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Tritt Family Newsletter

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

Issue Number 14 January, 1994

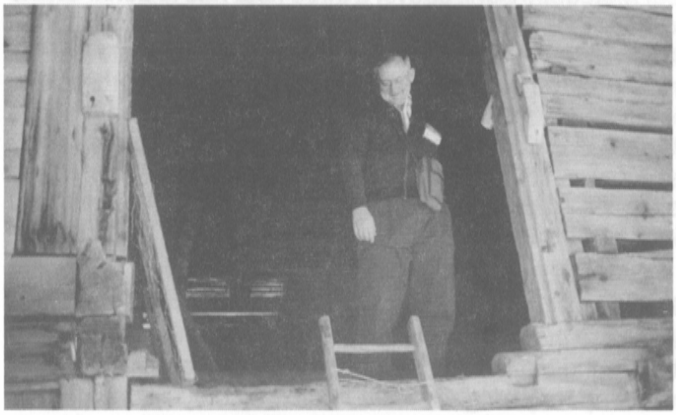
View of Saint Stephan and the Simmental Valley from the village church tower

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Richard L. Tritt
Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

This newsletter is made up primarily of articles written by family members from both sides of the Atlantic who participated in the 1993 Second World-Wide Reunion & Tour of Tritt Family Research. Although there is some overlapping of material, it is interesting to hear about events from different perspectives. As editor, I wish to thank all the contributors who shared articles and photographs to produce this fourteenth issue of our family newsletter. We hope that you enjoy reading this edition and will continue to support our efforts.

Vice-President Richard Tritt at an alpine farm near Lenk



President Donald G. Tritt
in the hayloft of the old Tritten chalet in Poschenried

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1993 SECOND WORLD-WIDE REUNION & TOUR

Donald G. Tritt
Granville, Ohio

On Thursday, June 17, nineteen family members met at the Newark, NJ airport for the 7 hour Balair flight to Zurich. In Zurich we were met by three additional family members. Persons on the tour from the United States were as follows:

Gladys and Jeanette Cramer (Shippensburg, PA)
Connie Tritt Few (Pensacola, FL)
Constance R. Fisher (Glendora, CA)
Harold M. Hegyessy, Jr. (Pleasant Grove, UT)
Barbara R. Holloman (Silver Spring, MD)
Thomas and Jane Kramm (Thompsontown, PA)
Marie Tritt Mischitz and Ronald (Bradenton, FL)
Barbara A. Powell (Adelphi, MD)
Betty and Bob Spann (Nashville, TN)
Ernest and Doris Trait (Long Beach, CA)
Florence Tritt (Pensacola, FL)
Donald and Marilyn Tritt (Granville, OH)
Richard and Nancy Tritt (Boiling Springs, PA)
David and Robyn Wampler (Gardners, PA)

At the Zurich airport following our early morning arrival, we were met by JAKOB and TONI TRITTEN and boarded our Mercedes Benz bus for a three hour ride to Lenk. On the way we took a stretch break, did some sightseeing, and had lunch in the lakeside town of Thun. Thun is located at the northern end of the Simmental valley (at the southern end is located the village of Lenk, some 20 miles away) and is likely a place our early ancestors went for basic provisions at least a couple times a year. Very likely Thun was a stopping place when our ancestors left the Obersimmental in the late 1690s.

Upon arrival in Lenk we checked into the Lenkerhof Hotel—a hotel built over an area of hot mineral springs known to the Romans who came to this part of Switzerland before the birth of Christ. After napping a few hours to help make up for jet lag we were hosted by the Trittens of Lenk for a reception on the hotel patio. This was followed by an evening meal in our private dining room. Joining us for dinner and for the many activities of the weekend were FRIEDRICH and CHRISTEL TRITT of Waldenbuch, Germany.

On Saturday we made a pilgrimage to the ancestral church in nearby St. Stephan. It is always inspiring and also humbling to visit this special place of meaning in the history of the TRITT family. The sanctuary is magnificent in its simplicity. Climbing to the top of the bell tower afforded us a beautiful overview of this part of the valley. In the bell tower we saw the heavy iron bells with the Tritten name cast into them—an indication that these persons contributed funds to help in the construction. On this same day we visited Zweisimmen (the village where two Simme rivers come together) to attend the year-end open house at the grade school where JAKOB and LYDIA TRITTEN'S children attended. Returning to Lenk, persons roamed the town visiting the cheese shops, the leather shops, candy shops, and more.

Sunday was the anticipated day for a walk to the RIZLIALP and a picnic lunch. The RIZLIALP is the mountain alp where OTTO TRITTEN (father of JAKOB) worked for 45 years tending the allotted herd of 100 milk cows. During the summertime, this alp is used for cheese making. The cheese is later transported to the valley. We were up early and took the BETELBERG lift up to the LEITERLI Station, a starting point at an altitude of about 6, 375 feet. Although rain threatened, we wanted to proceed as far as we could. JAKOB led the group along well-defined walking paths carrying with him a portable telephone with which to assure our safety should the weather become more threatening. About two hours into our trek the weather did take a turn for the worse. Increased rain and distant lightening meant we needed to go to lower levels. JAKOB led us on a quickly descending cross-country route he knew would lead us to some shelter. To our enjoyment, this turned out to be a cow barn and a chicken house—both punctuated with ample droppings hard to avoid. Such is the real mountain farm adventure! These farm buildings were near a high mountain road-head. His earlier telephone call soon brought us transportation for our return to the valley floor.

This unexpected weather caused a change of picnic plans and the group was invited by MARGRIT and WALTER TRITTEN to their very quaint and very old retreat chalet along a mountain stream. Here we were hosted by Tritten families who brought delicious food and drink for us to enjoy. Here we met PETER and ELLI TRITTEN from near Zurich for the first time. Following the picnic some of us took a van back to the hotel while others hiked the two miles along the stream stopping to enjoy the Lake of Lenk.

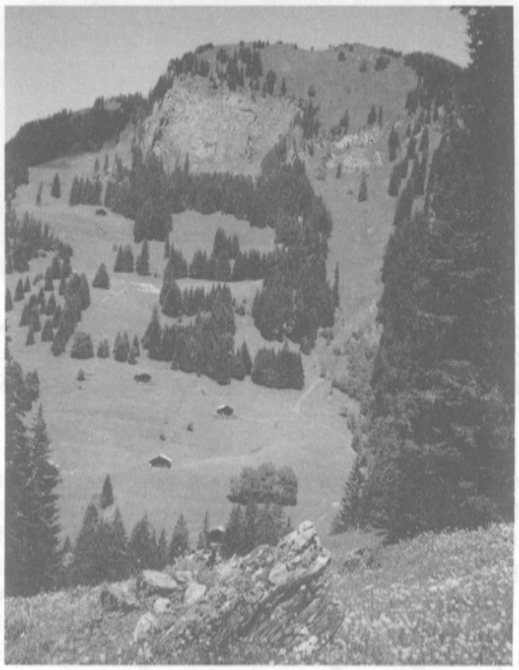
On Monday, we departed Lenk for our evening destination of Zermatt. Along the way we stopped at Brienz—the wood carving capitol of Switzerland. Here we had a guided tour of the wood carving school and then spent time shopping the quaint stores in this beautiful lakeside village. Arriving in Zermatt we were able to get a glimpse of the Matterhorn before it slipped behind the clouds. The next day we took the cog railway up to the Gornergrat, a high viewing point for this part of the Alps.

After two nights in Zermatt we proceeded to Chamonix, a city in France, just slightly across the border. On the way we stopped at the St. Bernhard Pass and visited the famous hospice and museum and toured the breeding kennels. To make the trip to Chamonix we passed through the tunnel under Mont Blanc.

Our next day in Chamonix was clear and bright so we decided to take the cable car to the top of the AIGUILLE du MIDI, a height of over 14,000 feet. Once on top we had to move quite slowly as the oxygen level was greatly reduced. The sights from this viewpoint were unbelievable. For example, we could see a major span of the Italian and Swiss Alps, and could see far into Italy. With binoculars we watched world-class climbers who had started well before daybreak make their climb to the top of Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in western Europe at nearly 16,000 feet.

Our guides, Margrit Tritten and Jakob Tritten with the Tritten bus.

Jakob Tritten and his sister's family at the picnic near Lenk.

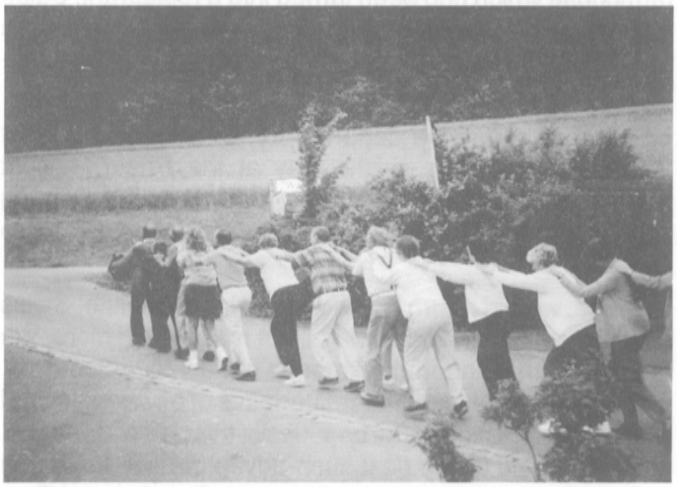


A typical mountain view near Lenk.

A Photo Sampler from the 1993 Tour

Peter and Elli Tritten and their dog, Princess, at their home near Zurich.

Dinner at the Restaurant Rössli outside of Bern.



A Tritt family line dance after dinner at the *Rössli*

The afternoon of this day found us in Geneva where we had a bus tour of the city and then later we all enjoyed a most memorable family gathering hosted by JACQUES TRITTEN, owner of the renowned Hotel Touring Balance. (See special article elsewhere in the newsletter.)

The next day we departed Geneva and proceeded back into France to meet with our French cousins, hosted by Mme. MICHELINE FURON-TRITTEN of Chatillon sur Seine. (See special article elsewhere in this newsletter.) While in France we stayed in the city of Dijon. Leaving Dijon, we returned to Switzerland and stayed in LeLocle, a city in the center of the watchmaking industry. While there we visited the museum of watches and clocks. That evening at dinner we met with the Trittens living in this area.

The next day we boarded a lake steamer at Neuchatel for a "voyage" to Biel/Bienne. After disembarking we rejoined our bus for two nights in Bern, the capitol city of Switzerland. While in Bern we visited the famous rose gardens—a vista point where we could oversee almost all of Bern. Following this we visited the renowned bear pits located near the narrow loop of the Aare River. This time several young cubs were practicing their boxing and tempting the patience of their mother. We then shopped in the miles and miles of sheltered arcades.

In the late afternoon we appeared for our scheduled visit to the Archives of the Canton of Bern for a special showing and lecture concerning the TRITTEN/TRITT family records. We were transfigured as we listened to genealogist JOHN HUPPI discuss historical records pertaining to early TRITTEN/TRITT families. (See special article, "Bern Canton Staatsarchiv" elsewhere in this newsletter.)

