

Tritt Family Newsletter

(With pertinence to the following known name variations – Tritten, Dritt, Trait, Trate)

Issue Number 13

November, 1992



Alpine Festival in Lenk

TRITT-TRITTEN-DRITT-TRAIT REUNION TOUR TO SWITZERLAND AND FRANCE

JUNE 17 - JULY 1, 1993

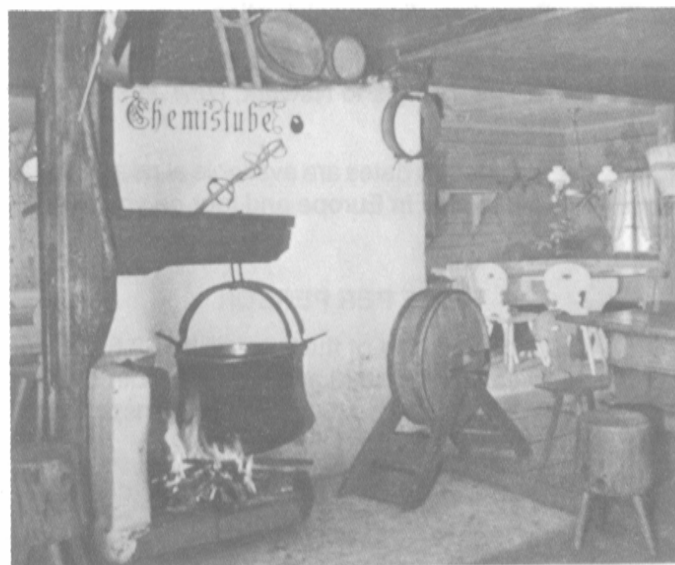
As a consequence of the 1989 remigration tour to Switzerland, our Swiss cousins represented by Kurt Tritten (Lenk) and our French cousins represented by Micheline Furon-Tritten (Chatillon sur Seine) have invited us to return to Europe in 1993 for a family gathering. The plan is to meet in Lenk and tour the surrounding area of our earliest roots for 3 days. Following this we will be transported via deluxe motor coach on a circuit around Switzerland and southeast France visiting some classic tourist spots and out-of-the-way places known to our cousins. In France, we will meet with another large segment of the Tritten-Tritt family and tour the Burgundy wine area. Our guide and driver will be our cousins Jakob and Toni Tritten of Zweisimmen, Switzerland, who hosted us so well during the 1989 remigration tour.

TOUR ITINERARY (Subject to change)

June 17 - Departure from Newark International Airport. Seven hour overnight Balair flight to Geneva.

June 18 - Bus trip from Geneva to Lenk. Check in at hotel and dinner in Lenk.

June 19, 20 - Choice of various activities in the Lenk area, such as the following: visit to the Church of St. Stephan, walk or ride to a summer alp, visit an alpine festival, visit the Health Resort in Lenk, visit local shops, a drive by bus to the Chemi-Stube restaurant, (a mountain inn once owned by members of the Tritten family), visit to the Historical Museum of the Obersimmental in Zweisimmen, visit by local



Chemi-Stube Restaurant in St. Stephan, A Mountain Inn Once Owned By The Tritten Family.

motor coach and then walk to the 260 feet high Iffigen Water Fall, drive by bus up to Buhlberg for lunch with a beautiful view of the valley and snowcapped peaks, a 45 minute walk to the Wallbach gorges and the roaring waterfalls.

June 21 - Depart Lenk and by way of Interlaken, visit the wood carving village of Brienz. Proceed to Meiringen over the Grimsel Pass to Brig and then on to Visp. Here take the train to Zermatt.

June 22 - Tour Zermatt and then, by rack-railway, go to Gerngrat, the highest open-air railway in Europe. The Riffelberg at 10,272 feet provides an excellent view of the Matterhorn.

June 23 - Depart Zermatt by the Tasch railway to Martigny. Then by bus to the Great St. Bernard Pass to visit the famous mountain dog kennels. Drive through a small part of Italy to the tunnel under Mont Blanc. Proceed to Chamonix for the night.

June 24 - Visit Chamonix and after lunch depart for Geneva for a guided tour of the city.

June 25 - From Geneva travel to Dijon, France. Visit with Tritt relatives in this area.

June 26 & 27 - Guided tour of Dijon. Visit places in the Burgundy wine area and tour a wine cellar. Visit an historical site involved in the military campaigns of Napoleon.

June 28 - Depart Dijon and travel to Neuenburg (Neuchatel), the center of the watch and music box area in Switzerland. Visit the watch museum and shop in local stores.

June 29 - Depart Neuchatel and travel by boat on the lake of Neuchatel and pass through five miles of canal to the lake of Biel (Bienne). Disembark at the northern end of Lake Biel and drive to Berne, the capital of Switzerland.

June 30 - Leave Berne and travel through the beautiful Emmental Valley to the Rhine Falls near Schaffhausen. Last evening stay in the picturesque medieval town of Stein am Rhein. Departure dinner celebration.

July 1 - Morning departure for Kloten, the Zurich International Airport. Return flight to Newark, New Jersey. Mid-afternoon arrival.

NOTE: Alternate return dates are available at no additional cost if you wish to stay in Europe and tour on your own.

PRICE PER PERSON

The inclusive cost of the tour will be \$2,650.00 (if half is paid by January 1, 1993 and the remainder by April 1, 1993). This price includes flight, ground transportation, hotel, two meals per day, and more.

RESERVATION POLICY

Due to the size of the motor coach and the availability of accommodations at places we wish to visit, the size of the group will be limited to 49 persons. Reservations will be taken on a "first-come, first served" basis, i.e., early deposits will assure a spot, later deposits a place on the waiting list.

PLEASE NOTE: At press time, 32 paid reservations have been received. This means 17 spots remain available. For more detailed information about this trip and a reservation form, please contact Donald Tritt. If you want to assure your reservation, send a deposit in the amount of \$250 per

person made out to: TRITT FAMILY TOUR-ESCROW ACCOUNT and send to:

Donald G. Tritt
4072 Goose Lane
Granville, Ohio 43023-9670
Telephone: (614) 587-0213

NOTE: Full refund of your deposit will be possible up to 90 days before departure.



