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TRITT FAMILY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE # 3, JANUARY, 1983

Richard L. Tritt, Editor

Connie J. Tritt, Typist

1982 MEETING

The annual meeting of Tritt Family Research was held July 8 to 11, 1982, at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA. Participants were lodged in McKenny Hall, a modern, air-conditioned, two-story, limestone dorm, divided into twelve four-bedroom suites, each with a common lounge and bathroom. Meetings were held and meals were served in the nearby Holland Union Building. The following people attended all or part of the various sessions and activities:

Jeanette and Gladys V. Cramer, Jean Tritt Wenger, Selden and Emma Tritt, Alfred and Anna Mary Henson (all of Shippensburg, PA), Belle Linn Shockey (Chambersburg, PA), Georgia P. Rife (Newville, PA), Harry A. and Frances Tritt (Dover, PA), Wayne and Esther Tritt, Leonard and Connie Tritt, Carol Tritt, Charlotte B. Everett (all of Carlisle, PA), Betty Tritt Smeltz, Wendy Smeltz, Cindy Wagner (all of Harrisburg, PA), Richard, Nancy, Jennifer and Susan Tritt (Boiling Springs, PA), Philip, Jane, Scott, Becky and Amy Hippensteel (Mechanicsburg, PA), William S. and Wilda Dritt (Oak Ridge, TN), James R. and Betty Tritt (Broken Arrow, OK), David, Judy and Timothy Tritt (Canton, OH), Donald Tritt (Granville, OH), Bill and June Tritt (Oshkosh, WI), Harold M. Hegyessy (Pleasant Grove, UT).

The group arrived at Carlisle Thursday afternoon, settled into their comfortable rooms and then assembled for dinner. The first evening session featured a slide presentation of Tritt homes and artifacts in Pennsylvania, and a display of Tritt items. Free time was used to make and renew acquaintances and exchange information.

A formal business meeting was conducted on Friday morning. Reports were presented, accomplishments were reviewed, and future goals and objectives were discussed. After lunch, participants walked to the nearby Hamilton Library, home of the Cumberland County Historical Society, to see how and where the Tritt collection of papers and artifacts is housed, and to visit the museum.

Later in the afternoon, Harold Hegyessy of Pleasant Grove, Utah, made a presentation about "Swiss Sources of the Tritt Surname." His excellent, well-documented talk enlightened us all on the European roots of the Tritt Family. In the evening, dinner and fellowship were enjoyed at the historic Bellaire House Restaurant in Carlisle.

A large group spent Saturday touring the York, PA, area, making extensive visits to the Dritt House and Cemetery. A picnic lunch was enjoyed at a state park near the Dritt House. Saturday evening some of the group visited the Peter Tritt and George Lefever homes and graves near Newville, PA and others remained at Dickinson to visit and exchange information.

Sunday morning was occupied with a work and planning session, with adjournment at noon and a final lunch together.

TRITT FAMILY ARCHIVES

This past year, the Tritt Family archives (a collection of papers and artifacts) was established at the Hamilton Library Association located within the offices of the Cumberland County Historical Society in Carlisle, PA. Manuscripts and photographs are being housed in acid-free boxes, which were purchased by our organization, and all items are stored in a fire-proof wing of the building. Items which have been placed in the library to date are: (1) The original Tritt Family Tree, drawn and

designed by J. H. McCulloch; (2) a folder containing all mailings, newsletters, and agendas of Tritt Family Research, 1977-1982; (3) several history books; (4) original materials written by Tritts; (5) old deeds to the Peter Tritt farm, near Newville, PA; and (6) a collection of photographs.

It is very important that all known Tritt items (e.g. Bibles, pictures, diaries, records) be located and safeguarded for future generations. We are very pleased when items are identified and either copied or sent for placement in this permanent research archive. If you have any items related to Tritt history, please contact Richard L. Tritt, 204 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007, or Dr. Donald G. Tritt, 4072 Goose Lane, S.W., Granville, OH 43023, who will see that the materials are recorded and placed in the Tritt Family archives.

All items housed in the library are on permanent loan. This means they may not be removed from the library, but are available to those involved in research pertaining to Tritt Family history. Tritt Family Research has the right to copy any of the materials for their future publications.

