



## The Yoders of Welcome House

By Dale Yoder



Our Yoder Family in 1953- (back, left to right): Dale, Lillian and Frank; (middle) Bobby Paul, Mother, Jack, Dad Sumi, and Ray; (front) David and Leon (Scott and Charlotte are missing)

This is the story of how a middle-class Bucks County, Pennsylvania Mennonite school teacher and coach and his wife along with a Nobel Prize winning author launched a program which led to the adoption of over seven thousand bi-racial children over a period of forty years. This is the story of Lloyd and Viola Yoder. This is the story of my family. This is the story of Welcome House.

The story begins with our parents. My parents, Lloyd R. Yoder and Viola Tyson Sell Yoder were married in 1929. They began their married life living in Souderton Pa. in the family home of my grandparents and mother's three brothers and two sisters. It was a crowded home, to say the least, but our parents continued in this arrangement after my sister was born and until I was born in 1935. We then moved into a rented house in Blooming Glen. My dad had begun his teaching career, and my mother was a store clerk, a position she held until the beginning of Welcome House. Though I was only an infant, it was told to me later that these early years in Blooming Glen were a happy foundation for the family changes that would follow.

Lloyd (Poppy) Yoder was a "man for all seasons." He often said that to be remembered in this life you had to work to make your mark. A brief summary of his many roles in life make it clear that he accomplished this goal. In no particular order, he was a husband, father, grandfather, teacher, athlete, coach, churchman, community leader, brother, and friend. In every one of these capacities, he was special.

Here are some details.

He was born in 1906 on a farm in Blooming Glen, Pa. He got his nickname, Poppy, when an Italian road crew was improving the dirt road that ran past the family farm, and the leader of the workers was a man named Popi. Little 4 year old Lloyd was greatly impressed with this man and took to following him whenever possible. Because of this interest the family began to call him Little Poppy. When Poppy reached school age he attended the one room school of the township, and after finishing eleven grades, he completed public school education at Perkasio High School, graduating in 1924. At Perkasio High he immediately became a

WELCOME HOUSE-CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Conrad Yeater of Missouri Linked by DNA to Yeater Line

Over the years, we have looked carefully at the families with surname spellings close to "Yoder" to try to figure out which are just a variation of the ancestral "Joder" and which represent separate family lines. In YNL 68 we spelled out in some detail the Y-DNA results which have helped us determine the relationships between various Yetter/Yeater/Yater lines with our own Yoder families. We've "adopted" the folks not linking to our own Y-DNA profile and who seem to tie in to the Johannes Joetter family from the Stuttgart area of Germany. Significant similarities exist between several disparate branches which appear to tie them to a common heritage.

One major Yeater family for whom we did not then have a Y-DNA sample was that of Conrad Yeater, born Apr. 1, 1769, married Sarah Honeywell in Virginia about 1789, and soon thereafter settled in Kentucky where their first child was born Jan. 18, 1790 in Mt. Sterling, Bourbon Co.

In the YNL68 we discuss Conrad and his possible connection to the Peter Yeater of Hampshire County, VA who had moved to Madison Co, KY by 1789. Peter was the father of a Catherine Yeater, b. Dec. 15, 1766, who married Revolutionary War soldier Joshua Younger in Hampshire County and who lived in Nelson Co., KY by 1791, Madison Co., KY by 1796, Hardin Co, KY by 1799, and Garrard Co by 1804. (Interesting enough, Joshua and his first wife Elizabeth Lee (1755-1787) were the great grandparents of the notorious Younger brothers outlaw gang which ran with Jessie James and crew in post-Civil War Missouri).

CONRAD YEATER- CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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## DNA Supports Oley Yost Descent



Military Stone for Private Charles W Yoder  
Monmouth, IL

During the Civil War, Charles W. Yoder of Monmouth in Warren County, Illinois served as a private in Co A, 17<sup>th</sup> Illinois Calvary. He had been born in Pennsylvania Sept. 24, 1845 to William Yoder and Susanna Philips, and he and his parents were for many years among our "unlinked" Yoders under the code of "BM". William first appears in the 1840 census of Catawissa, Columbia Co, PA with a wife, child and teenage male in the household. He is still there in the 1850 census with an occupation shown as "tailor", real estate valued at \$900, 6 children, to include 3 year old "Chas. W".

DNA SUPPORTS-CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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The Yoder Newsletter- Founded 1983 by  
Ben F Yoder (1913-1992), Chris Yoder &  
Rachel Kreider (1909-2015)

Chris Yoder, Editor, Saugatuck, MI; Kenneth W. Yoder, Circulation and Mail Manager, Goshen, IN; Paul Yoder, Asst Cir/Mail Mgr, Other Contributors: Richard H. Yoder, Bechtelsville, PA; Neal D. Wilfong, Cleveland, NC; and Ann Balderrama, Reading, PA. And our other Goshen area volunteer team members: Titus King, Cheryl Parsons, Richard Yoder and our new Webmaster team of: Leon Yoder and Chad Yoder of Black Anvil Media, Inc., and Dalonda Young!!

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Over the past 37 years, subscriptions have allowed us to support advertising of national reunions, to provide funding for many of the DNA tests, and to pay for new research into Swiss records. All of our staff members are volunteers.