That evening we went a short distance outside of Bern into the famed Emmental area to a countryside restaurant and nearby cheese factory. We watched farmers bring milk to this factory and were shown the various phases of cheese making. At the adjoining Restaurant ROSSLI we were treated to a special Swiss country dinner. Dinner was served on the wide wooden porch of this large Bernese farmhouse which had been turned into a restaurant. Salad came directly from the garden located an arm's reach from our tables. Following dinner, we all enjoyed singing, dancing and accordion playing.

The next day we departed for an overnight stay at Winterthur, stopping on the way at the Rhein Falls at Schaffhausen. We left Winterthur early the next morning and returned to KLOTEN airport (Zurich) for our flight to Newark, NJ.

Yes, we did return home with Swiss chocolate, Swiss army knives, and woodcarvings, but really much more. We returned with wonderful memories of new-found cousins, with a greater sense of the relatedness of all peoples, and with an appreciation of the beauties of this part of the world. Looking ahead to the next such adventure, we hope you might consider being on the European Reunion and Tour scheduled for 1996.

THE CAST OF CHARACTERS

Ernest J. Trait
Long Beach, California

I've been ASKED very NICELY to make a report on the type of individuals who partake of journeys such as that from which we have just returned. As I have finally regained the use of my arm, I can get to the job now of making like the Cub Reporter that I am.

Except for expense and free time, it is really a wonder that anyone would choose to miss a trip such as this turned out to be. To be sure, one knows not what to expect when the opportunity is presented. If you love the big cities and lots of shopping time, then this was a good trip to miss. Most of our time was spent in rural areas and small towns, which is certainly alright with me.

Some of the "characters" in front of the Tritten Chalet of Walter and Margrit Tritten - left to right, Tom Kramm, Richard Tritt, Nancy Tritt, Marie Mischitz, Don Tritt, Ernie Trait, Marilyn Tritt and David Wampler:

We saw wondrous scenery in the high mountain passes. We walked the high meadows of wild flowers as the strains of "Sound of Music" wafted through our memories. In Jakob's huge bus, we traveled roads that would be difficult to navigate in a car. We "dropped in" to Italy for lunch one day, sort of "passing through—", and ended up in France in the process, passing through one of the longest tunnels in the world.

This is not to say there was no time to shop. To the contrary, we wandered the quaintest of towns and villages with ample wares for the inquisitive tourist. Visiting a walled village was a wonderful way to be able to see back in time how life and the business of living went on three and four hundred years ago. The differences in architecture were astounding as we moved from one valley to the next.

Couple with this the great group we had together. There were the old stalwarts who made up the group four years ago of Dr. Donald and Marilyn Tritt, educators; Richard and Nancy Tritt, museum curator and bookkeeper; Harold Hegyessy, professional genealogist; Dr. David and Robyn (Tritt) Wampler, a family pracitioner and parents of foster children; Gladys (Tritt) Cramer, retired music teacher and business woman, with daughter Jeanette Cramer, medical technologist; Barbara Powell, CPA and mortgage analyst, and Barbara Holloman, medical assistant, both bird-watchers and "adopted cousins"; and of course yours truly, Doris and Ernest Trait, retired airplane jockey, to fill out the previous runners.

Additionally there were the welcome "Newcomers"; Marie (Tritt) Mischitz, a retired nurse, and son Ronald of Bradenton, Florida; Florence Tritt, newly retired RN and physical therapist and daughter Connie Tritt Few, a health unit coordinator, both of Pensacola, Florida; and an additional pair of "adopted cousins" in the form of Tom and Jane Kramm, newly retired of the Lutheran clergy. His legitimate connection with the Tritt family is the fact that he "tied the knot" for Richard and Nancy Tritt of Boiling Springs and they have been fast friends since.

Obviously there is no set criterion for anyone to fit into a journey such as this, except the capacity to enjoy one's surroundings, and this we did with a passion. We "hung loose" and waited to see what was around the next bend in the road. Going into France, the events were planned by our hosts and therefore we knew not what was in store. A most enjoyable experience.

Individually, these folks are all different. Educators Donald and Marilyn Tritt are from Granville,OH. Donald is Professor of Psychology at Dennison University and Marilyn with 34 years under her belt, is Dean of Academic Affairs, Newark campus of Ohio State Univ. as well as Central Ohio Technical College. They are both into Swiss history and artifacts and members of the Swiss-American Association.

Richard Tritt is our resident curator at the TFR repository, the Hamilton Library and Cumberland County Historical Society in Carlisle, PA. Nancy is bookkeeper for the local school district and they are both into antiques for pleasure and business. Quotes Nancy when asked why another trip to Europe?? "SHOP!"

Harold Hegyessy, professional genealogist lives in Pleasant Grove, UT, with his wife and family. Though of vastly different name, he is tied to the Tritt family tree early in the line somewhere. He has been our chief source of good research having a first hand knowledge of Swiss history and record sources. His master's thesis was done on this very subject and his findings have proven invaluable to all of us. Harold's love of the Swiss appeared even before his ancestry was discovered, having been based at Senbach AFB near Grindelwald in 1959-62. He, along with Donald, have traveled many times to Switzerland in visiting and setting up the arrangements for these tours. We are in their debt.

Doctor Dave and Robyn (Tritt) Wampler are from Gardners, PA. As stated before, they provide a home for foster children having done so for 12 thus far. They have finally been able to adopt a little girl for their very own and won't have to give her back some day. The little girl has two temporary sisters at home just now making a house full. The Wamplers wanted to re-enforce what was learned four years ago and do more hiking in the Alps. In fact it so influenced him that he began to take on a Swiss-like appearance with the boots, shorts, walking stick, hat and pins, and even chin-wiskers of the mountaineer.

Gladys Cramer hails from Shippensburg, PA. and her mother was Helen Tritt. She is still very active in the world of music, playing organ at church, teaching the organ, accordian and guitar. A music store owner for some time, she has retired from that to do what comes naturally, travel and play. Daughter Jeanette Cramer, a medical technologist at Carlisle Hospital, had unknowingly bumped into Dr.Dave there long before this trip. Both Cramers are into researching now for family roots, whenever possible.

The two Barbaras are from Maryland outside of Washington,DC. Like two peas in a pod, they teamed up again as they did 4 years ago with common interests of bird watching, Swiss chocolate and revisiting the folks and areas we saw then. B. Powell is a CPA and mortgage analyst in Adelphi. B. Holloman is really more than just our adopted cousin from Silver Spring where she is a medical assistant in a urology group practice. Her great-grandmother was a Tritt (I don't know of which parent line —) but she is doing research in the National Archives on behalf of TFR to build the data base. She almost had her family convinced to come along as well, but Papa and teens developed other ideas.

Marie Tritt Mischitz and son Ronald hail from the south, Bradenton, FL, that is, retiring there in 1987 from a career as a registered nurse in the cold north. The occupation has not been left far behind as she volunteers her expertise in emergency services as well as serving the local elderly in getting from point A to B in a Christian retreat community. Her former husband was of Rumanian birth and German and Hungarian ancestry, so the opportunity to visit that part of the world was irresistible. Marie and Robyn Wampler come from the same line: Marie's father was Robyn's grandfather, making them aunt and niece.

"Chocolate" Florence Tritt, another registered nurse and physical therapist, is newly retired as of June 1993. This trip was a "retirement present to ME!", she said with enthusiasm. Her name arises from the discovery later in the trip of her passion for chocolate, particularly Swiss. She found our bargain sources. She and daughter Connie Tritt Few reside in Pensacola, FL. where Connie is a health unit coordinator. With three children left at home in hubbie's hands, she had many desires for this trip: to see the ancestoral mountain homes and Grimsel Pass, to touch Alpine snow, to blow the ALPHORN—. Mission accomplished!

At the invitation of Richard and Nancy Tritt, Jane and Tom Kramm, from Thompsontown, PA., were a very welcome addition to our group. After watching the 1989 video, they delayed a retirement trip 2 years to join this troup and look for the headlines,—"Pastor Wins Swiss Lottery!"—indicating where to settle down. Tom is possibly of Swiss-German origins so he wanted to check out the environs.

Not to be left out, are three others that joined us in Zurich but were also not with us on the return when I made these interviews.

Constance (Connie) R. Fisher met us at Zurich airport being in Europe for other purposes. I'm sorry not to have information on her relationship, but being a seasoned traveler, she became an interesting addition to the group. Connie lives in Glendale, CA. not far from us here in Long Beach.

Bob and BettyAnn Tritt Spann also met us at the airport in Zurich. However, they had only one week available to spend in Europe and had rented a car for their travel, thereby missing out on all the fun on the bus. Theirs was a short-handed trip when they left us on the third day. Too bad, as we didn't get to know them. They live in Nashville, TN.

Obviously, where you have amiable people, no matter the background or part of the country you're from, put them all in one pot, stir well with proper seasoning, you can have a very good time indeed.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC
or
RAINY DAYS AND SUNDAYS

Jeanette Cramer
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

On Sunday the 20th of June, 1993, our plan was to leave Lenk by cable car and proceed to Leiterli at 2001 meters. Those who chose to hike across to the Ritzli Alp would begin their journey from this point and in several hours would meet those who were to be transported to the alp by vehicle. The walk was to be very spectacular with magnificent panoramas and beautiful wild flowers. At Ritzli Alp we would all enjoy together a picnic lunch in the fresh air and beauty of the Swiss Alps. The day would turn out to be one to remember, but not exactly what we or our hosts had in mind!

For those who decided to hike, it was already cloudy, cool and threatening rain when we arrived at Leiterli. Jakob Tritten was our fearless leader and we fell in line behind him. There was a group of approximately fifteen brave souls. We hadn't gone more than 10 to 15 minutes when it started to sprinkle rain. We also heard claps of thunder in the distance. At first the rain was rather light, but as we continued, it came down harder and I opened my umbrella. It was only a short time later when Jakob pointed to me and told me to close the umbrella because due to the metal in it, I could become a walking lightening rod!

On the alpine trail

By now the rain had turned into a downpour and we were too far along to return to Leiterli. We continued walking/hiking as fast as we could. There wasn't much time to "stop and smell the alpine flowers" because we needed to keep moving and carefully watch our footing. What scenery we did see reminded me of the movie "The Sound of Music" .

The original path was very good, but due to the storm, Jakob changed to a route that led us through untrodden fields, stony spots and some muddy areas. Crossing barbed wire fences added to the challenge. Some of the group even had the misfortune of falling. One brave soul admitted that she had an artificial knee. Human chains and supportive hands helped move us forward. Through it all, the rain was unending and soon we were soaked to the skin. Finally we took temporary refuge at a small farm. Some of the group invaded the poor frau's small chalet but others chased the chickens out of their coop or settled in with the cows in the barn. Jakob used his portable phone to make arrangements for vans to come pick us up at a rendez-vous point.