PROJECT FUNDING by Wayne Tritt, Treasurer

Tritt Family Research has met its expenses in the past by means of individual contributions and the sale of copies of the 1906 Hans Peter Tritt Family Tree. We hope to maintain our organization in the future in a similar manner, and we are very grateful to the following people who have made contributions to this research effort during the last year:

John W. Tritt	Vanderhoof, B.C., Canada
Mrs. H. Adean Tritt	Redlands, California
Ms. Margaret Dumouchelle	Morro Bay, California
Mrs. Constance Rood Fisher	Glendora, California
Michel K. Tritt	Montecito, California
Margaret A. Tritt	Alexandria, Ohio
Mrs. Mary Kelso	Carlisle, Pennsylvania
Mrs. Lorene T. Wagner	Johnson City, Tennessee
William and June Tritt	Oshkosh, Wisconsin
Harry and Frances Tritt	Dover, Pennsylvania
William and Wilda Dritt	Oak Ridge, Tennessee
Dave and Judy Tritt	Canton, Ohio
Harold Hegyessy	Pleasant Grove, Utah

Total contributions November 30, 1981 to December 31, 1982 amounted to \$250.00. In addition, income from the sale of Hans Peter Tritt Trees realized a net profit of \$55.00 during the same time period.

Expenses for the year totaled \$332.42. Of this amount \$178.60 was used to produce and mail the 1982 Newsletter. Another major expenditure was the 1982 membership meeting held at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, last July. Expenses for that event included postage and materials required to promote and effectively conduct the meeting and rental of meeting rooms.

We are continually grateful for the loyalty and support provided by you as members and friends of Tritt Family Research. Your continued support will be appreciated.

MAJOR FINDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 1982

1. The original, hand-drawn, black and red ink copy of the Tritt Family Tree and the photostat, from which all the 1906 trees were made, was located in Maryland, and donated to Tritt Family Research.

2. The Tritt Family archives was established at the Hamilton Library, Carlisle, PA.

3. Richard Tritt and Donald Tritt separately visited an area we expect may be the Tritt ancestral home in St. Stephan, Switzerland. They took many pictures, visited local citizens, and gathered information.

4. The Dritt Cemetery in York County was cleaned, and all remaining stones unearthed and identified. A search was made for additional graves but none were found.

5. Additional early photographs were located including: (1) the Christian Tritt home and family near Newville, PA; (2) a large charcoal portrait of Christian Tritt; and (3) a picture of Tabitha Tritt McCulloch.

DID YOU KNOW? by Harry A. Tritt of Dover, PA
(Things we learned in Carlisle in July, 1982)

Earliest records of a TRITT-DRITT were found in Switzerland, where one of our forebearers was fined 10 phenning for permitting dancing to be held in his home on Christmas Eve, 1590. The year 1590 is about 12 generations back for some of us...15 or 16 for the younger Tritts.

TRITE, TREAT, TRITLE, TRITTEN, and TRITON are all variations of the TRITT-DRITT name. Many years ago, spelling was far from an exact science and clerks and clergy would write down whatever looked right to them.

In Wisconsin, TRITT family reunions were held annually for over 100 years.

A few years ago, Edward R. Tritt, a Christian missionary from Wisconsin, was killed by natives in Indonesia. He had been an instructor at the Erikson-Tritt Bible Institute at Manokwari, Indonesia.

AND DID YOU KNOW???

The New York City telephone directory lists only 3 Tritts. One has a jewelry store on Fifth Avenue.

Only one Tritt is in the Philadelphia directory...one in the Baltimore directory.

And how about this??? There is only one Tritt listed in the Greater Washington, D.C. area directory. Could that be the reason this country is in it's present trouble??? We need more TRITTS in Washington!!!

However, there are plenty of Tritts in the Carlisle, Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg and Shippensburg area, and you will be among friends when you join us in July.

Fourteen year old Tim Tritt of Canton, Ohio used the July, 1982 meeting to complete work on his Boy Scout merit badge on genealogy.

No one went away hungry from any meal at Dickinson College. Wait till you see their salad bar, their dessert bar, and their ice cream bar!!!!!!

