

"HURRAH FOR THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE"

(Even if it is only black and white on this newsletter)

A long weekend to celebrate the 4th of July, and I'm declaring my independance by climbing the family tree. Can't think of anything else I would enjoy more.

Our little town of Marietta usually celebrates the whole week before the fourth with a carnival at the town park up behind our house. The celebration and carnival are sponsored by the Marietta Jaycees and the Lions Club and Fire Company all join in to make it a great annual occassion. As the carnival is winding down on Saturday night, the fireworks begin.

With the promise of a beautiful display of fireworks the carnival grounds are packed that last night and the area is flooded with out of town folks from far and near. Don't want to brag but we have been told our displays are the best around. All the local organizations benefit and I can sit on the back porch and watch the fireworks. Can't beat that for curb service.

So it is really an "at home" week-end for us. The rest of the week-end I have declared a holiday so everyone is doing their own thing. I'm here happily surrounded by my books, typewriter, copier and all of those wonderful letters I received from you in June. I don't know how to thank you enough for the encouragement you have given me.

If I had known the response I was going to receive from this newsletter I would have started it the day after the Deems reunion last August. What a great boost to my morale.

As of now, we have newsletters going to Texas, West Virginia, Oklahoma, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Utah, Connecticut, New York, Arkansas, California, Alabama and many right here in good old Pennsylvania.

Some of you are sharing and that's great too. With so many interested, each day brings new information and news. Queries are coming for the last page and new branches are sprouting fast.

Did you know that some of the Thomas Deem descentants from Reading started a Deems reunion in 1912 in Quaker Valley, Kansas?

Tom Foreman from Towanda, Pa., his cousin from Connecticut and her mother Katherine from the Reading area visited with us this last week for an afternoon. Wenda came down and we had a real great time exchanging information and just enjoying each others company. We had never met before but that was certainly no barrier.

Anyway, we agree, we feel their ancestors and ours did have a kinship of some kind but we haven't figured it out yet.

AMERICAN



AND PROUD OF IT!

It doesn't take much to peek my imagination so after Tom, Gerry and Katherine left I spent the rest of the day and most of the night pouring over the information they brought.

I don't want to spend too much time on this in this newsletter or it will be ten pages long but I want to pass along a little bit of information just in case some of you have more to add.

The Reading Deems begin with Thomas and Anna Catherine Beushlain^{Deems} that immigrated in 1753/54. They brought with them four children.

Johan Christopher (born Germany 1744) s/o Thomas and Catherine married Otella Margaretta Settley, they had eight children. Christopher and Otella stayed in Reading and died there. As did their son, Thomas and his wife Elizabeth Leosher.

But like our branch of the Deems' they had a son John Adam that married Mary Beckley in Reading in 1805 but died in Rush County, Indiana in 1848.

A son of John Adam and Mary Deems was born in Northumberland County in 1812. His name Johan Benjamin. I'm sure there were other children but as yet they haven't shown up.

Anyway, Benjamin married a Nancy Davis in 1841. She was born in Red Stone, Fayette County, Pa.

Now, here is my question -- On the way to Indiana from Northumberland County did Benjamins parents live in the Fayette County/Washington County area of Pa?

Benjamin and Nancy had five children. - John William b. 1842 in Greene County, Ohio. He married a Jennie Wilson in 1866. David A. Deem b. near Old Town, Ohio which was near Xenia, county seat of Greene County, Ohio born in 1844. He married a Rhoda Hartley in 1876. Joseph Rutherford Deem born also near Old Town, Ohio was born 1849. He married Eva E. Nesselrode. He died 1926. George Thomas Beckley Deem born near Greenfield, Indiana married Abbie McKee and Mary A.E. Deems, born 1858 also in Greenfield, Indiana married a Milton Nesselrode.

John William and Jennie died in Columbus, Kansas as well as his father, Benjamin and mother Nancy. I don't have a place of death for any of the others except Mary A.E. Deem Nesselrode, she died in Louisburg, Kansas.

Joseph Rutherford Deem and Eva Nesselrode had two sons: ¹ Guy lived in Oklahoma, married Anita and had a son Guy Jr. that married Betty ____.

² Ole Forrest Deem born 1881 in Springhill, Kansas, married Blanche Stephenson on 4 Nov. 1911 and died in Newton County, Missouri. They had a son Roy Stephenson Deem born 1912, died 1940. No wife listed but he had a son Roy Joseph born 1941. Roy Joseph had three sons: Charles Clayton-b. 1965, Robert Brien b. 1968 and Olin C. born 1972.

These Deems started their reunion in 1912 in Quaker Valley, Kansas at the home of Joseph Rutherford Deem who was their president at the second reunion in 1913, also held at their home. Other officers were vice president, S.D. Newton, Secretary, Jennie Vandament, Treasurer Lena Wilson and a committee for the constitution: S.D. Newton, Roy Wilson, Wm. Vandament, and A. Shearer.

A note to the Kansas branch written by Thomas Beckley Deem from Knightstown, Indiana was written May 16, 1916 thanking them for their invitation to the reunion. He wrote of he and his brother John William had visited the old Deems homesite in Greene County, Ohio in 1912. He was not born there but John was.

Where is Old Town, Ohio and Greene county located? Is Xenia still a town county seat or has the name changed to something else? Just a few of my questions about this family...

I will bring this folder to the reunion but will be happy to fill in other information if there are questions before that. I have a list of the reunion members in 1928 if anyone is interested.

Isn't it odd though that the early ones married into the Wilson and Hartley families as ours did and that Nancy Davis was born in Red Stone, Fayette County where some of our clan lived. Possibly Old Town, Ohio was not so far away???

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After reading over the last newsletter, I am going to try to collect my thoughts and give you some information I didn't include before.

I listed the births Wenda and I found in the Tulpehocken area of Berks county but we always felt there were births missing. Although we have checked those records again we do not find any other information there.

The puzzling information is that Adam and Jacob sons, of Johan and Anna Christina are supposed to have been born near Hagerstown, Maryland. Adam in 1761 and Jacob in 1764. This sounds reasonable since we know Johan and Anna Christina were in that area by 1767 but the odd part is Maria Margarets birth was recorded in the Tulpehocken area in 1759.

Is it possible they traveled to Maryland after Johan Nicholas was born in 1756 and then returned to Maryland by 1761?

Evidently, I didn't collect my thoughts very well before I made those last statements. Rather than try to rewrite the second page over again I will continue and try to pull this together correctly.,.,.

We always wondered why there was no record of a birth for Johan and Anna Christina between 1756 and 1759. Possibly there just wasn't a child born or perhaps there is another explanation and it was recorded someplace else.

Several years ago I bought a book about the French and Indian War in the Tulpehocken area. It was mainly recorded letters of the area folks pleading with the governor for protection from the Indians. Many families had been killed and scalped and some family names were listed. Hoster was one of them and other names were the same as on baptismal records with Johan and Anna Christinas children. *(between 1756 + 58/9)*

Unfortunately I loaned the book to someone and never got it back but it stated many settlers left the area and then returned later. Possibly Johan and Anna Chrsitina did that. I don't think they went to Maryland though at that time.

I believe they may have gone after Maria Margaret was born in 1759 and I do believe Adam and Jacob were born there.

When Jacob was applying for a Rev. War pension he stated his grandparets lived in the Hagerstown area when he was born. We have searched the early pioneer records there for Deems but did not find any so feel it was Anna Chrsitinas parents he was talking about. Many familiar names were there, like Six (which we still think may have been Anna Chrsitinas maiden name) Thomas House was also there and many of the names that appeared in southwestern Pa. later on.

In the New Jersey and Maryland records it is stated the route of travel from Lancaster County to Maryland and Virginia was over an Indian Trail now broad enough to be used by travelers and settlers moving with packhorses. It extended across York and Adams counties, Pennsylvania, to the Monocacy River near the point where it crossed the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania.

In an early recording of Church and Courthouse records from Gettysburg to Potomac and South Mountain, titled Monocacy and Catoctin, Early Settlers of Frederick and Carroll Counties, Md. and Adams County, Pa. and Descendants 1725-1985 by C.E. Schildknecht, Editor there are many familiar names connected to the Deems family later. Fout/Fouty, House/Haus, Huffman/Huffman/Hoffman, Six/Sects, Smith/Schmidt, Weimer, Zimmerman, Richey, Taylor, Cox, White, Black, Saylor and many, many more. Jenkins, Rowan and others were on lists before our Deems were there, as well as many Fischers/Fishers. On a list in 1766 some of the heads of families were: Weaver, Wolff, Reynolds, Haus, Hager, Hickman, House, Jennings, Fischer and Hahn.

All I can think is our family were just poor settlers and farmers living near Middletown far enough away from Frederick and Hagerstown to be in many court records. Just ordinary folks attending church in the schoolhouse across the first hill. In early church records it is written that in 1767 Charles Lange administered communion to 38 people in the school house across the first hill from Middletown. David Schoepf wrote in 1783 midway of the mountain stands Middletown, a little place perhaps 20 houses between Sharpsburg and Frederick.

By then I feel sure our Johan and Chrsitina and their family of children had moved on to southwestern Pa. Part of it still claimed by Virginia. (Greene County, Pa.) When Mark applied for his warrant for his land in 1786 the discription stated there were improvements already on it. Since records show he belonged to the Pa. Militia when he was returned home on the 27th of June, 1782 I would guess they went to southwestern some time in the early 1770's.

The last I find them in the church near Middletown is on Feb. 22 1770 when Adam Dihm sponsored a son Adam, parents of Adam and Maria Elizabeth Keil.

A Johan Ludwig, son of Johann and Lydia Leyder was sponsored by Johann Ludwig Dim on July 29, 1770 and on the 6 of Feb. 1771 Jon and Mark Diem were attending a catychism class. Mark would have been 17, Johan Nicholas, 15 years of age. If Adam were was born in 1761 and Jacob in 1764 they would not have been listed yet in the church records.

I wonder about Marks sisters Margaret (b. 1759) I guess she would have been too young to be listed too, and Catherine, I had always thought she was older, but maybe not. Later she and Wilhelm Claus sponsored one of Marks children in southwestern Pa.

So much information still hidden. I wish we could find the early church records in southwestern Pa. I have some in the German Church records by Ruff in his three volumes but not until 1786.

According to official assessment records of Bedford County in 1773 for Springhill Township Lewis Teem was established there.

You must remember at that time Bedford County went practically to the Ohio River. Then Westmoreland, then smaller counties were formed like Washington, Fayette and Greene. So I really don't think Lewis moved, I think the county lines did as the other counties were formed.

From this list you will notice many familiar names. They were all there and later on the survey maps many were together. They were part of the new frontier, laying the foundation for new homes in the wilderness of western Pa.

Teem, Lewis	Campbell, James, William
White, Alexander, David, James	Baker, Nicholas
Six, Conrad	(This may have been Becker earlier)
Smith, alexander, James, John (3) Philip, Ralph, Wm.	Carnes, Edward. Michael
Roland, Edward	Decker, John
Rogers, david, Philip	Elliot, Edward
Powell, Richard	Hall, Henry, John (Heil?)
Philips, Theophilus, John, Thomas	Hardin, Benjamin, Capt. John
Myers, George, Henry, Wolrick	John Jr. Mark, Martin, Wm.
House, william	Harrison, John
Hichman, Charles	Jenkins, Aron
Hawkins, David, John	Miller, Alexander (Muller?)
Fisher, John	McCarty, Nathaniel
Crawford, Hugh, John, Josias, Oliver, Wm.	McCoy, George, John (some of this name changed to McKay)
(one Captain, one Quaker)	Taylor, John (2)
Cox, Gabriel, Israel, Joseph, Michael	

This is just a few on that 1773 list but the names appeared in Washington, Fayette, Greene and all surrounding counties in southwestern Pa. later.

Harold's Church was one of the oldest Reformed and Luthern Churches to have records redorded in southwestern Pennsylvania. Situated in Bedford County (later Somerset) in Brothers Valley Township the records begin about 1777. This church was not far from the location of Greensburg now.

Names such as Hoh, Schmidt (my husbands family) Baker, Ringer, Bauman, Heyl, Muller, Zimmerman, Fisher, Manges, and Hoffman are there in the records. Even an illegitimate child named Peter born June 16, 1790 whose mother was Sybilla Knapschneider and the father a young man from Pittsburgh named Andres Theme.

By Act of Assembly dated Feb. 26, 1773 Westmoreland County was carved out of Bedford County which had been taken from Cumberland County two years before. This new county included the counties that are now Westmoreland, Washington, Fayette and Greene and part of Beaver, Armstrong, Indiana and Allegheny.

On July 13, 1782 the Seneca Indians aided by the British attacked and burned Hanna's Town comprising about 30 houses. Until then this had been a makeshift county seat. This was the last notorious hostile act of the Revolutionary War in the area. After much contraversary Greensburg was selected as the county seat. The road running through Greensburg to Pittsburg later became part of the old Lincoln Highway.

Many German settlers had settled in the valley of Brush Creek and after the purchase of 1768 called the "new Purchase" many more joined the early settlers. Mark Brueinig is supposedly buried in the Brush Creek Cemetery in 1778. In church records recorded in the Sewickley Settlement, Balthaser Meyer, schoolmaster listed many baptismal records. Lots of Braunigs, etc. from 1772 until 1792.

In 1780 a Anna Marie, daughter of Nicholas Riehm was sponsored by Philip Wentzel. (Possibly should have been Diehm?)

On the 9th of October 1783 Christina Diehm, grandmother sponsored a daughter, Christina born on the 10th of Oct. (Oops, should be the other way around) The parents Johannes, (Probably Nicholas) Diehm and wife Magdalena (wife Mary Magdalena Diehl, daughter of Philip who later gave John land in his will)

On the 7th of June 1785 Johannes Diehm and Christina Elizabetha Six sponsored four children of Martin Hoster and Elisabetha.

On May 9th, 1786 Wilhelm Clause and Catharina sponsored a daughter, Catherina, parents-Marx Dihm and Elisabetha. (Later records show Catharina Clause loaned her brother John \$12 which he paid back. I can't remember the year and can't find the notation right now. Willam Claus had land very near to Mark in West Pike Run.)

On Oct. 2, 1786 Johannes Diehm and Anna Christina sponsored a daughter of Ludwig Diehm and Rosina. She was born the 2nd of February and named Anna Christina.

Many other baptisms for Philip Duem, Adam Time, Adam Damm and Simon Diem are in these records. I haven't tried to sort these out yeat. Can you help me out??

Although I feel Johan and his family were in southwester Pennsylvania as early as 1773, like many of the other early settlers they did not bother to make claim on their land until they felt threatened to protect themselves by doing so.

With the war and the uncertainty of the times and the steady migration west it was necessary to apply for a warrant and survey to make legal claim. Even though Mark was in the war he was not entitled to free land because he was not an officer.

In the Pa. Archives in Harrisburg - 6th Series - Vol. 2 his record is shown on his return home.

A RETURN OF CAPT. WHITES COMPANY, THE 7TH & 8TH CLASS OF THE 5th BATTN. WASHINGTON CO. MELLITIA THE 27TH OF JUNE, 1782

the 7th Class

Ths. Bealey
John Packerd
Robert Brinten
Benj. Pursley
Mark Deams
Jas. Daves
John Riggle

the 8th Class

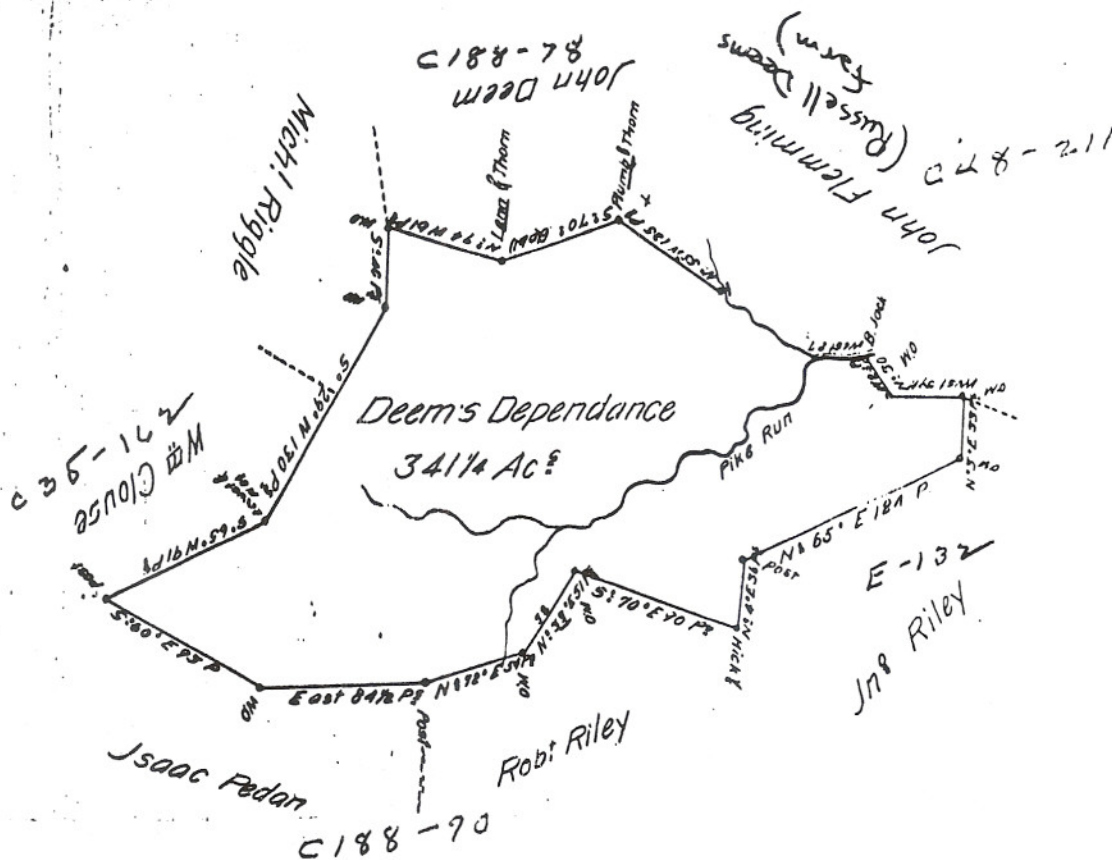
Philip Lady
Jas. Grahams
John McCartney
John Brooks
John Perry
Fred. Leatherman
Joseph Brown
Jno. Fleming
John Barley

I do certify that the above Class was sumened according to Law as Wittness My hand thus 27th day of June 1782.

Nathen Powel, Leut.

(I copied this with the original spelling)

On Marks verification from the commonwealth of Pa. of his application for 400 acres of land in Fallowfield Township, Washington County, on Pike Run including improvements he was to pay, at the rate of Ten pounds per Hundred acres, in Gold, Silver, Paper money. Passed the first day of April, 1784- Interest to commence from the first day of March, 1782. (No, I didn't make a typing error here, it says 1782) So I guess that is when he made his first application. When surveyed the land was for 341 and 1/4 acres.



A Draught of a Survey called "Deem's Dependance" situate on the Waters of Pike Run in Washington County contain^g 341 1/4 Ac[±] and the usual Allow^{es} for Highways &c. executed Oct^r 11th 1786 in Pursuance of a Warr^t granted to Mark Deem for 400 Ac[±] dated July 31st 1786.