Lake Geneva and Chillon Castle

OFFICERS OF TFR

Donald G. Tritt, President
4072 Goose Lane, S.W., • Granville, Ohio 43023-9670
Telephone (614) 587-0213

Richard L. Tritt, Vice-President & Newsletter Editor
204 Forge Road • Boiling Springs, PA 17007
Telephone (717) 258-6181

Wm. Wayne Tritt, Treasurer
24 Old Stone House Road • Carlisle, PA 17013
Telephone (717) 766-7397

Connie J. Tritt, Secretary
7 Ironstone Drive • Carlisle, PA 17013
Telephone (717) 258-4176

Cynthia J. Wagner, Assistant Secretary
5710 Cloverdale Road • Harrisburg, PA 17112
Telephone (717) 652-5602

INVENTORY OF HANS PETER TRITT

Richard L. Tritt

When Hans Peter Tritt, Jr., the immigrant, died in 1768 at his home along the Susquehanna River in York Co., PA, he did not have a will. His wife, Barbara, was named administratrix of his estate. As was the custom, a complete inventory of the deceased's possessions and assets was made. One definition of inventory is "an itemized list of current as-

sets". An inventory listed the goods or property a deceased person owned at the time of his death. All aspects of the person's estate were included, wearing apparel, animals, kitchen utensils, furniture, tools, farming equipment, crops, money, debts and bonds. The principal reason for filing inventories of assets with the court was to protect creditors and heirs by preventing assets from being dissipated before claims were settled.

The original inventory of Hans Peter Tritt's estate can be seen in the record books of the Recorder of Wills at the York County Courthouse in York, PA. The inventory and appraisement of his estate was made on March 14, 1768 by two appraisers named Christian Steiner and Jacob Wolzhoffer. The appraisers followed a standard pattern, enumerating in order the household effects, barn and stock inventory, and finally the financial assets. The total value of the items they listed was one hundred and seventy one pounds, four shillings and ten pence.

This article is an attempt to describe and interpret Hans Peter Tritt's inventory. Inventories are very detailed and can tell us much about the life and material wealth of a person. The appraised items listed in this article are not given in their original order but have been grouped into categories. This has been done to give a clearer picture of their way of life.

The valuation after items listed in the inventory is the appraised value estimated by the two designated appraisers. The three numbers indicate the number of pounds, shillings and pence. In Pennsylvania, these units were generally used in accounting until about 1800. This Pennsylvania money had exactly three-fifths of the value of British coin of the same name. The word "lot" after the value was added by the author to indicate that in the original document the item was one of a larger lot that was given a combined evaluation. All items are written as they appear in the inventory with original spelling and punctuation. Spellings within brackets were added by the author. The term "Do." is an abbreviation for "ditto".

A study of this inventory reveals that the Tritt household retained a frontier mode of living. Most of the items and



Earliest known view of the 1758 Tritt House.
The original log cabin is to the left.

tools that Hans Peter possessed were required to provide the necessities of food, clothing, and shelter. By 1758 Hans Peter was living in a two story eight room stone house. The quantity of furniture reflects the size of that house. When he first moved to this land in 1741 he lived in a one or two room log house that he

had built on the property. He earnestly cleared the land and using his agricultural skills transformed the forest into a 200 acre working farm that supported himself and a family of nine children. There is evidence in his inventory that Hans Peter was also involved in the business of making and selling iron products to others in the area.

The inventory begins with the following paragraph:

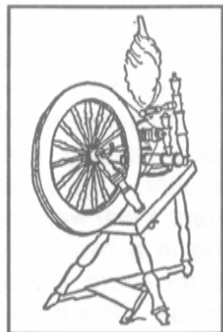
The Accompt of Barbara Tritt Administratrix of all and singular the Goods and Chattels, Rights and Credits which were of Peter Tritt late of Windsor Township deceased; as well of all and singular the Goods and Chattels Rights and Credits which were of the said deceased at the Time of his Death which came to her Hands Possession or knowledge as of her Payments and disbursements out of and against the same as follows, Vitz—

<i>his Apparal</i>	<i>4 - 0 - 0</i>
<i>five Shirts</i>	<i>0 - 18 - 0</i>

It is interesting to note that the first items listed in the inventory are Hans Peter's personal clothing. Clothing production was labor intensive. Clothing had a higher value in the 18th century because it was handmade by the women of the household. Since shirts entailed more labor, they were enumerated separately.

<i>Seven Table Cloths</i>	<i>2 - 0 - 0</i>
<i>Seven hand Towels</i>	<i>0 - 10 - 0</i>
<i>Bed Ticks</i>	<i>1 - 10 - 0</i>
<i>60 lb. of Tow Yarn</i>	<i>1 - 10 - 0</i>
<i>Wooling Yarn</i>	<i>0 - 4 - 0</i>

The next five items on the inventory are related. They reflect the family's preoccupation with the production of homespun textiles. A Germanic pioneer family would have had seven table cloths for their personal use. The table was covered with a linen tablecloth at each meal. It was usually white, but some were used in the natural flax color. They were the result of hand-spinning and professional weaving. Not as spectacular but of practical necessity were the tow hand towels. A bed tick was a cloth that covered feathers or chaff to make up the equivalent of today's



mattress. Tow yarn is a yarn prepared for spinning that is made from the coarse broken fibers of flax and/or hemp. Wool was frequently chosen by early Americans because it was strong and warm. The tow and wool yarn was on hand for the future production of more textiles.

<i>One Spinning Wheel</i>	<i>0 - 12 - 0 (lot)</i>
<i>Four Spinning Wheels</i>	
<i>one Wooling Do. & one Reel</i>	<i>0 - 7 - 6</i>
<i>Seven Bags Hemp Seed</i>	
<i>& Wool</i>	<i>1 - 10 - 0</i>
<i>Thirty Pounds of Flax</i>	<i>1 - 7 - 0</i>
<i>Hemp</i>	<i>1 - 0 - 0</i>
<i>Three Casks with Flax-seed</i>	<i>0 - 3 - 0</i>
<i>2 Pare of Wool Cards</i>	<i>0 - 7 - 6</i>
<i>Ten Sheep</i>	<i>3 - 15 - 0</i>
<i>Two Hatchels</i>	<i>0 - 8 - 0 (lot)</i>

These items are further evidence that the family was actively involved in the raising of sheep for wool and flax and hemp for textile production. The average family had a number of spinning wheels and reels. A spinning wheel is used to spin flax and hemp into yarn or thread. A wool wheel is a type of spinning wheel used with wool. A reel is a revolvable device on which the yarn or thread is wound into hanks for skeins.