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW????

Why a true TRITT-DRITT would never put an attic window directly under the ridge of the roof???

Come to Carlisle in July and find the answer.

TRITT ROADS

We have learned of two new Tritt Roads this year.

1. Tritt Road - located in a rural area of Vanderhoof, B.C. Canada - named after John Riley Tritt who settled there in 1937.

2. Tritt Road - runs north and south parallel to the Indiana-Illinois border between Sanford and West Terre Haute, Indiana in Vigo County, Fayette Township.

Might you know of any other location names involving Tritts? Please let us know.

PUBLICATION TIMETABLE

From the beginning, one of our main goals has been the eventual publication of a well-researched and thoroughly documented TRITT FAMILY HISTORY.

At the 1982 meeting we gave some initial thought to a probable publication date for such a project. Aware of the considerable work yet to be done, here in the United States and in Europe, and giving proper attention to all the thorough documentation required, we set our sights on publication occurring somewhere near the end of the 1980's.

To come near to achieving such a goal we need the help of many persons doing committed and serious work on any of the many phases and branches of this massive effort. We invite you to pick an area of interest to you. No area is too small for inclusion in the eventual publication. We would be pleased to help you get started and to provide you with assistance. In this regard, at the 1983 meeting we will be offering a workshop in basic genealogical research methods for those just beginning.

With all of us working, perhaps there can be a TRITT FAMILY HISTORY in print by the early 1990's.

NOTICE

Some of you may have been sent one or more solicitations from a Beatrice Bayley of Sterling, PA, advertising a book called "The Family Heritage Book". She further states this book "is personalized to the Tritt family".

Our research group has examined this item and we wish to make the following statement:

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH DOES NOT ENDORSE THE BOOK PUBLISHED BY BEATRICE BAYLEY, INC. TITLED "THE FAMILY HERITAGE BOOK".

VISIT TO ST. STEPHAN

This past year, Richard Tritt (Boiling Springs, PA) and Don Tritt (Granville, OH) were separately able to visit St. Stephan, one place where Tritts have resided since at least 1560. With the assistance of Herr Fritz Kummer, the township clerk of St. Stephan and Don's friend, Herr Hugo Luscher of Zurich, they studied the early and very fragile records. In this village very little new information was uncovered. However, another possible depository of information was identified and this will be researched during a future trip to Switzerland. Dick and Don took a series of slides of St. Stephan and the surrounding area and they will be presented at the 1983 meeting.

The following article, written by Richard Tritt, is based on notes taken during his visit to St. Stephan, Switzerland, in June, 1982.

My interest in Tritt family history dates back many years to my childhood. I was always fascinated by a huge framed copy of the Tritt Family Tree that hung in my grandparents' long, dark hall. I read over and over the paragraph found on the trunk of the tree about Hans Peter Tritt and his long journey to America. As the years

passed, and I became more and more involved in Tritt Family Research, a major goal and dream of mine was to one day learn where Hans Peter and his ancestors came from, and to make a visit to that European homeland. Last summer that dream became a reality, a day that will stand out as one of the most memorable of my life.

I was staying in Lausanne, Switzerland, for two days with a group of students whom I was chaperoning on a three week tour of France and a bit of Switzerland. When I realized that I was within a few hours drive of St. Stephan, I arranged to have the day free to make the trek back to the mountain village of my ancestors. The reality and anticipation of what I was about to do prevented me from sleeping at all the night before. I was very apprehensive about this trip because I had never rented a car, driven in Europe, or tackled the small winding roads of the Swiss Alps. The morning turned out to be dark, cloudy and rainy as I rented a Ford Fiesta and found my way out of town to the autoroute. The first part of the trip wasn't too much different than driving in the states, but after leaving the autoroute, I found myself constantly changing gear and turning the steering wheel as I maneuvered narrow mountain roads for the next hour and a half. Perhaps it was fortunate that it was so cloudy and I couldn't see the long drops off the sides of the unprotected roadway.

On reaching St. Stephan, I was pleasantly surprised to see a dramatic change in the weather. The clouds lifted, the warm sun appeared, and the day became ideal for a visit.