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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, 551 S. Maple St., Saugatuck, MI 49453 or email at [cyoder@tds.net](mailto:cyoder@tds.net)

**YNL PRICE INFORMATION**

-Annual YNL subscription (published Apr. and Oct.) for \$5.  
-BACK ISSUES of the YNL are \$2 per issue. (or you can download them free - 1 to 2 years after publication from the Yoder Newsletter web page: [www.yodernewsletter.org](http://www.yodernewsletter.org) ).

Visit: <http://www.yodernewsletter.org/subscribe.html> for the mail-in subscription form.

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**YODER DATA ON DISK-** Includes back issues of YNL text, census and county records, family group data and pictures and scanned images. The price for our "Yoder Data on Disk" is \$10 (postage included). Send to YNL address in Goshen. (Most of this info is also available free at the YNL Homepage and changes VERY slowly.)

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**YNL CONSOLIDATED VOLUMES  
NOW AVAILABLE**

Volume 1 (Issues 1-25) and Volume 2 (Issues 26-50) are both available in soft cover volumes for order on-line through Amazon books...

For YNL 1-25 - \$16.29 plus postage

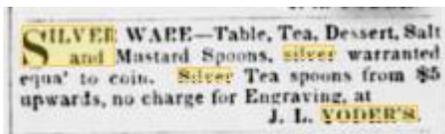
For YNL26-50 - \$16.99 plus postage

Descendants of Bishop Christian Yoder Sr. (YR233) may also be interested in (also available on Amazon Books):

The Reuben Yoder Family and Its Ancestry - \$15.99 plus postage

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**YODER SPOON SOLD ON eBay**



It seems likely this spoon was made by James LaRose Yoder (OY4247) (1832-1901) who lived in Schuylkill Union and Dauphin Co, PA ... See the article in YNL45, which shows what appears to be an identically shaped spoon marked "J. L. Yoder". The above ad appeared in a Lewisburg, PA newspaper dated 1854.

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

I am a descendant of Yost Yoder YR26 and I found the YNL73 article about his will very interesting. In 1927 there was the Yoder-Beachy church split in Somerset, Pa. My great-grandfather Bishop Mose Yoder (YR261192) and grandfather Minister Noah Yoder (YR2611925) were on the conservative side. My father was 17 years of age when he with his parents moved to Dover Delaware. My parents moved to St Marys Ontario Canada in 1959 when I was 15. In 2001 I moved to northern Ontario. - Alvin Yoder (YR261192546), 2034 Memorial Park Dr., Powassan, ON, Canada, P0H 1Z0 (Editor note: Thanks to Alvin for pointing out that in the chart of Yost's descendants we left off first child of Henry (YR261) who was Yost H. (YR2611) – have corrected this on our master, and it will be right when posted on the web.

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I have been a Yoder Newsletter subscriber since its beginning. Over the years, I have found information relevant to both my husband Cliff and to me. I was very interested in the major article about Yost Yoder (YR26) in the current newsletter, about his will and estate. Thanks much to you and to the contributors to that article! I did notice two little errors in dates. The article is clear that Yost wrote his will in 1800, but in the analysis of the will, twice on page 6, a reference or statement indicates that Yost wrote the will in 1803. It's not a major problem, since in other parts of the article the 1800 date is given, but the 1803 will date in those places did pop out at me. (Editor note- also fixed in master –thanks Hope)

I am very glad to have this article to refer to when I need it. Thanks for all the work you and other volunteers do to keep readers in touch with Yoder family past and present!

-Hope Kauffman Lind, Harrisonburg, VA

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I stumbled upon some new information regarding the Joder /Ioder/Yoder line I am researching. Yesterday I happened to be in the Bamberg Germany Emigration records and found an index card for Martin Joder (as spelled in that record.) Found out he was from Schmerldorf. I went back through my records and just found a newspaper announcement of the family's departure. I was not sure it was him because I think the ship manifest notes Martin is a watch maker, but the newspaper announcement notes he is a farmer I believe. Anyway, I wanted to share with you this information if you would like to add it to your collection. I discovered in the emigration papers that Eva Joder maiden name is Wolf.

In addition, I found an emigration index card for a Joseph Joder of Memmelsdorf. That is a neighboring village. Joseph Joder married Barbara Albrecht (note: Joseph Ioder code "D" in our YNL records). They also lived in Bureau Cty. They were Mennonites. I found them listed in a German book as I believe leaving in 1837. My Joders were Catholic. Since birds of a feather flock together as they say - wonder now if this Joseph Joder is connected to my Martin Joder family. They lived in neighboring towns in Bureau Cty IL.

-Rosanna Hogarty" [rjhogarty@gmail.com](mailto:rjhogarty@gmail.com)

(Editor's note: We'd love to learn how this Martin is connected!)