The culture of hemp and flax was of major importance to the Germanic people. Hemp is a tall annual plant that is cultivated for its tough fibers, which are made into course cloth. Flax is a slender plant with slender stems about two feet tall. The threadlike fibers into which the stems of the plant separate are spun into thread and woven into linen or tow. The linen is cool, strong, insect proof and lint free.

Wool cards are pieces of leather, sometimes mounted on wood, with many fine wire teeth, used to disentangle, clean, blend and join the woolen fibers into a rolag which could be spun into yarn. Early housewives had a quantity of these cards. Since carding was both time consuming and monotonous, but required little skill, the task was often assigned to children or elderly women since the housewife herself had little time to spare for such tedious work.

DISHES AND EATING UTENSILS

<i>Three Basons Six Dishes &</i>	
<i>Seven Plates</i>	<i>1 - 10 - 0</i>
<i>Eighteen Spoons</i>	<i>0 - 4 - 0</i>
<i>One Pewter Tankard 2/6</i>	<i>0 - 6 - 0 (lot)</i>

FOOD PREPARATION ITEMS

<i>One Coffe Mill</i>	<i>0 - 8 - 0 (lot)</i>
<i>A Churn, Earthen Pots,</i>	
<i>Water Pots</i>	<i>0 - 4 - 0 (lot)</i>
<i>A Dough Trough, Bread</i>	
<i>Baskets & a Cabbage Plain</i>	<i>0 - 2 - 0</i>

COOKING UTENSILS

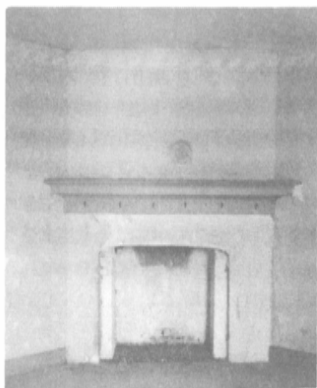
<i>Three Iron Pots, one Kettle,</i>	
<i>Ladles and a Frying Pan</i>	<i>1-5-0</i>



FOOD AND DRINK

<i>a Vinegar Barrel</i>	<i>0 - 12 - 0 (lot)</i>
<i>a Tub Meat and Salt</i>	<i>1 - 10 - 0</i>
<i>All the Rye @ 3 sh. a bushel the Wheat @</i>	
<i>2 sh. a bushel Spelce @ 6 sh. a bushel</i>	
<i>Five Hives of Bees</i>	<i>0 - 15 - 0</i>
<i>Two Hogsheds of Cyder,</i>	
<i>two empty Barrels</i>	<i>2 - 15 - 0</i>
<i>Seventeen Hogsheds,</i>	
<i>One Distill & Tub</i>	<i>8 - 0 - 0</i>

A few of these food related items may need defining. A dough trough is an oblong container that was used to mix and knead dough. A cabbage plane is now usually called a "kraut cutter", a device for shredding cabbage to make slaws or sauerkraut. Spelce (spelt) is a type of wheat raised chiefly for livestock feed. A hogshead is a large barrel or cask. It contains a liquid measure equal to 63 gallons.



Corner fireplace in kitchen of the Tritt House

From the listing of these food related items we can draw some conclusions. The Tritt house had two working fireplaces, one in each of the two back rooms. These large fireplaces were used to cook food either in iron pots or in a frying pan. An iron pot, hung on a crane, was indispensable for soup, stews, and boiled puddings. Usually equipped with legs, the pot was also useful for simmering directly over the coals. A long handled frying pan was a useful utensil for open-

hearth cooking. Set on a trivet or made with three legs to stand over the coals, the frying pan was helpful for frying or sauteing many foods.

HOUSEHOLD LIGHTING DEVICES

<i>Lamps</i>	0 - 6 - 0 (lot)
<i>two Candlesticks</i>	0 - 8 - 0 (lot)

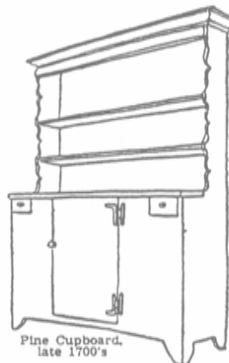


A lamp is a generic term for any container that could hold a wick suspended in a flammable material (e.g. grease, oil) to produce light. In early days the flame was open. The seeds from flax plants were often crushed for precious linseed oil to fuel the lamps.

FURNITURE

<i>One Looking Glass [mirror]</i>	0 - 6 - 0 (lot)
<i>One Bed and Bedstead</i>	1 - 5 - 0
<i>A Bed (with the furniture)</i>	
<i>& Bedstead</i>	1 - 0 - 0
<i>A Bed Bedstead & Furniture</i>	1 - 10 - 0
<i>A Cradle</i>	0 - 2 - 0
<i>One table</i>	0 - 7 - 6

<i>A Chest</i>	0 - 10 - 0
<i>Two chests & Leather</i>	0 - 10 - 0
<i>One Kitchen Cupboard,</i> <i>and Two Cloaths Presses</i>	3 - 0 - 0



Pine Cupboard, late 1700's

Chests were vital to our ancestors because there were few or no closets for storage. They were used for clothing and linen storage. The term chest generally refers to a box-like piece of furniture with a hinged lid. The kitchen cupboard held the family dishes and cutlery. The clothes press was a chest or wardrobe specifically for clothes. Curiously absent from the furniture inven-

tory is any listing of chairs. Perhaps they were owned by the eldest son, Jacob, who lived in the house and was of age.

During this period, beds were almost entirely hand-made by the women of the household. The term bed itself has changed in meaning since the time of this inventory. According to Webster's definition in 1828, a bed was "a sack or tick filled with feathers or wool; but a bed may be made of straw or any other material." This is why the bed and bedstead are listed separately. Because of the labor involved, the linens on a bed were worth more than the wooden frame or bedstead, which is now called a bed.

MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

<i>Tinware</i>	0 - 6 - 0 (lot)
<i>Ten bags</i>	1 - 2 - 0
<i>three Boxes & Ribbands</i>	
<i>[ribbons]</i>	0 - 6 - 0 (lot)
<i>Three Razors</i>	0 - 7 - 6 (lot)
<i>Books</i>	1 - 15 - 0

WEAPONS

<i>Two Fowling pieces [guns]</i>	
<i>Powder Horn</i>	
<i>and Shot Pouch</i>	0 - 5 - 0
<i>One Gun Barral</i>	0 - 4 - 0 (lot)
<i>a Bullet Mould</i>	0 - 7 - 6 (lot)

A fowling piece is a type of musket with a very long barrel. We can assume that the weapons were primarily for hunting game since the Indians in the area were not usually hostile.