St. Stephan is a small mountain village built on the sides of a beautiful alpine valley, the Simmental. The village church is the most evident building. Major buildings scattered along the main road consist of a few restaurants, two small hotels, several general stores, a local government administration building, and a small post office. Neat, well-kept chalets and farms are reached by means of several smaller roads that wind up the slopes and disappear into the mountainside. Some of the large, green shuttered chalets are centuries old and have beautiful wood carvings and inscriptions on their facades. Nearby are neat vegetable and flower gardens with an old stone or wooden watering trough to complete the storybook image.

The immensity of the panorama around you is awesome. Your eyes are constantly drawn upward to the mountain summits and snow covered peaks. The steep valley slopes are covered with pastures full of meadow grass and wild flowers, interspersed with deep green pine forests. The clear sound of a rushing mountain stream mixes with the gentle ringing of the cows' bells as they graze on the alpine slopes. Now and then a local citizen passes by on foot, bicycle or car and greets you with a suspicious nod. A train with only two cars stops at the local station for a moment and then continues down the valley.

The village is a marvelous harmony of old and new. You feel that time has stopped and little has changed since the 16th century, when our ancestors lived here. There is an obvious respect for the past, evident in the restored chalets, the newer chalets built in the traditional style and the excellent condition and restoration of the village church of St. Stephan.

St. Stephan is the parish where records of our American ancestors' parents and grandparents are found. The imposing white tower and wooden steeple are obviously ancient and have a clock as well as a sun dial on the exterior. The surrounding grounds and cemetery are extremely well maintained, with neatly defined burial plots. The entire building is perfectly restored with a natural simplicity and neatness that reflect the character of its parishioners. You enter by way of very heavy wooden doors. An old bell mounted by the entrance has called worshipers to this edifice for centuries. The stark white interior walls are interrupted only by a simple, Swiss design, gray decoration painted around the doors and windows, a few Biblical verses painted high on the walls, and an old medieval fresco of Christ and his disciples Saint John and Saint Stephan. The small windows contain clear, wavy glass

which permits glimpses of the surrounding countryside. The balcony, floor, ceiling and pews are all constructed of a heavy, rugged, natural wood. In the balcony stands a restored 18th century pipe organ. Two iron caged insets contain very old communion service pieces. A plain, carved stone baptismal font graces the center of the chancel. The wooden, wine glass pulpit is reached by a series of winding steps. Respect and appreciation of the past is very evident everywhere, but this sanctuary is obviously still alive today.

During my day of wandering the streets of St. Stephan, I met and spoke with several citizens. The people appear hardy, healthy and happy. They are German speaking, but many of the younger people speak English and French. I visited with Herr Kummer, the town clerk, but could not converse with him extensively because he spoke only German. His friendly eyes and sincere interest conveyed a man of character and warmth. I met a very amicable storekeeper in one of the village stores. She was very interested in my visit and directed me to the older parts of the village. I asked her what buildings would have been there three hundred years ago and she replied that her home had been there for 450 years. The young pastor of the church of St. Stephan was very kind, helpful and sensitive to my visit. He wished that we had more time to converse and examine the old church records.

During my visit to St. Stephan I had a strange feeling of somehow belonging and coming home again. I was a 15th generation, direct descendant returning to my home town again after 300 years of absence. My mind was full of questions. Why had my ancestors left? How long had they lived there? What buildings had I seen that they must have known? Which of these old chalets might they have inhabited? The one thing I knew they must have seen and contemplated many times was the lovely, high, snow covered peak at the end of the valley. As I drove away and left behind that beautiful, serene valley, I was overwhelmed with emotion, a mixture of sadness and joy; sad that I too was leaving that place perhaps forever, but joyful that I had experienced that memorable day in St. Stephan and could savor it for the rest of my life.

1983 MEETINGS

FIRST NATIONAL REUNION, July 7-10, 1983

Those of us who have been working on the Tritt Family History take great pleasure in inviting all Tritt-Dritt descendants and interested people to our family's first national reunion. It is intended to be an informative and enjoyable gathering for the purpose of meeting other family members, learning more about the Tritt family, and learning about your branch of the family.