Our new destination was a cowbarn located about a mile away. All we had to do was descend one steep mountainside, cross a stream by way of a log, and climb another mountainside to our destination. Meanwhile the rain continued to pour down steadily, making the alpine slopes even more slippery and muddy. Some of the slopes were quite steep. Brigit Tritten, Jakob's daughter, showed us an easier way to get down a slope. That was to zig-zag back and forth down the slope like you were skiing. It worked and we thanked her for the tip.

A refuge in the cowbarn

By this time, Jakob had led us down off the higher slopes and we reached a road leading to the cowbarn. One by one the brave hikers arrived. The Swiss in the group took it all in stride and were the first to arrive. Inside we huddled and shivered together and exchanged tales about the hike. Candy and food appeared from backpacks and lighthearted remarks began to revive the group. After a short wait, the Tritten vans arrived and returned us to our hotel in Lenk.

To make a long story short, our consolation was that we still had a picnic, although indoors. We were served a delicious meal prepared by our Tritten hosts in a chalet built in 1738 and owned by Walter & Margrit Tritten. The weather cleared, we talked, laughed and had a wonderful family time together. It was an experience not soon to be forgotten.

The "picnic" at the chalet

A DREAM COME TRUE

Betty Ann Tritt Spann
Nashville, Tennessee

Since receiving the first newsletter in 1979 and learning the Tritt Research Group had been formed and some of the information that had been put together, it has been exciting to hear about the other Tritts, Dritts and Traits from the States and now we have had the opportunity to meet the Tritten families in Switzerland. We were also glad to meet Friedrich & Christel Tritt from Germany.

We were privileged to join the Tritt Family Research Group in Zurich on June 18th and followed them to Lenk for three wonderful days. My father was Oliver Daniel Tritt from Crockett County, Tennessee and my grandfather was David Omer Tritt from North Carolina. Even though we have not established the definite link that our family has to the other Tritts of various spellings, we certainly felt like family when we arrived. Don & Marilyn and the rest of the group made us feel welcome as well as the Swiss cousins, including Jakob and Lydia and Walter and Margrit. Jakob took the group to the Church at St. Stephan on Saturday where we saw the bell with the name of Hans Peter Tritten and then to the mountains for a hike down among the wildflowers and waterfalls.

Richard Tritt, Ernie Trait, Bob and Betty Ann Spann after a hike.

On Sunday we went by cable lift to higher parts of the mountains for a hike and were caught in a thunderstorm. Jakob took care of us by finding shelter in a real home, which was worth the discomfort of the storm to have that privilege. We left there to hike to the place where we could be picked up by the van for our ride down. We were wet, but the excursion was exciting.

In the afternoon Walter and Margrit invited the group to their ancestral home for a very good lunch of ham, potato salad and other vegetables.

We traveled to the town of Brienz on Monday to the woodworking school and shopping. We left the group there and traveled to Lucern for more sightseeing.

After one night in Lucern we left for Zurich where we spent our last night in Switzerland. We would liked to have traveled with the group for the entire tour, next time we will. The trip truly was a dream come true.

ENJOYABLE MEETING WITH THE TRITT FAMILY FROM AMERICA

Margrit Tritten
Lenk, Switzerland

Walter and Margrit Tritten in front of their old chalet

When on June 18th I went to the Kurhotel Lenkerhof in Lenk I was just curious about the Tritt family members from America. There were about 20 people I wanted to know. On our Saturday walk from Iffigenalp down to Poschenried I already learned something about most of the persons.

On Sunday Jakob's and my family had planned a walk to Rizlialp. Unfortunately the weathergod wasn't well-disposed. Hopeful we began our walk, but rain and thunderstorms made us shorten our trip and change the program. Wetted through the hikers were brought back to the hotel. With dry clothes and shoes the whole group then came to our old chalet in Poschenried and I hope the picnic did make up (compensate) for the strenuous hiking tour.

The next day I joined the group in the Tritten-Bus and together we left the Bernese Oberland. Our bus-chauffeurs and cousins Jakob and Toni Tritten drove us via Brienz, the wood-carving village, Grimselpass - Brig to Zermatt. Just once we could see the famous Matterhorn, then it was hidden in grey clouds. Also on Gornergrat the weather wasn't favorable to us and we couldn't see the imposing mountains. No reason to be out of humour, because for dinner we had good food and David Ummel, as accordion-player.

Through the Rhone Valley/Wallis we climbed by bus onto Grosser St. Bernhardpass and visited the Bernhardiner-dog-kennel and the museum. Via Aosta/Italy we reached a grey, rainy Chamonix/France. Only the next day it cleared up and those who visited Aiguille du Midi were gratified by a wonderful view of glaciers, snow, rocks and blue sky.

Back in Switzerland, in Geneva, we had dinner together with about 45 Tritten-cousins from Geneva and France. I was very glad to see that so many French/Swiss-Trittens were interested in becoming acquainted with the American Tritts and I hope this evening was successful to everyone.

Once more back in France we drove through the Burgundy vineyards, visited the castle Clos Vougeot and Hotel-Dieu in Beaune and in the evening the old town of Dijon.

Next day: another meeting with French Trittens. In Chatillon-sur-Seine Micheline Furon-Tritten had organized different sight-seeings and a dinner with about 20 new cousins. (Shame on me, Jakob and Toni: the only three Swiss weren't able to sing the Swiss hymn (anthem)).

Finally in Le Locle, after a boat trip on Lake Brenets and a visit to the watch museum, we met another 6-persons-family of Trittens. It is astonishing for me that all these migrated Tritts or Trittens are much more interested in their roots than the Trittens still living in Lenk.

In the Staatsarchiv in Berne some of the group could then search for their ancestors. On Monday 28th of June, after a funny evening in the Swiss Chalet in Berne, I had to leave the group - with tears in my eyes. All these people had become good friends, and I am looking forward to see them in America.

The rustic Tritten chalet in Poschenried

EMERGING FROM THE CLOUDS

David Wampler
Gardners, Pennsylvania

It was a rather damp and bedraggled group that pulled out of Lenk Monday morning June 21 aboard the J. Tritten "land cruiser". Since the majority of the group had trodden the Alps in a thunderstorm the day before and/or slept on little more than a camp cot the night before, spirits had a tendency to be as cloudy as the weather. However, the lingering glow of new and renewed family ties in the Obersimmental, the cheery presence of "tour director" Margrit Tritten, and ever-changing Alpine valley views continued to warm our hearts.

After traveling down the Simme valley and along the southern edge of Lake Thun, we rounded the eastern end of Lake Brienz into its namesake village. While in Brienz, we toured a woodcarving plant and browsed for Swiss-made items in numerous shops.

From Brienz we traveled southeast up the Aare River, winding our way to the Grimsel Pass, past manmade lakes used to generate hydro-electric power. Then it was westward down the Rhone River to the town of Brig, where we stopped briefly to visit the courtyard of a huge mansion, the Stockalperpalast. A short distance down river at Visp, we turned southward up a narrow valley around a recent huge rockslide to the town of Tasch, where we got on the train for a short ride to Zermatt.

No auto traffic is allowed in Zermatt, the touristy town at the base of the Matterhorn and Monte Rosa. However, in addition to crowds of people, the streets were filled with numerous small electrically-powered vehicles delivering goods, baggage and people to their destinations. As we walked to our hotel, past the cemetery with numerous markers commemorating deceased mountain climbers, we were thrilled as the clouds parted transiently to reveal the full Matterhorn.

The village of Zermatt and the Matterhorn

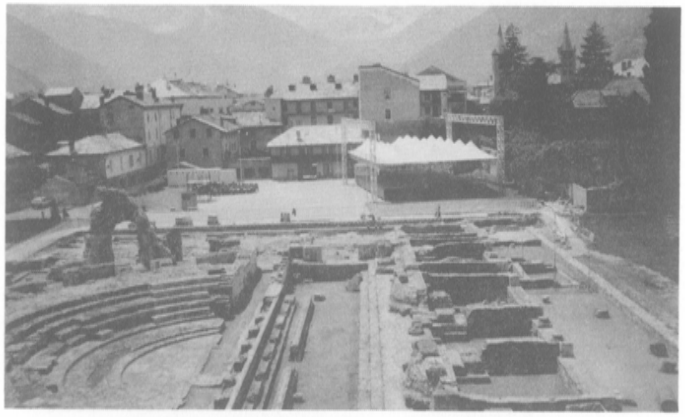
Tuesday dawned cloudy, but we boarded the cog-wheel railway up the mountains to the viewing area at Gornergrot, hoping for a later break in the weather. We certainly enjoyed the valley and hillside views up and back, as well as sights of waterfalls, marmots, sheep and mountain goats. Robyn and I, in order to keep our reputation as hikers intact, walked two hours down toward Zermatt, but my hurry and Robyn's resultant mild ankle sprain encouraged us to reboard the train at one of the several stops on the mountain for the remainder of the trip down. We had been preceded by our compatriots, the weather having worsened with heavier clouds and sprinkles, who had returned to town for lunch and shopping.

Robyn Wampler hiking down to Zermatt

Clouds continued to obscure the peaks Wednesday morning June 23, as we left Zermatt by train to Tasch and continued by bus back down the valley to Visp. Re-entering the Rhone valley, we traveled past the town of Sion, where 15th century land records mention a Tritten as witness to a deed, raising speculation that our earliest ancestors could have come from this area before crossing the alpine Rawilpass to the Lenk area.

At Martigny, where the Rhone turns northwestward to flow into Lake Leman (Geneva), we turned again to the south up the Vallee d'Entremont to the Great St. Bernard Pass. We stopped there to see a museum explaining the religious order and hospice which helped wayfarers in that area, and their famous canine helpers of the same name.

Upon crossing the pass, our trustworthy bus driver Jakob guided us down more narrow and twisty Italian roads, past cattle brought up for summer pasturing, to the town of Aosta. There, after finding that it takes thousands of lira to buy lunch, we viewed ruins of an old Roman



Roman ruins in the Italian town of Aosta

theater. From Aosta, we traveled up the Dora River valley and through the 6-mile-long tunnel under Mont Blanc to Chamonix, France. Clouds still obscured the big mountains as we settled in for the night.

Thursday morning we had to decide whether to stay in Chamonix long enough for some to take a gondola ride partway up Mont Blanc, or go straight to Geneva. Clouds still obscured the peak, though some early risers had seen the peak break clear. I was a skeptic, but Margrit led the group that wanted to go up the mountain. Since the group decided to stay long enough for some to take a quick trip up while the rest shopped, Robyn and I (and the majority) decided to go, too, and are we glad we did! Connie Fisher and Harold Hegyessey were also glad to claim a senior citizen discount. Connie, age 71, announced that she was over 60, and got the specified discount. Harold, not to be outdone, announced that he was over 70, and got an even bigger discount!