FARM ANIMALS AND GEAR

One Bay Mare	9 - 0 - 0
One Bay Horse	8 - 0 - 0
One Mare	8 - 0 - 0
A Black Colt	6 - 0 - 0
Ten Sheep	3 - 15 - 0
Two Hogs a Sow with 6 Pigs	1 - 5 - 0
One Black Cow	1 - 10 - 0
One Red Do.	1 - 10 - 0
One Red Do.	1 - 5 - 0
One Black Do.	3 - 0 - 0
One Red Do.	2 - 0 - 0
One Red Heiffer	1 - 5 - 0
Five Calves	3 - 0 - 0
Three Saddles, one Side Saddle and four Fives	1 - 12 - 0
Two Collars and Geers, Log	
Chain & Bridles	1 - 10 - 0
One Waggon	4 - 0 - 0

Horses enabled travel. Almost all people, men and women, rode to church and neighboring farmsteads on horseback. Early on the residents of Pennsylvania used horses for travel instead of walking. The cows provided a food staple, milk, and the hogs were a major source of meat.

FARM RELATED ITEMS

A Dung hook	0 - 0 - 9
One Windmill & a Cutting Box	0 - 15 - 0
One Plough and a Harrow & two Single Trees	1 - 15 - 0
two Baskets and a Half bushel	0 - 1 - 0
One half a Bushel & four Pails	0 - 4 - 0

One Applemill and

two Brakes

0 - 15 - 0

A Lock

0 - 7 - 6 (lot)

Steelyards

0 - 10 - 0

Many of these farm related items are unfamiliar to us today. A windmill was used on the floor of a barn to blow the chaff away from the grain. The cutting box was used to cut straw into small pieces so that it could be stuffed into a tick. Singletrees are also called whippetrees. They are wooden bars used to keep working animals' chains apart as they pulled loads or farm equipment (implements). A brake is a large, heavy harrow. A steelyard is a type of scale with a moveable weight and calibrated arm.

SMITHING ITEMS

All the Smith tools &

Bellis [bellows]

12 - 0 - 0

40 lb of Iron

0 - 10 - 0

8 lb of Steel.

0 - 5 - 0

Coals

0 - 12 - 0

It appears that Hans Peter was very involved in smithing. His smith tools and bellows are the highest appraised items in the inventory. Additional evidence of his trade is found in a March 1, 1762 deed for a land purchase from a Caspar Ruby in Windsor Township. In that deed Hans Peter is referred to as a blacksmith. He also had thirty-six outstanding book debts listed in the inventory. These could well be for his smithing work.

TOOLS & LUMBER

Two Axes

0 - 4 - 0 (lot)

One Ax

0 - 4 - 0 (lot)

a Grind Stone

0 - 18 - 0 (lot)

a Box Whetstones

0 - 7 - 6 (lot)

Two Mawls and

four Wedges

0 - 4 - 0

one Cutting knives and

a Drawing Knife

0 - 12 - 0 (lot)

300 Feet of Gum Boards

0 - 18 - 0 (lot)

One Saw & old

Trasors [tracers]

0 - 12 - 0



Date Marker
in Tritt House

A maul is a very heavy mallet used for driving stakes or wedges. We can imagine that these were some of the tools that were used to clear the land, build the family's original log cabin and barn, and then the 1758 two story stone house that is now known as the General Dritt Mansion.

GARDEN TOOLS

Four Grubbing Hoas, Two Corn

Do. Two Pitching Forks 0 - 18 - 0

Five Sythes 0 - 12 - 0 (lot)

2 Shovels, and One Spade 0 - 4 - 0 (lot)

The inventory substantiates the fact that the land was still being cleared with the amount of axes and hoes listed. Grubbing was a term used in agriculture meaning to clear the ground of stubs. There was a great specialization of hoes at that time, such as grubbing hoes, corn hoes, etc. Scythes were a necessity at harvest time to cut the grain. Pitch forks were used for moving hay.

Having completed the outside inventory, the appraisers list the notes, bonds, and book debts owing to the deceased. These reveal that Hans Peter extended credit and cash to forty-one people, indicating that he was involved in numerous business transactions. The widow Barbara Tritt claimed credit allowances for expenses incurred in the settlement of her husband's estate. Most of these expenses were for burial costs, unpaid debts, legal expenses and the Inventory and Vendue. She had shoes, a shirt, stockings and a coffin made for Hans Peter for his funeral.

The account indicates that there was a Vendue (Public Sale) of the appraised items and that the actual sale exceeded the appraised value by 87.15. 11. Taking into account the grain that was still in the field and cash from bonds, the grand total for the estate was 271.3.1 Using a formula to calculate the approximate value of the inventory today the author arrived at a sum of approximately \$10,000.

The author hopes that this article has provided you with an interesting peek into the daily lives of Hans Peter Tritt and his family. After examining their possessions we can surmise that they spent most of their time working to provide themselves with the basic necessities of living. We can also appreciate the tragedy of Hans Peter's death, leaving a widow and minor children to continue on with the task of survival in early America.

Sources used for this article:

Estate Inventories. How to Use Them, Kenneth L. Smith, Columbus, Ohio, 1984.

"Household Inventories, Lower Allen Township, 1760 - 1800", Cumberland County History, Vol. V No. 1, Summer 1988.

The Homespun Textile Tradition of the Pennsylvania Germans, Ellen J. Gehret, Alan G. Keyser, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, 1976.

I would also like to thank MerriLou Schaumann of Dover, PA and Charles and Tandy Hersh of Carlisle, PA for their expertise and assistance in interpreting inventories.



EUROPEAN TRITT/TRITTEN VISITS TO THE U.S.A.

Donald G. Tritt, President

During the past summer, members of two European Tritt families visited in the U.S.A.

From Waldenbuch, Germany for a three week visit came Friedrich and Christel Tritt and their 19 year old son, Andreas. Friedrich has been most helpful gathering together some information regarding Tritt ancestors who migrated to the Stuttgart area at the beginning of the 1700s.