Thursday evening, July 7th through Sunday morning, July 10th, are the scheduled dates for this occasion. The reunion will be held at Dickinson College (Carlisle, PA), chosen because of its location in the heart of the Tritt ancestral area, and its excellent air-conditioned housing and dining facilities.

Thursday evening, July 7, from 7:00-9:00 will be check-in time. Friday, July 8, will be devoted to seminars, slide presentations, individual research, and an exhibit of artifacts. Participants will be free to attend those activities that interest them. Topics of presentations planned to date are: Historic Tritt buildings, historical accounts of early Tritts in the United States, the Wisconsin Tritts, history of Tritt Family Research, Tritt European roots, St. Stephan in Switzerland, York County Dritts, Virginia Tritts, and introduction to genealogical research methods. A Family Line Information and Copying Service will be available. All information we have about the Tritt family and your particular family line can be obtained and copied. Guides will be available to explain the exhibit of artifacts in the display area. Friday evening will be climaxed with a banquet at the college's Holland Union Building.

Saturday, July 9, will be devoted to historical tours. A bus tour will be conducted to the York area to visit the Dritt House, Cemetery and other historical sites. Another tour will be offered of the Newville area where the Peter Tritt family line was established. A picnic lunch will be part of the tour day. To conclude the reunion, a social event is planned for Saturday night.

Housing and meals for the reunion will be available at Dickinson College July 7-10. For additional information pertaining to the 1983 Tritt Family Reunion, including registration, transportation, and housing details, please contact James R. Tritt, 1625 South Chestnut Avenue, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74012, telephone (918) 258-0471.

ANNUAL RESEARCH MEETING, July 6-7, 1983

Those of us who have been involved in the basic research of Tritt Family history will meet July 6 and 7. A brief business meeting will be conducted and research reports will be presented. In addition, we will make final preparations for the arrival of the other Tritts on Thursday, July 7.

Anyone wishing to attend this research portion of the meeting is eagerly welcomed. For further details on this portion of the meeting contact Dr. Donald G. Tritt, 4072 Goose Lane, Granville, Ohio 43023, telephone (614) 587-0213.

As in the past, Don will contact in April those who have previously shown some level of interest.

TRITT FAMILY TREE

The Tritt Family Tree, which many of you have now purchased, was the work of John Howard McCulloch, a great-grandson of Hans Peter Tritt. An article about the Tritt Tree and its origins first appeared in the 1982 newsletter.

The original hand drawn copy of the tree and the photostat from which all the old trees were made was located last April in the possession of Mrs. Malcolm Dill (Mary Linn McCulloch) near Towson, Maryland. Mrs. Dill is a niece of J. H. McCulloch. Richard Tritt visited with her because she wished to donate the tree, photostat, and a picture of Tabitha Tritt McCulloch (mother of J. H. McCulloch) to Tritt Family Research. We are very appreciative to Mrs. Dill for her kindness and generosity.

We learned from Mrs. Dill that her uncle J. H. McCulloch was 32 when he drew the Tritt tree. He married in 1901 and later moved to Carthage, Illinois, where he was a pharmacist and owned a drugstore. He had no children.

SLIDES AND PRINTS

We have had requests for slides or prints of Tritt family related places and buildings. This year we are offering for sale packets containing five color slides or five 3½" x 5" color prints. These slides and prints will be processed using Kodak film and paper by the Kodak Company. The price includes all handling and processing expenses. A packet of five slides is priced at \$5.00 and a packet of five prints at \$7.00. Included with each packet will be historical information about the subject. The following is a brief description of the six packets available at this time. Deadline for orders is March 1, 1983.

