

TRITT FAMILY Newsletter

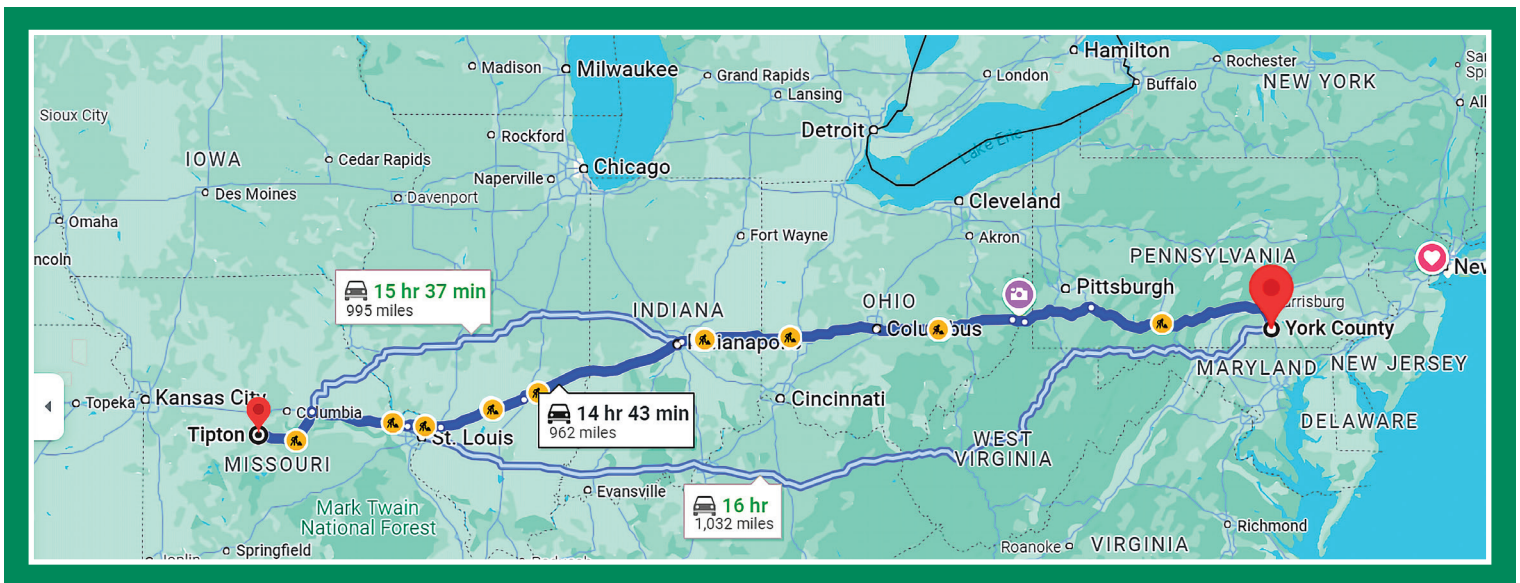


With pertinence to the following known name variations — Tritten, Dritt, Trait, Trate, and Treat

I S S U E N O . 4 3 - N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 4

THE DRITTS' WESTWARD EXPANSION

Submitted by Jaime Dritt



The following family history was written by my great aunt Sarah Dritt in the early 1970s. It tells the tale of how our ancestor, John Burke Dritt, moved out west from York County, Pennsylvania, in 1839 and began a new life in Missouri. John Burke Dritt was a descendant of General Jacob Dritt. This family history might be of interest to others in Tritt Family Research.

John Burke Dritt was born in York County, Pennsylvania, April 1814; his wife, Sarah Priestly Dritt, was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania in 1821. She was assistant to her father, Johnstown postmaster for a few years until her marriage in 1839 when she and her husband came to Tipton [Missouri] by covered wagon and took up a claim of land about nine miles south of town; they built a log house at first and then added a two-story frame house later. There they farmed and raised stock until 1864 when the family moved to Tipton to occupy the new home they had just built; the house is still standing (second house from

the Presbyterian Church, east); beams were originally put together by oaken pegs.

When the family left the farm it was leased to the son-in-law and daughter, the late Mr. and Mrs. Ben Rodner Sr. who reared their family of six sons and two daughters there. All are now deceased.

Judge and Mrs. Dritt were the parents of five sons and three daughters who lived to mature years. Our father, Joseph Frank Dritt, youngest of the eight children, died May the first, 1935 and is buried in the family plot, Masonic Cemetery, California, Missouri. The other sons and daughters are buried in their various home states: Arkansas, Maryland, Missouri, and Wyoming.

John Burke Dritt became Justice of the Peace for the town and township after making it his home and was elected mayor of the city

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QUESTIONS? — CONTACT: TRITTFAMILYRESEARCH@COMCAST.NET

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of Tipton in April, 1883, at which time the town was organized as a fourth class city. He died May the seventh, 1884; the day of his burial the bells of each church tolled in tribute to Mayor Dritt as the funeral cortege moved to the Odd Fellows Cemetery for the interment. The editor of the Tipton paper wrote the obituary and in the writing paid this tribute: "Judge Dritt belonged to that large class of thinking men who take for their creed the divine words: 'Do ye unto others as ye would have others do unto you.' No one can ever say that he injured him in word, act or deed. In all the long years he held official positions in Tipton his friends can say that he was a man who ever did his duty." We have been told that the records in the county courthouse

at California, Missouri, list Judge Dritt as the first mayor of Tipton.

Mrs. Sarah Priestly Dritt, wife of Judge John Burke Dritt, was a member of the Tipton Presbyterian Church where her funeral service was held after her death February 29, 1896, at the age of 75. Among effects which had belonged to her, we now prize her hymnal-prayer-book used in the service during the years of her membership.

The three persons buried on the Dritt plot in the O.F. Cemetery are Judge and Mrs. Dritt and their daughter, Annie M. Dritt who died in February (possibly March) 1897.

DEATH OF DONALD G. TRITT

by *Richard L. Tritt*

Donald G. Tritt died on June 12, 2024. Don was one of the founders of Tritt Family Research in 1977 and was President of the organization for many years. He was the driving force and President Emeritus of the organization until the time of his death. He always had an interest in his own family roots in Columbus, Ohio, but was curious about the larger family in America and in the world.



When Don traveled throughout the country, he would look in local phone books for people with the Tritt name. He kept a list of the names that he found and it became part of the first mailing list for the Tritt Family Research organization. My parents were one of the listings he found in the Carlisle, Pennsylvania area phonebook. He called them in the summer of 1963. My parents told him that I had an interest in the history of the Tritt Family and had done some research on the Tritt Family in Pennsylvania. I was in France that summer so he asked that I contact him when I returned to the United States.

My first meeting with Don and his wife Marilyn was in 1964 when my future wife and I visited them in Granville, Ohio. He was a professor

at Dennison University and I remember that he tape-recorded everything that I told him. This was the first meeting of many that later resulted in the formation of the organization named Tritt Family Research.

Donald has always been the inspiration and guiding force behind all of Tritt Family Research's activities. In addition to leading our meetings and national reunions, he organized and led five trips to Tritt family sites in Switzerland, France and Germany. He encouraged and helped to publish six volumes of Tritt Family History, including Volume 5 which he authored.

Tritt Family Research will never be the same without him, but we know that he would want us to continue on in our research and publishing. We have established close bonds that were felt at our most recent meeting and we will continue to move forward in our continuing exploration of the Tritt Family in the world. We will forever be indebted to him for inspiring the creation of our organization and for his years of leadership, guidance and love of family.

SYNOPSIS OF AUGUST 2024 MEETING

Connie Tritt, Secretary, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

The 46th annual meeting of Tritt Family Research was held in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on August 16, 2024. Those in attendance were:

Jaime Dritt of Blairstown, NJ	Richard and Nancy Tritt of Boiling Springs, PA
Dwight Tritt of Boiling Springs, PA	Jane Ward of Delta, PA
Leonard and Connie Tritt of Carlisle, PA	Shawn Ward of Delta, PA

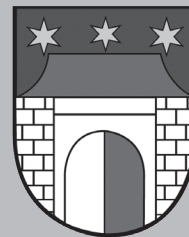
Our meeting was held at the Cumberland County Historical Society.

We were saddened to learn of two deaths in the past year. Sandy Naiva died on March 25, 2024; and Donald Tritt died on June 12, 2024. While Sandy was not able to attend meetings in the past several years, her presence and the smile always on her face will be missed. Donald was faithful in attending meetings since the beginning of TFR in the early 1960's.

Shawn Ward reported on the Dritt Cemetery in York County, Pennsylvania, saying it was in great shape. He talked about placing a marker at the cemetery for Jacob Dritt and about the Northern Chesapeake Heritage Foundation. See Shawn's article on this subject elsewhere in the newsletter.

The 47th annual meeting of Tritt Family Research will be held in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on August 15 and 16, 2025.

After a full day of discussions on future books and where TFR will go from here, we disbanded and in the early evening met at the home of Dave and Robyn Wampler in Carlisle for a delicious meal prepared by Robyn.



OFFICERS OF TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH

Jaime L. Dritt

President

75 Union Brick Road
Blairstown, New Jersey 07825-2007
Telephone: 908-319-4251

Richard L. Tritt

Vice President

33 Silver Maple Drive
Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania 17007-9598
Telephone: 717-258-6181

Dwight A. Tritt

Treasurer

7 Southern Cross Drive
Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania 17007-9789
Telephone: 717-249-6933

Connie J. Tritt

Secretary and Newsletter Editor

7 Ironstone Drive
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015-9705
Telephone: 717-258-4176

Melissa C. Clayton

Book Layout Editor

6464 Stage Coach Trail
Brownsburg, Indiana 46112-8628
Telephone: 317-409-5007

W. Brent Clayton

Associate Book Layout Editor

6464 Stage Coach Trail
Brownsburg, Indiana 46112-8628
Telephone: 317-409-5007

Margrit Tritten-Stauffer

Secretary

for Switzerland and Germany
Lenkerstrasse 18
CH-3775 Lenk, Switzerland
Telephone: 011 41 33 733 17 27

Micheline Furon-Tritten

Secretary for France

11, Rue President Carnot
F-21400 Chatillon Sur Seine, France
Telephone: 011 33 80 91 14 81

www.tritt.org

trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net

NEXT MEETING OF TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH

AUGUST 15 - 16, 2025 IN CARLISLE, PA

For information about the meeting, contact:

Jaime L. Dritt: 75 Union Brick RD, Blairstown, NJ 07825
or email Connie Tritt at trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net

DRITT CEMETERY MARKERS

by Shawn Ward

My name is Shawn Ward, and I am the unofficial Dritt Cemetery inspector since I live in York County, Pennsylvania. In my recent trip there I thought about the fact that Jacob Dritt has no tombstone, even though the house, cemetery and story are really about him and his family.

You are all probably aware of the story of his Revolutionary War service as a Captain in one of General Washington's flying camps, his capture at the Battle of Fort Mifflin and subsequent incarceration at New York's infamous waterfront British prisons for almost two years. After the War, he continued his association with the militia as a Private in the Sixth Company of the First Battalion of the York County militia according to records of 1781 and 1782 (see Tritt Family History Volume I, p. 37). According to the Pennsylvania Archives, in 1807, the Governor of Pennsylvania appointed and commissioned Jacob "Tritt" as a Major General in the Commonwealth's militia. His area of service was to the Fifth Division, composing York and Adams Counties.

Saturday, June 6th, 1807.

The Governor this day appointed and Commissioned Jacob Tritt, to be Major General of the 5th Division composed of York and Adams Counties.

Then, of course, is the tragic story of his drowning in the Susquehanna River after his boat was hit by a block of ice on December 19, 1817. His body wasn't found until April, when he washed up downstream at a Maryland plantation on the Susquehanna's eastern shore. This American hero was laid in an unmarked grave.

There are many soldier heroes buried in unmarked graves or at sea for whom there is no memorial marker. That is where I come into the story. I am employed as the Superintendent of historic Greenmount Cemetery in Baltimore, Maryland. In the last few years, a friend at the

cemetery started a non-profit (501c3) called Northern Chesapeake Heritage Foundation, of which I am the Vice President. Our foundation has a two-fold mission, that of preserving and sharing the history of this region and also supporting and honoring our veterans. This mission leads us to identifying and honoring veterans of this area who have gone before us, those who lie forgotten in unmarked graves or missing and lost around the world who do not have a headstone at their gravesite or cenotaph set in remembrance in a known family lot or hometown cemetery. We started at Greenmount Cemetery.

Beginning in 2019 with the discovery of a long-deteriorated government issued headstone for a Civil War era Union veteran issued in 1879, we have endeavored to identify and procure headstones or memorial markers for veterans of all of America's wars and conflicts. We accomplish this through diligent and thorough research, working internally and with outside organizations such as the Maryland Department of the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland, various Maryland chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Maryland Society of the Daughters of 1812, and others. One of the markers that we did for one lost at sea was in conjunction with his class of 1949 from the U.S. Naval Academy for a Navy pilot lost during the Korean War. We are currently working on several Revolutionary War soldiers whose stones are badly deteriorated.

This led me to consider Jacob Dritt. It seemed to me that Jacob Dritt, with his rich military history, should certainly have a marker in his family cemetery and the Tritt family has agreed. Consequently, we are putting in a request with the Veterans Administration for a marker. Since all of the stones in the Dritt cemetery are rapidly deteriorating, we also thought that it would be a good idea to have a granite marker at the entrance recording the details of the gravestones there. I have been working to find an appropriate stone to be engraved and have acquired permission from the York County Parks to install it. The Dritt cemetery lies within York County's Native Lands County Park.

4TH TFR REUNION

It has been 24 years since our third national reunion was held in June of 2000.

At the meeting of TFR in August 2024, it was suggested that we should hold another reunion to get people to come to Carlisle, Pennsylvania to meet other Tritt family. Such a reunion would be held in the summer and we are asking you to let us know if you would have any interest in attending such a reunion. No formal plans have been made; just the thought that perhaps we should try to hold what would be our fourth reunion.

If you would have any interest in being involved in such an event, please let us know of your interest by either sending an email to Connie Tritt, Secretary of TFR at trittfamilyresearch@comcast.net or sending a note to Connie at 7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, PA 17015-9705.

We will keep your name in a file to be given advance notice of such a reunion and, if enough interest is projected, formal notice will be in the 2025 newsletter.

We look forward to hearing from you.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE TRITT FAMILY COLLECTION

By Richard L. Tritt

During the year 2023 a large number of items were added to the Tritt Family Collection housed at the Cumberland County Historical Society in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. These items will be available to future researchers visiting the Society's library and photo archives.

A large collection received in February was from the Estate of Richard and Jeanette Miller. The Millers were active members of Tritt Family Research for many years. Jeanette was the daughter of Gladys Cramer who was one of the first members of TFR. Gladys was a descendant of John Tritt, a son of Peter Tritt who established the family in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. John Tritt's line was concentrated in the Shippensburg area where he had a farm. Many items related to John Tritt and his descendants are in the Miller Collection, including six early photo albums and many individual photographs of various sizes and ages. Most of the people in the collection are identified. The Library Collection also received numerous items (newsletters, news clippings, research items, etc.) related to this photo accession. This collection will be very important when a history of this branch of the Tritt Family is eventually published.

James Richard Tritt of Enola, PA donated additional photographs

and archival materials related to the John A. Tritt family line. These items were added to previous materials that he donated in 2019. This accession included a large print of brothers Lester C., Kenneth C. and Russell Leroy Tritt and another of Charles Kenneth Tritt. Also included were several color prints of Enck's Mill in Cumberland County that was owned at one time by the Tritt family. Twelve certificates of various sizes were also donated to the Library Archives. These items will be useful for the upcoming Christian Tritt book.

After the death of our beloved leader, Donald G. Tritt, a nephew brought to Pennsylvania and the Cumberland County Historical Society two banker boxes of Tritt family-related files that were in Don's house. These were added to the Tritt Family Collection. The materials include genealogy related to Don's family, the Gustav Tritt family who settled in Ohio. Also included are files related to European Tritt/Tritten research including church and public records. Correspondence files include contacts in Switzerland as well as Germany and France. Much of this information was used to compile Tritt Family History, Volume 5, that was published last year by Tritt Family Research.

STATUS OF TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH, VOLUME VI: CHRISTIAN TRITT, 1796, AND HIS DESCENDANTS

By Richard L. Tritt

The publication of his volume is projected to take place within the next year. The outline is completed and all the articles are written and documented. It has been a long process to compile all the information for this book since Christian had 13 children and many descendants. All of his children except one were married and had families of their own. Many members of Tritt Family Research are descendants of this Christian Tritt (1796-1871) line.

What remains to do is to complete the selection of illustrations and

work with designer Rachael Zuch to design and lay out the book. Melissa Clayton is the Layout Editor for the genealogical data and she is currently working on that task. When their work is completed, the index can be made. Then the book will be given to the printer for publication. When the completed books are received, they will be distributed to all the patron donors and anyone else who wants to buy a copy. The price can't be determined until publication expenses are known.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dwight A. Tritt, Treasurer, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

Checking Account Balance August 1, 2023	\$13,064.32
Income Received	\$11,009.90
.....	\$24,074.22
Expenses Paid.....	\$1,736.88
Checking Account Balance July 31, 2024	\$22,337.34

INCOME:

Merchandise Sale	\$76.00
Merchandise Shipping	\$32.00
Book Sales	\$590.00
Book Shipping.....	\$97.00
Donations – General	\$2,157.00
Donations – in memory of Jeanette Miller	\$1,000.00
Donations – Newsletter	\$88.00
Donations – Dritt Cemetery.....	\$200.00
Patron Donations – Christian Volume	\$700.00
Proceeds from Certificate of Deposit	\$6,020.83
Interest earned on checking account.....	\$49.07
TOTAL INCOME	\$11,009.90

EXPENSES:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Donated</u>
Administration and Supplies	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$15.00
Newsletter Printing and Scanning	1,002.76	1,002.76	0.00
Newsletter Mailing	291.81	200.00	91.81
Website Hosting	173.92	173.92	0.00
Website Updates	200.00	200.00	0.00
Tritt.org renewal	75.00	75.00	0.00
Merchandise and Book Shipping	69.68	0.00	69.68
International Book Shipping	80.20	80.20	0.00
Establish Business Account	5.00	5.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,913.37	\$1,736.88	\$176.49

BREAKDOWN OF ASSETS:

Checking Account Balance	\$22,337.34
Funds Designated as Patron Donors for Christian	
Volume	8,245.00
Funds Designated for Dritt Cemetery.....	670.00
AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$13,422.34

PATRON DONATIONS FOR TRITT FAMILY HISTORY – VOLUME VI

Total patron donor contributions	
as of 7-31-23.....	\$7,545.00
Patron donations	
8-1-23 – 7-31-24	700.00

TOTAL PATRON DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS AS OF 7-31-24 \$8,245.00

TFR DONATIONS – August 2023 to July 2024

- Jean Kelso Alaniz**
– Yorkville, IL
- David Cramer**
(in memory of Jeanette Miller)
– Shippensburg, PA
- Floyd and Carol Johnston**
– Macklin, Saskatchewan, Canada
- Steven and Melissa Kelly**
– Whitefish, MT
- Floyd and Janice Meeker**
– Denton, TX
- Mary Lou (Tritt) Nichols**
– Loveland, CO
- Betty Ann Tritt Spann**
– Nashville, TN
- Donald Tritt**
– Granville, OH
- Dwight and Patrice Tritt**
– Boiling Springs, PA
- Leonard and Connie Tritt**
– Carlisle, PA
- Samuel Williams**
– Danbury, CT

Tritt Family Research is very much dependent on receiving donations from individuals and families in order to meet the costs of operating the organization. Funds are required for administrative costs, newsletter printing and mailing, website expenses and publishing new volumes of Tritt Family History. Printing our volumes of Tritt Family History is very costly. Accordingly, we must plan for and accumulate the funds necessary to cover these costs of publication. We realize that monetary decisions are important for all of us and that it is not always easy to find extra funds to contribute to organizations like ours. We have appreciated and are grateful for the generosity of all of those who have donated in the past; but, whether or not you have donated before, we ask that you help sustain the work of Tritt Family Research. Your contributions may be sent to TFR Treasurer, Dwight Tritt, at the address listed below, with your check payable to “Tritt Family Research.” Thank you for your support.

Dwight A. Tritt
7 Southern Cross Drive
Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9789

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH, INC.

Use the order form below and mail along with your check payable to "Tritt Family Research" to Dwight A. Tritt, 7 Southern Cross Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9789. Provide your telephone number or email address to contact you if needed. Items available while supplies last.

- _____ Civil War Diary of William Tritt - \$4.00 plus \$6.00 shipping
(Written in 1864 by the Wisconsin Tritt patriarch while confined in Danville and Andersonville prisons)
- _____ 20" x 20" St. Stephan church photo poster and history - \$20.00 (includes postage)
- _____ Tritt Cookbook (limited supply) - \$3.00 plus \$6.00 shipping
(Over 200 Tritt family recipes, new and old, from all over the U.S.)
- _____ Tritt Family History - Vol. I - \$20.00 (plus \$7 shipping via media mail)
(Our European origins through the first generation 'American' Tritts born to Hans Peter and Christian Tritt)
- _____ Tritt Family History - Vol. II - \$40.00 (plus \$7 shipping via media mail)
(Johann Paul Tritt, born 1752 in York County, Pennsylvania, and his descendants)
- _____ Tritt Family History – Vol. III - \$40.00 (plus \$7 shipping via media mail)
(Christian Tritt, born 1719 in the Alsace region of France, and his descendants)
- _____ Tritt Family History – Vol. IV - \$40.00 (plus \$7 shipping via media mail)
(Joseph Tritt, born 1786 in Pennsylvania and moved to Ohio, and his descendants)
- _____ Tritt Family History – Vol. V - \$40.00 (plus \$7 shipping via media mail)
(Tritten/Tritt progenitor Jacob Tritten (b. abt. 1562) and his second son, Hans Tritten (b. abt. 1589), and succeeding 11 generations)

CHANGE OF INFORMATION NOTICE

*Please detach and mail to: Connie J. Tritt, 7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, PA 17015-9705
OR email 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...*) _____

Address Service Requested

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH
7 Ironstone Drive
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17015-9705
U.S.A.