In a two-stage ride in packed gondola cars, we went above the clouds to 10,000 feet where snowy Mont Blanc and rocky side peaks shimmered in the sun — what a spectacular view! The valley was visible through large holes in the clouds. We puffed our way up steps to the viewing areas, not accustomed to the high altitude. Mountain climbers appeared as black dots against the snow. A crisp breeze, having brought a coating of snow to the peak the night before, now cooled us as we looked upon God's majestic handiwork in the bright, warm sunshine.

Margrit and Toni, Jakob's son and able assistant, pried us loose to rejoin Jakob and the rest of the group, albeit a little late, on the valley floor. Refreshed, we traveled through sun-splashed vineyards down the L'Arve River Valley to Geneva, looking forward to another Tritten family reunion only hours later.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Gladys Cramer
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

On June 20, the first Sunday of our trip, in Lenk, Switzerland, the group expressed a desire to have some type of worship service. We had a minister in our group who agreed to lead us in worship. Rev. Bob Spann is a Church of Christ minister from Nashville, Tennessee, and the husband of a Tritt descendant, Ann Spann.

Bob gave a very interesting and inspirational talk. He called our attention to the beauty of God's world and the mountains surrounding us in the Alps which we could see from the dining area where we were seated. He also told of the most important mountain, the Mount of Calvary, and what was accomplished there for all of us. His emphasis was on the "family" and its importance to each of us. He has had first-hand knowledge of its importance as he works with and counsels children who are from dysfunctional families. We appreciated his remarks and thanked him for being our worship leader.

On Sunday June 27, in Dijon, France, we met after breakfast in a small "upper room" for a worship service. It was led by Rev. Thomas Kramm, a retired Lutheran minister from the Lewistown area.

His message was on "love". God's love was proven when He sent Jesus in human form to show us how to love. Someone has said that love is acceptance, forgiveness and tolerance. We were asked to think of examples of love that we had experienced on the trip.

Several examples were shared. Someone mentioned the love that was shown to us as a group by our Swiss and French relatives. Someone else told of the special day on Saturday, June 26th, that was spent with our French relatives. The lovely lunch and dinner that was prepared by folks who had never met us was a great demonstration of love. Love was shown by people whose language we did not even understand. Many other examples were mentioned, especially the planning, patience and love shown by our tour leaders, Margrit, Jakob and Toni Tritten. Our worship time was closed by singing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds".

It was good to have these short times of worship together while traveling to express our love to the Lord who has done so much for all of us. Although many denominations were represented in our group, we came together in meaningful worship experiences.

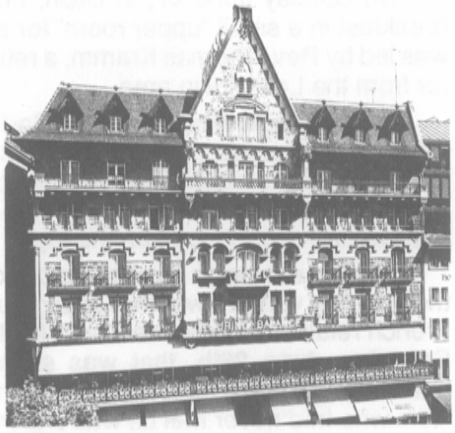
Part of the Mont Blanc panorama

TRITTEN/TRITT GATHERING IN GENEVA

Donald G. Tritt
Granville, Ohio

Jacques Tritten

During the 1993 Reunion Tour to Europe there was a gathering of family members at the beautiful Hotel Touring Balance in Geneva. This event was organized by KURT and FRANCES TRITTEN (Lenk) and hosted by JACQUES TRITTEN, owner of this superb hotel. In attendance were about 80 persons—about 60 of these persons were meeting for the first time as a part of the family research project. A beautiful reception and canapes preceded a gourmet dinner, all of which was served in the finest manner. Wines of the region were graciously provided by JACQUES TRITTEN. Speeches of introduction and welcoming were given by KURT TRITTEN. Our president, DONALD G. TRITT, responded with a brief history of the family research project and with expressions of appreciation for such a fine gathering. Our Swiss cousins in the French speaking part of Switzerland expressed a strong interest in furthering TRITT/TRITTEN family research and all wanted to be on the newsletter mailing list. During our next European reunion in 1996 we hope to return to Geneva and again enjoy a family gathering with JACQUES TRITTEN at the Hotel Touring Balance.



Hotel Touring Balance

P.S. While at the reception we saw a copy of a November 16, 1992 letter from the Clinton-Gore National Campaign Headquarters to JACQUES TRITTEN. It read as follows: "Dear Jacques, Everyone remembers Restaurant Jacques & Suzanne! It put Little Rock on the culinary map! Thanks for your letter and encouragement. It was good to hear from you." and was signed, "Sincerely, Bill Clinton". In addition, you might like to know the Hotel Touring Balance was one of a small group of hotels mentioned in an article about Geneva in the September/October 1993 issue of National Geographic Traveler. So, whatever your political persuasion, JACQUES TRITTEN'S Hotel Touring Balance enjoys an international reputation.

Dining in Geneva. The four people seated on the right are Nancy and Richard Tritt and Frances and Kurt Tritten.

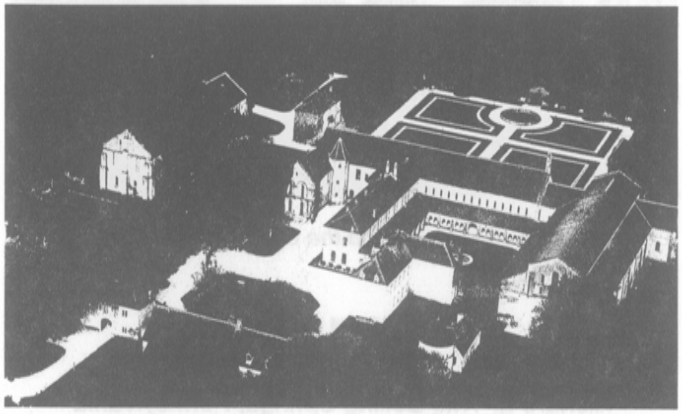
A view of Geneva, Lake Leman, and the Jet d' Eau

A table of French at the dinner in Geneva. The man seated at the head of the table is Armin Tritten, father of Micheline Furon Tritten.

ABBAYE DE FONTENAY
(COTE -D'OR)

Harold M. Hegyessy Jr.
Pleasant Grove, Utah

On 26 June, after a night's stay at Dijon in the Cote-d'Or Prefecture of France, we boarded Jakob Tritten's Mercedes bus for a tour of the French countryside to an eventual rendezvous with Micheline Furon-Tritten, leader of the French Tritten Organization who are descendants of Tritten immigrants from the Obersimmental in Bern Canton, Switzerland, of centuries ago. We had met Micheline and her husband, Jean-Louis, and several of their relatives at Lenk during the Tritt/Tritten/Dritt Family 250th Remigration Tour in June 1989.



Abbaye de Fontenay

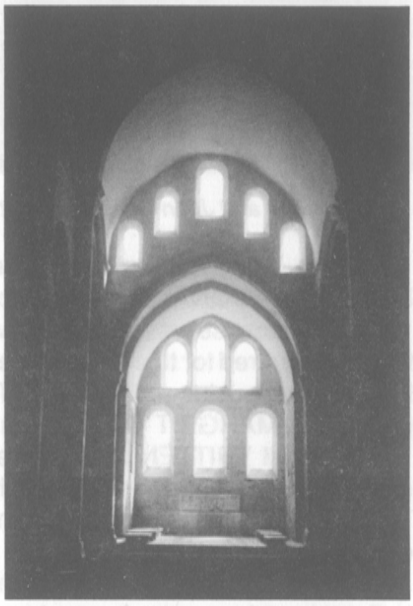
Micheline had kept close contact by correspondence with our President, Don Tritt of Granville, Ohio, and Jakob Tritten of Zweisimmen in the Obersimmental, and had invited us to share a part of the 1993 Tour to her home area of France, in the Cote-d'Or, the center of the former, powerful Kingdom of Burgundy ruled over in the 1400s by Philip the Good and Charles the Bold.

Micheline's home is in the city of Chatillon Sur Seine in the northwest corner of the Cote-d'Or some 100 kilometers from Dijon. Chatillon Sur Seine lies at the headwaters of the River Seine which then flows towards Paris.

Micheline and Jakob Tritten had arranged a rendezvous with us at a very historic place in France, the Abbaye (Abbey) De Fontenay which dates to the early 1100s. We boarded our Tritten Bus sharply at 8:00 A.M., at our hotel in Dijon on Saturday, 26 June, and for roughly two hours enjoyed a delightful trip through some of the most lovely rural areas of France seeing vast vineyards, fields of blooming mustard for which Dijon is famous, and rolling, green hills and pastures complete with numerous white French cattle and small French villages.

Near 10:00 A.M. we entered the grounds of the ancient Abbey and, as we debarked, we were greeted by a large number of French Trittens led by Micheline and Jean-Louis who seemed as joyful as we, as we were warmly welcomed.

After this greeting we were invited to tour the buildings and grounds of the ancient Abbey which to me was an historical feast. At this point, a short history of the Abbey could be interesting to Tritt history buffs. The Abbey De Fontenay was established in the Year 1118 A.D. by the famous Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, the chief and most important preacher of the 2nd Crusade to the Holy Land, inspiring the hosts of King Louis VII of France and Conrad III of Germany plus the famous Knights-Templars. Unfortunately, this Crusade was diverted to Syria and eventually failed, which greatly saddened Saint Bernard in his old age.



Interior of the Abbey Chapel

Saint Bernard established the Abbey De Fontenay for members of the very strict, austere Order of Cistercian Monks for some hundreds of that Order. These monks practiced a very Spartan existence, perhaps more frugal than any of the more famous Catholic Orders of Monks. In 1137 A.D. the very plain, but impressive, chapel was built and still exists but was desecrated by soldiers of the French Revolution, who used the furniture for fire wood. No ornamentation was allowed in the interior except for one Pieta added in the 1500s. In an upper, long, bare chamber the monks slept on straw pallets on the bare stone floor. They were required to perform prayers and chants in the chapel at two hour intervals, 10 times daily, starting at 2:00 A.M. Apparently some of these printed chants have survived to the present day in their musical form and the guide played a recording for us of the strange, haunting, prayerful melodies.

Saint Bernard was born in 1090 and died in 1153 and was canonized by Pope Alexander in 1174. However, the Abbey and the Cistercian Monks lived on for many centuries as a religious center but now has been converted to a French Historical Museum. In the ancient enclosures, in addition to the chapel,were various living quarters, a quarantine hospital for victims of the bubonic plagues, which returned periodically until the early 1600s, and an industrial building, where the monks experimented with metallurgy. We were shown an ancient leather bellows, powered by an exterior water wheel. We visited the beautiful, formal garden plus the modern museum of artifacts.

This visit to the Abbey was only the beginning of a memorable day that will be described by others of our party which culminated in a great Tritten banquet at a charming French inn that will live long in our memory. Thank you, Micheline Furon-Tritten!

