The 36th annual reunion will be held at the Stanton Grange Hall, 16 Route 618, Lebanon, New Jersey on Saturday, September 18, 2010. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to meet old friends and members of our extended family, descendants of the original Apgars who came to Hunterdon County from Germany in the 1700s.

Our theme this year will be “Apgars are a Patient People” - a tribute to family value, presented by Rev. Stephen Yon, Pastor, High Bridge Reformed Church. His talk is based upon (and assisted by) a cast of Apgars. In commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the first wave of German immigration to America, we will pay homage to the steadfast character inherited from our “Basaltkopf ’ ancestors. This will be a warm, humorous, stirring and uniquely personal reflection on who we are - an experience to cherish and remember!

A German farm-style mid-day meal will be served, including ham, salad, macaroni & cheese, string beans, and apple crisp.

See the Reunion RSVP form attached to this newsletter.

Volunteers Needed
Come to the Grange Hall on Friday evening, 5:30—7:30 to meet your trustees, set up tables, and set up the Apgar General Store.

Schedule
Saturday, Sept 18, Grange Hall
10:00 a.m. Coffee & Check-in
11:00 a.m. Show & Tell plus Genealogy Assistance (all day)
11:30 a.m. Speaker: Rev. Yon
12:30 p.m. Annual Group Photo
12:45 p.m. Lunch—(Adults $13.00; Children under 10 years, $6.50)
2:15 p.m. More Show and Tell
3:00 p.m. Business Meeting
4:00 p.m. Closing

Sunday, Sept 19, Lebanon Reformed Church
9:30—11:30 am Worship Service

Driving Directions
The Stanton Grange Hall is at 16 Route 618, in Lebanon, New Jersey. The Route 618 East exit on Route 31 is about 5 1/2 miles north of the Flemington traffic circle, and about 4 miles south of 1-78.

The Grange hall is on the left at the crest of the hill, about 1/4 of a mile from Route 31.

Letters to the Editor

Letter from Mike Apgar with attached pictures (enhanced) of Apgar artifacts sent to him last year by an Apgar cousin, Barbara Martin, who (with her brother) inherited them from a deceased aunt. These items include:

1. a snuffbox that belonged to Sgt Peter A. Apgar (Rev War vet and eldest son of Herbert Epgert/Apgar), and
2. a hymnal which belonged to Herbert Apgar’s daughter Eva (b. May 20, 1776) and her husband John Teats. This hymnal was printed in German by Christoph Saur in Germantown (Philadelphia) in 1772. Saur was first to publish the Declaration of Independence (also in German) in early July, 1776. The pictures include a back page with the handwritten names and birthdates of Eva and John and their 7 children, and the title page of the hymnal.

Are these the oldest extant Apgar artifacts (besides the homestead)? If you have anything comparable, please share your pictures and tell us about the items.
A Message from the Association President
Mike Apgar

Poor Palatines indeed! Our family identity has been the result of our ancestors’ opportunism, rather than their actual geographic origins. According to the extensive research revealed in his book Becoming German by Philip Otterness, a majority of the first large wave of German immigrants who arrived in New York in 1710—for whom this year is celebrated as the 300th anniversary of Germans in America—were not fleeing French Catholic persecution in the Palatinate.

At that time, “Germany” consisted of many small states, which were often at odds with one another. The early 18th century migrants initially had in common were a variety of German dialects (which were mutually incomprehensible), poverty, and a will to improve their circumstances. They obtained sympathy in the form of sanctuary and charity from the English, upon which they subsisted until English patience became overtaxed. Eventually, many of the refugees perished, were shipped home, or resettled to Ireland or Scotland.

In 1710 an English fleet transported 3000 of these fugitives to New York, where they were pressed into an abortive effort to make tar and pitch for the British navy. The shared hardships of this adventure—from which more than more than 500 perished—forced these people to form a common identity as “Germans” which they lacked when they left home. Nevertheless, they and subsequent arrivals from the German states over the succeeding decades were forever referred to as “Palatines”.

The prior origins of our immigrant ancestors is being explored through the Apgar DNA Project. According to the extensive database on human genetic markers, Apgars are descended from the earliest settlers of Europe, who appeared on the continent at least 30,000 years ago, during a relatively mild interglacial interlude. Over hundreds of generations, their ancestors had spread across the vast grasslands from central Asia, where they resided following the exodus from northeast Africa about 60,000 years ago.

