



HFFA NEWS

A Publication of the Heinrich Frey Family Association

Published Quarterly -

Last week in February, May, August, and November

From the editor:

This is the third newsletter that I have completed and the fun hasn't worn off yet.

Being the editor has created at least one added benefit to my life. I have some new pen pals. Who knows how these things get started, but a few of us are now engaged in almost daily correspondence via email.

One of my new friends is Velma Fry Schafroth of Bourbonnais, IL. She is a published poet and has agreed to let me share some of her poetry with you. We hope you like it.

Also in this issue is another contribution from someone Rose and I met while camping in Elkhart, IN. Barbara Nuehring is a full-time RV'er, does family research, and writes for various publications. Unfortunately she is not in our family.

Have you ever wondered what are in the HFFA archives? Charles Burgess has sent me a list of some of our holdings and I'll mention them in this and future editions.

Bill Frye of Dayton, OH has a Fry family mystery he wants help with.

So there is so much to include in this issue that I'm purposely leaving something out. I was going to tell you more about my findings in some Huron County, OH cemeteries. It was

www.hfrey.org

in New Haven Township, OH where I found the grave of West's Abe. I wrote about it in the November issue. I'll save the news about my other discoveries until some other time.

Thanks for reading this newsletter. Don't forget to write.

Mike Speers, Editor

From the President:

Charles Burgess

Though it may seem as though cold weather has brought the snail to a complete halt, there has been some progress on plans for the 2009 HFFA reunion. Contact has been made with the Mineola, TX Best Western as our designated place of lodging. Negotiations are still ongoing as to the best price per room. Because the hotel has no meeting rooms or catering service, our meetings will be held at another location. Mineola has a Civic Center with a catering service, but it's prices for meeting rooms may be too high for our budget. There is another location at a reasonable distance that may be a better choice. Once all arrangements have been made, we will have the exact dates for the reunion. We are aiming for the last weekend in June 2009.

One of the activities planned for the reunion will be a display of our accumulated archives. Lists of some of these archives will appear in future newsletters.

The archives, their storage and use present a problem. Tommy Wiggins is our appointed Archivist. Unfortunately, Tommy has run out of space to store them. For someone to go to his house to use the archives would present another problem.

I have discussed this with Tommy. We both feel we need a better place to keep the archives. We also need a place where the archives can be used.

So mull this over and send your ideas to me. We will discuss this at the reunion. I don't think it would be a good idea to engage in a mail order type of loan system. Once they had been sent out, what guarantee would there be that we would get them back? The books in the archives should be available in libraries. The files of papers would be impossible to replace.

Now, onto another topic. At our last reunion, we discussed the study of our Frey, Fry, Frye DNA. How many of you have had your DNA checked and what were the results?

Sincerely,

Charles J. Burgess, President

From the Treasurer:

Tommy Wiggins

Expense Summary:

1 Jun 2007 - 31 Dec 2007

Beginning Balance: \$4819.75

Income:

Dues \$1060

Links Books \$2895

Journals \$ 205

Misc. \$ 130

Website

Donations \$ 250

Total Income \$4540

Expenses:

Journals \$1531.62

Newsletter \$ 608.67

Links Books \$2624.79

Website \$ 250.00

Bank Services \$ 77.00

Total Expenses \$5092.08

Ending Balance \$4267.67

Respectively Submitted,

Tommy Wiggins, Treasurer

Dear Mike:

Here is a possible item for the HFFA Newsletter. A friend alerted me to an old photograph that was on sale on eBay that had a Henry Fry and Leah Fry shown. I did not find a Henry and Leah Fry couple in the Links book, however the time for the item was nearly up, so I put in a bid and got the photo before it got away, figuring that these people were probably related to someone in the HFFA, even if they didn't know it, and that the photo might help someone with their research. The photo is 4" by 5 ½". I scanned the front and rear of the photo, and have attached those images. You can see that in the back row, (from the left) there are two women, then a woman and man, then two men, then a woman and man. The front row appears to be a family unit and then Grandma. Beside the second woman in the back row is written in faint pencil "Leah Fry", and beside the first man is written "Henry Fry". It is a little odd that Leah and Henry are separated,

since a photograph in those days was more formal than our present day snapshots, and the people are obviously posed. On the rear of the photo, also in faint pencil is written "Group taken at French Creek". Back row Leah Fry wife Henry Fry. Also in back row and then nothing. I tried black light and infrared light, but could not bring up anything else. There is also something embossed along the bottom of the front, but it cannot be resolved. A Google search reveals a French Creek Park near Loraine, Ohio. Perhaps you can put some kind of notice about the photo in the newsletter. I would be glad to send it (or email a copy) to any HFFA member who thinks these people are related to them. If there is any question about this, please let me know.

Bill Frye,

Dayton, OH
wfryeday@att.net

Bill's question was sent to Historian Charles Burgess. Here is his reply.

"I haven't been able to find a Henry Fry with wife Leah in the descendants of our family. I've been to the French Creek in Chester County, PA. There was a Fry or Frye family in Birdsboro, but I couldn't make a connection with them. I think they were involved with the steel mill there. I am sure I copied stones from the cemetery, but it is going to take some searching to find them. French Creek would have been a popular place for people to go for an outing. There were hundreds of Fries in Berks and Montgomery Counties which aren't that far away. It occurred to me that the picture may be of Leah's family. Why identify Henry as a Fry if the others were also Frys? I'll keep looking. You never know what I may run across."

Leah

Henry



Sincerely, Charles

So now the question is, can anyone reading these pages help in this mystery?

From the editor:

This newsletter is being sent out to everyone who was on the mailing or email list last November. For those who receive the newsletter in the USmail, look at your address label. If there is a 2007 by your name, you have not paid your dues for 2008. Your membership in HFFA has lapsed and this will be your LAST newsletter. To continue your membership, please send \$25 to the Membership

Chairman Wil Frye at the address below. Make checks out to HFFA.

To those on the email list, you will be reminded by either Wil or myself via email before the next issue.

Wil Frye

Membership Chairman

21966 Dolores St., Apt. 128

Castro Valley, CA 94546

The Genealogical Dating Game

by Barbara A. H. Nuehring

bhn03@TheDreamHunters.net

Nothing is more basic to the study of genealogy than dates: date of birth, date of marriage, date of death. But, is there anything more troublesome than accurately recording those dates? It is bad enough that we encounter various documents showing different dates for the same event. We also must contend with a variety of other calendars that affect our research and may contribute to our confusion or misinterpretation of a date.

There is no doubt that the most universal impact on genealogists was the transition from the Julian (Old Style) calendar to the Gregorian (New Style) calendar. On 24 February 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued a papal bull to regulate the cycle of Christian holidays and correct the discrepancy that had accumulated over the years between the Julian calendar and the vernal equinox. The decree stipulated that ten days were to be deleted from the calendar, so that Tuesday the 4th of October would be followed by Wednesday the 15th of October in 1582 and that the date of the first day of the year would be 1 January rather than 25 March.

It took 336 years for all the Christian countries and their colonies to accept the Gregorian calendar. Russia made the change in 1918. Acceptance in the non-Christian world was initially not at issue, but as international communications, commerce and travel developed, the Gregorian calendar was gradually

adopted around the world. The last was China in 1949.

Therefore, in doing our research and analysis, we must take into consideration two issues.

First, we must know the exact date that the change was put into effect in the locale where our ancestors were living. The acceptance of the new calendar varied among the countries, but it didn't just affect Europe. In North America, the English colonies, parts of Canada and the northwestern territories that would someday be Washington and Oregon changed to the Gregorian calendar in 1752; whereas, the French colonies in Canada and the Mississippi Valley made the change in 1582 and the Spanish colonies in Mexico and the areas of current day Texas, Florida, California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico changed in 1584.

Secondly, we must understand the concept of dual dating. For many decades, two calendars were in use as the influence of the New Style calendar spread. This is seen frequently in our research of church registers and civil records in Protestant areas. Dates between 1 January and 24 March started showing up with a dual year. For instance, a date would be written as

20 February 1746/7. Thus there was no doubt about the intended date that the Old Style year (1746) continued even though the New Style year (1747) had started.

Tips: When recording family histories, a date should either be written 20 February 1746 OS (if it was Old Style or NS if it was New

Style) or as 20 February 1745/6. Avoid using a hyphen (1745-6) as it can be interpreted as indicating a period of time. Correspondences rarely indicated OS or NS, so contextual clues and national origin should be used to determine the date(s) mentioned. Be cautious when calculating a birth date using years/months/days lived if the individual was born before, but died after the Gregorian calendar was implemented. For help in calculating dates of multiple calendars visit <<http://www.rosettacalendar.com/>>.

From the editor:

The author of this piece, Barbara Nuehring, does family research and writes for various publications. She has allowed HFFA to use this article and one other that was published last issue (November, 2007.) We are indebted to her for her contributions to our HFFA Newsletter.

WANTED :

Your presence is requested at the 2009 HFFA Family Reunion in Mineola, Texas. The 2009 reunion is scheduled for June 26th and 27th, so mark your Calendar and start making plans to attend.

If you have internet access, beginning February 18, 2008 you can check out information about the 2009 reunion at the following url.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~twiggins/>

Tommy D. Wiggins
2009 Reunion Chairman

ADDITIONS & CHANGES

NEW MEMBERS:

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ANNOUNCEMENT:

L. Jane (Frye) and Fred Wilmer welcomed a new granddaughter to their family. Born to daughter Rebecca and son-in-law Johnathan, **Margaret Rose (Maggie) O'Neill** made her appearance at 6:40 a.m. January 31, 2008, in Georgia. Maggie joins her mom and dad and big sister Annie.

I Have Gratefulness

by Velma Schafroth

As I become more at ease in this life I've been given, I realize "Family" may not have so much to do with kinship and rootedness as it has to do with openness and friendship.

Different people offer to include me in their world. I begin to feel at home. At their invitation we speak on many subjects, contacts they have had, varied interests, adventure into unfamiliar areas, joys, and dwelling places.

I am steadily realizing I am allowed into many different unique settings, many times in groups of two or three.

It is evident there are leaders and those content to follow. My part of the process is to be a careful listener.

I find when friendship is offered there is no longer isolation and sad loneliness. Suddenly there has become a sweet feeling of sharing and a trusting of another seems to come naturally.

I begin to wonder how I can offer words of encouragement so none feels isolated or lonely.

Thinking quietly alone, it comes to me that one of the most

endearing qualities a person can offer is friendship. For it will no longer allow another to feel like an outcast.

Yes, I can do that, for my message goes beyond words. I am here to help set another free - free to love and pass it on to another.

I Hear the Music of My Lord By Velma Allamae (Fry) Schafroth

My breath sucks inward

*When will He come for this
Borrowed breath that's truly His
He will, oh He will*

*It is His
This lump of clay with the light
He has put within*

*Oh the music is so sweet
For it is His music
And I am blended with His sounds*

*Such joy,
How can there be more to His
Greatness He shares with me*

*How may I learn
More of His precious music
I shall sing just for Him
The tunes I'll hum and*

*He will love me forever
And I shall be honored to share His
lovely music, our music . . .*

Published in **Athena Anthology of Poems**, permission granted.

Archives: In his letter to the membership on page 2 of this newsletter, President Charles Burgess tells us about the HFFA archives, currently housed and in the possession of Treasurer Tommy Wiggins. Few of us have any idea what is in the archives or how to gain access to them. This is a problem Charles would like us to solve.

I received a 9- page document from Charles listing 329 donations in the form of hardback and paperback books as well as notebooks. This collection is labeled "*Material Donated to Heinrich Frey Family Association in Memory of Joy Christine Torgenson.*"

We will be able to see this collection and the rest of the archives at the next reunion, June 26 - 27, in Mineola, TX.

It is too daunting of a task to reprint all 9 pages of the Torgenson collection in this newsletter. However, I will fill the remainder of this page with a listing of some of the titles. The indications for hardback, paperback, and notebook will be Hb, Pb, and Nb respectively. I think you will be as amazed at this collection as I was when I first saw it.

1. **Pb - 18th Century Records of the Germantown Reformed Church of Pennsylvania**
2. **Hb - Bucks County Tax Records 1693-1778.**
3. **Nb - Photo Copy of Lancaster County, VA Court Order Book for 1652-1655.**
4. **Pb - Abstracts of Cumberland County Wills 1750-1785.**
5. **Pb - Abstracts of Philadelphia County Wills 1682-1726.**
6. **Same as above, 1726-1747.**

7. **Same as above, 1748-1763, etc.**
8. **Hb - Andreas Frey, "The Prediger from Falkner Schwalm."**
9. **Hb - Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of Pennsylvania and Adjacent Territory.**
10. **Pb - Index to Warrantee-Patentee Records of Westmoreland County, PA.**
11. **Pb - Eleven Deed Books from Frederick County, VA covering 1743 to 1800.**
12. **Hb - Goshenhoppen Lutheran Records.**
13. **Pb - Pennsylvania Line - A Research Guide to Pennsylvania Genealogy and Local History.**
14. **Pb - 1778 Census of Maryland.**
15. **Hb - Abstracts of the Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Rowan County, NC 1753-1762.**
16. **Pb - Calendar of New Jersey Wills, Vol. I, II, III.**
17. **Pb - Davidsburg Church Baptisms 1785-1845, New Market, VA.**
18. **Hb - Greene County, Tennessee Marriages 1783-1868.**
19. **Pb - Land Records in the Perkiomen Region.**
20. **Pb - Minisink Valley Reformed Dutch Church Records, 1716-1830.**

This is just a random sample of the 329 pieces in the *Joy Torgenson Collection* that is in the possession of HFFA. We have to find some way to house and preserve this collection and everything else in our archives. Send your ideas to Charles Burgess. **Page 8**

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\$25 dues are paid annually in January

Dues and address changes should be sent to Wil Frye at address above. Dues can be paid for multiple years. Make checks payable for \$25 to HFFA. Membership is on a calendar year basis. Membership includes four issues of Newsletter and two of Journal each year.

