

VOLUME III IS HERE!

"Tritt Family History, Vol. III, Christian Tritt, immigrant to Pennsylvania in 1739, his son Henry Tritt, born 1742, and their descendants", is here. After years of research and publication efforts, this all-inclusive work on Christian Tritt (1719) and his descendants to modern times is now available. It details the life and times of Christian, his eldest son Henry, and Henry's siblings, as well as many of their descendants through multiple generations. There are sections 'Descendants of Note' and 'Family Stories', and a section of genealogical data from Christian through to the present. It is accentuated with numerous photographs of persons discussed in the book and also color photographs of various subjects.

For unknown reasons, many of Christian's descendants used the surname Trait, Trate, Treat, and other similar derivations of Tritt. In Volume III you'll learn how the various names spread, even sometimes within the same immediate family, and also spread geographically.

Christian Tritt (1719) immigrated to America in 1739 with his brother, Hans Peter. Tritt Family History, Volume III provides nearly everything known about Christian and his descendants, even about the personal lives of many of them. If you are a descendant of Christian (1719) and have Tritt Family History, Volumes I and III, you will have your entire lineage from ca. 1500 to the present, over 500 years of family history! Not many families can do that.

We are very proud of Volume III, and are confident you would be too. It is a fine addition to our earlier Volumes I and II. Certainly descendants of Christian (1719) should have Volume III for a complete family history in America. See elsewhere in this newsletter how to obtain your copy of any or all of these books. You'll be glad you did. And remember, Christmas is coming. ■

Richard Tritt, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

275TH ANNIVERSARY

The year 2014 marks the anniversary of two important events in the history of the Tritt family. Two hundred and seventy-five years ago, on September 3, 1739, Hans Peter and Christian Tritt arrived at the port of Philadelphia and established a family line that now numbers in the thousands of descendants. Twenty-five years ago, in June 1989, a group of descendants of Hans Peter and Christian Tritt returned to Europe for a 250th anniversary Remigration Tour to retrace the route that their ancestors followed that eventually led to their coming to America in 1739. These two events will always remain as significant events in the larger Tritt family story.

We know so much about the story of Hans Peter and Christian Tritt due to the dedicated research and publications of the Tritt Family Research organization. The two young brothers who came to America in 1739, aged 24 and 20, were two of the four children of Hans Peter Tritt, Sr. and his wife Veronica Kern. Hans Peter Tritt, Sr., died c. 1720, and his wife Veronica remarried to David Buhler; together they had three children. We find this couple and Veronica's two sons from her first marriage, on the ship "Robert and Alice" in 1739, seeking a new life in America. The stories of Hans Peter and Christian Tritt and their descendants

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With pertinence to the following known name variations — Tritten, Dritt, Trait, Trate, and Treat

TRITT FAMILY Newsletter



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continue to be revealed and told after 275 years. Their legacy lives on as their descendants make their own mark during their lifetimes.

The Remigration Tour of 1989 was a life-changing event for all who experienced it. The feelings of family and the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of our ancestors were unforgettable. The personal contact with European cousins established lifelong relationships and friendships. The close bond created within the group still exists today. Watching Bill Dritt's videos made during the trip still evoke strong emotions that were experienced at the time. The 1989 trip was so successful that two other similar trips were made in 1993 and 1997. These three memorable trips helped establish an international network of family that still exists today.



Participants in the 1989 Tritt Family Remigration Tour pose at the main entrance of the Chateau Diedendorf on June 25, 1989. Hans Peter Tritt (Sr.), the father of the immigrants Hans Peter and Christian Tritt, worked for the owner of this castle as a tailor.

It is important to look back and remember where we came from, how we got here, and what we hope to accomplish. An understanding of our past and an appreciation of what our forefathers did for us helps us define ourselves. Tritt Family Research encourages all members of the family to join us in our

efforts to research, document, and preserve our history. We also invite you to help us with our ongoing projects as well as to attend our annual meetings where you will experience the feeling of family that is strong within our group. ■

FACEBOOK

Karen Scheffler, Montgomery, Vermont

Since launching the Tritt Family Research, Inc. page on Facebook, we have reached 112 people. That means that those folks are following TFR, Inc., scooping up the latest news about our ancestry. But here's the catch. Facebook is most effective when photos or simple posts are shared continually and that has not been happening as regularly as I had envisioned.

I'm going to back up a brief minute and ask: What is it we are hoping to accomplish with this media? One outcome might be simply to get the message out that we exist.

That's working for 112 people. Like families, one can only hope that those numbers multiply.

Also, we would like to give information about the family

research and point the way to the website to enhance readership, possibly membership, and definitely interest in our ancestry. This fruitfulness is the challenge.

As TFR's Facebook administrator, I challenge myself in the coming year to post something about us once a week, a picture, an ancestral story, a member's search for a particular ancestor, etc. Next year we will take a look at what this 'once a week posting challenge' has birthed.

If you have a Facebook page, "like" Tritt Family Research, Inc.; and actively post, because you can, too! Share the page with your FB community. One never knows where a Tritt (Trait, Trate, Treat) might turn up! ■

AN INVITATION TO YOU

Tritt Family Research exists to assemble and dispense information on Tritt family history and genealogy. Tritt Family History, Volume III, nicely complements Volumes I and II. We are in the early stages of development of Volume IV, and have begun collecting information for Volume V. Since all our work is volunteer, these future volumes are likely years away, but it remains our goal to publish as much Tritt family history and genealogy as feasible. You can help! We solicit your assistance and would welcome your participation. If interested, feel free to contact us through www.tritt.org or via e-mail at trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net.

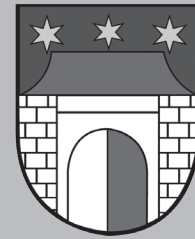
PARK BENCH AT THE DRITT CEMETERY

Within the last year, the York County (Pennsylvania) Parks Department invited Tritt Family Research to sponsor a park bench at the Dritt Cemetery, located on land which has become part of Native Lands County Park in Lower Windsor Township, York County. Their idea was to place park benches in locations within the park that are amenable to rest and contemplation. The location of the cemetery is ideal for that, a peaceful, serene, tranquil place overlooking field, forest, and the place of the last encampment of the Susquehannock Indians in the 1670s.