By 25,000 years ago, our prehistoric ancestors were forced south into refuges on the margins of Europe by the return of freezing Ice Age conditions. It was “only” about 12,000 years ago, as the ice sheets retreated, that “we” were able to repopulate the area now known as Germany.

This “deep” history means that the family legends about crossing the Alps likely did occur—at least in our dimly distant past. The take-home lesson from all this history is that our prehistoric ancestors were not only “German,” but also French, Spanish or Italian—and further back—Asian and African as well. Thus, we share a common kinship with all the humans on the Earth today. Now that’s really something to celebrate!

Local Resident George Apgar, Jr., has Studied his Family’s Genealogy for Over 30 Years
Extracted Story from North Brunswick Sentinel (newspaper) - June 10, 2010

Palatine families will be marking the tercentenary of the arrival of the Germans to Colonial America during a conference in Fishkill, NY, June 17-19. George Apgar, Jr., has been studying the Palatine history for over 30 years, including the handful of his own direct relatives who came over from that region around 1740.

German immigrants from the Palatine region of Germany were originally brought to America as indentured servants, since Queen Anne of England need cheap labor to clear land in New York. His own Protestant relatives came via Philadelphia and settled in Cokesbury, NJ after the initial round of servants had arrived.

Inspired by Alex Haley’s movie, “Roots,” in the 1970s, and after seeing an advertisement in a Plainfield newspaper about an Apgar reunion, the North Brunswick man decided to trace his own ancestral history. Apgar spent a lot of time in the Jersey Room at the Alexander Library, part of the Rutgers University campus in New Brunswick. His next endeavor is to search through the maiden names of the women who joined the Apgar family, so that they can extend their lineage.

Some other family names are Pickell, Fox, Sharp, Reinhart, Philhower, Hoffman, and Presley. It’s my history. It’s my family. “It’s part of New Jersey history,” Apgar said. “That’s what keeps the family together.”

See related article on the Fishkill Conference on page 11.
Our Past is Bound by Societal Standards

By Lynn Conley

In our search for family, many times we are confronted by information that is not politically correct as viewed by current societal standards. However, as we view this data it is important to understand that the actions of our relatives during their era were completely sanctioned and accepted as proper behavior. One of these societal standards was the issue of slavery. Many of the early settlers in Hunterdon County owned slaves and the Apgars were no exception. Hunterdon County never had a larger number of slaves due to the fact that a great number of Quakers resided in the county. In Quakertown, located in Franklin Township, the Quakers were very active in raising money to buy slaves from their owners. Once a slave was freed, the Quakers would help the individual earn enough money so he could buy his wife and children from their slave owner. The Quaker religion thus influenced many of the Hunterdon slave owners to free their slaves long before anyone else.

Hunterdon County in the 1800s was one of the largest counties in the state of New Jersey, however it had the least number of slaves. According to the records in 1830 there were 184 slaves in Hunterdon and by 1840 the total was just 34. As a result of the slave population decline in Hunterdon, conversely the population of free Africans increased in Hunterdon. The freed men and women remained in the county due to the respectful treatment they received from the local citizens.

Hunterdon County also had a large population of free black people whose families had never been subjected to slavery. Many freed African Americans lived in the county since the early 1700s with many of the families being concentrated in the Tewksbury and Readington Township areas.

A very famous freed landowner was Aree Van Guinee of Readington who’s family owned several large farms. Aree Van Guinee was a freed slave who was born in Dutch Guinea, Africa. Aree Van Guinee, in fact, donated the land on which the Lutherans built their first church. The congregation’s first service was held August 1, 1714, at the home of Aree Van Guinee. Lutheran Church records indicate that the Van Guinees had been members of the “Dutch” Lutheran congregation in Manhattan since 1705. Aree Van Guinee later moved his family from Manhattan to Hunterdon County and became a property owner. It is highly likely that Van Guinee played a leading role in obtaining a pastor for Zion’s first service. Records also show that two of Aree Van Guinea’s sons fought in the Revolutionary War.

Slavery was a part of Hunterdon County. The slave cemetery in Dilt’s Corner in Delaware Township, the slave cemetery located on the hill behind the Readington Dutch Reformed Church in Readington Township, and the graves of early slaves found at the Flemington’s Presbyterian Church illustrate the position of African Americans in Hunterdon County.