A DAY IN BURGUNDY - A FRENCH PERSPECTIVE

Micheline Furon Tritten
Chatillon, France

Micheline and Jean-Louis Furon at the French banquet

At the TRITTEN family reunion which took place at LENK in 1989 DONALD promised to visit us in Burgundy in 1993. The promise was kept and it was with great pleasure that we prepared for this get together. It took place with the help of our cousins JAKOB TRITTEN and his sons, together with MARGRIT TRITTEN as guide and interpreter.

An initial TRITTEN reunion was held in Geneva regrouping our American cousins,with the large family of TRITTEN descendants from the canton of Geneva and the country of Gex.

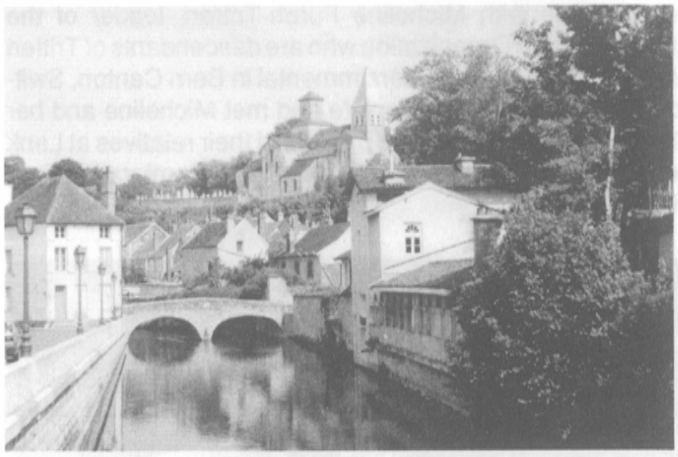
From our side we started looking for TRITTENS living in France and we were happy to welcome more than 25 TRITTENS who were unaware of their origin. Thus in addition to the pleasure of passing a day with our American cousins we had the joy of getting acquainted with our French cousins.

The stay in the Chatillon area being very short, we had to make some difficult choices in organizing the day. Our first choice was a visit to the ancient Abbey of Fontenay classified as a part of the World Patrimony by UNESCO. It is there that we joyfully met. The weather was magnificent and the atmosphere warm. Chatillon being an agricultural area we wanted our visitors to see a typical farm of the area. It is there that we scheduled our noon "break".

On the way a short halt permitted us to admire an old Burgundy house at COULMIER LE SEC dating from the 13th century. The motto engraved over the door "One must endure in order to succeed" is more than ever true. The farm where we had our lunch stop is owned by Mr. & Mrs. VOINCHET, who in addition to farming have added a country restaurant and a museum of old agricultural instruments. After lunch we arrived at CHATILLON and the Church of St. Vorles dating from the year 1000 from where the First Crusade was preached. A visit to the Museum took us much further back in history, involving Gallo-Roman and Celtic antiques, and particularly the Vase of Vix (Sixth Century B.C.) which is unique in the world.

After this instructive day it was time to have everyone appreciate the cuisine of Burgundy. The Hotel du Roy at AISEY-sur-SEINE served a meal which we hope satisfied everyone.

The atmosphere was warm. French, Swiss and Americans sang their national anthems. The language difference wasn't an impediment to the establishing of a feeling of fraternity among all the participants. Each one felt a part of a great family and it was not without emotion that it was necessary to separate with the hope of seeing each other again.



Chatillon-sur-Seine and the Church of St. Vorles

A DAY IN BURGUNDY - AN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE

Richard L. Tritt, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania
Donald G. Tritt, Granville, Ohio

On Saturday, June 26, 1993, the members of the tour group were entertained for a full day and evening in Burgundy, France. The day was organized by Micheline Furon Tritten, a vivacious woman who has been active for years researching the Tritten family in France. Her grandfather, Gottfried Tritten, who was from Lenk, Switzerland established a branch of the Tritten family in France. Micheline had organized a family reunion in 1984 for the descendants of her great grandparents, Peter and Magdalena Tritten. Held in France, the reunion attracted 115 descendants from four generations.

In preparation for our visit, Micheline had obtained a list of French Tritten families and their addresses. She wrote to them telling of her interest in the family and inviting them to Burgundy for a day of activities with the Tritt visitors from America. Many of these families traveled hundreds of miles to meet the American group as well as other Trittens from France. Some had not known previously that there were other Trittens in France or that their origins were in Switzerland. They were also not aware of Tritt Family Research and its work.

As had occurred in Geneva, we all received a warm and enthusiastic welcome from our French cousins. Our point of rendezvous was at the ABBEY de FONTENAY (See Harold Hegyessey's article in this newsletter). Accompanying us throughout our stay in Chatillon were William and Susanne Mullins. Bill is a native of Tennessee who married French-born Susanne following World War II. They served

Our translators Susanne and William Mullins

as very able translators and added their own brand of friendliness. As the French/English tour was conducted over the grounds of the abbey, initial personal contacts were also being made.

Many of the approximately thirty French Trittens were young and had young or teenage children. Some of these children joined us in the bus for the trip to our next destination. They entertained us by singing some French songs.

Monsieur Jean-Louis Furon, husband of Micheline, took us to the village of Coulmier le Sec where we visited a 16th century house that one of his clients has been restoring over the last 20 years. The exterior restoration was complete and we visited the interior where work was still in progress. Seeing first hand the restoration of a building this early was a unique experience for most of our group.

From the village we continued on to a local farm museum at Bissey-la-Pierre for lunch. In the buildings surrounding a center courtyard were antique tools and implements used in local farming. In this same courtyard was spread a buffet meal featuring foods and wines of the area. This gave us an opportunity to talk more with our new friends and to renew old friendships. Once again, joining with family members afforded us a chance to see local life as it is lived rather than the glitter so often prepared for tourists.

In the afternoon, we moved on to Chatillon-sur-Seine, the hometown of the Furons, where they have an established insurance business which is now managed by their youngest son, Michel Furon. Michel and his wife Suzanne have two young children and live next to the business.

We first visited a Burgundian Romanesque church in Chatillon that celebrated 1000 years of existence in 1991. The pastor there spoke to us and reminisced about his memories of Americans in Chatillon during the Second World War.

We then took a walking tour of the village, visiting many of the old streets and buildings. The Seine River originates in the village so we walked to the park located at its source. The most famous attraction of the area is the local museum which has received worldwide attention because of the many outstanding Celtic, Greco-Roman and medieval artifacts that have been unearthed in the area. The most famous artifact is a huge bronze vase that was found in the tomb of Vix.

As the day wore on little did we know what was in store for us. As dinner time approached we were driven a short distance from Chatillon to the small French village of Aisey-sur-Seine where there exists a superb garden restaurant. Prior to our arrival, Micheline and her family had seen to it that our banquet room was decorated with flags of the

The French Banquet

U.S.A., Switzerland, and France arranged in bouquets of beautiful cut flowers on each of the many tables.

We all gathered in the garden adjoining our banquet room and awaited the arrival of our many French cousins. Canapes and wine were served. By the time we were called to dinner, over 80 persons were present—children, parents, and grandparents. This was a precious gathering together of not only several nationalities but of several generations. We couldn't but hope that perhaps some of the young people present might help keep alive future contacts across the Atlantic.

As we sat down to dinner many toasts of welcome were offered. Following this the early courses were served. Again, little did we know that our many course meal would take four hours! However, it all felt like a mere split second as there was much intermingling of families and much to talk about. Dessert offerings in a nearby room brought us all a moan of pleasure. To make choices we needed the help of our hosts. How delicious and how fattening were all of these choices!

As the evening developed there was the singing of songs, some known each to the other so we could all sing together. How meaningful, a different place and time, yet we were together in the spirit of sharing something more eternal. The evening was also a time for the exchange of souvenir items. From the U.S. we had brought shoulder bags designed specially for the tour. Our hosts gave us French porcelain containers filled with candies. After our "goodbyes" and during the return bus trip to our hotel in DIJON we felt a deep sense of joy and lasting appreciation for the wider sense of family that we had experienced.

AN INDEPENDENT TRAVELER

Connie Fisher
Glendora, California

Richard Tritt with Connie Fisher on the Aiguille du Midi with the top of Mont Blanc in the background

The long awaited day of June 17th finally arrived as my airport pickup car delivered me to Los Angeles Airport to commence the journey to Zurich, Switzerland and to join with Tritt family members arriving the next morning from Newark, New Jersey.

On this marvelous two week tour, Richard Tritt requested that each one of us write our opinions on various aspects of the tour. As a single woman traveling alone, I asked that I might give my feelings about that situation. As an independent traveler, I roomed alone, sat on the bus alone, came down to breakfast and dinner alone and found the warmest welcome one could ever expect or dream of receiving. Our cousins were as close to me as my immediate family and our family is close. I write these words to encourage other single family members: have the courage to TRY and you will find just how wonderfully kind all our cousins can be.

On the never to be forgotten "walk in the Alps on Fathers Day" who could ask for better companions; the ones who led me down and up that horrible gorge in the driving rain and wind storm; the hands holding me steady when the slippery mud stopped me cold and the hard decision had to be made as to just which foot in the sliding mud was the anchor foot and which one should move upward to continue the climb. The rather amazing facts were that Jakob, our bus driver-tour guide, brought us safely down the mountain and not one person lost their good humor under stressful conditions. We will never forget where we were on Father's Day 1993.

The June 26th dinner in France was another meeting of new cousins. This time, young Pamela Tritten, daughter of Thierry Tritten and wife Sylvie invited me to join her family for dinner. I found myself with 5 French cousins who spoke little or no English and my French was learned in 4 years of French classes in High School - ?? years ago!! Jackie and Thierry are brothers and with their wives and Pamela, we shared a budding friendship which I hope will continue as the years roll along. As the evening progressed and with the help of a dictionary, their English improved and my French returned so that we could and did communicate and learn to know each other quite well. Jackie and Henriette brought family pictures to proudly show us their family plus other members of the family, peers, parents, grandparents, great grandparents and aunts and uncles. Both brothers studied at great length the Tritt Family Tree drawn in 1905 and decided on the spot that they too must delve into family genealogy and "plant" their own family tree. The evening was enlivened when the two brothers discovered that the delicious prunes which I was truly enjoying had been marinated in Cognac. They made a hasty return to the dessert table to serve themselves generously with the prunes laughing over becoming "tipsy" from of all things, prunes. The two young families enjoyed singing the French National Anthem; we sang our National Anthem and then the youngsters commenced to entertain all of us with their songs. All in all, I was the privileged one to be able to join in their family pleasure. Hugs and kisses, promises to write and vows to meet again ended the evening which none of us wanted to close. Then it was back to the bus to take us back to our hotel with memories to kindle warmth in our hearts to last a long time.

I close with a million thanks to all the Tritts, here, in Switzerland and in France. I look forward to the European Tritts coming to the U.S.A. in '95 and to our returning to Lenk, Switzerland in '96 for the reunion being planned by Kurt Tritten. I'd like another "go" on that scenic walk in the alpine meadows - only next time, without the rain, lightning and wind. Maybe that can be arranged.

BERN CANTON STAATARCHIV

Harold M. Hegyessy Jr.
Pleasant Grove, Utah

One of the most important objectives of our 1993 visit to our Bernese homeland was a scheduled visit to the Bern Canton Staatsarchiv located in the city of Bern, county seat of Bern Canton, as well as the national capitol of Switzerland. It is in this cantonal archive that many of the ancient documents relating to our ancestors are permanently stored. These consist of Bern Council Journals and Notarial Records referring to inheritances of estates and the supervision of the distribution of property to heirs plus Emigration Tax Records (Abzug Records, Feudal Manumission Taxes (freedom from ancient obligations) military records, and many other documents so precious to the History of Bern Canton and to our Tritt/Tritten ancestors.

For many months prior to our visit, Pres. Donald Tritt and Harold Hegyessy had been in contact with John Huppi, American-born LDS Genealogical Researcher who is an expert on ancient Swiss documents. He is a resident of Thun but does research on a daily basis at the Staatsarchiv on behalf of American clients of Swiss Ancestry. John had been actively researching Donald Tritt's ancestry, in order to document his direct connections to the Obersimmental and to St. Stephan. (As he has long known, Don is not descended from Hans Peter Tritt, Jr. but from an ancestor who came to the U.S. directly from Switzerland in the mid-1860s.) John had agreed to conduct a seminar on Bernese records for our party at 3:00 P.M., 29 June.

The John Huppi lecture for the Tritt group at the Bern Canton Staatarchiv

After our morning cruise on Lake Neuchatel, Jakob Tritten, and the Tritten Mercedes bus delivered us promptly at the Staatsarchiv where John Huppi greeted us at the door and conducted us to a modern briefing room equipped with display cases and overhead projection facilities.

John had spent several days prior to our visit selecting and arranging precious ancient records dealing with the Tritten Family of the Ober-Sirnmental. These were displayed in glass cases for our inspection. In one of these cases was a document concerning a Swiss mercenary soldier, Jost Tritten, dated 1512, who was in the service of Louis XII of France.

For two interesting hours, John Huppi based his lecture on documents of the 15-16-I700 Bernese records and their use in tracing ancestral ties to St. Stephan and Lenk in the Ober-Simmental Valley. He displayed records of a Hanss Tritten and his Feudal Dues and obligations dated 1548, due his Feudal Lord concerning the use of land and oxen.

Records of extreme importance were the Bernese Council Journals containing entries referring to Probates and the distribution of property and land rights to heirs which showed, in detail, the solution of Don Tritt's connection to St. Stephan. These records were very meticulous, even for small estates down to dishes, tools, clothing, saving, etc. the value of which was recorded in ancient Bernese coinage, the value of which is difficult to determine after centuries of inflation.

Of great interest were the procedures of the Bernese Council in property distribution, land rights, and citizenship. In these records may lie the answer to the puzzling reasons of why our ancestor, Hans Peter Tritt Sr., was baptized as an adult, and made a matter of record as a member of the Diedendorf Reformed Parish Church in the Bas-Rhin District of Alsace-Lorra ine France in the year 1710. He was the son of Fredrich Tritt/Tritten, former resident of St. Stephan in Bern Canton, Switzerland and was referred to as a "Berner Gebiet."

The recording of that baptism may have meant something financially to Hans Peter Tritt Sr. because of certain restrictions placed on the distribution of property and ancient land rights in Bern Canton. If he were identified as an Anabaptist (dissident) who had fled Bern Canton for religious reasons, no money or property could be released to him—ever. It is known that Veronica Kern his wife whom he married in Diedendorf in 1711, was an Anabaptist, daughter of a Jacob Kern, who had fled from Buchberg in Schaffhausen Canton, Switzerland.

Further restrictions were that migrants had to have established citizens in the new location and was a proven member of the Reformed Church and who owed no taxes (Abzug, Manumission, etc.) plus paid taxes in advance on any inheritance due. Only then, could migrants receive inheritances.

The possible application of the above cited restrictions on Hans Peter Tritt Sr. could be interesting. His father, Friedrich, was still alive in 1710 and died in 1716 at nearby Sarrebrucken. Perhaps his mother, possibly deceased, had rights to an estate in Bern Canton that could accrue to a migrant son or daughter, if they met the rigid restrictions. Perhaps John Huppi could solve this one for us. Old Walther Tritten of Lenk, now deceased, remarked to us in 1985 that he believed that Friedrich had left for economic reasons. Now I am not so sure. Unfortunately, John Huppi remarked that the Notarial Records circa 1697 are missing but there are 20 volumes existing for the 1700s and we know that Friedrich surfaced at Diedendorf in 1704.

There are numerous Powers of Attorney surviving for the 1694-1754 time-period. There are many boxes of records still un-indexed surviving that will probably never be photostated. Consequently, John Huppi's access to these records could be very valuable to us in the future since he is the most qualified researcher of ancient documents with English and German language capability.

In his lecture, John Huppi spoke of records dating back to the 1100s. Land Tax Records are perhaps the oldest. However, he believed that it might be impossible to trace our Tritt/Tritten Land Records due to the tangled and very complex Feudal Rights and Fealty due to rich and perhaps absentee Feudal Landlords. We do know that Kurt Tritten had discovered traces of Tritten references to the Ober-Simmental in the Valais Canton Archives located at Sion south over the Rawyl Pass from Lenk dated 1485.

It was with regret that the seminar time-period expired. We could have listened to John Huppi for hours more! However, the Staatsarchiv had strict hours available for personal research. It was a pleasure to get to know John Huppi personally. His availability to Tritt Family Research is very important to us in the future in compiling background material for the expected publication of a Tritt Family History now being written.

THE MUNSTER

Harold M. Hegyessy Jr.
Pleasant Grove, Utah

Ever since my first visit to the ancient city of Bern in 1959, I have had a deep love for this historic, medieval capitol which occupies a high, peninsula-like eminence that overlooks a great loop of the deeply green Aare River that originates in far-away glaciers of the Bernese Oberland.

On that first visit I had no idea that I would return again and again, over a span of some 34 years, to enjoy its rich culture, history, architecture, and unique arcades. For some 13 years I did not know that my forefathers had originated in the Obersimmental not far from Bern in our Swiss homeland.

Although others of our party may have been assigned to describe our visit to Bern on 28 and 29 June, including the guided tour to the "Bear Pit", the "Rose Garden," and the"Clock Tower," my special interest was to re-visit the great "Cathedral of Bern" known locally as the "Munster". This great Gothic structure stands above the cliff over the Aare River and faces an open cobble-stoned square.

The Munster is not quite as large as some of the more famous cathedrals of Europe but it incorporates the same vaulted ceilings and arches, buttresses and pillars which testify to the skill of ancient engineers and workmen of some 500 years ago. The city of Bern pre-dates the cathedral by some 300 years.

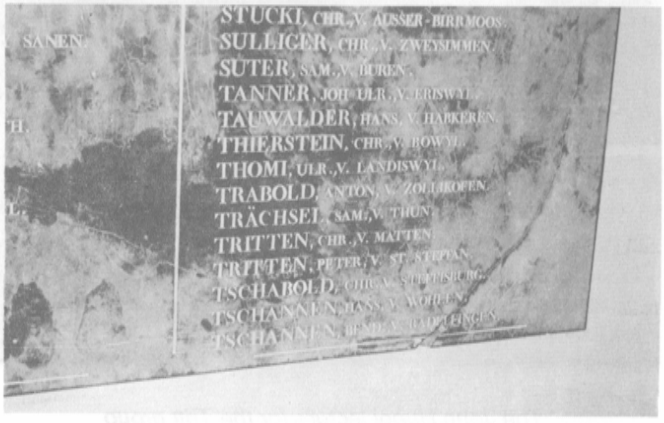
Although I had visited the Munster many times and had climbed the steep stairways to the great tower, I was not aware that Tritten names were inscribed in a unique way in its interior. Don Tritt and I had been informed prior to our trip that we would encounter such names and we were anxiously awaiting to see them. A few days before, in a meeting with our good Swiss friend, Kurt Tritten, he reminded us of these names as we concluded our banquet on a memorable night in Geneva.

After viewing the traditional Clock Tower performance, our young, piquant Swiss guide, Maria Theresa Lauper, led us down a narrow, old street to the Cathedral. She had delighted us throughout our tour with her dry, gentle wit which frequently high lighted her descriptions of her beloved city. As we stood in front of the Cathedral, she related a mythical legend that the Patron Saint (or Warden of the City) lived with his wife in a room high in the tower and had to descend the 264 steps of the stairway each day to obtain water for their sustenance-all this with her tongue in her cheek! Her description of the vastly complicated, statuary mural over the great main doorway was choice. It included, of course, the Savior, his Apostle, many of the Old Testament prophets, plus myriads of people either ascending to heaven or the "other direction". She remarked that some of the visages on the stonework were actual likenesses of the towns people who had contributed funds for its construction with some sly remarks as to their "foibles".

The interior of the Munster was undergoing extensive repairs with views obstructed with scaffolds; however, we could see the quaint but elaborate pews of the "elite patricians" at a higher level of those for the common sort.

Nothing could obscure the magnificent, high vaulting designed so many centuries ago.

Our guide led us eventually to an alcove to the left of the elaborate altar. It is here that we saw the Tritten names we sought. On large bronze tablets were inscribed the fallen heroes of the last great war in which Switzerland was conquered by Napoleon in 1798. These men whose names are on the tablets gave their last, full measure of devotion in defending their Bernese homeland. In alphabetical order we scanned these bronze plates until we came to the names of two of our Tritten "cousins", probable grandsons of contemporaries of our ancestor, Friedrich Tritt/Tritten who left the Obersimmental for Elsass and Diedendorf so long ago. Inscribed on the plates were Christian Tritten of the village of Metten in Steffan Parish, and Peter Tritten of St. Steffan. There may have been tears in the eyes of some of our party as we stood there.



Tritten names on the tablets in the Bern Munster

This experience concluded our visit to the Munster, and with a last glance we boarded the Jakob Tritten bus for the rest of our journey.

FOOD, FAMILY AND FUN

The Phantom Gourmet

From full-course gourmet dinners to home-cooked food served picnic style; from breakfast buffets to hard rolls and coffee; our dining experiences on this trip were wonderful. The only time the food left anything to be desired was on the airplane!

Breakfasts tended to be simple, emphasizing the wonderful breads, croissants, hard rolls and multigrain breads. Many places also had buffet selections of fruit, cereals, yogurt, cold meats and eggs.

Lunch was generally "on your own." Some of us discovered that the generous breakfasts and dinners didn't leave us much room for lunch, so we began looking for the local Co-Op (grocery) stores to stock up on our lunch staples. For some, just locating and comparing the Co-Op stores was an adventure. One particularly memorable lunch was the picnic prepared and served by our Swiss cousins, and eaten at the chalet of Walter and Margrit Tritten.

Lunch buttet at a farm in France

For this article, I would like to concentrate on the dinners served to us, as this is where we had the greatest variety of menus and styles. The menus were obviously well chosen, so as not to include duplication of foods.