Officers of Tritt Family Research believed this to be a worthy cause, especially since the Dritt cemetery is situated along one of the trails in this passive park, which trails are also part of the Mason-Dixon Trail. Further, hikers like to stop at the cemetery and relax, and we have seen hikers sitting on the small granite cemetery marker placed years ago by Tritt Family Research, because there was nowhere else to sit.

Knowing expenses of publishing "Tritt Family History, Volume III" were upcoming, we didn't want to reduce our treasury to purchase/sponsor the bench. So, TFR officers and some other members contributed the funds to pay for the bench. TFR was even granted the opportunity to select the location of the bench. The bench was installed in July, 2014 and is very sturdy and attractive, with a concrete base and standards and thick "plastic lumber" of a medium gray color. A plaque affixed to the seat back states "PRESENTED BY TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH, CARLISLE, PA." The parks department is as pleased with the bench as we are.

Those contributing to the purchase of the park bench were Robert and Sue Tritt Baxter, Michael Buchtel, Ernest and Doris Trait, Carol Tritt, Donald Tritt, Dwight and Patrice Tritt, Judy Tritt, Richard and Nancy Tritt, and Leonard and Connie Tritt. Their combined contributions enabled us to commemorate the Dritt Cemetery and make it an even more desirable place to visit on these beautiful and historic parklands. ■



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A VARIETY OF NAMES

[Editor's note: Much of the question and conjecture in this 20-year-old writing is now resolved and documented in *Tritt Family History, Volume III*.]

Chronological order in my own family has intrigued me for a long time. As a child, I was continually confused by the maze of references and cross-references used to identify the long stream of relatives we would visit from time to time. The term "cousin" or "uncle" meant that somewhere in this family we were tied together by a thin stream of blood, but at that age it defied me to be able to get the picture of just how or where. In later years, I realized that, when we were out in the country on the old "Sunday drive" visiting "Aunt Kate" or "Uncle Morris", these had not been MY aunts and uncles at all, but those of my parents. Though these were the only terms by which I knew some of these folks, I later discovered them in actuality to be my "Great" aunts and uncles - a position of great reverence in the antiquity of human relations. Others, whom I thought were closer relatives, turned into "a cousin of Dad's on his mother's side" or "Mother's cousin-twice removed." A mixture of these terms is what I must use to sort out persons in the family web when trying to be sure just who is being talked about.

With notes as written by our family historian, Alice Susanna Hoffman Sparr, I began to lay out the TRAIT family line so that I could understand where each person stood in relationship to another. Then the infection took hold. I thought it would be interesting to see what I could find to help complete the picture a little more and push further into the past. Starting with whatever was convenient and handy at the time, like immediate family members, I probed memories for names, dates, and activities of past years. This proved very rewarding and must be pursued further while our elder members are still available with their vast store of information.

Next, the Berks County records in the Reading, Pennsylvania courthouse were searched only lightly to see what might be gleaned from them. Immediately the family tree grew another branch. There appeared a string of "TRATES" with names I had never heard of among our relatives. I knew this spelling existed in the family as "Uncle Will" used this, as will be explained further in this article; but where this branch comes from or ties in is still to be found.

The history, as written by Alice Sparr, reaches only to Phillip and Sussanna Glass Treat, her grandparents and my great-grandparents. These folks, as is now known, were born and raised in Robeson Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania in the 1830s. They lived their lives in the vicinity of Plow Church and are both buried in the adjoining cemetery. Their family consisted of six children who were the "aunts" and "uncles" of my father, Samuel (E) Trait, who was born January 7, 1887. In order of birth they were Aaron (G) Trait, my grandfather, born on June 12, 1858; a daughter Mary Catherine, who lived only 10 months, born on November 6, 1860; William Nelson Trait/Trate (Uncle Will) who lived on a farm off the old Chestnut Hill Road to Morgantown, Pennsylvania, born on June 24, 1862; Christian Treat, born on November 24, 1864 and settled in the Wilkes-Barre,

Pennsylvania area; Samuel Treat, born some time in 1866 and went west to the Phoenix, Arizona area about thirty years later. In addition there were Sarah Ellen Trait (Aunt El), born on July 19, 1869, and Bertha Susan Trait (Aunt Bert), born on November 28, 1871, both of whom married and lived in the vicinity of Morgantown, Pennsylvania.

You will notice the difference in spelling of the last names. This confounded me until I made a surprising discovery referred to later in this article.

In exploring the records of Plow Church, Robeson Township and those in the Berks County Courthouse, I found three spellings within this one family alone. This is assumed to have come about through some disagreement within the family.

The spellings shown were verified with then living members of the William Nelson Trait/Trate family, namely daughters Cora Minerva and Bertha May (who continued the use of "TRAIT") though court and church records show their father, William Nelson, to be using "TRATE". Plow Church records show Phillip and Sussanna, parents of William Nelson, as spelling their name "TREAT". This may have been an anglicized version of the original.

During a visit with a cousin, Fred Trait Felber, son of Bessie May Trait Felber Weitzel, daughter of Aaron (G) Trait, my grandfather, brother to William Nelson, he mentioned he had some documents in his possession but was unsure as to their significance as they were in German.

What a find! These documents were Frakturs, a form of German printing that allows one to fill in birth and baptismal information. One was for "... Aaron Tritt, son of Phillip Tritt and wife Sussanna, daughter of Peter Glass ... born June 12, 1858". This was before any name change. This is strong evidence. I know my grandfather used the "TRAIT" spelling yet he grew up in a family in which church records and others knew them as "TREAT". Now here is a document showing that he was really born a "TRITT". Another name!

Another document was a birth and baptismal certificate for a son "Christian" born November 23, 1806 "... at 1 o'clock in the morning of father Christian Tritt and mother Catherina Glassin ..." then living in Robeson Township. Also named was the minister performing the baptism, which appears to be the signature of Rev. John Plitt whom the Plow Church records confirm to be pastor at that time period. Witnesses named were Godparents, Christian Dannehauser and wife Catherina. A very important note in the lower left corner in a different script indicated that this son married June 14, 1829. This marriage is confirmed in the records of Rev. A.S. Leiby, 1792-1820, of the First Reformed Church of Reading¹ that this Christian married Justina Schlauch on this date. The subsequent birth of Phillip is recorded in the Plow record² for March 22, 1830 to parents Christian and Justina Tritt. This Christian (1806), is the father of Phillip Tritt (1830), who

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in turn, is the father of Aaron (G) Tritt/Trait (1858), my grandfather. These references, then, tie together the family line through TRAIT-TREAT-TRITT to the beginning of the nineteenth century and beyond. It is this “beyond” that we will deal with shortly as this appears to be the original name and the real path to our ancestry.

