-3347 <ceagle52@earthlink.net>

G-Grandfather Harvey Yoder m. Maraget Shepley, had son Claude Yoder b. 1922, Claude & wife Charlotte lived in Detroit, MI. Would like to trace back my Yoder ancestry. Write: Josephine Leone <leone@c3net.net> Clinton Twp, MI

Seeking info re John Yordy who md Catherine Reeser, sister of my 3GGF, born 8 Feb. 1801- d. 12 July 1871- Lower Augusta twp. Northumberland Co. PA. and any descendants. Thanks !! Marshall W. McCoy <mccoym@wndi.com> Seattle, WA USA

Descendants of Christian Mueller b. Switzerland and lived in Berks Co, PA include: Anna Yoder who married Jacob Stutzman and Madgalena Yoder who married Abraham Gerber. Any information on these Yoders would be greatly appreciated. I am most interested in information about the MILLER family from Westover, Somerset, MD & Holmes Co, OH. Nancy Schiebert,900 N. Lilac Lane, Midwest City, OK 73110. <NSchiebert@aol.com>

In my line I have:Anna Yoder (that's all I know about her) married to Andrew Steiner Sr. their daughter was Sophia Steiner born Jan. 23, 1866 She married Rev. Solomon Virkler. Charmaine Virkler Campny <cjcamp@northnet.org> POBOX 376 Brewery Hill Road, Croghan, New York 13327

Looking for childhood friend..Tim Yoder...born 1960-1963. He lived in Midland, Michigan in 70s-80s. Parents officers in the Salvation Army. His father passed away sometime around 1984-1987, on the date of December 21st, the same day my own mother died. I would like very much to contact Tim Yoder. You can contact me at the following e-mail address: Kimberly Walker, Hesperia Unified School District, 9144 Third Ave., Hesperia, CA 92345 Kimberly\_Walker@eee.org

My g-grandmother-Emily Kitory Evelyn Yoder married Alexander Pounds September 15, 1899 but I don't know where. She was born April 6, 1879 and died on February 10, 1925. I think maybe in the Corning, Arkansas area. She was buried in Nelson Cemetery in Datto, Arkansas so I am told. There is no marker on her grave, and no one seems to be able to find it. Any information on how I can go about finding this information out. Emily's father's name was Layfette Yoder (Con235) and her mother was Caroline. Pat Becker 311 Meece Avenue, Nancy, Kentucky 42544 <beckep@som-uky.campus.mci.net>

LOOKING FOR MY FATHER: William Eli Yoder, born about 1922 around Hartville, OH. Son of David Yoder and Catherine Sommers. Wm. m Ruby Shortridge. William has a sister who lived at one time around Sugar Creek. He and brothers at one point drove trucks out of Detroit area. Donna Leaser, 10516 Burrows Rd, Berlin Heights, OH 44814(216) 965-5652.

CHARITY: For information on the long-standing Christian Charities work of the Lowell Yoder family (see YNL 19) write: FOHO-Volunteers in Service Abroad, P.O. Box 222-P, Holland, OH 43528

YNL CONTRIBUTION TO "YODER HOUSE" MATCHED- Our YNL contribution of \$500 to the "Yoder House" has been matched by a matching donor gift...for a total of \$1,000.

**Yoder 75th**

with permission of the Goshen News

Elva and Nellie (Hostetler) Yoder, 408 N. Main St., P.O. Box 36, Topeka will celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary and Elva's 100th birthday with an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. Jan. 4 at Topeka Mennonite Church. They were married Dec. 24, 1922, by the Rev. Ernest Hostetler, brother of the bride, at the home of the bride's parents, west of Emma.



Elva and Nellie Yoder

Yoder is retired from farming and Mrs. Yoder is a homemaker.

Hosting the upcoming celebration will be the Yoders' children and their spouses. The children include Dwight Yoder of Hemet, Calif.; Joan Hughes of Hamilton; Maurice Yoder of Topeka; James Yoder of Newton, Kan.; and Gary Yoder of Akron. One son, William, is deceased. In addition, they have 20 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

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**GLENN O & ALLIE CARPENTER YODER REUNION**

The Glenn O. and Allie Yoder family had their fifth bi-annual reunion in Coconully, Washington on Jul 25-27, 1997. In 1920 Glenn and Allie brought their four older children (Carl, Grace, and Irma) from the Holden, Mo. region to this community in north central Washington state, forty miles from the Canadian border. Glenn worked on the construction of the two Concouly dams while awaiting the birth of their fourth child, Von, in July of 1920. In 1921 the family settled in the town of Riverside where Glenn established a dairy with home delivery in 1923. The company continued under the Yoder name into the 1960s. Two more children, Ena and Joseph, were born in 1928 and 1930.