In addition to the cemeteries, the birth records of slave children were the direct result of “An act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery” passed by the New Jersey Legislature on 15 February 1804 (P. L. 1804, chap. CIV, p. 251). This law pronounced every child born to a slave mother after 4 July 1804 “free” at birth, but bound as a servant to the owner of the mother until the age of twenty-five for males and twenty-one for females. Any person entitled by the law to such bond service was required to file with the county clerk, within nine months of the birth of the child, a written certificate containing the name of the slave owner and the name, age and sex of the child. The clerk in turn was directed to record the information in a special book for this purpose. The penalty for neglecting to deliver such a certificate was $5 plus an additional $1 for each month of delinquency. The law also allowed for the abandonment of such children by the owners of their mothers at the age of one year. In this case, the child would become a ward of the local overseers of the poor; the slave owner was required to file a notification of abandonment with the county clerk.

Listed below are two new records which were found on the “Image Collection” which is part of the on-line databases created by the New Jersey State Archives. These records highlight the Apgar’s connection to the slavery issue.

http://www.state.nj.us/state/darm/links/guides/chncl004.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slave Owner</th>
<th>Child’s Name</th>
<th>Birth Date</th>
<th>Mother’s Name</th>
<th>Locality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apker, Frederick</td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>12/12/1807</td>
<td>Susanna</td>
<td>Lebanon Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apker, Frederick</td>
<td>Doce (or Doli?)</td>
<td>09/15/181 I</td>
<td>Susanna</td>
<td>(not recorded)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Availability of Genealogy CDs

The following CDs in pdf format are available for purchase for $25 per CD, cost of handling and shipping included:

Volume I: The Immigrants and First Four Generations in America—$25
Volume II: Descendants of the Fourth Generation in America
  Part 1: Herbert, John Peter and Heinrich—$25
  Part 2: Johannes Adam and Catherine—$25
  Part 3: Jacob and William—$25
  Part 4: Peter, Frederick and Conrad—$25

See our web-site to order: http://www.apqarfamilv.org
The Apgar DNA Project was launched several years ago to examine, confirm or discover relationships between members of our family. We chose Family Tree DNA to test our results. FTDNA has done the most genealogical genetic testing, has the largest Y-DNA database, and provides support for numerous family DNA projects. For a concise explanation of what DNA testing is and how it works, see www.FTDNA.com.

Comparison of slight differences in Y-chromosomes from four different Apgar males, representing the John Peter, Adam, Jacob and Conrad family lines, indicates that they all share a common ancestor within the last few hundred years (about ten generations). This is consistent with our written genealogies, which hold that Fritz Epgert, our family immigrant patriarch, was that common ancestor.

The results of the Apgar Y-DNA project are a testament to the faithfulness of our ancestors since arriving in America 270 years ago. No “stray” Y-Chromosomes were detected, which indicates that no other male (the proverbial “milkman”) had impregnated our mothers over this time.

The characteristic Apgar Y-DNA has also been used to determine that an individual whose grandfather was alleged to have been a wayward Apgar was unrelated to our line. Either the man alleged to have been his grandparent wasn’t an Apgar or that Apgar male—or one in his direct ancestral line was illegitimate.

A classification system, consisting of a series of letters and numbers, has been developed for Y-DNA. Based on this system, the Apgar family Y-DNA is characterized as Rlblb2. The widespread, worldwide testing of Y-DNA over the past several decades has enabled geneticists to determine parental descent stretching back much farther in time than the relatively brief period of written history. Based on hundreds of thousands of test results, it has been possible to identify the pattern and timing of human migration over the entire earth.

DNA results indicate that proto-humans developed apart from proto-apes about half a million generations—or about 6 million years—ago in Africa. Our species, “Homo Sapiens,” originated in East Africa about 200,000 years ago. The vast amount of genetic evidence is consistent with the numerous types of archaeological and geologic evidence.

The variations in appearance between different “races” of people are superficial. They are simply the result of genetic mutations over many generations that enabled people to be best suited to their particular environments. For example, skin pigmentation is darkest in equatorial regions and palest at higher latitudes; bodies are generally more heavy-set in colder climates that warmer ones.

Based on all available evidence, our male ancestor, bearing our Apgar Y-DNA left Africa about 60,000 years ago. At that time, we had dark skins, similar to that of the population “native” to that area today. Since that time our direct male ancestors were in the locations at approximately the times in the past shown in the following table. After traveling northward into southwest Asia, they migrated steadily eastward across what was then a vast steppe, entering Europe before any other modem humans about 33,000 years ago.

Our ancestral Apgars were among the folks referred to by archeologists as “Cro-Magnons”. These hardy progenitors managed to survive against fearsome predators and extremely inhospitable climatic conditions. They demonstrated ingenuity in both tool-making and art—some of which remains to this day.

We’re justly proud to celebrate 300 years since the “Palatines” began to travel en masse from Europe to America.

However, we should be astounded that we now know it has been 33 millennia that have elapsed since our direct Apgar ancestors first set foot in Europe.

In a few years, genetic testing results will help to sharpen our understanding of time, place and circumstances of our Apgar ancestors. Hopefully the on-going evaluation of vast amounts of European Y-DNA—now occurring in projects such as “German-DNA” and “Palatine-DNA” will be able to more sharply define our ancestral whereabouts. We may be able to learn where, when and with whom our Apgar line entered Germany in prehistoric time. Wouldn’t that be great!

### Journey of the Apgar Y-Chromosome - Our family trip across the globe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Years ago</th>
<th>Generations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival in America</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption of agriculture, end of nomadic hunter/gathering</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repopulation of northern Europe</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Glacial Maximum People forced to take refuge in Spain</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry into Europe (Cro-Magnon people)</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement through SW Asia</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Along Shoreline of Persian Gulf</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exit from Africa</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toba Super-volcano Eruption devastates human population</td>
<td>74,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homo Sapiens appears in West Africa</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genus Homo appears in West Africa (Homo Erectus)</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Split between proto-humans and apes (ancestors of chimps and bonobos)</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tribute to Warren “Dick” Conklin Apgar (1913-2009)
March 10, 1913 - September 22, 2009; AFA # 9.5.5.6.5.2

Warren C. (Dick) Apgar, maritime industry executive, former President of the Board of Trade and New Orleans civic leader, passed away on Tuesday, September 22, 2009.

Loved and highly respected by all who knew him, he honored life itself. A New Jersey native, he was an avid world traveler, devotee of history, and enthusiastic reader. He appreciated working and raising his family in New Orleans and later residing in Covington.

Beloved husband of the late Leah Mae Jackson Apgar, Warren Apgar was the devoted father of Donna Apgar and Judith Apgar Webb and grandfather of David L. Webb and the late Michael J. Webb. He is also survived by two great-grandchildren, Jessica Webb Runyan and Christopher Webb.

Warren Apgar graduated from Columbia University Business School. He was a Major in the U.S. Army during World War II and served in the Pentagon as Office Chief of Transportation in the OIC Operations Branch Water Division. Prior to the Pentagon, he served as Water Division Superintendent in Mobile, Alabama.

His professional career revolved around the maritime industry. He worked for the Lykes Bros. Steamship Company and Parry Navigation Company in New York City before moving to New Orleans to assume his position as Executive Vice President of T. Smith & Son, Stevedoring/Terminal Operations and the Crescent Towing and Salvage Co. He was President of the Casey Corporation, barge owners and operators and T. Smith and Son, Texas, ship Terminal Operations. He served as President and Director of Baton Rouge Marine Contractors and was an officer and director of various companies of the maritime industry including: Riise Shipping Co., Plimsoll Marine and Waterfront Contracting Company.

He was an active member of the Society of Maritime Arbitrators and a lifetime Honorary Director of the New Orleans Board of Trade. Mr. Apgar was President and Director of the New Orleans Board of Trade from 1964-1965 and was instrumental in construction of the award winning Board of Trade Plaza.

His civic Board of Directors positions also included the National Association of Stevedores, Vice President and Director, the New Orleans Traffic & Transportation Bureau, Vice President and Director, International House, the Propeller Club, the International Trade Mart and the New Orleans Better Business Bureau.

He also participated in several social club memberships in New Orleans, New York City and Covington.

He was proud to be honored by the Sons of the American Revolution for his 62 years of membership. He was a former “Reader” in First Church of Christ, Scientist in New Orleans.

Warren was a proud member of the Apgar Family Association. He made donations to the Association every year and he included our Association in his will.

Warren, his wife, and daughter Donna Apgar, have attended past reunions.

Portions of this tribute courtesy of the E.J. Fielding Funeral, New Orleans, LA.