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My wife Jan and I met you at the reunion last year. We were hoping to go to Steffisburg in the near future and now we have. We spent 3 days in Steffisburg/Thun area and met with Hans Jacob Joder and his Grandson Joel, who was our interpreter. Our daughter, Kristi, who lives in Stuttgart Germany, drove us to Switzerland and helped us interpret. We met at the 900 year

old church that many Yoder's have attended over the centuries. I have attached a picture of us in the church. --- Jerry and Jan Nickeson, [nickesonjj@gmail.com](mailto:nickesonjj@gmail.com)

CONRAD YEATER- CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

DYS393	DYS390	DYS19	DYS391	DYS385	DYS426	DYS388	DYS439	DYS389I	DYS392	DYS389II	DYS458	DYS459	DYS455	DYS454	DYS447	DYS437	DYS448	DYS449	DYS464
Ludwick Yetter b.1749																			
13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	14-15-16-17
Samuel Yetter b. c1756																			
14	24	14	11	12-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	15-15-16-17
Henry Yater b. 1765																			
14	24	14	11	12-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	30	14-15-16-17
John Yetter b. 1808																			
13	24	14	11	13-14	12	12	12	13	13	31	19	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	14-15-17-17
Conrad Yeater b. 1756																			
DYS393	DYS390	DYS19	DYS391	DYS385	DYS426	DYS388	DYS439	DYS389I	DYS392	DYS389II	DYS458	DYS459	DYS455	DYS454	DYS447	DYS437	DYS448	DYS449	DYS464
13	24	14	11	12-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	18	9-9	11	11	25	15	19	29	14-15-16-17

Also in the area was Henry H. Yeater (later spelled “Yater”) born Aug. 15, 1765 in Germany and is found in Madison Co., KY in 1792. Henry died in Lancaster, Garrard Co, KY in 1834.

Based on residential proximity and the common use in the Conrad and Henry Yeater families of names “Peter”, “Henry” and “Conrad” (which is in particular an uncommonly used name), we created a speculative family group showing Peter as the father of daughter Catherine, and sons Henry and Conrad.

We now have the results of a Y-DNA test from a member of the Conrad Yeater line, and a comparison of the first 25 marker values to the profiles of the other early Yeaters/Yetters/Yaters SUPPORTS the hypothesis by showing a match (with only one variation) between the Conrad line and that of a descendant of suspected brother Henry and also with a descendant of Samuel Yetter of Columbia Co, PA! All seem certain to have a common male ancestor at some point in history.

The 1876 work Pioneer Families of Missouri, by William S. Bryan and Robert Rose, Published by Bryan, Brand & Co., St. Louis Missouri, reports :

“Conrad Yater, of Germany, came to America and settled first in Virginia, where he married. In 1818 he came to Missouri and settled in Warren County. During his residence here he built four mills (one run by water, two by horses, and one by oxen), and one distillery. His children were: Joseph, Peter S., Polly, Elizabeth, Nancy, Henry, Sarah, Catharine, Charles and George W. Joseph married Polly Phoenix, and settled in Pike County, MO. Polly married John Johnson, of Pike County. Elizabeth married Joseph King, of Montgomery County. Nancy married Colonel Reuben Pew, of Montgomery County. Henry married Susan Shields, of Pike County. Sarah married Israel Sitters, of Callaway County. Catharine married Nicholas Bradley, of Callaway County. Charles married Judith Jamison, of Callaway County. George W. married Elizabeth Coil, and settled in Warren County. Peter S. married Miss Slonce, of Kentucky and settled in Warren County in 1818. He built a stone chimney 8 x 9 feet in size, and afterward built a cabin to the chimney. He obtained assistance from St. Charles County to raise his cabin, and as he furnished plenty of good whisky, it took them a week to finish it. When the house was completed he gave a dance, and during the night the floor gave way and let them all down into the cellar. Thomas Howell played the fiddle, and Rev. Thomas Bowen, who was a young man then, danced as vigorously as any of the other guests.”

A later work, The Honeyman Family in Scotland and America, by A. Van Doren Honeyman, goes into quite some detail about Conrad’s descent, and seems the most complete published record on one of the various American Yeater families.

<https://archive.org/details/honeymanfamilyho00hone/page/n7>

Unlike the earlier work, it claims the birthplace of Conrad was Pennsylvania, not Germany. Unfortunately, none of his children

lived long enough to reach a census record which reports the place of birth of their father. The Honeyman book explains that Conrad and Sarah moved in 1817 to what was then St. Charles Co, MO, and 1818 settled on Camp Branch. In Dec. 1818 Montgomery County was formed and included their property. When Warren County was cut off from Montgomery in 1833, they were included in that portion and the town of Warrenton became their post office. Both Conrad and wife Sarah Honeyman Yeater are said to have been buried in the cemetery of their son Peter. Neither they nor son Peter seem to have a gravestone still standing.