From Zweisimmen, Switzerland came Jakob Tritten, his daughter, Brigitte (age 22) and his son, Toni (age 21). Jakob's travel company brought 16 Swiss to the U.S.A. for a mid-June two week tour of the east visiting Atlantic City, Washington, D.C., Hershey, Pennsylvania, Columbus, Ohio, Niagara Falls, Toronto, Montreal and New York City. On June 25, Jakob, Brigitte and their tour group returned to Switzerland. For the next three weeks, Toni lived with Richard and Nancy Tritt (Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania) and visited with relatives in the central Pennsylvania area. Toni then came west to Ohio for the 1992 research meeting of TFR. Toni will remain in the U.S.A. until mid-December to study English. During this time, he will be living with Don and Marilyn Tritt in Granville, Ohio.



Andreas, Christel and Friedrich Tritt
from Waldenbuch, Germany



*Toni Tritten from
Zweisimmen, Switzerland*

Don and Marilyn Tritt hosted Friedrich, Christel, Andreas and Toni on a two and a half week driving tour through the American west. From San Francisco, Friedrich and his family flew back to Germany. Toni had an interesting return trip from California to Granville. As he headed east, he was hosted by various family members along the way for three to

four day visits, giving him a rare opportunity to see sights and life in a variety of places. Along the way he was hosted by Ernest and Doris Trait (Long Beach, California), Nancy Trait Lira (Albuquerque, New Mexico), Harold and Phyllis Hegyessy (Pleasant Grove, Utah), James and Betty Tritt (Broken Arrow, Oklahoma), Ray and June Tritt (Montgomery, Illinois) and Jeffrey and Holly Tritt (Naperville, Illinois).



MINUTES OF TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH

Meeting held on July 10 - 12, 1992

The annual meeting of Tritt Family Research was held July 10-12, 1992, at the home of Donald & Marilyn Tritt in Granville, Ohio. There were twenty-four in attendance from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Utah, Tennessee, Germany and Switzerland.

The meeting consisted of planning and work sessions. Many of the results of these sessions are found in articles throughout this newsletter. Research projects were assigned, a publication schedule was outlined, and article assignments for the newsletter were made.

A highlight of the meeting was the international flavor created by the attendance of the Friedrich Tritt family from Germany, and Toni Tritten from Switzerland, and a dinner held at the German Club in Columbus.

We were pleased to have two first time participants at our meeting, Johnny O. and Margaret Tritt of Alexandria, Ohio. Ironically they have lived for years very near to Donald Tritt but do not know how they are related to the main branch of the Tritt family. Johnny's father was from Alderson, West Virginia but research in that area has not yet yielded any answers.

All those in attendance were very grateful to Don and Marilyn Tritt for their gracious hospitality and their planning of the entire weekend.



DEATH OF RUTH HUPP

In the January 1992 Newsletter we printed an article entitled "Moving West" that was written by Ruth Hemminger Hupp of Webster City, Iowa. We were informed by a relative that Ruth died on August 25, 1991 at the age of 93. We are grateful that she left so many written memories for the family.

WRITE THE STORY OF AN ANCESTOR

We envision the eventual publication of the Tritt Family History as containing a variety of historical and narrative sections presenting the TRITT/TRITTEN/DRITT/TRAIT/TRATE story.

One important section will be organized to present the story of specific persons and their descendants to the current day. This means YOU, who know these person-related stories best, can write and supply an account of a particular person and his/her descendants. Furthermore, should the needed Family Group Record sheets be present in our computer file (see related article in this Newsletter), we will work with you to embellish the account of your beginning person by displaying a backward ancestral chart from as early a date as possible. Send your accounts to Donald G. Tritt, President, Tritt Family Research, 4072 Goose Lane, S.W., Granville, Ohio 43023-9670.



FAMILY GROUP RECORD SHEETS

If you want information regarding yourself and your family included in the eventual publication of Tritt Family History, we ask that you complete a series of Family Group Record Sheets. This sheet is the standard form for the initial recording of all genealogical information. For your use we have enclosed a copy of this form in this issue of the Newsletter. Since you will probably need several such sheets, you might copy the one included here. One sheet is to be completed for each family, i.e., each marriage unit. If there is a second marriage, then a second sheet is to be completed.

Ordinarily three completed Family Group Record Sheets, one each for A) you (and all your children), B) your parents (and all their children), and C) your Tritt grandparents (and all their children) in combination with our own considerable collection of pre-20th century sheets could result in the delineation of your own multi-generational pedigree chart, perhaps as far back as the 1500s. Should you be able to provide an additional sheet containing information about your Tritt great-grandparents (and all their children), the likelihood is increased of being able to provide you with such a lengthy pedigree chart. Without these sheets the linkages cannot be made and information is not readily available for future generations.

In listing all dates please be sure to use the convention of day / month (in words) / full year e.g., 18 July 1876. In addition, please be sure to give maiden names of all females. Both of these practices help to eliminate many errors. Send your completed Family Group Record Sheets to Donald G. Tritt, President, Tritt Family Research, 4072 Goose Lane, Granville, Ohio 43023-9670.

**FAMILY
GROUP
RECORD**

To indicate that a child is an ancestor of the family representative, place an "X" behind the number pertaining to that child.

HUSBAND

Born _____ Place _____

Chr. _____ Place _____

Marr. _____ Place _____

Died _____ Place _____

Bur. _____ Place _____

HUSBAND'S FATHER _____ HUSBAND'S MOTHER _____

HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE

Born _____ Place _____

Chr. _____ Place _____

Died _____ Place _____

Bur. _____ Place _____

WIFE'S FATHER _____ WIFE'S MOTHER _____

WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

SEX M F	CHILDREN Last child (whether living or dead) in order of birth Given Names Surname	WHEN BORN			WHERE BORN			DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE		WHEN DIED	
		DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TOWN	COUNTY	STATE OR COUNTRY	TO WHOM	DAY	MONTH	YEAR
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

OTHER MARRIAGES

TRITT FAMILY HISTORY PUBLICATION

Richard Tritt



Harold Hegyessy, Jr. one of the authors of the Tritt Family History

The publication of a Tritt Family History was a major topic discussed at the annual meeting of TFR. The purpose of the book is to write a permanent, documented, illustrated account of Tritt lineage and history. It will include Tritt origins, derivations in spelling of the name, and interesting stories about Tritts. The scope of this project is so large that it was decided to publish a series of books rather than just one huge book.