At the Lenkerhof Hotel in Lenk, we enjoyed three nights of full-course gourmet meals, including appetizers, soup, entree and dessert. Entrees included veal, beef and pork. The first evening we had a wonderful dessert buffet.

The two meals at Zermatt were also excellent. We had appetizers of veal tonnato and grilled shrimp. The soup one evening was an interesting consomme with a liver meatball, not to everyone's liking, but I'm game to try anything! Beef and lamb were served for the entrees.

In Chamonix, we had our first taste of French cuisine. Here we were served family style, beginning with large bowls of pea soup, followed by an appetizer of a cheese tarte. The main course was delicious roast chicken served with potatoes and carrots.

Back in Switzerland, at the Tritten Hotel in Geneva, we were treated to a meal selected by owner Jacques Tritten. The meal, consisting of salad, roast beef, potatoes and vegetables, and apple tarte, was well done, but was overshadowed by the wonderful "family reunion" taking place.

Back into France to Dijon, where for two nights we were treated to regional specialties — Beef Bourguignon and Coq au Vin. We were informed that to be made properly, Coq au Vin must use a rooster, two years old. After long and slow cooking, it was quite tender and delicious. That second evening we were at dinner from 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., as we socialized with the French "cousins." The evening began with aperitifs (Kir) and hors d'oeuvres of rumaki and gougeres (made from puff pastry). A new addition to the meals in France was the cheese course served between the entree and dessert. At first, some of us thought the cheese course was our dessert, but we were not disappointed, especially not the second evening, when we were again treated to a magnificent dessert buffet.

Our two evening meals in Bern were much more "down home" than anywhere else. The first evening we had the traditional Swiss meal of Bratwurst and Rosti at the Swiss Chalet Restaurant. The second evening we traveled to the Restaurant Rossli for a country meal of ham and potato salad followed by an amazing dessert of ice cream, meringue and whipped cream. Fortunately we were able to get up and dance to the accordian music to work off some of the calories!

Our final day was highlighted by an afternoon at the home of Peter and Elli Tritten near Zurich, where we were served cheese tarts, plum kuchen, cookies and various beverages. Then on to Winterthur for the evening meal of veal stroganoff with rice and a dessert of lemon sherbet with raspberry frozen mousse.

Doris Trait, David and Robyn Wampler enjoy dessert at the Restaurant Rossli.

It seems like we ate our way through two enjoyable weeks. If anyone did not get enough to eat on this trip he or she has no one to blame but him- or herself. The food was delicious, varied and abundant, and I know I ate far more than I should have. I'm already looking forward to the next time.

(The Phantom Gourmet is Robyn Wampler, of Gardners, Pennsylvania.)

WARM WELCOME IN LENK, APRIL 1993

Jasmine Tritten
Carmel, California

Editors's Note. Jim and Jasmine Tritten of Carmel, California visited Lenk, Switzerland, April 24 to 29, 1993. They sent us an account of their experiences which we are pleased to include in this issue.

As we approach Lenk with the spectacular Panoramic Express train from Montreaux, our hearts are throbbing with excitement and sheer delight. Experiencing the Swiss Alps from the comfort of the Panoramic Express is an exhilarating experience in itself. But here we are arriving at the ancestral home of my husband Jim's family — totally unknown to us at this time. It happens to be the most beautiful, charming and romantic little village tucked away deep in the snow capped Alps of Switzerland, a true paradise. The decision to come here was a mixture of Jim's invitation to lecture at the Institute of International Studies in Geneva and a desire to find out about the roots of the Tritten family, due to the Tritt Newsletter. We knew no one in Lenk when we arrived, but it did not take long before the ball got rolling.

Lenk in the Berner Oberland

Upon our arrival at the railway station in Lenk, we spotted someone waving at us. Herr Hans Vogel, the owner of Hotel-Pension Mittaghorn is there to pick us up. At this time of the year, the last week of April, only two hotels are open, the Kurhotel Lenkerhof being the other one. Everyone in Lenk is taking a break from the tourists between the winter and summer season. Driving us towards Pension Mittaghorn, which is located a little outside Lenk in Poschenried, Herr Vogel asked us if we have 10 MINUTES to spare for a quick stop at the Kurhotel Lenkerhof. Not having any plans we agree to stop. Entering the dining room we are received by a party of about 10 local gentlemen from Lenk, having their weekly social gathering. We are introduced to everybody including a banker, insurance agent, jeweler, retired army colonel etc. and have our first encounter with a Swiss TRITTEN, Herr Helmut Tritten. Everybody is welcoming us and we are cheering with good Swiss wine and consuming a delicious lunch. Helmut Tritten's charming wife Doris has now joined us and before we know it the 10 Swiss minutes have become 3 HOURS of wonderful conversation and hospitality. Already we have an invitation for dinner at Helmut and Doris' chalet the following day for a typical Swiss cheese dinner *raqlett,* and we have not yet arrived at our pension!

In the foyer of the Kurhotel Lenkerhof many beautiful abstract paintings are on display. The artist is famous Swiss painter Gottfried Tritten, brother of Walter Tritten, former owner of the Kreuz Hotel in Lenk. The Tritten name is already haunting us everywhere. On our way, finally, to Pension Mittaghorn, we are in wonder and amazement of this incredibly enchanted fairy tale country. Pension Mittaghorn is utterly *gemutlich* including the owners, Hans and Heidi Vogel. The view from our room of the mountains is breathtakingly beautiful. In the distance the faint tones of cow bells can be heard, ringing differently according to size.

The following three days we spent hiking up to *Siebenbrunnen* and *Simmenfalle* and walking into and around the village of Lenk. We also met with different members of the Tritten "family". One of our treasured meetings was with Hans Tritten and his wife, Marianne, from *Molkerei* Tritten, the cheese shop in Lenk. They invited us into their home to talk about the Tritten family. Besides a lot of good historical information, they gave us plenty of souvenirs with the Tritten name. Their son Christian and his family are coming to San Francisco next year for dentistry residency at the University of San Francisco. We met with Christian the following day. He seemed very interested in the research of the Tritten family and he gave us a copy of his family tree and showed us a stained glass window with the Tritten coat of arms hanging in his apartment. Then he drove us to the St. Stephan Church and it was an interesting experience. Both in St. Stephan and later as we walked through Lenk cemetery we spotted about 15 different tombstones with the name Tritten.

The final "Tritten" excitement was the meeting of Kurt Tritten in the Geneva Airport a couple of hours prior to our departure for the USA. Kurt's brother Hans from the *Molkerei* Tritten cheese shop in Lenk had arranged this very important meeting with this most important researcher of the Tritten family from the Simmental Valley. Kurt Tritten told us that if Jim was able to find out the name of his grandfather's father, Kurt would be able to trace Jim's family based on all the prior research done both in the USA and in Switzerland. We were overwhelmed with Kurt's historical knowledge and flew away from Switzerland with a lot of good information to sort out about the Tritten family—besides wonderful memories of the Tritten's ancestral home hidden deep in the Swiss Alps.

NEW PUBLICATION

Richard Tritt
Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

It is a known fact that eighteenth century emigrants to America often traveled in groups with relatives, friends and acquaintances. A recent book written by Annette Burgert provides documentation that this was true of the Tritt family as they made their way from Switzerland to Alsace and later to America.

Her book entitled Eighteenth Century Emigrants from the Northern Alsace to America was published by Picton Press, Camden, Maine, in 1992.

Many of the people who came to America with the Tritts were associated with them in the same parish in Diedendorf in northern Alsace. The records of the Reformed parish at Diedendorf start in 1698. The parish was established after the military defeat of Louis XIV in 1697 and the restoration of the area to the Counts of Nassau. After 1697 many Reformed Swiss families came into the area to repopulate and they appear in large numbers in the Reformed parish records of Diedendorf. Canton Bern provided the majority of Swiss into the Alsatian territories. In Nassau-Saarwerden a total of 441 families with identified Swiss origins arrived in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, over 400 of them from Canton Bern.

The following heads of family are found in the Diedendorf parish records. The same names are found on the ship list of the "Robert and Alice", that sailed to America in 1739 with our ancestors Hans Peter and Christian Tritt. The underlined names also appear in the parish records of the Muddy Creek Reformed Church in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where Hans Peter and Christian Tritt's first American records are found.

Heinrich Baumberger
Christoph Bollinger
Anthoni Buhler (1738)
David Buhler (His wife, Veronica Kern, widow of Peter Tritt, was the step father of Hans Peter and Christian Tritt.)
Johann Theobald Carle
Leopold Greber
Benedict Leiser
Frantz Leyenberger
Christofel Obel
Hans Jacob Reiff
Abraham Welschans
Joseph Welschams

These twelve individuals and their families were well known to our ancestors. They lived together in Alsace, traveled together to Rotterdam and sailed on the ship "Robert and Alice", arriving in Philadelphia on September 3, 1739. Thirteen additional families that were on the ship can also be found in Annette Burgert's book.

REGIONAL TRITT FAMILY REUNIONS

For the benefit of all local Tritt Family Reunions we are pleased to list your gatherings. As we go to press we have information about the following reunions.

GEORGIA- A regional Tritt Family Reunion is held each year on the last Saturday in July at Lake Winfield Scott in Suches, Georgia (located between Dahlonega and Blausville, Georgia). In 1994 the date for this reunion will be Saturday, July 30. A covered dish lunch will be at 12:00 and you are asked to come early for announcements. For detailed information contact:

Preston, Linda, or Melissa Tritt
275 Lewis Way
Canton, Georgia 30115
Telephone: (404) 479-1087
(404) 924-2165

TENNESSEE- Since the last newsletter, we have received information that a regional Tritt Family Reunion is held on the first weekend in June at the Shelby Forest State Park outside Memphis, Tennessee. For more information contact:

Ronnie Tritt, R.N.
Route 2, Box 109
Grenada, Mississippi 38901
Telephone: (601) 226-5109

Send your 1995 information to: Richard L. Tritt, Editor, Tritt Family Newsletter, 204 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007.

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, 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, S.W. Granville, Ohio 43023-9670.

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

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

OTHER MARRIAGES

CIVIL WAR FILE

John G. Grim
Murfreesboro, TN

Did you know that Alexander and Jacob Tritt, both of Virginia and Lafayette Tritt of North Carolina died while prisoners at Camp Douglas, Illinois? Today you can visit the Confederate mound in Oak Woods Cemetery. A monument with large bronze plates, bears the names of four thousand Confederates who died at Camp Douglas.

I am very proud to be a member of the Tritt family. My mother is the oldest daughter of Joseph Tritt and the granddaughter of Zion Tritt, both from Lee County, Virginia. For the past nine years I have been a Civil War collector. I deal with a large number of collectors from all over the country and have put together a very large collection. As I search at Civil War shows and through catalogs, I am always looking for the name Tritt. This is where I need help.