A summary of the children of Conrad and Sarah follows from the YNL web pages. “S” is the header code assigned to Conrad and his line within our “unlinked” family tree section):

- S- Conrad Yater b. 4/1/1769 PA(?) m. c1789 VA Sarah Honeyman (9/ /1768 NJ- 7/4/1834 MO) d 8/15/1834 Fulton, MO -res Bourbon Co, KY to 1818, then moved to Warren Co., MO (References: Pioneer Families of Missouri; The Yeater Book,1963;Honeyman Family; Mo.; 1880 Census; other Yeater book)
- +S1- Joseph Boardman b 1/18/1790 Bourbon Co, KY m 3/23/1809 Mary (Polly) Phoenix (12/29/1793- 1867) d 10/20/1849 res. of Louisiana, Pike Co.,MO
- +S2- Peter Stevens b 11/14/1791 KY m 11/19/1819 Dorcas D Sconce (11/28/1798-5/6/1885) d 3/12/1864 res. Warrenton, Warren Co, MO
- S3- Mary (Polly) b 1/23/1794 KY m 11/16/1814 John Johnson d 4/9/1872 res of Pike Co., MO
- S4- Elizabeth P b 2/27/1796 KY m 7/9/1820 Joseph S King d 2/22/1851 res of Montgomery, MO
- +S5- Henry b 4/1/1797 KY m 1/27/1821 Susan Shields (1/30/1802-6/17/1851) d 1/28/1889 res of Frankford, Pike Co, MO
- S6- Ann (Nancy) b 9/27/1800 KY m (w3) Col Reuben P Pew d 4/15/1845 res of Montgomery Co, MO
- S7- Sarah b 11/27/1802 KY m 10/18/1820 Ezra Bostic Sitton (Israel Sitters) d 2/11/1842 of Callaway Co, MO
- S8- Catherine b 1806 KY m 2/3/1828 Nicholas Bradley (Broadley) d 7/14/1849 res Callaway Co, MO
- +S9- Charles Honeyman b 1/23/1808 KY m 9/2/1830 Judith Jamison (1/10/1805-10/14/1866) d 5/6/1862 Osceola, MO bur Charleston, Ark res. Callaway Co, MO
- +Sa- George Washington b 4/19/1810 KY m 1/10/1832 Elizabeth Allen (or Coil) (1/15/1815-1020/1900) d 1/20/1876 res Windsor, Warren Co., MO

In YNL53 Gary D. Hamilton shared photos of the farmhouse on his property which was sold 1814 by “Conrod Yeater” to a Jon Crouch. The land is now in Nicholas County on the line with Bourbon County, but as of 1814 it would have been in Bourbon County, where Conrad’s children were born.

## WELCOME HOUSE-CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

popular student, a very successful athlete (one of his friends told me, "Poppy was the best athlete ever to come out of the area") and a loyal friend. He also decided he wanted more education. He chose Millersville Normal School where he earned his teaching certification. He returned to Blooming Glen, and began teaching in the one-room school where he once was a student. He remained in the district his entire teaching career- first teaching eight grades in the one-room school. Then in 1944, he joined the Hilltown High School faculty. After the township combined with other local school districts to form Pennridge schools in 1954, Poppy became a teacher in the new system where he remained until his untimely death in 1967.



Coach Lloyd R. Yoder

His success as a teacher can be illustrated in many ways. First, he was selected as the teacher of the year for Bucks County in 1963. Bucks County has dozens of schools and hundreds of teachers, so to be selected for this honor is truly exceptional. Also, over the years I have had countless past students of his tell me, "Your Dad was the most influential person in my life." At a recent school board meeting with public discussion of the many contributions of Poppy Yoder to the school community, one of his students spoke glowingly of the inspiration that Mr. Yoder was for the students in the school. Hundreds of listeners applauded these remarks. And finally, so many of his teaching colleagues have shared the positive ways that Poppy Yoder aided them in their teaching careers. Truly he was a teacher of distinction.

As a coach, he brought his dedicated teaching ways to the athletic field. Winning was important, but integrity and fair play were more meaningful goals for his players. At Hilltown before the Pennridge consolidation he coached all the men's sports, (baseball, basketball, soccer) and advised the coaches of the female teams. Also, he did all the jobs of an athletic director (schedule, hiring officials, etc.) and somehow found time to be the groundskeeper (lining the baseball diamond, cleaning the gym, etc.) With the Pennridge consolidation, his role was more defined- assistant football coach, baseball coach, and basketball coach. An athletic director, trained female coaches, and grounds crew fulfilled the duties he formally completed. His efforts were recognized and rewarded when he was selected for admission to the local Athletic Hall of Fame, one of four picked in the charter class. He was further honored when the school district chose to name their football field after him, the Poppy Yoder Field. He was a coach of distinction.

His community and church service was unending. He was a longtime member of Zion Mennonite Church in Souderton, Pa. At different times he was Sunday school teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, Deacon, and a member of multiple committees for a wide variety of church needs. His community endeavors included raising funds for the local mental health groups, supporting educational efforts for school projects, and participating with interested partners in providing the community with athletic facilities and sports teams. Examples are building a small but functional gymnasium, securing lights for the local softball field, organizing, then coaching and playing for the men's softball team,

and developing a summer program for youth baseball before the local little league had begun. So many benefitted from his efforts, that it is impossible to offer exact numbers, but he certainly was a community servant of distinction.

Perhaps his most honorable accomplishment was his loving role as a true family man. One of six siblings, he was instrumental in keeping a Yoder family Christmas dinner as a holiday celebration, even after uncles, and aunts, grandchildren, cousins, etc. had increased in numbers to over one hundred. The extended family was important to him. However his nuclear family was certainly a central core to his life.



Viola, Lloyd,  
Dale and Charlotte

At first, the children in our household were my sister Charlotte and me. Always caring, always supporting, always loving, he was the kind of father everyone should have. But his role as a father was to undergo a drastic change at the end of the 1940's. Between 1949 and 1952 ten Asiatic-American brothers and sisters joined our family- not a miracle of biology, but a miracle of love.

How could this happen? A brief explanation seems called for. It began with an urgent call to Pearl Buck, the Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winner author and local celebrity. A one-year-old child, born to an unmarried sixteen-year-old daughter of an American missionary from India and a young Indian servant, was in desperate need of a home. American families rejected the toddler because he was half Indian, Indian families rejected him because he was half American. The agency needed help. Pearl Buck with her long association with life in East Asia could be the answer.

Convinced she could find a solution, she went on a search for a home but discovered the long-time prejudice against Asian people mixed with the extreme anger toward Japanese from World War II made it all but impossible to find adoptive parents. So Pearl Buck and her husband, Richard Walsh, decided to form a family for the child. "If there is one Asian child in need, there must be many others. We will help them all."

As she made plans to create a family for these children she thought of the Yoders. She knew us because Dad was a summer-time mentor for her four pre-teen children, and our Mother, sister (Charlotte), and I attended various social functions she held -July 4<sup>th</sup> picnics, speaking engagements, Christmas parties. From such contacts, she decided we were a family who could provide the children with a loving home. Thus we were asked to become a welcoming home for these unwanted children, and we accepted the responsibility and opportunity with enthusiasm.

Pearl Buck then solicited the support of many celebrities- James Michener, Oscar Hammerstein, Richard Rogers, and local business leaders - David Burpee, Judge Edward Beister, Kermit Fischer- all pledged their time and financial support. Later names like James Stewart, Dorothy Kilgallen, Billy Rose, and Shirley Jones joined the effort. Our family moved into a big, old farmhouse next to the Pearl Buck Estate that became known as Welcome House. It was a grand time as our family grew and prospered. I often wondered what might have happened to my ten brothers and sisters if Pearl Buck and my parents, along with the legion of supporters, had not developed the Welcome House system.



Pearl Buck Reads to Leon and David Yoder

And much more was happening. The successful development of our Welcome House family, along with the publicity and popularity that celebrities brought to the Welcome House movement helped breakdown the harmful prejudices against Asians. Welcome House was commissioned by Pennsylvania to become an adoption agency and over the next decades over seven thousand children were adopted through Welcome House. Pearl Buck regularly gave advice to adoption agencies (Catholic Charities for example) so these social servants aided in finding homes for the formerly unloved and unwanted children. In later years, she and her husband Richard J. Walsh were themselves to adopt several bi-racial children of their own. Sociologists have suggested that over one hundred thousand Asians were helped through these actions. It would be wrong to claim that one little Indian-American toddler was the reason for the massive social changes, but as the Chinese Philosopher stated, a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step. David, the little Indian-American child and our family, were the first steps. Yes our Dad and mother were parents of distinction.

My mother shouldered a particular burden as her loving presence was tied to the changing lifestyle. There was to be a massive time commitment. Within two years, mother had five children under the age of three who required much attention, leaving her little freedom to carry on any active social life. She didn't complain, because her life had greater meaning, although she certainly had less time for herself.

Each of my brothers and sisters knows how important Welcome House has been to their well-being; likewise, each knows how important we have been to each other; each contributed to the Welcome House story, first by living it and then by discussing it as I wrote my book years ago. They all need to be acknowledged: Charlotte, Mrs. Charles Strouse; Sumi, now Mrs. Craig Gerhart; and Lillian, now Mrs. Charles Walton, are the distaff siblings. The Yoder brothers include Frank, Ray, Bob, Scott, Dave, Leon, and Paul. Jack was killed in a tragic car accident 50 years ago. Charlotte, Frank, Scott, and Leon have also passed on since that time.



The Yoder Children in 1984- (standing, left to right) Sumi, Scott, Lillian, Dale, Charlotte, Ray, Frank; (seated) Leon, David and Paul (Bobby and Jack are missing)

I'll end with more comments on my Dad. I again emphasize what a special person he was. Under the correct circumstances with someone to open the right doors, he could have been anything- a political leader, a world championship coach, a renowned scholar; Still, though he never reached those levels of recognition or national success, he will always be remembered in our community for he was one who always gave of himself and helped us all. His creed was that others were more important than self. Truly, he was a man of distinction, a man for all seasons, and he certainly made his mark.



Dale Yoder taught 40 years of American History at Albright College (his alma mater) after receiving his Doctorate in History at Lehigh. He had fellowships at Stanford, Vanderbilt, Indiana University, and University of Illinois. Dale also enjoys tennis and sports, a collegiate athlete himself, he coached tennis at Albright for 36 years. Dale is currently retired and lives on Neversink Mountain with his wife, and

he visits his children, grand-children, and great grandchildren often. He's published the history of the Pennridge School District, and six "Shallow Creek Gang" children's books- adventurous historical fiction based on his Blooming Glen childhood days and written for his grandchildren. He can be contacted at: [DYODER6221@aol.com](mailto:DYODER6221@aol.com) or 484-769-8888 .

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dale's 172 page book Pearl Buck's Living Legacy: The Welcome House Story, published by Masthof Press in 1999, and reissued in 2008, is available from Masthof Press and Bookstore. Dale is a descendant of 1717 Mennonite Yoder immigrant "Hans of Great Swamp" and his ancestry runs as follows: Lloyd Yoder (1905-1967); Samuel M. Yoder (1864-1933); Reuben M. Yoder (1825-1895) (YB1393) –the further lineage can be seen under the "YB" genealogy on YNL web site ([www.yodernewsletter.org](http://www.yodernewsletter.org)), and for the believed links of Hans to the Steffisburg, Switzerland Joder family see the article in YNL55, Apr 2010

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### YR146276- Christian Yoder Found?

In the Descendants of Barbara Hochstedler and Christian Stutzman – DBH6424- Christian Yoder, son of Christian C Yoder and Barbara Troyer, of Waupecong, Indiana, is reported as "single, reported killed in the West". The same words are used in DJH7568. A family tree on ancestry.com reveals him to be Christopher Charles Yoder (17 FEB 1863 Kokomo, Indiana-27 JAN 1952 Jefferson, Texas). He is buried in the Highland Cemetery, Wellington, Colorado. Why did he change his name? What is the "rest of the story"?

**CONRAD YEATER HOME  
IN KENTUCKY**

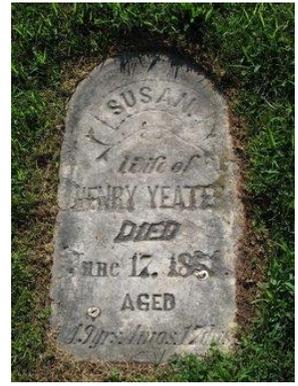


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**Yeater Family Gravestones**

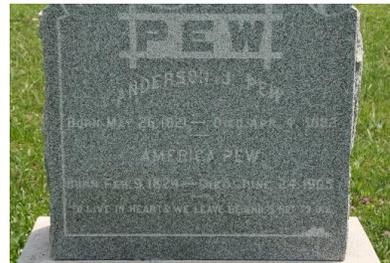


**Henry Yeater-(S5)  
(1797-1889)**



**Susan Shields Yeater (wife S5)  
(1802-1851)**

**Both buried Fairview Cem., Pike Co, MO**



**Anderson J. Pew-(son of S6)  
(1821-1882) buried Pew Cem  
Montgomery Co, MO.**



**Charles H Yeater  
(1808-1861) buried  
Parks Cem, Franklin Co, ARK**

**Conrad Yeater Suspected Siblings**



**Mary Yeater (1793-1867)  
Wife of Joseph Yeater (S1)  
buried Grassy Creek Cem,  
Pike Co, MO**



**Francis M. Yeater (1831-1875)  
son of Peter S. Yeater (S2)  
buried Central Grove Cem.  
Warren Co, MO**



**Henry Yater (1765-1848)  
Burial Yater Family Cemetery  
Garrard Co., KY**

Interestingly enough, Henry's wife Nancy McManus (1772-1834) is shown as buried at the Terrill Cem., Marion Co, MO (no stone visible), although said to have died in Garrard Co, KY. This seems suspicious, however their son William did live there at one time.



**Mary Yeater Johnson- (S3)  
(1798-1872) buried  
Grassy Creek Cemetery  
Pike County, MO**



**Elizabeth Yeater King (S4)  
(1794-1851) buried  
Baptist Cemetery,  
Montgomery Co, MO**



**Catherine Yoter Younger  
(1766-1858)**



**Joshua Logan Younger  
(1752-1834)**

**both buried Leatherwood Cem, Lawrence Co, IN**

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**DNA SUPPORTS-CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

By 1860, William and family have moved west, enumerated on Aug 20 of that year in Tompkins Twp, Warren Co, Il with a Post Office Box of Young America. He is still shown as a tailor, now with 8 children in the household, with youngest child age 4 having been born in Pa. 1870 shows him in the same place, still a tailor, with now only three children at home. Son Daniel P. age 27 is unmarried with a profession of "jeweler".

Years ago we found in the Oley Yost Yoder line one Benjamin Yoder (OY423), a "tanner", who had married Nancy Miller 8/11/1811 according to an article in the Reading Adler newspaper. He was the son of Peter "Irish Pete" (OY42) Yoder and Ann (Nancy) Oyster, and parents and siblings are recorded to have been in Catawissa, Columbia Co by the late 1810s. Benjamin died and an 1818 County Orphan's Court record show he left children Abigail, William and David, listed in that order.

A parent who was a tanner would fit well with a boy taking up a career as a tailor. But as William was only about 3 years old when his father died, he would have had to learn the trade elsewhere. The link between William and Benjamin back being rather speculative, we set about to find a living male descendant for a Y-DNA test. We found one in the line of William's oldest son Daniel P., "the jeweler". Daniel Philips Yoder (b. 1840) married Sarah Brown in Sigourney, Iowa on Sep. 28, 1846. The 1880 census showed him living at the same place still occupied as a jeweler. By 1900 he is listed as widowed, a "watch repairer" with two children at home. Daniel died in What Cheer, Keokuk Co., Iowa in 1904.

What we would look for in the Oley Yost line would be a DNA match to the Steffsburg Yoder (non-Amish) profile. AND THAT IS WHAT WE FOUND. The profile in this family matches exactly at 37 markers to members of not only the Oley Yoder line, but also to individuals in the Conrad, Hans of Great Swamp, and Melchior Yoder lines. However, none of the other lines are present in the area of Pennsylvania where William is found! The Oley Yost line is there. Only the Oley Hans line can also be seen in that area around that timeframe, and THEY were descendants of the offspring who showed a unique Y-DNA profile not matching the ancestral (non-Amish) Yoder profile.

So while the test certainly does not PROVE the ancestry we have speculated, it certainly keeps the hypothesis alive.

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**UPDATED FIND-A-GRAVE COUNTS**

Visit the site at: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com). As of Aug. 11, 2019 the counts for interments were: 19,861 records (an increase of +486 from Feb. 6, 2019) -Yoder; 514 (+5) - Yother; 334 (+10) - Yothers; 286 (+4) - Yotter; 72 (+0) - Yoter; 300 (+11) - Yoders; 77 (+0) - Ioder; 93 (+2) - Joder; 46 (+1) - Jotter; 1 (+0) - Joders; 10 (+0) - Youder; 18 (+1) - Youther; 8 (+0) - Youthers; 3 (+0)- Younder; 3 (+0) - Youders.



**Amanuel Yoder (Con24)**  
**BIRTH- 5 May 1806**  
**Lincoln County, North Carolina,**  
**USA**  
**DEATH- 18 Dec 1903 (aged 97)**

**BURIAL**  
**Rock Grove Township Cemetery**  
**Nora Springs, Floyd County, IA**

See a full album of his visit pictures on the YNL FACEBOOK page.

Photo of Steve Yoder taken during his visit to Nora Springs, Iowa

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**YODER VS WISCONSIN FILES TO HOUSE OF YODER**



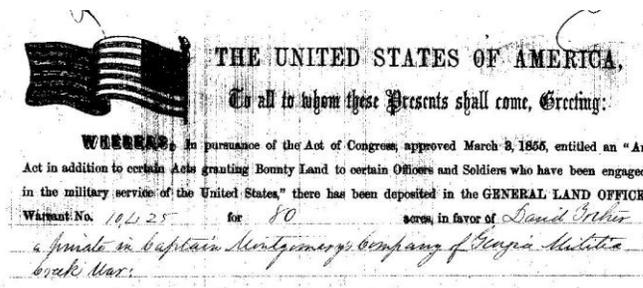
Wisconsin v Yoder came before the US Supreme Court in 1971-72. It was a suit brought by the state of Wisconsin against Amish parents Jonas Yoder, Wallace Miller and Adin Yutzky, all of Greene County, Wisconsin, for refusing to send their children to school beyond the eighth grade. The decision of the US Supreme Court upheld the parents' rights to the free exercise of religion under the First Amendment.

William Bently Ball represented the Amish before the US Supreme Court in that case. The late Mr. Ball's daughter, Virginia "Ginny", presented her father's "Wisconsin" papers to the historical and genealogical library at the House of Yoder, in Grantsville, MD in June. Jim Yoder, a member of a library committee commented: "The House of Yoder was honored to receive William Ball's papers and his book Mere Creatures of the State. Religious freedom was one of William Ball's passions and these materials are a valuable addition to our library."(Jim and Ginny are pictured here)

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**GENERAL LAND OFFICE RECORDS**

Thanks to Steve Yoder for pointing out the searchable general General Land Office Records of the US Bureau of Land Management. Not a lot, but a number of interesting Yoder items there. One example:



Bounty land granted to David Yother (Con81) of Georgia, "a private in Capt. Montgomery's Company of Georgia Militia during the Creek War" for 80 acres in Chippewa County, Wisconsin signed by President James Buchanan, under the authority of a Mar. 3, 1855 Act of Congress. Warranted to David, but patented in 1858 by Charles H. Stott. No sign that David or any of his family ever moved to Wisconsin. Persons entitled to military-service Bounty Land often did not go to live on the land, but sold it to speculators, who often sold them to folks who eventually settled.

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This is a picture of the William Brown Yoder (OH13414) Family taken in 1895-1896 time frame. Front row l to r Mary Ladora Artman Yoder, Frank Yoder, William Brown Yoder 2nd row l to r LeRoy Yoder, Robert Hill Yoder Back row l to r Bettie Blance Yoder(?) William Brown Yoder Jr Florence Miller Yoder(?) This should be from

the David Yoder (OH132) line of our family.- Marli and Allen Yoder

## YODER PASSINGS

-Richard (Dick) Fred Yotter, 84, of Greenwood, MO died May 26th, 2019. He was the son of Fred and Ruth Yotter and was b. in Slayton, Minnesota. (AN- Yotter line- from Eppstein, GY). Long time subscriber and Y-DNA participant.

--Ammon Daniel Yoder, age 79, of Rome, PA died June 14, 2019. He was the son of the late Dan A. (YR23443487) and Malinda Miller Yoder.

-Edgar Roy Yoder, 84, of Grantsville, MD, died Saturday, June 15, 2019. He was son of the late Roy J. (grandson of YR261821) & Fannie H. (Yoder) Yoder.