The first book will be designed so that all later volumes will relate back to it. It will deal with early Tritt history in America, using a flashback to describe the European roots of the family. The book will chronicle the first two immigrants to America, Hans Peter and his brother Christian, as well as their children. The publication of this first volume is targeted for 1995.

Future volumes scheduled for completion in four to fifteen years will include books on:

- European Roots of the Tritt Family
- Peter Tritt, Cumberland County, PA
- Christian Tritt, Berks County, PA
- Jacob Dritt, York County, PA
- Later Tritt Immigrants to America
- Tritts of the Virginias
- William Tritt, Wisconsin Line
- Balthas Tritt, Southern Line
- Foreign Tritts - New Zealand, France, Switzerland, Germany, Poland, Australia, South America

The rationale behind this approach is that a series of books is more manageable and researchers and writers can focus and concentrate on one area at a time. Also, some family members will only be interested in certain parts of the family history, so they can purchase only those pertinent volumes. Other members will want the entire story so they can purchase all the volumes.

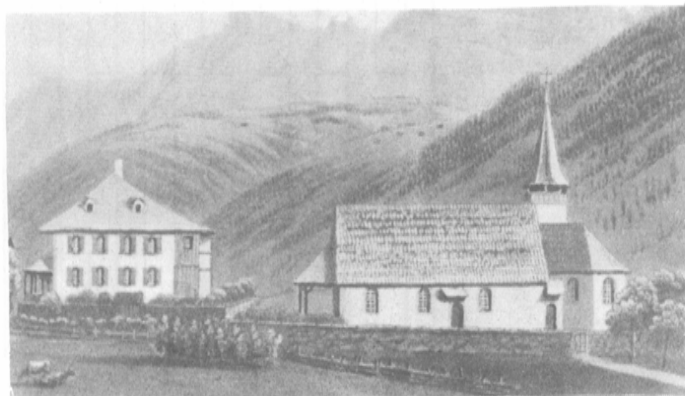
Once all the family record sheets have been entered into the computer program Roots III, we hope to be able to offer a customized print-out for individual family members on a priced per page basis. This print-out will tie individuals to family lines included in the books.

RESEARCH NEEDED ON EARLY 16TH CENTURY RECORDS; AN APPEAL FOR FUNDING

Donald G. Tritt, President

Throughout all our efforts as an all-volunteer family research group, we have not actively sought funds relying instead on donations to cover the fixed expenses of printing and mailing the newsletter. For the past few years, this cost has required a budget of about \$1,500 per year. From the time of our founding in 1977, we took the position that spontaneous giving for "a job well done" might be a better way of funding such fixed expenses rather than charging a subscription fee. Your sustained and generous contributions over the past decade have confirmed this belief. As we end 1992, we are pleased to report that sufficient funds exist to issue the newsletter. However, these funds (see report of the Treasurer elsewhere in this newsletter) are not sufficient to finance a needed specialized research project. I'll describe this more fully.

We have reported to you in past issues of the newsletter that historical notations suggest that Tritt information exists prior to the mid-1500s and perhaps as far back as the mid-1400s. However, it is at this point that we face a problem. These very early source records are quite obscure, not indexed, and very difficult to read not only because of the language, but also because of the archaic handwriting style. This kind of very early research requires the special skills of those trained for such work. We have identified a specialist on early research records, a person in whom we have a great deal of confidence. An assessment of his fees shows them to be quite reasonable. We estimate the cost for this specialized research to be around \$4,000. However, as mentioned earlier, we cannot fund such a project out of the current treasury, most of which will be needed for the next newsletter. At the 1992 annual meeting of Tritt Family Research, it was decided to present this problem to those who might be willing to share in financing this special project. So, we make an appeal for a designated-use fund to underwrite this specialized research. If you are so motivated, would you make out your contribution to: "Tritt Family Research - 16th Century Research Fund" and mail your check to W. Wayne Tritt, Treasurer, Tritt Family Research, 24 Old Stone House Road, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013. We thank you for any level of contribution you can make to this designated-use fund.



Lenk, Switzerland, with the old Church

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF TFR MEETINGS

Spring, 1993 - Regional Meetings in Pennsylvania and Ohio to computerize information from Family Record Books

June 25-26, 1993 - International Tritt Family Reunion in Dijon, France

July 14-17, 1994 - Research Group Meeting at Granville, Ohio

Summer, 1995 - National Reunion and release of THE TRITT FAMILY VOL. I, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Summer, 1996 - Tritt Family Research Tour to Switzerland

* * *

TRITT FAMILY PHOTO COLLECTION

Richard Tritt

Included in our Family Archives Collection at the Hamilton Library in Carlisle, PA is a collection of Tritt Family photos. We want to stress the importance of maintaining a photographic as well as written record of the family and all its related branches.

We will be happy to accept any family related photos into our collection, especially those of our early ancestors. If you do not want to part with original photos, we would be equally happy to receive copies or negatives. Please give this serious consideration, since many important images have been lost through the years.

We were very pleased to obtain recently a copy of probably the earliest image of a Tritt in America. This photo of an earlier drawing is located in the photo archives of the York County Historical Society in York, PA. General Jacob Dritt, son of the immigrant Hans Peter Tritt, lived from 1746 to 1817. Being the eldest, he inherited the Dritt Mansion from his father. He was a soldier of the Revolution, an associate judge of York County and a very wealthy man in his time. At his death he owned about 3000 acres of land, a ferry company, a saw-mill, oil mill, and flax mill. He died while crossing the Susquehanna on a winter's day when his boat capsized and he drowned.



General
Jacob Dritt

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jan. 1, 1992 to Sept. 30, 1992

W. Wayne Tritt

Balance Jan. 1, 1992	\$1789.26
Income - All Sources	<u>1575.25</u>
Total before Expenses	\$3364.51
Less Expenses	<u>1408.75</u>
Balance Sept. 30, 1992	<u>\$1955.76</u>

Because of the need to dispense tour information, this newsletter has been published three months early. Therefore the financial statement reflects only activity for the first nine months of 1992. Donations amounted to \$940.00 during this period while \$307.50 was received from the sale of cookbooks. Hans Peter Tritt trees, pencils, luggage tags, newsletters, etc. account for the remaining income.