The translation from the German Fraktur, the stylized birth certificate, was done for me by Dr. F.M. Swensen, a Professor of the California State College Foreign Language Department at Long Beach, California. Dr. Swensen also said the ‘IN’ of the name GLASS-‘IN’ was a suffix used to denote the female gender and therefore the name would normally be ‘GLASS’. The Glass family is often intermarried with our Tritt line for several generations, being possibly very good friends and neighbors.

Though referenced often, there has been little mention of Plow Church itself. As may be known locally, Plow was first known as the Forrest Church³ founded in 1768 with the record book beginning in 1770. Later we find that ‘Plow’ is also spelled ‘Plough’. The changeover probably occurred gradually as indications show it was still referred to as Forrest Church as late as 1829 in showing where marriage participants had originated.

The first church was an eight cornered building built in 1779 which was in use during the years of our ancestor’s activities and shared by both Lutheran and Reformed congregations. A second church was built in 1811 and it was torn down in 1888, the same year the current building was put to use.

Situated on high ground midway between Reading and Morgantown, next to what is now Route 122 [PA Route 10 today], this third church has a commanding view of the countryside in all directions and was probably a mighty beacon to the parishioners of the day. A roadway intersection nearby lead to the development of a village called Plowville, hence the probable changeover to be called Plowville Church and then Plow Church. The present day edifice is a beautiful sandstone structure standing proudly for more than one hundred years with the sharing of facilities by the two congregations, only recently dissolved.

The surrounding area was of Germanic culture in this period and writings would of course be Germanic. Initial script in the Plow records was in German changing later to English. Persons making the entries into the record book of the church may or may not have known the individuals by name, and therefore pronunciation and subsequent spelling may have resulted in an incorrect recording. This I believe to be true in the listings of confirmation attendance. Listings were taken twice annually for the one hundred and five years, 1770 to 1875, indicating at times, a pairing of names we know to be coupled and spellings ranging from TRITT to TREIT and TRAET to TREAT. This could explain the change in accepted normal spelling of the name to what we know it to be at the death of Phillip and Sussanna Treat.

As an example, a list on November 18, 1848 shows Phillip “TRIET” in attendance singly, age 18, while later lists spell the name “TREAT.” However, as late as 1874 an entry shows them as Phillip and Sussanna “TRAET”. We are confident that these are the same people because of

the rarity of similarities throughout the records.

I returned to the original Plow Church record book on three different occasions to review the names therein because of the differences discovered in spelling. Each time I found an additional name by keeping in mind a different idea as to what I was looking for.

Records show, however, with the discovery of the birth certificate of my grandfather of 1858, that the original spelling “TRITT” still prevailed and was carried on in those documents of official nature. Though the document of Christian was dated in 1806, the form itself was printed in 1809 by Gottlob Jungmann of Reading and embellished with the hand-painted artistry of the owner. These forms, it appears, may have been sold by circuit riding sales persons who would visit back-country people, performing whatever duties might be necessary at the time.

Another reference investigated was the “Pennsylvania German Pioneers” by Strassburger, a three volume index of immigrants of 1727 to 1776 used in conjunction with “Thirty Thousand Names” by Rupp. Volume I, pages 263 to 271, show three lists originated by the ship’s captain, the Governor of Philadelphia and the immigration authorities. The Captain’s list only signified what or whom he transported in his ship. However, the other lists were oaths, one - the swearing of allegiance to King George II; the other - an oath renouncing all ties with Catholicism. The Thirty Years War had ended only one hundred years previously and strong religious feelings were still very much felt in the Europe of the day. As is generally known from history, these colonies were established as a bastion of religious freedom. William Penn had made his sales pitch for immigrants on the European Continent in the 1680’s based on that promise and he was determined to keep it that way while he had control.

These lists do show, however, how a name can be changed through transposing by nationalities and pronunciation. Each list was written by a scribe as the immigrant gave his name and made his “mark”. The scribe may not have been well educated and could have been English, Dutch, or even Spanish and would therefore spell the name the way it sounded to him and be influenced by his own nationality. We thereby arrive at four different ways to spell the same names: TREET, TREIT, THRITT, and TRITT. The immigrants as derived from these lists then were Hans Peter Tritt and Christian Tritt listed as “... male Palatines imported in the ship ‘Robert and Alice’ of Dublin, of age sixteen years and upwards ...” dated Philadelphia, September 3, 1739. These names, being the only ones even close to what we are looking for, seem to be our line’s entrance to this continent.

The Christian Tritt listed as a passenger aboard the Robert and Alice obviously cannot be the same Christian as mentioned previously. The Christian of 1806 had a father whose name was also Christian. Christian the father, was born on October 4, 1770⁴ of parents Henry and Elizabeth Tritt/(Dritt). Henry is the son of Christian our immigrant ancestor who, with his brother Hans Peter, and possibly his widowed and remarried mother and stepfather, arrived in Philadelphia in September of 1739.

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This is the shady part of our continuous line to the old world because there is still much research to do with this Henry connection.

Excerpts of Christian's, our immigrant ancestor's, will⁵ indicate he fathered a son and four daughters. Henry is the son mentioned and therefore we include his name in our lineage.

The first U.S. Census, taken in 1790, revealed no name of TRITT anywhere in the state of Pennsylvania. However, curiously, the name Henry Treat appears as head of a family of two adult males, four boys, and four girls under sixteen years of age in Robeson Township, Berks County. There was a Jacob Treat as head of a family in Windsor Township, York County and Peter Trait head of a family in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The latter two are of the Hans Peter Tritt line as research has shown their move west to York County after approximately ten years in the Berks County/Lancaster County area.

The birth date of Henry is still an unknown. He first appears on the tax rolls in 1765 to 1767 as a single man and is so taxed. If this is an indication that he has just become of age, then it may be safe to say he was possibly born in 1744. Since we have the birth of a son Christian in 1770, we can also possibly assume that his marriage occurred between 1767 and 1770.⁶

In 1771 the Pennsylvania Archives⁷ show Henry Trite as inmate (married nonlandholder) in Pikeland Rate (township), Chester County and again in 1774 with the same indications. It would appear that Henry is trying to establish himself in this area.

Remembering that these are the years just prior to the Revolution, I can imagine that there was much consternation involved with starting a family. He most likely sees service in the Continental Army since there are lists of a Henry Fritt on a muster roll of 1780⁸, a Private in the Kennedy Company, 7th Pennsylvania Regiment. There is also a Henry Tritt in the same unit⁹. The military records have not been fully explored and need much investigation.

In 1779, we find a Henry Frit back in Robeson Township, Berks County, acquiring 50 acres of land now¹⁰ with no other TRITT or similarity present. 1781 shows Henry Treat with 100 acres¹¹ while following listings increase holdings to 127 acres in 1784¹². Just to keep one on their toes, 1785 spells the name Henry TRAIT¹³.

Through the diligent research of Harold M. Hegyessy, Jr., and his study of Swiss migration patterns, we know where our immigrant ancestors have originated. Both Hans Peter (1715) and Christian (1719) were born in Diedendorf Parish, Alsace-Lorraine, France. Their father, Hans Peter Tritt, Sr., was a tailor for a local baron, but was born in St. Stephan, Obersimmental Valley, Bern Canton, Switzerland about 1690. The father of Hans Peter Tritt, Sr. was Friedrich Tritt born in 1654 also in St. Stephan. Now, if we go back one more generation to the father of Friedrich, we will find Jacob Tritten, and a new name enters the picture again.

Jacob Tritten was born about 1621 in St. Stephan, Bern Canton, Switzerland as were both of the next two generations into the past. Jacob's father was Christen Tritten, born about 1588, and his father, who represents the earliest records available, was Jacob Tritten, born

about 1562.

A point of interest is the literal meaning of the word 'TRITT' in German - which means "to step, kick, or TREAD". This last could very easily have been anglicized by the change of "D" to "T" to become 'TREAT', a name we know to be used in the family, or "DRITT", which also appears in another branch of our tree.

An interesting bit of conjecture has developed a theory for the source of our family name. The Obersimmental Valley leads into the high mountains of the Swiss Alps. In the medieval times, the water runoff of the mountains ran wild and the valleys flooded continually. People found flat spots on the ridges and sides of the hills on which to build their houses or shelters and these were called steppes. Maybe our ancestors were the people who lived on the steppes - Tritten!??

The search goes on for branches of the family tree. The variations of spelling found in all the documents and records covered make an amazing collection for a simple name. Through the miscues of sounds and nationality filtered interpretations we come up with fifteen variations of the original.

Thus, TRITTEN (original and correct), TRITT and TREAT (most commonly used), and, listed in alphabetical order, DREAT, DREIT, DRITT, FREIT, FRET, FRIT, FRITT, TRAIT, TRATE, TREAT, TREET, TREIT, TRICK, TRITE, and TRITT.

A poignant note in that, with the passing of my sons, our name as we spell it, will no longer exist. My boys had only daughters. Seems like a 'historical correction' is setting things straight. ■

REFERENCES

¹1st Reformed Church of Reading records, Vol. 1 and 2 - Rev. A.S. Leiby - 1792-1820

²Parochial Register for the Congregation in Robeson Twp. 1770 - (copy of the Plow Church Records- orig. page 60) - Pa. Historical Society Library

³Berks Warrant H-268; Patent P-18, page 448 BLR from 'Pastors & People', vol. 1 Charles H. Glatfelter (Penna. German Society Pub. 1980) Lancaster Co. Historical Soc.

⁴East Vincent Reformed Congregation, Chester County, PA.-Bk.21B, Christian Dritt (Tritt) son of Henrich Dritt and Elizabeth Dritt b. 4 October 1770, bapt. 1 April 1771

⁵Abstract of will of Christian Treat, Chester County Records

⁶Berks County Tax Lists, 1759-1761, Pennsylvania Historical Society

⁷Pennsylvania Archives, 3rd Series, Vol. 11, page 762; and Vol. 12, page 89

⁸ibid, 5th Series, Vol.3, page 215, 266, 274, 283

⁹ibid, page 290

¹⁰ibid, 3rd Series, Vol.18, page 282

¹¹ibid, page 520

¹²ibid, page 661

¹³ibid, page 784

NEW FINDINGS ON BALTHAS(Z)AR TRITT

Tritt Family Research has known of an immigrant to America named Balthazar Tritt for many years, but very little genealogical information about him was known to us. For many years it was thought he arrived in America in the mid-1800s, possibly through the port of Charleston, South Carolina. Balthazar seemed likely to be the progenitor of many of the Tritts in southeastern United States.

Sue Tritt Baxter, of Colliersville, Tennessee, has been researching her ancestor, Balthas(z)ar Tritt. This is very likely the same aforementioned 'mystery' Balthazar. Sue stresses that her research is not completed, but she has discovered and documented some preliminary findings that cast new light on this little known Tritt.

"Balthus Triett" arrived in Philadelphia on 27 Sep. 1752, aboard the ship "Anderson", which departed Europe from Rotterdam. [The first known Tritt immigrants to America (1739), Hans Peter and brother Christian, also set sail from Rotterdam, arriving in Philadelphia.] Beginning several years later, Balthasar Tritt/Dritt(e), b. ?, d. 1797, a shoemaker, and his wife Magdalena had their five children (three girls and two boys, born alternately) christened between 1755 and 1766 in Lehigh Church, Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. This is just southwest of Allentown, Pennsylvania, about 60 miles north of Philadelphia.

Balthasar's younger son, Henrich (b. 1763, d. 1836), married Maria Catherina Dormeyer, who was also christened in Lehigh Church in 1763. Before 1774 the Dormeyer (Maria Catherina's) family were near Catawba, North Carolina, and near that time Balthasar bought land in that area.

Sue's work to date indicates Balthasar had a wife and five children before moving to North Carolina. Another researcher, Jean Tritt Edge, avers on web postings that Balthasar was single when he relocated there. Balthasar's 1794 will, filed in Lincoln County, North Carolina, listed his children in the same order they were born and christened in Lehigh Church, so it is highly likely the same Balthasar.

So far, apparently nothing has been found on Balthasar and his ancestors in Europe. Though proof is needed, it seems plausible his lineage would go back to Switzerland. Sue is the seventh generation after Balthasar.

If you have any information on a Balthas(z)ar Tritt, Sue would like to talk to you. Contact Tritt Family Research at trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net and we will get you together. ■

SYNOPSIS OF AUGUST 2014 MEETING

Connie Tritt, Secretary, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

The 37th annual meeting of Tritt Family Research was held in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on August 14 through 16, 2014. Those in attendance were:

Jeanette Miller of Shippensburg, PA
Sandy Naiva of Manchester, NJ
Nancy Noecker of Granville, OH
Karen Scheffler of Montgomery, VT
Ernie and Doris Trait of Long Beach, CA
Donald Tritt of Granville, OH
Dwight Tritt of Boiling Springs, PA
Leonard and Connie Tritt of Carlisle, PA
Richard and Nancy Tritt of Boiling Springs, PA
Eldridge and Jane Ward of Delta, PA

At the gathering on Thursday evening, Jane Ward, dressed in period costume, presented an interview as her great-great-great-grandmother, Frances 'Fannie' Brown Jones, husband of Nicholas Slubey Jones. The interview took place in 1814 and recounted the bombing of Baltimore and the life of Fannie and her five children. It was a very informative and interesting presentation.

The session on Friday dealt with preparation and assigning content and authors for Volume IV of *Tritt Family History*. In the afternoon, we visited the Dritt House in York County. We had a tour of the house and then walked up the hill to the cemetery to see the bench that was recently placed there sponsored by Tritt Family Research.

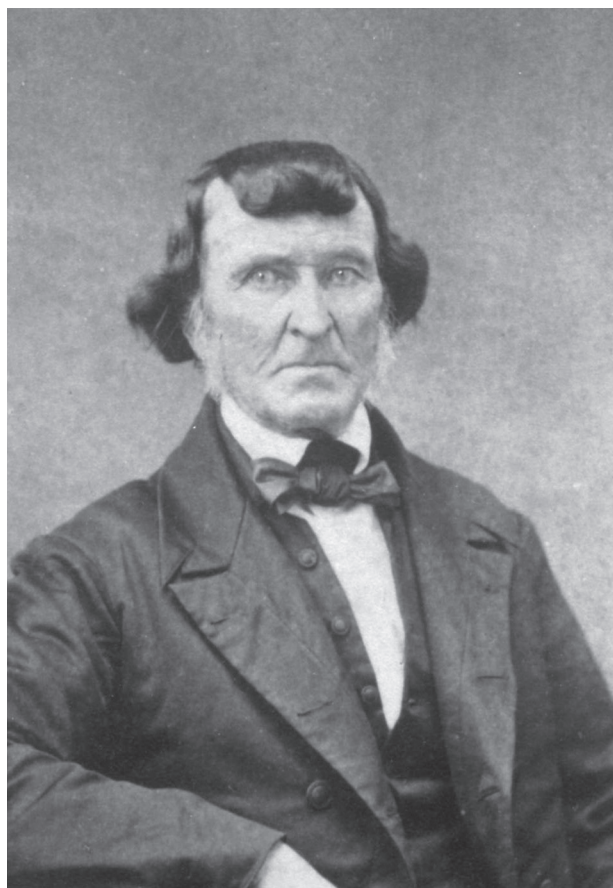
At 6:00 P.M., we all gathered at the home of Dave and Robyn Wampler for a picnic supper and a delightful evening of great weather to go along with the delicious food prepared by Robyn, and Dave grilling the hot dogs and sausages.

Our annual business meeting was held Saturday morning into the early afternoon. Most of the meeting centered around the excitement that Volume III was ready to be submitted to the printer and such relief of those who spent long hours in writing, proofing, rewriting and reproofing the volume. Leonard Tritt thanked Jane Ward, Melissa Clayton, Ernie Trait, Karen Scheffler, Sandy Naiva, Jeanette Miller and Brent Clayton for their contributions as authors of Volume III, and to Richard and Nancy Tritt for their proofreading the volume. Special thanks go to Jane Ward and Melissa Clayton for their voluminous time in editing and layout of Volume III.

We also discussed the need, and/or desire, to have the gravestones at the Dritt Cemetery repaired as some of them are cracked, broken and weather-worn. Leonard will be looking into having someone give us an estimate of the cost of such repairs.

The 38th annual meeting of Tritt Family Research will be held in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on August 13 to 15, 2015. ■

VOLUME V – CHRISTIAN TRITT



Christian Tritt (1796-1871), grandson of Hans Peter Tritt (Jr.).
Photo by C. L. Lochman, Carlisle, c. 1863.

Now that Tritt Family Research is working on *Tritt Family History, Volume IV*, it is time to start thinking about the volume that will follow. Volume V will be the second volume dedicated to one of the seven sons of Peter Tritt and Elizabeth Lefever. Volume IV will be about their 5th child, Joseph Tritt (1786-1873), who married Catherine Rhodes. They left Pennsylvania and moved to Ohio c. 1814, where they had a large family and many descendants.

Volume V will be about Christian Tritt (1796-1871), the 9th child of Peter and Elizabeth Tritt. He married Lydia Stough in 1820 and they had 14 children. Most of this family remained in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, for their entire lives. Christian bought several farms during his lifetime and these were farmed and inherited by four of his sons.

Christian's wife Lydia died in 1849 at the age of 46. In 1852 Christian married a widow, Mrs. Francis Charlotte McCullough, who had five children from her first marriage. To this union, one child was born, Lydia Belle Tritt. The children of both the Tritt and McCullough families were close and it was from this merged family that a genealogy of both families was written and both a Tritt and McCullough family tree were drawn. Copies of the Tritt Family Tree are available from TFR. (See order form on page 15.)

There are many descendants of Christian and Lydia Stough, including our TFR President, Leonard W. Tritt, First Vice President, Richard L. Tritt, and Treasurer, Dwight A. Tritt. We are looking for any photos, biographies, family stories or other information on this family line for inclusion in Volume V of *Tritt Family History*. Send your information to Richard Tritt at 33 Silver Maple Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007, or email Richard at rn.tritt@centurylink.net. ■

Leonard Tritt, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

SWISS CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA WINS AWARD

The Swiss Center of North America in New Glarus, Wisconsin won the 2014 Governor's Award for Archival Achievement, presented by Wisconsin State Archivist Matt Blessing in August 2014. The award recognized the outstanding research collection on Swiss and Swiss-American heritage at the Swiss Center's Donald G. Tritt Archive and Library, which includes many old Swiss-American publications, some as much as 150 years old, and even a copy of "Helvetiorum Respublica", a historic Swiss document written in Latin and printed in 1627. The archives also hold numerous artifacts of Swiss culture in Switzerland and America.

The major benefactor and namesake of the Donald G. Tritt Archive and Library is our own Don Tritt. Don has a deep passion for all things Swiss and spent much of his life collecting Swiss items. His foresight and generosity initiated the Swiss Center's archives and library, if not also the Swiss Center itself. The Swiss Center's receiving this award is in large part due to Don's penchant for fostering Swiss culture among Swiss Americans. As Tritts, Dritts, Trates, Traits, Treats, and the other variations of our original Tritten surname, we are all Swiss, thus Don's efforts are to the benefit of nearly all our readers. Congratulations to Don for what he has done to make the Swiss Center of North America a success. ■

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dwight A. Tritt, Treasurer, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

Checking Account Balance August 1, 2013 \$16,406.71
Income 2,804.50
 \$19,211.21

Expenses 2,804.27

Checking Account Balance July 31, 2013 \$16,406.94

INCOME

Merchandise Sale \$202.50
 Merchandise Shipping 24.00
 Silent Auction at 2013 Meeting 45.00
 Donations (General) 853.00
 Donations (Newsletter) 70.00
 Donations (Dritt Cemetery Bench) 710.00
 Patron Donations for Volume III 900.00

TOTAL **\$2,804.50**

EXPENSES

Actual Paid

Administration \$15.00 \$0.00
 Meeting - Day's Inn
 meeting accommodations 126.00 126.00
 Newsletter -
 Printing 802.00 802.00
 Mailing 236.10 236.00
 Shipping Expenses 11.71 0.00
 Printing Expenses 25.20 0.00
 Website 230.17 190.17
 Graphic Services for Volume III 848.00 848.00
 Merchandise Refund 2.00 2.00
 Bench at Dritt Cemetery
 (Paid for with Donations) 600.00 600.00

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$2,896.18 \$2,804.27**

EXPENSES DONATED **\$91.91**

*Donations received during the period
 September 2013 through September 2014:*

Robert Baxter and Emma Sue Tritt – Collierville, Tennessee

Michael A. Buchtel – Medina, Ohio

Jimmy and Cassandra Faulkner – Kalama, Washington

Jeanette Miller – Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

Sandy Naiva – Manchester, New Jersey

Janet Roberts – Yardley, Pennsylvania

Gary and Carol Sliffe – Beach City, Ohio

Bob and Ann Spann – Nashville, Tennessee

Carol Tritt – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Donald Tritt – Granville, Ohio

Dwight and Patrice Tritt – Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

Edward C. Tritt, Jr. and Charlene Tritt – Lake Oswego, Oregon

Ernest and Doris Trait – Long Beach, California

Judith Tritt – Canton, Ohio

Leonard and Connie Tritt – Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Richard and Nancy Tritt – Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

Robert L. Tritt – Kansas City, Missouri

Walter and Susan Tritten – Steffisburg, Switzerland

Virginia M. Williams – Omaha, Nebraska

Tina T. Zandy – Marco Island, Florida

ELECTRONIC VERSION OF TFR NEWSLETTER

Leonard Tritt, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

In recent years some persons have asked if they could receive our Tritt Family Research Newsletter electronically. It is possible, but for reasons of recipients changing e-mail addresses, separate recipient listings, and simple logistics, we prefer not to send some newsletters by direct mail and others by direct e-mail. We understand, though, that some people prefer electronic versions, while others prefer hardcopy. We also realize electronic copies require no postage.

To alleviate this conundrum, beginning with the 2014 newsletter, we will publish the entire issue of the most current newsletter

on our website, www.tritt.org. Previously we included there only selected articles from past issues. We will still mail hard copy issues to those who prefer that format. If you don't want to continue receiving the newsletter in the mail, i.e., you prefer an electronic copy, simply inform us of same and we will delete your name from the newsletter mailing list. Email your preference to trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net. ■

BERKS COUNTY THAT IS

Native Pennsylvanians know what the August weather is like in central and eastern PA. Hot and humid and you can't get away from it. When we pack to come east from California, we plan for it only shorts and loose sport shirts. You know, I had to wear my good travel duds most of the week because it was too cool for my shorts. What a switch! Just can't trust that "deutsche" element.

The weather was delightful on our visit this year but that didn't seem to get very many out to the Trate/Trait/Treat family gathering at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Geigertown, Pennsylvania. As we arrived in the parking lot, I noted there were not many cars there.

Getting to the door, it opened with the thrust of Ron Kratz's big hand to admit us. Cousin 'Dot' Trate, her son Gerald and wife Janet, Richard and Linda Baum with David Baum were also standing there as a reception committee.

Food was already out and waiting so Doris had to get busy with the fixin's we brought for her salad mix. Greetings in the meantime were plentiful with the others in the room. A smaller group may have its blessings in that there are easier 'hugs and kisses' going around. It was good to see Bill and Marlene Oatman again as it has been two years since we have been east.

A fairly new face for me, though I've seen her before, turned out to be Eddie Smith's sister, Deborah, both descending through Cora Minerva Trate's marriage to Horace Smith, their grandparents. Good to see them both here.

We were not the last to arrive, however, as Sandy Naiva and her daughter-in-law Missy came in with granddaughter Allie in tow. So, the greetings began all over again. I had seen Sandy in Carlisle two days earlier and she said she was planning to be here. She is such a 'kick'. Her enthusiasm is catching.

I guess we have to excuse Louise and Herb Strunk being absent this year. The opportunity arose to have a much needed vacation of relaxation on the beach at Nags Head rent free with her family. We hope they had a good time there and didn't get blown away by wind and high waves. Louise thought ahead and provided us with some of her pickled goodies even though she wasn't here. They were sorely missed.

Dot Trate's other son Tom showed up for a short period to visit. He



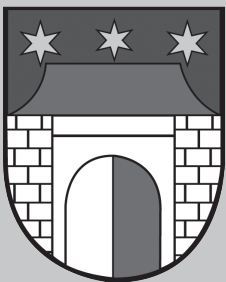
was 'on-call' for his job and of course, the phone call came and he had to leave. But before that happened, we did get some group photos. I also understand he was responsible for the beautiful and delicious ham provided again this year. Thank you Tom.