Presley Nevill }
Matt^r Ritchie } 0.5[±]

In the next newsletter I will start with the 1790 census and try to work my way through the family with names and other information. Please if you have anything to offer, let me know so I can plan for future newsletters. I don't have all information on the early families.

Now the queries:

Two new subscribers have ask for information about the Deems Reunion. I have sent some to them but if possible they should have cards. Theresa Deems Hughart from 612 W. Overholt Drive, Sand Springs, Ok. 74063 would like information about the nearest airport that they might fly into. I told her Pittsburgh I thought but is there an alternative?

Joanna Brattis Smith - 33 Charleston North- Sugar Land, Tx. 77478-3655 also is interested in attending this year or next.

I received a letter from a woman that worked in the same museum that Grace McSparren volunteered at. She ask if I was intersted in any of Graces research? You can bet I called her in a hurry and said I would be happy to pay for anything she sent. So far I haven't heard anything..

From Pat Frappier- 4116 Meadowcroft Rd. -Kettering, Ohio 45429 a query about Deams in Virginia - Has anyone found baptism records for a Frederick Deam/Deem born 1 Feb. 1801 in Va? Does anyone have any records of any Deems in Bath County, Va? (A John Deems, son of John and Margaret of Hummelstown was supposed to have gone to Bath County, Va. after his father died in 1795 ?? We have been wondering about this family for a long time.) Have you found more information on them, Pat? Also from Pat -- Who was Thomas Team who was taxed in Militia Co #5 in Rockingham County, Va in 1787? His neighbors were John Turner, Hugh Tiffney, Hemphills, Harrisons, and Millers. (I would like more info on him too, haven't seen that before.)

Pat Lester of Texas has been a great supporter of the newsletter and has given my name to many of the new subscribers. Thanks so much Pat, I really appreciate it. Pat is always wanting to add to her computer runs on the Deems family. If you would like to add yours to her list contact: Pat Lester - 2102 Ocean View Drive- Seabrook, Texas 77586

Received a nice thank you letter from Ken Cox- 1031 SW 58 - Oklahoma City, Ok. 73109. I had sent him Mary Ann Bowrys family charts on the Jacob and Eva Ann Cox Deems from Wood County, W. Va. It is so great to hear from so many people.

A woman from Salt Lake City wrote to tell me she had received my newsletter through Nancy Veron. She sent me a lot of information that I want to sort through when I can find the time. She is trying to help Nancy find her John Deem, born in Fayette Co. Pa in 1816. Maybe if we work together we can sort him out. I definitely want to keep in touch with them. She had much information that makes me feel we might be making headway on Marks brother Lewis' family. By the next newsletter I hope to have it better prepared. (The typing errors will never go away, I'm afraid. My fingers and brain don't cooperate.)

A letter from Wayne Deem from Fairmont, W. Va. includes many facts and questions about his Adam Deems from W. Virginia. He was old Marks brother and he and Jacob went to West Virginia after 1790 they are still on the Pa. census then. Lewis, Mark, Adam and Jacob were sons of Johan and Anna Christina Deihm as well as John Nicholas that was born in Berks County with Mark and Maria Margaret. Catherine was also a sister. of them.

Well, I think it is time to close this issue of the newsletter and get on with making copies to send to you. That will take a while too. I do haope you will continue to write me and ask questions and add to the family charts. I do feel this may really help all of us by getting the early Deems straightened out.

I know we will never find everyone but I think we are amking headway. Keep the letters and infromation coming. I'll do my best to put it together. I'm hoping to get another newsletter out to you before the reunion the second Saturday in August but if I don't hope to see most of you there.

Sincerely
Mildred Deems Smith

A last minute query from my sister for a Mona Raley in Arizona. She is hunting the Indian connection into the Guesman/Clark family . I know the Deems connection to the Clarks but have no information on Clark or Guesman marriage. - Help..