The major expense as usual is the printing and mailing of the newsletter. There were 1253 copies of issue No. 12 mailed for a total cost of \$1146.67. However, about 10% of the newsletters were returned due to incorrect addresses. This fact provides an additional financial burden on TFR because we must pay the return postage. If you know of a change of address, please send the correct information to the address shown on the back page of this newsletter. Your cooperation on this matter will be very much appreciated.

Our special thanks to the following people who made donations to TFR during the past nine months:

Barbara Holloman	Silver Spring, MD
Clair & Mary Tritt	Carlisle, PA
Eugene & Glenna Tritt	Saratoga, CA
Kenneth L. Smith	Surfside Beach, S.C.
Margaret M. Tritt	N. Vancouver, B.C.
Marilyn H. Moffitt	Zandy, UT
Donald W. Long	Carlisle, PA
Zerelda C. Tritt	Provo, UT
Sue Tritt Wieschendorff	Santa Rosa, CA
Virgil E. Tritt	Gurley, AL
Hollis C. Tritt	Spokane, WA
Beulah E. Wisniewski	Encinitas, CA
Ernest & Doris Trait	Long Beach, CA
Wayne & Esther Tritt	Carlisle, PA
William & June Tritt	Oshkosh, WI
Bill Tritt	Bassett, VA
Clarinda P. Tritt Smith	Shawnee, OK
Grace Reese & Jean Saufley	Hershey, PA
Norda A. Roper	Delta, UT
Donald & Marilyn Tritt	Granville, OH
Richard & Nancy Tritt	Boiling Springs, PA
Harold M. Hegyessy Jr.	Pleasant Grove, UT
Lorene Tritt Wagner	Johnson City, TN
Floyd Johnston	Macklin, Sask. ,CAN
Gladys Cramer	Shippensburg, PA
Jeannette Cramer	Shippensburg, PA
Lester C. Tritt, Jr.	Harrisburg, PA
Johnny & Margaret Tritt	Alexandria, OH
Milton & Mary A. Schessow	Horicon, WI

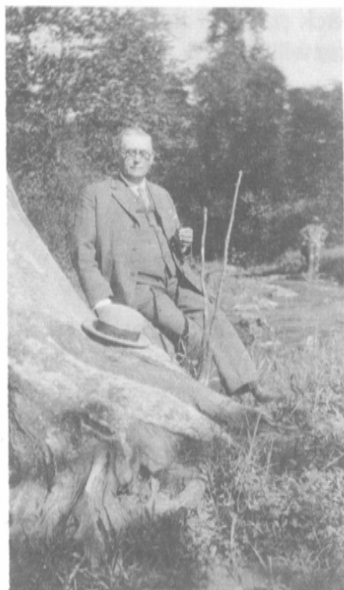
THE TRITT CHINA COMPANY

Kathleen Tritt Bricker

William H. Tritt owned and managed operations of the Tritt China Company in Niles, Ohio from 1910 to 1923.

Mr. Tritt was born in the middle of the Civil War, April 12, 1863, to William M. and Cathryn Carlisle Tritt at Lisbon, Columbia County, Ohio. He had two older sisters, Hannah, born in 1856, Margaret M., born in 1858, one younger sister, Eveline T., born in 1866, and three younger brothers, Benjamin F., (also known as Frank), born in 1869, John B., (also known as Burt), born in 1871, and George, born in 1875. William M. was a miller, coal miner, farmer, and veteran of the Civil War (Infantry 3 years, Co. K., 104th O.V.I.). The direct line back from William M. is James, Peter, Johann Paul, and Hans Peter Tritt (the younger).

William H. Tritt was five years old when his father moved to Williamsport, Ohio, and he lived there to the age of sixteen. He received his education from public schools and later while working on a farm, attended night school. He married Lydia Mae Humme, daughter of William and Emma Danks Humme, April 21, 1883. One of his early employments was in a pottery, and he began his knowledge of that industry as a presser for the firm of Knowles,



William H. Tritt

his family moved to Niles, Ohio and established the Tritt China Company taking over the Bradshaw China Company on Warren Avenue, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. During the entire existence of his company, Mr. Tritt operated the plant at full capacity, employing between 400 and 500 employees. Its special product was porcelain tableware. The pottery from the Tritt China Company had a well justified reputation in the markets of the nation, and was distributed to practically every state in the country. In 1923, for reasons unknown, there was a reorganization and the company became known as the Atlas China Company. William H. remained with the new company in an executive capacity. In 1925, the Atlas China Company merged with the Globe China Company and moved opera-

tions to Cambridge, Ohio, after which William H. took over the management of a pottery in Scio, Harrison County, Ohio. In 1935, he chose to retire after the death of Lydia Mae. His last five years of life were spent in Niles at the family home on Lafayette Street. William H. Tritt died November 25, 1940. The children from this marriage were Homer, Sr., born in 1884, William E., born in 1888, Violet, born in 1890, Wilda, born in 1896, and Thelma, born in 1904.

William H. Tritt was an active member of the Methodist Church and for many years served as the Sunday School Superintendent. He was a member of the Niles Mens Club and Masonic Lodge.

For many years prior to the prohibition era, Mr. Tritt took an active part in the "dry cause". He traveled extensively and gave many speeches to promote prohibition.

William H. Tritt is buried at the Union Cemetery in Niles, Ohio.

WRITER'S NOTE

Since I was asked to write this article, I am sorry to report I haven't been able to locate any surviving pieces from the Tritt China Co. to share markings, descriptions, or pictures with you. The pottery in my family's possession is from the Cambridge plant. If anyone knows the location of wares from this company, please contact me. I am the youngest great grand-child of William H. Tritt, born eleven years after his death.

Kathleen Tritt Bricker

1100 West Main Street • Newark, Ohio 43055

Telephone: 614-344-1998

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NEWSLETTER REPORT

The average price of placing the January, 1992 Newsletter in your hands was 91 cents. 1400 copies were printed for \$783.07 and postage was \$358.01. 1139 newsletters were mailed within the United States, 17 to Canada, and 65 to foreign countries. 32 were hand delivered by volunteers.

We wish to thank Connie Tritt who maintains the mailing lists, prepares all the mailing labels, and assists with typing and proofreading. The bulk mailing has been prepared the last several years by W. Wayne Tritt, Selden and Emma Tritt and the editor. This is a major task and takes a day of work. Thanks to all who give of their time in many ways to produce this publication.