-Charles "Jerry" Yoder, age 76, passed away May 29, 2019 in Asheville, NC. He was the son of the John Houston Yoder (Con39317) and the Ruth McC Carson Yoder.

-Eli Emory Yoder, 85, of Sanford, VA, died Jul. 12, 2019. He was the son of John Bennett Yoder (YR1461281) and Lena Huffman Yoder.

-Glenn A. Yoder, 96, of Bolivar, OH, died May 21, 2019. He was the son of Finley (YR26121213) and Inez (Shilling) Yoder.

-Harley A. Yoder Jr., 78, of Wellston, Michigan, died Jul. 31, 2019. He was the son of the late Harley A. (YR12535c15) and Adaline (Chupp) Yoder Sr.

-Ivan H. Yoder, 81, of Burrton, KS, died Aug. 2, 2019. He was the son of Henry (YR23443268) and Mary (Mast) Yoder. Burrton, KS

-John A. Yoder, 71, of Goshen, IN died Jul. 26, 2019. He was the son of Amos (son of YR23449a) and Katie (Hochstetler) Yoder.

-Joseph D Yoder, age 79, of Bergholz, OH, died Jun. 1, 2019. He was the son of Daniel (possible son of YR2611384) and Elizabeth Chupp Yoder

-Leroy Yoder of Dowagiac, MI, 73, died Jul. 7, 2019. He was the son of Edwin (son of YR2354652) and Glenna Yoder in Alpena, MI.

-Melvin L. Yoder, 82, of Arthur, IL, died May 19, 2019. He was the son of Levi D (son of YR2611676)-and Elizabeth (Hochstedler) Yoder

-Nelson Warren Yoder, 81, of Davidsville, PA died Jul. 14, 2019, at Laurelview Village. He was born Nov. 27, 1937, in Shamokin, a son of the late Anthony and Ida (Yoder-daughter of BS61) Dobson.

-Paul Edward Yoder, 85, of Muhlenberg Township, PA died Jul. 31, 2019. He was a son of the late Paul E. (son of OY434163) and Carrie Rose (Wentzel) Yoder.

-Phineas M Yoder, Canton, OH, age 87, died Aug. 3, 2019. He was son of Valentine Phineas Yoder (YR1257981) and Mary V Miller Yoder

-Stephen C. Yoder, 91, Minerva, OH, died May 27, 2019. He was the son of Clemens S. (YR1257978) and Barbara (Mast) Yoder.

-Wendell C. Yoder, 83, of Plano, Texas and formerly of Goshen, died May 6, 2019. He was the son of C. Maynard (son of YB137813) and Esther (Hartman) Yoder.

-Willis O. Yoder, 74, of Tuscola, IL died May 17, 2019. He was the son of Omer E.(son of YR2611697) and Anna L. (Miller) Yoder.

-Michael Joe Yother, age 61, of Dayton, TN died Jun. 5, 2019. He was the son of the late James (son of Con87121) and Luddie (Hackler) Yother.

-Lyndell "Sonny" Yother, age 78, of Fouke, Arkansas, died Apr. 8, 2019. He was the son of Ambrose (Con81526) and Bertha (Wood) Yother.

-Harry Joe Yoder, 68, of Hicksville, OH, died Jun. 28, 2019. He was the son of David (son of YA2865) and Lillian (Knepp) Yoder.

-Irvin C. Yoder, 87, of Goshen, died May 24, 2019. He was raised by Oscar (YR23443361) and Katherine "Kate" Yoder in Middlebury.

- Darrell Dean (Buddy) Yoder, 81, died Apr. 11th, 2019. He was the son of Wilbur (YR26121549) and Louella Miller,

-Joel A. Yoder, 84, Salisbury, PA, died Apr. 11, 2019. He was the son of the late Amos (YR2611964) and Amanda (Kinsinger) Yoder.

-Dennis Ray Yoder, 66, of Meyersdale, PA, died Feb. 3, 2019 at Johnstown, PA He was the son of the late Edward Roy (YR12579961) and Norma Naomi (Miller) Yoder.

## Samuel Yoder Cabin (OH13)



From R to L: Dr. Don Yoder's father, Jacob H. Yoder 1883-1959; Casper Greisamer ( father of Alice Trout) Historian of the North Carolina Yoder's; & the farm's owner (photos taken circa 1958)



"Samuel Yoder (OH13) built a 3 room cabin just below and to the left of home of Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Zook, in about 1730. About 40 years ago, a fire destroyed the roof and floor after a smoldering log rolled out of the fireplace on the wood floor at night. When the fire company was called, the tanker went through the original Covered Bridge. After the fire was out, the firemen realized that their tanker, that weighted 20 tons, went through the bridge that had a weight limit of two tons. They decided to go back to the station on a different route. The ruins were removed."

These photos were taken by the late Dr. Don Yoder, Professor of Folk Lore from the University of Pennsylvania and are the only known photos of the cabin. – Many thanks to Dick Yoder of Bechtelsville, PA for providing these photos and text.

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69<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the NC Yoder Family- Aug. 11, 2019



Memorial Service held at the Conrad Yoder Graveyard during the NC Yoder Reunion. NC Yoder President the Rev. Dr. Nathan Howard Yoder presiding.