I would like to start a file on any Tritt who fought in the Civil War - North or South. This will help me to locate documents from each soldier, his regiment and battle history. If you have any names, copies of photos, regiment history or stories that have been passed down, please let me know. All information collected and copies of documents will be available to any member of the Tritt family upon request.

With this information I hope to someday put together a book about the Tritts and the war between the states. My address is:

John G. Grim
4218 Shady Lane • Murfreesboro, TN 37129
(615) 890-0448

NEWSLETTER REPORT

Richard L. Tritt

The average price of placing Issue No. 13 of the "TFR Newsletter" in your hands was 84 cents. 1400 copies were printed for $698.27 and postage was $433.88. 1172 newsletters were mailed within the United States, 17 to Canada and 63 to foreign countries. 46 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 full 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.

WARNING—ONCE AGAIN!!

Now comes a solicitation from the same company we warned you about in issue number 13 of the Tritt Family Newsletter. This time the so-called Family News organization of Midvale, Utah declares that they are "the Tritt Family News" and promises to "publish a 16 page newsletter four times a year—all about Tritt family members." However, please read the fine print, one point which says, "a not so serious look at Tritt family roots". At best, offerings of this kind are an out-dated list of addresses and a simplified list of unrelated birth and death dates. On behalf of all serious genealogical research we want our readers to know we deplore this deceptive solicitation. We feel so strongly about this type of advertisement that we have asked one of our research members to protest this activity before legitimate Utah genealogical research organizations.

1994 MEETING
TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH
THURSDAY, JULY 14 - SUNDAY, JULY 17

HOME OF
DONALD AND MARILYN TRITT
4072 GOOSE LANE, S.W.,
GRANVILLE, OHIO 43023-9670
TELE: (614) 587-0213

This is the time when those doing basic research on the many components of the family history get together to report on findings generated during the past year. This meeting is also the time we discuss business matters and plan for coverage of the next required steps in this large project. All interested persons are welcome to attend. For further details contact Donald or Marilyn Tritt at the above address.

VIET NAM MEMORIAL WALL

Information supplied by Paul and Wilma Tritt (Columbus, Ohio) notes that a Tritt is listed on the Viet Nam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. Found there is the following listing:

James Francis Tritt (Navy, MM2) Monaca, PA
Born: 13 July 1942
Died: 7 July 1967

EUROPEAN COUSINS COMING TO THE U.S.A. IN 1995

During the 1993 visit to Switzerland and France our European cousins began discussions about a possible two-week trip to the U.S.A. sometime during the period of mid-July to the end of August, 1995. In addition to visiting various places in the United States their main wish is to meet with their many cousins in the "new world". Given their time frame and the expanse of our country it seems to make best sense to plan for a cross-country flight with 2-3 day stops in several locations. Should this become a reality the following persons have offered to help organize local arrangements in their parts of the country.

Carlisle, Pennsylvania	Richard and Nancy Tritt 204 Forge Road Boiling Springs, PA 17007 (707) 258-6181
Granville, Ohio	Donald and Marilyn Tritt 4072 Goose Lane, S.W., Granville, OH 43023-9670 (614) 587-0213
Tulsa, Oklahoma	James and Betty Tritt 1625 S. Chestnut Avenue Broken Arrow, OK 74012 (918) 258-0471
Salt Lake City, Utah	Harold and Phyllis Hegyessy 1030 East Grove Drive Pleasant Grove, Utah 84062 (801)785-2925
Southern California	Ernest and Doris Trait 2518 Vuelta Grande Long Beach, California 90815 (310) 431-7074 and Constance R. Fisher P.O. Box 876 Glendora, California 91740 (818) 335-5407

These stopovers will be an excellent occasion for family members in each of these areas to meet together and host our European cousins. Please be in touch with the above persons for more details,

Europeans wanting information on such a tour can contact:

JAKOB TRITTEN, TRITTEN REISEBURO,
GALGENBUHL, CH-3770
ZWEISIMMEN/BERN SWITZERLAND
TELEPHONE: 030/ 2 16 16; FAX 030 2 15

NEW EUROPEAN DISTRIBUTION CENTERS FOR THE TRITT FAMILY NEWSLETTER

With many new-found cousins in Europe (see related article in this newsletter) the Tritt Family Newsletter is quickly becoming an international newsletter. By way of perspective, 1184 copies of this issue (#14) will be sent to persons in the U.S.A. In addition, 128 copies of issue #14 will be sent to persons in Europe and other countries. We hope the trend will continue of locating more and more cousins from around the world interested in this family history research project. However, the increased number of foreign mailings is beginning to pose a financial burden on our limited funds. Costs for printing and mailing in the U.S.A. amounts to about $1.00 per copy. Mailing costs to Europe are considerably higher. During the 1993 reunion and tour the officers of Tritt Family Research and other members discussed this situation with our European hosts. Thanks to the response of our family members in Europe we are pleased to report that future issues of the Tritt Family Newsletter will be mailed from two additional locations and coordinated by the following persons:

France	Mme. Micheline Furon-Tritten 11, rue President Carnot F-21400 Chatillon S/Seine Telephone: (33) 80/91 14 81
Switzerland	Frau. Margrit Tritten-Stauffer Rawyl Garage CH-3775 Lenk / Bern Switzerland Telephone: 030/ 3 10 59 (office) 030/ 3 17 27 (home)

If you live in Europe and want to be placed on the Tritt Family Newsletter mailing list, please contact one of the above persons.

For the time being, all written copy will be edited in the U.S.A. Following this, copies of each issue of the newsletter will be sent to the above persons along with a list of European addresses. When deemed appropriate by Micheline or by Margrit some articles may be translated into French or German. The revised copies will then be mailed to addresses in Europe.

So—beginning with issue #14 we are pleased to report the Tritt Family Newsletter will be distributed from three different locations: United States of America, France, and Switzerland.

NEXT WORLD WIDE FAMILY REUNION

Our next international family reunion will be held in Lenk, Switzerland in 1996.

Kurt and Frances Tritten of Lenk, Switzerland have graciously volunteered to coordinate plans for the next world wide reunion of TRITT-TRITTEN-TRITT-TRAIT. This is scheduled for the summer of 1996. As these plans develop we will keep you informed in upcoming issues of the Tritt Family Newsletter.

REPORT
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPECIAL FUND FOR 16TH CENTURY RESEARCH

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 1993, we are pleased to report that sufficient funds exist to issue a next newsletter. However, these funds (see report of the Treasurer elsewhere in this newsletter) are not sufficient to finance the following specialized research project.

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 show them to be 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.

In the last issue of the newsletter we made a first appeal for funding this special project. As we go to press, I am pleased to report that $901.50 has been contributed to this special designated-use research fund.

To advance this fund toward the goal of $4,000 would you please consider making whatever contribution you can. Make out your check to "Tritt Family Research- 16th Century Research" and mail to W. Wayne Tritt, Treasurer, Tritt Family Research, 24 Old Stone House Road, Carlisle, PA 17013.

TREASURER'S REPORT

W. Wayne Tritt, Carlisle, PA

Oct. 1, 1992 to Dec. 31, 1993	
Balance Oct. 1, 1992	$1955.76
Income - all sources	$2325.27
Total before expenses	$4281.03
Less expenses	$1559.06
Balance Dec. 31, 1993	$2721.97

As noted above, this report covers a fifteen month period and reflects again the interest and support many of you show toward this massive project. As reported in our last newsletter, we have committed ourselves to publishing the first volume of Tritt History in the near future. The cost to undertake this venture will require an enormous amount of financial support. It is our hope that those of you who have provided funding in the past will continue to do so and to you who have not joined your cousins, won't you please join with us by sending a monetary gift? If each person who receives a copy of this newsletter was able to contribute $10.00, we would have over $10,000, or about one third of the estimated cost of publication. Any funding in advance of publication will result in a reduced cost of the finished product. Won't you please help now by sending your gift. Any amount will be appreciated.

In regards to the above report, donations amounted to $1359 of which $901.50 was allocated for the 16th Century Research Fund. The balance went to our regular account. The remainder of income was from the sale of TFR items such as cookbooks, newsletters, Hans Peter Tritt Trees, etc.

The printing and mailing of the newsletter was again the major expense item. This amounted to $1140.18 with the remaining amount chargeable to postage for the sale items, etc.

The following is a list of those who made monetary contributions since Oct. 1, 1992. If you made a contribution and your name does not appear below, please accept our apologies and let us know so that your name will appear in the next issue. Many thanks again to all who support us.

Betty T. Smeltz	Harrisburg, PA
Rhea Johnston	Sash, CANADA
Pauline Raiser Kee	Monett, MO
Roger & Janet Roberts	Levittown, PA
Neil & Helen Sanvidge	White Lake, WI
Jean Reese Saufley	Hummelstown, PA
Betty Reese Ruhl	Pasadena, MD
Oliver & Olive Tritt	Humbolt, TN
Richard D. Tritt	Winnipeg, CANADA
Nancy Tritt Snyder	Laguna Beach, CA
David & Robyn Wampler	Gardners, PA
Jeffrey & Suzanne Furgal	Naperville, IL
W. Wayne & Esther Tritt	Carlisle, PA
Marilyn & Lavar Moffitt	Sandy, UT
Columbine Tritt Middleton	New Windsor, MD
Mr. & Mrs. Austin Lovell	Oak City, UT
Mr. & Mrs. Mac Don Tritt	Lenoir City, TN
Janet Tritt Jones	Johnstown, PA
Beula I. Schroer	Ontario, CA
Andre D. Masters	Tigaro, OR
Hollis C. Tritt	Spokane, WA
Barbara R. Holloman	Silver Spring, MD
Loberta Mabe	Toledo, OR
Virginia S. Tritt	Brownsville, TN
Kathryn W. Fishel	Shiremanstown, PA
Donald W. Long	Carlisle, PA
Jean Kelso Alaniz	Oswego, IL
Margaret M. Tritt	B.C., CANADA
Charles A. Pinney III	San Diego, CA
Stuart R. Tritt	Kimball, NE
Mr. & Mrs. H. F. Hupp	Webster City, IA
Linda Tritt Kallas	Omro, WI
Velma M. Jackson	Troy, WV
William & June Tritt	Oshkosh, WI
Bill Tritt	Barrett, VA
Don & Marilyn Tritt	Granville, OH
Virginia S. Tritt	Brownsville, TN
Maurine Wright	Appalachia, VA

The following items are available for purchase from TFR. Please complete the following order form and mail to: Wm. Wayne Tritt, 24 Old Stone House Road, Carlisle, PA 17013.

_____ Tritt Family Cookbook - $7.50
_____ Civil War Diary of William Tritt - $5.00
_____ Annual Newsletter - Issues 1-14 (Specify Issue Number(s)) _____ - $1.50 each
_____ Schematic Map of Tritt sites in Cumberland, York and Lancaster Counties, Penna. - $1.00
_____ 1906 Tritt Famiy 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 - $10.00
_____ Box of Notecards with the Tritt House on the front - $4.00

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:

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Marriages:

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Other:

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH
4072 Goose Lane, S.W.
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