Because of the time and money that is invested in this newsletter, we hope that only interested parties are receiving it. Most of you never asked to be on the mailing list but were located via telephone directories and other sources. If, for some reason, you want your name dropped from our mailing list, please complete the Change of Information Notice inside the last page of this newsletter and check the space provided to be removed from our mailing list.

ON THE RESEARCH TRAIL

David and Judy Tritt

Our current project for TFR is researching the 1900 Census for all TRITTS, DRITTS, TRAITTS etc. What a challenging experience! Doing the Ohio TRITTS could be accomplished at our own library here in Canton. Surrounding states can be worked on at the Western Reserve in Cleveland. But to do the remaining ones we have traveled to Fort Wayne, Indiana and the wonderful research facility, the Allen County Library.

While waiting one morning for the library to open for the day, a lady and I were discussing the costs of some of the genealogical materials (I guess genealogists just sort of gravitate toward each other). She was shocked to discover that sometimes uncertified copies of death certificates could be obtained for a mere quarter in Ohio.

Anyway, we heartily recommend visiting this library if you are ever in its vicinity. We have worked there twice so far and plan to return again to complete our project, the 1900 Census for all of the United States.

Another hint we would heartily recommend and one that we have recently tried ourselves and discovered to be an amazing help in the reading of tombstones is the use of shaving cream. Yes, you read right, shaving cream! Any brand will do. Just spray a small amount on the stone and use a cheap paint brush - a two inch width or so worked great for us - and brush gently into the engravings. They are magically highlighted and even almost illegible ones are easily read, not to mention how the writing stands out when you take a picture of the stone. We are told this is much easier on the stone than using chalk and with the next rainfall the shaving cream is simply washed away.

Working on the Joseph and Catherine Rhodes TRITT line has been a labor of love for David and I and we enjoy very much finding new pieces to, not only that specific family puzzle, but our other family lines as well. And, of course, other lines associated with TRITTS too!

WARNING - ONCE MORE!!

Many people have received a solicitation from a group calling itself the Family News Network (Midvale, Utah) offering a book titled "Tritts Since the Civil War". We have examined this and can report it contains lists only. One list shows births and deaths extracted from the recently released file of the Social Security Administration. The other list gives mailing addresses. Nowhere is there any historical narrative.

We wanted to let you know we have had all the birth and death information for some time and it is all entered into our data base. The address file collected and maintained by Tritt Family Research is far more accurate and extensive.

REGIONAL TRITT FAMILY REUNIONS

GEORGIA - Since the last newsletter, we have received an announcement regarding a regional Tritt Family Reunion held each year on the last Saturday in July at Lake Winfield Scott in Suches, Georgia (located between Dahlonega and Blairsville, Georgia). In 1993, the date for this reunion will be Saturday, July 31. For detailed information contact:

Mrs. Linda Tritt
275 Lewis Way
Canton, Georgia 30114
Telephone: (404) 479-1087
(404) 924-2165

OTHER - In future issues of this newsletter, we will be pleased to include a listing of your gathering or reunion. In addition, readers of the newsletter would welcome a written account of the events of your reunion including a list of those in attendance. Send your 1993 information to: Richard L. Tritt, Editor, Tritt Family Newsletter, 204 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007.

WOLFGANG TRITT

We have been aware for some years of an artist named Wolfgang Tritt. His work appears on greeting cards and postcards. We have learned a little more about him thanks to Ray and June Tritt of Montgomery, Illinois. They found a series of German-made postcards featuring paintings of military uniforms by W. Tritt in a bookstore in Chicago that specializes in military books.

Wolfgang Tritt was a German military artist. Most of his paintings were done around the turn of the century, 1890-1910. As far as we know, no book has ever been printed on or about his works showing reprints of his original work.



Painting of a Swiss officer 1835, by W. Tritt

A black and white photograph of three women standing in front of a Mercedes-Benz T3 transporter van. The woman on the left is wearing a light-colored short-sleeved shirt and trousers, carrying a shoulder bag. The woman in the middle is wearing a patterned short-sleeved shirt and trousers. The woman on the right is wearing a light-colored short-sleeved shirt and trousers. The van has "Tritten" and "Mercedes-Benz" branding on its front. In the background, there are buildings and other vehicles on a street.

A black and white photograph of a large, dark wooden mountain cabin with a steep gabled roof. The cabin has multiple windows and a balcony. In the foreground, there is a small wooden structure, possibly a washhouse, and a large pile of stacked firewood. The background shows a steep, forested mountain slope.



A black and white photograph of a group of seven people, four men and three women, sitting outdoors at a table. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. There are bottles on the table, and a decorative wrought-iron fence is visible in the background.

Our French Tritten cousins

**TRITT FAMILY
COOKBOOKS
ARE STILL AVAILABLE**

Sales of the cookbook have been good, but we still have one waiting for you to order. We have had nice compliments on them and we know that you, too, will be well pleased. Why not take the time to fill out the following order form and order your copy today? And while you're at it, why not order one for a gift! You won't be disappointed. They sell for just \$7.50 per book which includes postage and handling. We await hearing from you.



ITEMS FOR SALE

The following items are available for purchase from TFR. Please complete this order form and mail to:
Wm. Wayne Tritt, 24 Old Stone House Road, Carlisle, PA 17013. Postage and handling will be paid by TFR.

- _____ Tritt Family Cookbook - \$7.50
_____ Wooden lead pencils with TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH inscribed - lot of 25 - \$4.00
_____ Annual Newsletter - Issues 1-13 (Specify Issue Number(s) _____) - \$1.50 each
_____ Schematic Map of Tritt sites in Cumberland, York and Lancaster Counties, Penna. - \$1.00
_____ 1906 Tritt Family Tree - \$10.00
_____ "The Church of St. Stephan" - an 18 page booklet with a translation from the original German text - \$2.50
_____ 8 x 10 Photo, matte finish, of the Tritt House in York County (See page3) - \$10.00

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____

CHANGE OF INFORMATION NOTICE

Please detach and mail to: Mrs. Connie J. Tritt, 7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013

Your Full Name _____
Current Address _____
If moving, anticipated new address _____
☐ Please check here if you would like to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Do you know of a family member who does not receive the Newsletter, but would like to? If so, please send his/her

Name _____
Address _____

Other Changes:

Births:

Marriages:

Deaths:

Other:



Earliest known view of the 1758 Tritt House

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH

4072 Goose Lane, S.W.
Granville, Ohio 43023

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