On that subject, we have to thank Eddie Smith for his own version of pulled pork barbeque. That also made delicious sandwiches for us.

Gerald's ever present table of packaged goods to figure out stifled everyone to the point of keeping some objects for next year. Gerry said no one got even close on guessing the contents. Frustrating, to say the least.

It was a very pleasant visit this year, though discouraging in that the younger folks are not taking an interest. Understanding family background and one's ancestry can have much to do with the 'how' and 'why' of our life development. Along with our environment, I think there is an influence from 'family' history that can have a guiding effect on our own lives. Much can be lost in the modern "technical" age.

Lastly, the news that our TRITT-TRATE-TRAIT family line, Volume III, is now at the publisher and should be shipped by the end of September brings joy to some hearts. It has been a good fight over the years to gather this together. I do hope it will be received with interest and kept as a family reference of generations to come. ■



NEXT MEETING OF TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH

AUGUST 13 – 15, 2015 IN CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA

For information about the meeting, contact:

Leonard W. Tritt

7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, PA 17015-9705 or
email Connie Tritt at trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net

KATE ROGERS VISIT TO PA

In the 2011 issue of the “Tritt Family Newsletter,” there was an article about Mary “Kate” Rogers, her ties to the Tritt family, and several items that she donated to the TFR Archives in Carlisle. Mary Rogers is a descendant of Christian Tritt, son of Peter and Elizabeth Lefever Tritt, who was born July 25, 1796, in Cumberland County, PA. She descends from Christian’s daughter, Sarah Agnes Tritt (1845-1923), who married George Abraham Myers, and had five children. Their first child, Frank Raymond Myers, married Kate’s great-grandmother, Elizabeth Jacobs Koons. (For more about her family, see the 2011 article.)

In August of 2014, Kate Rogers and her daughter Shelagh Kasinger made a visit to Pennsylvania to visit the areas and places associated with their Tritt, Myers, and Koons family members. They spent two days exploring the Carlisle, Newville, and Gettysburg area. Kate had never been in the eastern United States, but had heard many stories from her grandmother and mother about the family in Cumberland County, PA. Kate and Shelagh met first with Richard Tritt at the Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS). Using family photographs that had been passed down to Kate, they were able to map out a route. They spent the afternoon on the road finding and visiting most of the family-related sites.

Another purpose of Kate’s visit was to donate a large collection of carefully identified family photos to the Tritt Family Archives at the CCHS in Carlisle. This collection of approximately 75 photos consists



Shelagh Kasinger at the source of Big Spring Creek, a site her Koons ancestors knew well. Photo by Kate Rogers, August 10, 2014.

of several generations of the family, beginning with George and Sarah Agnes Myers, and ending with photos taken by Kate’s mother when she visited the same area of Cumberland County, PA, in the early 1960s. The photos include people, homes, farms, and cemeteries. The Myers children kept in touch, so there are photos of them and their families. The five Myers children were named Frank Raymond, James Oliver, Lee Tritt, Emma Bertha, and Melvin Fishburn. This collection is a significant addition to the archives and will be of interest to many researchers. We thank Kate for her generosity and willingness to place these family treasures in a permanent collection where they will be available for future generations. ■

SWISS CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA

Donald Tritt, Granville, Ohio

As readers of this Newsletter know, our Tritt ancestors originated in the Obersimmental region of Switzerland, more precisely St. Stephan, Canton Bern.

For furthering your interest in Switzerland we thought you would like to know about the Swiss Center of North America, a nonprofit organization located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. Launched in 2003 with a \$1million challenge grant from the State of Wisconsin, an additional \$2 million in “bricks & mortar” matching funds were raised from corporate sponsors, supporters, patrons and government. The Swiss Center is the only organization dedicated to telling the story of the Swiss in America. It works to fulfill this mission by:

- Connecting – individuals and organizations interested in Switzerland.
- Archiving – historical records and materials pertaining to the Swiss-American experience.
- Showcasing – artifacts and memorabilia about Switzerland.
- Educating – regarding the role Switzerland has played in creating and defining life in America.
- Promoting – promoting the significance of Switzerland in the world.
- Celebrating – the achievements of Switzerland in the world of nations.

The Swiss Center Library comprising over 9,000 volumes houses the most complete library in America on Swiss history and culture – and the most complete library anywhere on Swiss-American Studies. Its collection is available for on-site use and research. All publications of

Tritt Family Research are deposited here.

The website of the Swiss Center of North America is the best overall source for doing genealogical research on Swiss ancestors.

By becoming a part of the Center’s social community, you can promote your Swiss programs, events, exhibits and exchange opportunities online and around the world. The Swiss Center can help provide program materials for your use in Club meetings.

A visit to New Glarus, Wisconsin is a fine way to experience Swiss life in America. Founded in 1845 (before Wisconsin became a state), this village, with a population of 2,200, enjoys the reputation of being the most authentic Swiss community in the USA. Each year it is the site of four Swiss festivals. One of these festivals, first offered in 1938, is the outdoor docudrama “William Tell” presenting the legendary story of the founding of Switzerland in 1291 replete with costumed actors on horseback, youngsters outfitted in early Swiss costumes and a background of cattle, goats and chickens. This makes for a fine visit by family interested in Swiss roots.

You are invited to contact Beth Zurbuchen, President/CEO, Swiss Center of North America, 507 Durst Road, New Glarus, Wisconsin, 53574 and to visit its website www.theswisscenter.org. Hours: M-F 9am to 4pm (other hours by appointment). ■

Special Offer:

Buy *Tritt Family History, Volume I* for \$35.00. Buy *Tritt Family History, Volume II* and *Volume III* for \$40.00 each. Buy any two **DIFFERENT** volumes together for ONLY \$65.00 and save \$10.00, or buy all three volumes for ONLY \$100 and save \$15.00. Shipping and handling for mailing will be \$15 to mail three books, \$10 to mail two books and \$5 to mail one book. If purchasing more than three books together, add \$3 per book for the fourth and subsequent books.