Packet No. 1 - St. Stephan, Switzerland

1. Overall view of village
2. Overall view of village
3. Church - front view
4. Church - rear view
5. Typical old village chalet

Packet No. 2 - Church of St. Stephan

1. Window with stained glass medallion of St. Stephan
2. View of chancel area
3. Medieval fresco
4. Old Communion Service in decorated case
5. Decorated doorway to chancel area

Packet No. 3 - Dritt House and Cemetery, York County, PA

1. Dritt House - front view
2. Dritt House - side view
3. Dritt House - rear view
4. Dritt Cemetery - distant view
5. Dritt Cemetery - close view

Packet No. 4 - Dritt House, York County, PA

1. Vaulted cellar
2. Downstairs center hall and open stairway
3. Upstairs hall with carved hand railing
4. Kitchen corner fireplace
5. Attic beams

Packet No. 5 - Peter Tritt, Cumberland County, PA

1. Peter Tritt House - front view
2. Peter Tritt House - rear view
3. Peter Tritt House - side view
4. Peter Tritt grave - Newville, PA
5. Elizabeth Lefever Tritt grave - Newville, PA

Packet No. 6 - Highlights of Tritt Family History

1. Overall view of the village of St. Stephan, Switzerland
2. Front view of the church of St. Stephan
3. Front view of the Dritt house, York County, PA
4. Front view of the Peter Tritt house, Cumberland County, PA
5. Peter Tritt grave, Newville, PA

MAILING LIST

This year approximately 30 initial letters were sent to newly identified Tritts. As of this date our mailing list stands at about 800 addresses. In order to keep our records current, we ask you to notify us of address changes, births, marriages, and deaths. Because of the high cost of maintaining an active, updated, and comprehensive mailing list, we would also appreciate notification from you regarding duplicate mailings, needed address corrections, and other changes.

ADDITIONAL COPIES

Do you know of someone who is not on our mailing list and who would like a copy of this newsletter or the 1982 issue? Send us their name and address and we will forward a copy to them. Send your request to: Richard L. Tritt, 204 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007.

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

ORDER FORM: 1906 HANS PETER TRITT FAMILY TREE

Please detach this form and mail to: William W. Tritt, 24 Old Stone House Road, Carlisle, PA 17013.

I would like to order _____ copy/copies of the 1906 Hans Peter Tritt Family Tree at \$10.00 each, including postage.

Mail to: Name _____ Amount Enclosed _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

CHANGE OF INFORMATION NOTICE

Please detach and send to: Dr. Donald G. Tritt, 4072 Goose Lane, Granville, Ohio 43023.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

YOUR FULL NAME: _____

Previous:

Current:

OTHER CHANGES

BIRTHS:

MARRIAGES:

DEATHS:

OTHER:

ORDER FORM: SLIDES AND PRINTS

Complete this form, detach and mail to: Richard Tritt, 204 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007 by March 1, 1983. Allow 6 weeks from deadline date for delivery.

Indicate the number and type of each packet you wish to order and enter the total amount enclosed in the space provided.

Color Slides @ \$5.00

3½" x 5" color prints @ \$7.00

Packet No. 1	_____	_____
Packet No. 2	_____	_____
Packet No. 3	_____	_____
Packet No. 4	_____	_____
Packet No. 5	_____	_____
Packet No. 6	_____	_____

Amount Enclosed _____

Mail to:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

ORDER FORM: 1900 HANS PETER TRITT FAMILY TREE

Please detach this form and mail to: William W. Tritt, 24 Oak Street, Room 202, Carlisle, PA 17013

I would like to order _____ copies of the 1900 Hans Peter Tritt Family Tree at \$10.00 each, including postage.

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____

CHANGE OF INFORMATION NOTICE

Please detach and send to: Dr. Donald G. Tritt, 4072 Goose Lane, Granville, Ohio 43023

YOUR FULL NAME: _____

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Previous:

Current:

OTHER CHANGES

BIRTH:

MARRIAGES:

DEATH:

OTHER:

ORDER FORM: SLIDES AND PRINTS

Please detach this form, detach and mail to: Richard Tritt, 204 Forge Road, Boling Springs, PA 17007 by March 1, 1983. Allow 6 weeks from deadline date for delivery.

Indicate the number and type of each packet you wish to order and enter the total amount enclosed in the space provided.

\$10.00

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard W. Tritt
328 Ridge Hill Road
Carlisle, PA 17013

Packet No. 1 _____
Packet No. 2 _____
Packet No. 3 _____
Packet No. 4 _____
Packet No. 5 _____
Packet No. 6 _____

Amount Enclosed

Name:

Street:

Granville, Ohio 43023

4072 Goose Lane, S.W.

Tritt Family Research

State: