

Heinrich Frey Family Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Summer 1996

Editor's Comments

During the 1996 Family Reunion in Lexington, the Association's Board authorized a quarterly newsletter. Its purpose is to update members on current events and serve as a communication media between members. Our current Journal will continue to be published semiannually under the fine hand of editor, Jon Frye. The Journal's purpose is to report scholarly works of interest to the membership.

I had volunteered to be the newsletter's editor. Since this is the first edition, it represents mostly articles I felt might be of general interest.

I encourage each of you to send material which you would like to share with others. These could be such things as recent births, marriages, passing on of descendants, findings of individual research, trips taken, inquiries on 'lost' relatives, tips on doing research, genealogical books of interest, etc. I will include all material sent along with the submitter's name. My address is on the newsletter cover sheet, my AOL e-mail ID is WilFrye.

In the meantime, bear with me as I share with you things which I feel might be of interest.

Association Grows

I have just received the 19 Aug 1996 membership list from Jane and I see the Association continues to grow. The last three lists show the count to be:

07 Mar 1995	147
20 May 1996	148
19 Aug 1996	163

I have included in this newsletter an application for membership. I plan to send this first newsletter to all Heinrich descendant's that I have names and address's for with the invitation to come join us. If any of you know of non-member descendants who might be interested in the results of the Associations research efforts or just plain curious about their Frey/Fry(e) connections, either send on the application or send me their names and addresses, and I'll send them a copy of this newsletter.

On the back of the application, I have shown on a map of the states the distribution of our current members. We still have some states without members but we have most of the states covered.

Election of Officers

The election of HFFA Officers for the next two years was held during the Reunion business lunch meeting in Lexington, June 22, 1996. **Jim Frey** of Honey Brook, PA, was re-elected for an additional term as President, **Jean Smith** of Hendersonville, TN was elected Vice President and Chair of the 1998 National Reunion, **Jane Wilmer** of Doylestown, PA, was re-elected to continue as Treasurer, and **Helen Staiger** of Slippery Rock, PA, was elected as Corresponding Secretary. **Wil Frye** of Pacifica, CA, was appointed Editor of the Newsletter and **Don Wilson** of Riverbank, CA, was appointed as Chair of Publicity. **Jon Frye** of Jamestown, OH, continues as Journal Editor, **Charles Burgess** of Gap, PA, continues as Family Historian, and **Bert Frye** of Xenia, OH, continue as Chaplain. **Wil Frye** was appointed as Clan Leader for CA, OR, and WA. The remaining Clan Leaders were reappointed.

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1996 National Reunion

Lexington, Kentucky was chosen as this year's site for the fourth Reunion. It was held over the weekend of June 21 - 23. An informal reception was held Friday night to allow members to meet each other and socialize.

Five presentations were given on Saturday with a theme of "Finding your Forebears". Jon Frye presented a paper on guidelines for writing your family's history. Don Wilson presented a paper on how to search courthouses for wills, deed, etc. Vernon Frye updated his paper on the Fryes of Monongahela Valley. Wil Frye made a presentation on techniques using computer data bases (CD-ROMS) to locate current descendants of his Great Grandparents Frye. Bert Frye talked of the early Fry(e) pioneers who came to Kentucky.

Jim Frey, our President, and Ron Frye, formerly of Denver - now of Arizona, demonstrated their computer software for keeping family data. A separate room was set aside from the presentation room where Charles Burgess, Family Historian, 'held court' for those members desiring additional information regarding their ancestors.

The Business Meeting was held during lunch on Saturday. Besides the election of Officers (covered above), the treasurer's report was given by Jane Wilmer, and the selection of the next three reunion sites; 1998 reunion site (Nashville, TN), the 2000 reunion site (Shippack, PA) and the 2002 site (California).

Special Award

A special recognition award was presented during the Business Meeting to Vernon Frye for his fine organizational efforts in establishing and

serving as the first President of the Association. We all thank you Vernon.

Guest Speaker

On Saturday evening, another reception was held where members again were able to meet 'cousins' for the first time and talk about family events. The reception was followed by a banquet where officers were installed and next reunion sites were discussed.

The scheduled evening speaker was a no show, but we were ably informed by the fill in speaker, Charles Burgess, family historian. Charles covered in general what he has in his material and answered several questions. Among them of general interest were:

- "What proof exists that Benjamin was a son of Heinrich?". ----

a). There is no direct reference in any documents which list Benjamin as the son of Heinrich. After Heinrich died, there are signed receipts for son Jacob paying off his brothers William and John for their share of the estate. Prior documentation exist for showing Benjamin was a brother of Jacob - thus establishing the relationship.

- "Who were the 'real' parents of Heinrich?". ----

a). Conventional wisdom uses a letter purporting to be from Heinrich's father. Investigation to determine the validity of the letter suggests it was written as fiction and included as a novel about early Delaware Valley. A birth certificate has been uncovered which appears to be for Heinrich which shows Heinrich's parents to be Jacob FREY and Anna HERTZELLER, she a daughter of Jacob HIRTZELLER of Hinterwil (Uerkheim) in Aargau and Jacob's father was

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Friedrich FREY of Gundetswil in Zurich - cantons of Switzerland.

- "What was Christena's _____ (wife of Benjamin) maiden name?". -----

a). There is some speculation that her maiden name was Markle(y) but **no proof exist** which documents it. Until there is proof, it is best to leave it as unknown.

Sunday was set aside as a 'do your own thing' day. Bert Frye held a chapel service in the morning for those who chose not to tour the Lexington country side. His wife, Esther, gave another of her fine 'chalk talks'.

All in all, a very nice reunion. Thanks to the reunion committee; Jane Wilmer (who also handled registration) and Charles Burgess, Co-chairs, Wil Frye, program coordinator, and Marilyn Richards, Lexington rep. A special thanks goes to Marilyn for all her work in the selection of the reunion hotel and working with their staff on reduced rates (40% discount) for hotel rooms, meeting room assignments, and meal selections insuring a smooth operation.

Vital Statistics

I have been doing research on identifying the descendants of my Great Grandparent's Frye - Thomas Franklin FRYE and Sarah Jane GREGG both who were born in Washington County, PA, and migrated west to California by way of Kansas and Indian Territory in the 1870's. His direct line from Heinrich is :

Heinrich Frey/Anna Levering---> Benjamin Frey/Christena _____ ---> Abraham Fry(e) Sr./Agnes Young---> Abraham Frye Jr./Hester Johnston---> Thomas Frye/Ann West---> Reazen

Frye/Caroline Eckles---> Thomas Franklin Frye/Sarah Jane Gregg --->

I have shown the above lineage to indicate the relationship of the following descendants whose surname is other than Frye. I will show their lineage in the same form as above (format thanks to Bert Frye) continuing from Thomas Franklin and Sarah Jane Gregg.

Births

1) Tye Zimmerman, born 15 Aug 1995 in Nampa, Idaho, lineage: Thomas Franklin Frye/Sarah Jane Gregg---> Charles Hudson Frye/Belle Smith---> Jack Hudson Frye/Irene Kresha---> Laurine Frye/Gordon Cahill---> Jackie Cahill/Gary Shields---> Tammy Shields/Chris Zimmerman---> Tye Zimmerman

Marriages:

Jackie Cahill to Gary Smith on 25 May 1996, Whitehorse, Idaho (Jackie's second marriage, her first marriage was to Gary Shields) , Lineage: Thomas Franklin/Sarah Gregg---> Charles Hudson Frye/Belle Smith---> Jack Hudson Frye/Irene Kresha---> Laurine Frye/Gordon Cahill---> Jackie Cahill/Gary Smith

Ryan Shields to Carla McIntyre on 17 Aug 1996, in Nampa, Idaho, Lineage: Thomas Franklin Frye/Sarah Jane Gregg---> Charles Hudson Frye/Belle Smith---> Jack Hudson Frye/Irene Kresha---> Laurine Frye/Gordon Cahill---> Jackie Cahill/Gary Shields---> Ryan Shields/Carla McIntyre

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Inquires

All inquires sent in will be published in the next issue of the newsletter following its receipt. If any member can respond to an inquiry, send response to both the person making the inquiry and the newsletter for inclusion in the next issue.

1) The following three inquires are from:

Col. Isabelle J. Swartz
57 Hewitt Drive
Steilacoom, WA 08388-1511
(206) 582-4185

a. Seeking info re Isaac Fry's first wife, Margaret Allen, born c 1812, Washington County, PA, married 13 Mar 1832 (Ohio?) - Died c 1842 - Jeff Co, Ohio? (Isaac Fry born 28 Jun 1813, Wash Co., PA - died 07 Sep 1879, Keosauqua, Van Buren Co, Iowa)

b. Johnston Fry (Born 03 Mar 1785, Wash Co., PA) Married 08 Dec 1804 to Hester Pearce. Johnston Fry died 28 Apr 1829 - in Wash Co. PA?

c) Hester Pearce born 04 Dec 1789, Wash Co., PA. When and where did Hester Pearce die?

2) These two inquires come from:

Wilbur C. Frye
1238 Lerida Way
Pacifica, CA 94044-3634
(415) 359-5439

a) I would appreciate any information on the following three children of Frank Frye (son of Thomas Franklin Frye and Sarah Gregg) and Lena Peck. All the children were born in Indian Territory (now the state of Oklahoma).

- Helen Frye, b. c 1908
- Fay Frye, b c 1909
- Patrick Harley Frye, b. c 1915

Frank arrived in Idaho in late 20's, early 30's by himself. He moved on to Montana where he died in 1957. The 1920 census shows him and his family living in Oklahoma. Also what became of Lena?

b) any information on Charles Reed Prichard, (Great grandson of Thomas Franklin Frye and Sarah Jane Gregg) b. 29 Sep 1929 in Pittsburgh, PA, to Mildred Frye (who died shortly after his birth) and Mark Prichard.

3) These requests come from:

L. Jane Wilmer (HFFA Treasurer)
1079 Sandy Ridge Road
Doylestown, PA 18901-2434

a) NEEDING INFO: Would you check your genealogical info and research data for a GEORGE FRY, SR. in Fayette Co., Kentucky circa 1794. I've had two recent questions regarding this person and can't find him among my files.

b) Additionally, if you have not already done so, I respectfully request you send a copy of your line of descent from Heinrich Frey--or your line of descent from your immigrant ancestor if he not be our Heinrich Frey. I need this information on file to keep current with membership status as well as to offer some answers to the numerous questions and comments by letter and telephone which I receive almost daily. Currently there are 33 members for which I have no information or incomplete information.

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Correspondence

Postcard received by L. Jane Wilmer in early July.

"Dear Fry Cousins,

Well it happened again--I DID NOT GET TO THE REUNION. I really tried and went to Covington Ky on Wednesday 19 June and then to Frankfort from the 19-22. Fate intruded again as I must have gotten into some bad chicken at a Chinese takeout. After thinking I was dying at a Motel 8 in sight of the Kentucky Archives. I recovered enough to drive the 100 miles home to my own bed. (Expletive!) I had looked forward to this for nearly two years. My Fry ended in Nelson Co. Ky from Fredrick Co, Md, then into Putnam Co. In. with nephews and nieces spreading into Illinois and points west. Am still hunting Abraham, Jacob, Henry, and John Elias Fry and John's sister who married Joseph Weller.

Mary Ellen Sweet Grossman"
(1103 Union Street)
(Columbus, IN 47201-5850)

A REMINDER FROM YOUR TREASURER

Dues for 1997 should be paid by 31 Dec 1996. Dues are \$10.00 per calendar year. I would like to think that this reminder via the Newsletter will be sufficient notice for you to send in 1997 dues. Many of you have already paid your 1997 dues. Thank you for being "on the ball" which I personally really appreciate--notices and follow-up notices are time consuming and costly.

L. Jane Wilmer
1079 Sandy Ridge Road
Doylestown, PA 18901

E-Mail Address

If you have an e-mail address and would like it listed, please let me know. Jane and I can be reached on AOL, Our ID's are:

Wilbur C. Frye	WilFrye
L. Jane Wilmer	FMWILMER

Books of Interest

I have found the following books to be of interest and list them here in the event some of you are not aware of them. The first two are probably only available in a few genealogical libraries. The Levering reference I copied from Don Wilson's request for assistance - appearing elsewhere.

Genealogy of the Levering Family

By, John Levering - a copy of the marriage certificate for Heinrich Frey and Anna Levering appears on pages 97 and 98. It also contains a section on Heinrich.

History of Washington County

By Beers - covers several of the Fry(e) families as well as many of the families that the Fry(e)'s married into.

The Old and New Monongahela

By John S. Van Voorhis published in 1893. I ordered a Xerox copy of this booklet from I believe the Everton Publishers. It also covers many of the early families in the Valley.

Research Findings

by

Wilbur C. Frye

Editor's note: I thought I would share with the membership, a document which was sent to me over a year ago by Margaret (Logue) Frye, widow of Eldon Frye, son of the document's author, Reed Frye, brother to Charles, my grandfather. I knew very little about the early to middle-age years of my grandfather Frye. I knew him only in his later years when I was a small lad, he died when I was six. Three things stick in my memory of him, he always wore a dark suit, he wore high-top black dress shoes, and his white dress shirt sleeve's were longer than his arms and he wore arm garters to hold them up off his hands.

Reed's story filled in missing pieces for me. I knew my grandparent's Frye separated shortly after my father was born in Indian Territory in April, 1899, but no one knew or would talk about what became of him after he left his family other than he and his brother Reed were in the Army together in the Philippines. My father did not make contact with my grandfather until the mid-1920's. I sent for a copy of my grandfather's pension applications from the National Archives which said he joined the Army in Ogden, Utah. How did he get to Utah? Besides filling in some of the answers, its a nice story.

Copied by Eldon for his children - Original was hand-written

From Reed A. Frye B. 1876 - D. 1965

CHARLEROI LA JOLLA, CALIF
PENN. (SAN DIEGO COUNTY)

M. Saturday, Oct. 13-57, 7 P.M.

GERTRUDE ANDERSON ^{Box} COTTON WOOD, KS. 1876
4. 1957, COFFEYVILLE, KS

Linda, Bruce, Jan & Chris:

I was going to write to your daddy - and then got the idea why not write to you so here we go -

I have been home all day, cleaned some of the house, polished the old Ford. First I had to get up this morning about 8 a.m., let the tom cat in, I make him sleep in the garage. If I don't he will get in bed with me, give hi' feed to keep him from under my feet while I get my own breakfast of bacana & sometimes grapenuts, and sometimes eggs or oatmeal & coffee.

Sometimes I get up early enough to listen to the news at 7:30, wash what dirty dishes I have, make up the bed, etc. Then I look around to see if I can find any dust or rabbits (rabbits is that fuzzy stuff you find under the bed). I go over one room a day, that way I don't get tired, only having four rooms I get the house cleaning done in four days, that way I have 3 days left in the week that I don't have to do any house cleaning. I take my laundry to the laundry on Mondays. I don't have much.

This last week have been watching the ball games. My favorite team won, that last game I went over to Walts & Ella's to watch it. Jure was a dinter. Today I watched K. U. & Iowa State play at Lawrence, Kans. K. U. got beat 14 to 6. My favorite western T.V. show is Gunsmoke. It was close to Dodge City, where my father and mother landed when they moved to Kansas from Pennsylvania in 1878.

By Reed A. Frye
October 13, 1957

In 1873, when I was only two years old, my father and mother moved to a homestead close to a little town about 20 miles northeast of Dodge City, Kansas, from Pennsylvania. The little town's name was Spearville. We lived in a sod house built in the side of a hill.

Father did some freighting between Dodge City and Spearville for a while and tried farming but had no success at it, and in about three years sold out and moved back to the eastern part of Kansas, near Cottonwood Falls. Of course I was too young to remember anything that happened then.

So that is how I happened to be in Kansas. I was born in the country in Washington County, Penn., about 50 miles south of Pittsburgh. I lived on a farm all my younger days until I was 22 years old, and in 1899 I decided to sow my wild oats or rather change climate to better my health. I had been having malaria fever for some time. I would have a chill and then a fever afterwards.

The Dr. told us that if I would move north above the 40th parallel that I would get over having chills & fever. So I talked it over with my parents and they said why not try it. We had heard through the grapevine route that the Union Pacific Railroad at Kansas City wanted men for construction work out in Wyoming. I sold a little pony that I had and started out. My older brother Charley and a halfbreed Cherokee Indian decided to go along.

We got to KC, signed up and were shipped to Laramie, Wyo., a man with a wagon and four mules met us there and took us about 20 miles northwest of Laramie where the construction gang was. The Union Pacific was building a cutoff from Laramie to a town, Medicine Bow., shortening the road about 100 miles. We all got a job driving a team of horses. They had some mules also.

I forget what our wages were, we got our board also, it was included in our wages. We worked about 2 weeks on a Mill they were building about a mile long on one side of a stream. It was about 20 ft. high in the highest place. Charley and the Indian got restless and wanted to go somewhere else. We worked two weeks and quit. Drew a check for \$18.00 apiece.

We had to walk to Medicine Bow, about 13 miles, to get them cashed so we started out along the route the road would take. There were other construction gangs along the route, so we could get water to drink on the way. It sure was hot. This was in July, 1899. We finally got to medicine Bow in the afternoon. Went in a saloon and got our checks cashed. My clothes were getting kind of ragged so I went to get some overalls and a jacket, when I found Charley and Claud, the Indian (his name was Claud Cligan). They had found a crap game and lost almost all of their money. I think they had about \$5.00 between them. It made me mad. There I was with my new suit that cost me about \$2.50 and ^{the rest of} my \$18.00. You could buy a pair of overalls at that time for 50¢ or 75¢. We got something to eat, going dutch on it, everyone paying for what he ate. I told them if they run short I would let them have some of my money but was going to keep it in my pocket.

We decided to go to California and that night we caught a side-door pullman. We got in a box car that had been loaded with apples and there was a big pile of straw in one end and some half rotten and bruised apples in the other. We were in luck in regard to something to eat. We ate a few apples and crawled under the straw. The next morning we were in Green River, Wyo. Got off, stayed around there all day, talking with some other bums. They all warned us not to go to