Tritt Family History - Volume I

European origins through Hans Peter and Christian Tritt's children

Tritt Family History - Volume II

Johann Paul Tritt, born 1752 in York County, Pennsylvania, and his descendants

Tritt Family History - Volume III

Christian Tritt, born 1719 in the Alsace region of France, and his descendants



Fill out the form below and mail to:

Tritt Family Research
c/o Dwight A. Tritt
7 Southern Cross Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9789

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone : _____

Number of copies ordered..... Vol. I _____ Vol. II _____ Vol. III _____

Total Book Price \$ _____

Shipping & Handling (all three books \$15, two books \$10, one book \$5;
add \$3 per book for the fourth and subsequent books)..... \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Make check payable to: **Tritt Family Research**)..... \$ _____

URGENT REQUEST

Tritt Family Research must have current, accurate information for its publications. Unless you are certain we have your current information, please provide us the following data about yourself and your family. Also provide updates/corrections regarding births, deaths, and marriages. Please complete the form below, using maiden names for women.

Mail the completed form to Connie J. Tritt, Secretary, Tritt Family Research, 7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, PA 17015-9705. Thanks for your help. **Remember** - we cannot be sure that accurate information about you will appear in our publications if you do not provide it.

MY FAMILY

Name of my father -

Date and place of birth -

Date and place of death -

Date and place of marriage -

Name of my mother -

Date and place of birth -

Date and place of death -

Your name -

Date and place of birth -

Date and place of marriage -

Name of spouse -

Date and place of birth -

Date and place of death -

Your children -

(Please list children and, for each person, include date and place of birth and death, name of spouse, and date and place of marriage)

1.

2.

(Continue on back)

If you like, please use this space to provide any information about yourself or spouse, such as your profession or occupation, interests and achievements. These may be used in a short paragraph that will accompany your family entry.

If possible, provide the names of your Tritt-related grandparents and great grandparents to help us connect you to a family line. Please include dates of birth and death, if known.

Please provide your mailing or email address so that we can contact you if we have any questions.

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH, INC.

The following items are available for purchase from TFR. Please complete the following form and mail to:
Dwight A. Tritt, 7 Southern Cross Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9789.

Please add a \$2 shipping and handling charge to all orders \$10 and less; \$3 shipping and handling charge to orders \$11 and above. THESE SHIPPING AND HANDLING CHARGES DO NOT APPLY TO VOLUMES I, II AND III OF TRITT FAMILY HISTORY AND THE 1906 TRITT FAMILY TREE (see the shipping and handling charges for those items below).

- _____ Civil War Diary of William Tritt — \$8.50
(Written in 1864 by the Wisconsin Tritt patriarch while confined in Danville and Andersonville prisons)
- _____ Annual Newsletters — Issues 1-33 (specify issue numbers) — \$1.50 each
(If you're new to TFR, catch up on the issues you missed!)
- _____ 1906 Tritt Family Tree
 - _____ folded, includes shipping/handling — \$13.00
 - _____ rolled for framing, includes shipping/handling — \$20.00(An amazing original size copy of the descendants of the 1739 immigrant, Hans Peter Tritt)
- _____ The Tritt Cookbook — \$7.50
(100 pages of Tritt family recipes, new and old, from all over the U.S.)
- _____ The Church of St. Stephan — \$3.00
(A translation of the 18 page illustrated booklet published in German by our ancestral church in Switzerland)
- _____ Pack of 10 note cards depicting the Church of St. Stephan — \$5.00
(Our own original drawing)
- _____ Pack of 10 postcards with Tritten coat-of-arms — \$3.00
- _____ 8 x 10 color print of the Tritten coat-of-arms suitable for framing — \$4.00
- _____ Tritten Coat-of-Arms Patch — \$6.00
- _____ Pens with Tritt Family Research and the web site imprint — \$1.00
- _____ Map of early Pennsylvania sites of interest to Tritts — \$3.00
- _____ Luggage tags with the name "Tritt" on one side — \$3.00
- _____ St. Stephan Berner Oberland bumper sticker — \$1.00
- _____ St. Stephan Super Ski Region bumper sticker — \$1.00
- _____ Tritt Family History - Vol. I — \$35.00 (Our European origins through the first generation 'American' Tritts born to Hans Peter and Christian Tritt)
(plus \$5 shipping and handling for one book, \$10 for two books and \$15 for three books; add \$3 per book for the fourth and subsequent books)
- _____ Tritt Family History - Vol. II — \$40.00 (Johann Paul Tritt, born 1752 in York County, Pennsylvania, and his descendants)
(plus \$5 shipping and handling for one book, \$10 for two books and \$15 for three books; add \$3 per book for the fourth and subsequent books)
- _____ Tritt Family History - Vol. III — \$40.00 (Christian Tritt, born 1719 in the Alsace region of France, and his descendants)
(plus \$5 shipping and handling for one book, \$10 for two books and \$15 for three books; add \$3 per book for the fourth and subsequent books)

CHANGE OF INFORMATION NOTICE

*Please detach and mail to: Connie J. Tritt, 7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, PA 17015-9705
OR E-mail changes to Connie at trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net*

Your Full Name _____

Current Address _____

If moving, anticipated new address _____



Please check here if you would like to have your name removed from our mailing list.

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

Name _____

Address _____

Other Changes: (Births, Marriages, Deaths, Other...) _____

APPEAL FOR PATRON DONORS

We live in a time when money is tight and individuals and families must make important decisions about their finances. Money is also a concern for Tritt Family Research as we deal with the ongoing costs of running the organization, publishing and mailing our newsletter, maintaining our website and publishing new volumes of Tritt Family History. We are currently in the process of working on Volume IV of Tritt Family History and must plan for the costs associated with that project. We have appreciated and are grateful for all of the volunteer donations that we have received in the past. Please consider this as a gentle reminder that donations are continually needed as we move forward to carry out our stated goal of researching, collecting and preserving any and all data relating to the genealogy of the Tritt family. Your contributions may be sent to our treasurer at the address listed below, with all checks made payable to "Tritt Family Research". Thank you for your continued support.

Name _____ Email address _____

Address _____

In Honor of _____ In Memory of _____

Gold Donor – \$500 donation \$ _____

Silver Donor – \$300 donation \$ _____

Bronze Donor – \$100 donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to "Tritt Family Research" and mail to:
Dwight A. Tritt, Treasurer
7 Southern Cross Drive
Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9789

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