Fifty-two members of the family attended a potluck supper on the 26th, followed by an evening exchange of memories over s'mores and campfire. On Sunday, 30 members of the family expanded the attendance of the local church, to the amazement of the pastor.

The next reunion will be in 1999. Anyone wishing to share with this Yoder family is invited to contact: Joe Yoder, 15430 S. W. 114 Ct-#86, Tigard, Or, 97224.

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**ERIC YODER FAMILY TREE--SOLID YODERS!**



EVERY ONE A YODER!! Yoders married to Yoders on both sides. front row: Harley, Letha, Eric, Maude, Wendy, Ola, Ira; back row: Merv, JoAnn, Judy, Randy, Lois, and Robert---photo submitted by Roger Slagle, of Shipshewana, IN-- Definitely a "Yoder Capital of the World!" (With Thanks to Leonard Kreider)

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**Death of Lester Leo Yoder**

Marjorie Yoder Mitchell of Wallington, Pa has sent word that her father Lester Leo Yoder passed away in Leesburg, Florida on July 21, 1997. He was 96 years of age. Lester was born on Sep.13, 1900 and was the son of Enos Yoder (1861-1944)(YB13729)of East Palestine,OH and Rose Ann Greiner. Lester had done extensive research into the Ohio Mennonite Yoders...in his own words, written in 1983:

*"At the time our children were born and we got baby books for them in which we had to fill in names of ancestors, my father, Enos Yoder, could not give me any information except that his father and mother had visited relatives in Pennsylvania when he was still at home..."*

That was the beginning of his efforts...over a period of years he gathered family data including information which was subsequently made into a family descendant tree on a blueprint stock, by his cousin Leonard A. Yoder. Other cousins, Harvey and Carl Yoder sponsored family reunions for many years for descendants of their grandparents Abraham and Elizabeth (Nold) Yoder (Abraham b.1819 d. 9/8/1888 Midway,OH- YB1372).

The work by such folks as Lester has provided the foundation we are building upon today...we join his family in their sorrow, and rejoice at his life and his contributions.

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JOHN HOWARD YODER IN 1928 with five generations of his family, Christian Z, Howard C, John S, & Mrs. John K. Yoder

**John H. Yoder** *YRB 4/3/11*

ELKHART Ind. — Memorial services for John Howard Yoder, 70, 3100 Benham Avenue, who died Tuesday, will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at College Mennonite Church, Goshen. The Rev. Dan Miller will officiate. Private graveside services will be at the church cemetery.

Friends may call at Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, today from 6 to 9 p.m. and from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

He was born Dec. 29, 1927, in Smithville, Ohio, to Howard C. and Ethel (Good) Yoder. He received his undergraduate degree from Goshen College and his doctorate in theology from the University of Basel, Switzerland, in 1962.

He directed relief efforts in Europe for Mennonite Central Committee after World War II. There he married Anne Marie Guth July 12, 1952, in France.

A noted Mennonite scholar, Yoder was a professor at the University of Notre Dame at the time of his death. He was a professor of theology at Goshen Biblical Seminary from 1965 to 1984 and served as president there from 1970 to 1973. He was named a Fellow of the Notre Dame Institute of International Peace Studies, and had been a

guest professor of graduate schools of theology in Argentina and France.

He was a widely published author and was involved with a number of organizations, among them American Academy of Religion, World Council of Churches, Society for Christian Ethics (of which he was president in 1987), the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Faculty Senate of the University of Notre Dame, of which he was chairman. He also served on the board of the South Bend Consumer Credit Counseling agency and the Yoder Foundation.

Surviving are his wife; four daughters, Rebecca (Mrs. Thomas) Yoder-Neufeld, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, Martha (Mrs. Rodney) Yoder-Maust, Indianapolis, Elisabeth (Mrs. Wahba) Ayyad, Cairo, Egypt, and Esther (Mrs. Jeffrey) Yoder-Strahan, Tiffin, Ohio; two sons, Daniel, Knoxville, Tenn., and John-David, Bluffton, Ohio; 12 grandchildren; and a sister, Mary Ellen (Mrs. Albert) Meyer, Goshen.

A daughter, Rachel Yoder, and a brother, Charles, preceded him in death.

Memorials may be directed to John Howard Yoder Memorial Fund in care of Mennonite Foundation/Mennonite Mutual Aid, 1110 N. Main St., Goshen, Ind. 46526.

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