Nominating Report — “Your Family Needs You!”
George Apgar, Jr., Nominations Chair

For 2011-2012, we need more active members to volunteer for several positions as trustees, officers (including President), and committee co-chairs (including newsletter editor). Contribute some of your time and talent in working on our family reunions, history, and genealogies.

Call George @ 732 297-6686 before our next family reunion to volunteer!
Tribute to Reba Bloom (1913-2009)
July 13, 1913 - December 21, 2009; wife of AFA # 9.5.9.2.1.4

Reba Higgins Harden Bloom, 96, of the Basking Ridge section of Bernards Township, died on Monday, December 21, 2009, at Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge.

Born in Kennebunk, Maine, on July 13, 1913, Mrs. Bloom was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and traced her roots to the landing of the Mayflower. She attended Trinity College in Washington, DC, where she received a bachelor of arts degree in English in 1937.

Mrs. Bloom was fluent in German and she took a job as a cryptographer during World War II. After receiving a commendation for her work for the War Department, she left her position when the war ended.

Living in Alexandria, Virginia, she became a children’s librarian in the Northern Virginia school districts until she retired.

It was in Washington where she met her future husband, G. Harvey Bloom of Pennsylvania on a blind date. They were married in a small, private ceremony in Maine on December 23, 1938. The couple lived in Northern Virginia for much of their married life before moving to Clinton in 1976. They were married for 47 years. While in Clinton, the Blooms were frequent volunteers at Hunterdon Medical Center. They were also avid golfers.

Mrs. Bloom was very active in the Apgar Family Association. She was the association’s recording secretary from 1984 through 1986 and she served as association trustee from 1986 through 1990. She was instrumental in compiling information for the association’s historical volumes.

In 1996, Mrs. Bloom moved to Fellowship Village, where she enjoyed many activities and served as librarian for a time. She was also an active member of Liberty Comer Presbyterian Church.

An avid animal rights advocate, she rescued from an animal shelter a tuxedo kitten that she named Domino. Domino was a great source of joy and companionship for her in her later years.

Mrs. Bloom is survived by her nephew, John W. Schuster, Jr., of Watchung and her niece, Betty Kiely of Little Silver, along with their families which include five grandnieces and five grandnephews, and eight great-grandnieces and seven great-grandnephews.

A memorial service was held on January 16 of this year and interment was at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Hunterdon.

Portions of this tribute courtesy of the Bernardsville News.
The arrival of thousands of Germans in New York in 1710 marked the beginning of the largest immigration to that time by any nationality to what is now the United States of America. The story of this earliest migration is told by Philip Otterness in his very well-researched, yet highly readable, book Becoming German (2004). Dr. Otterness expounded on this remarkable tale as the banquet speaker at the Palatines to America national conference in Fishkill, NY on June 18, 2010.

A small book written in 1706 by Joshua Kochertal, a German Reformed minister, circulated throughout the German southwest over the next few years. In 1709 Kochertal returned to his native Rhineland from England and produced a second book describing a journey by several of his congregants to North Carolina via an English ship sponsored by Queen Anne. These accounts made the continent across the Atlantic Ocean seem like an earthly paradise, where land was easily obtained, the climate allowed two harvests per year and residents lived a life of relative ease without any taxation or persecution. Although Kochertal’s books did not specifically promise that the English Queen would happily provide transport of more Germans to settle on English territory in the Americas, it was widely interpreted that such an offer had been made.

In the wake of a brutally cold winter in 1709, these little books triggered an exodus of thousands of peasant would-be settlers down the Rhine River to Holland and thence to England. At first, the English interpreted this flood of people as Protestants fleeing French Catholic oppression in the Palatinate. This identity spawned a great outpouring of English sympathy and charity. A relief program was organized to feed and temporarily house these “poor Palatines” in an area south of London.

As the number of migrants grew to well over 10,000, English generosity wore out. The sheer magnitude of the relief effort was not sustainable, along with the discovery, upon examination, that many of the Germans were not who the English first thought them to be. In fact, about a third of the fugitives were Catholic and a large fraction was from territories outside the Palatinate. (Many had left the hilly region east of the Rhine and north of the Lahn Rivers known as the Westerwald.) Nor was cultural unanimity present. These people were extremely parochial and spoke various, mutually incomprehensible German dialects. The one thing they had in common was poverty. However, they shared a will to better their lives and those of their children.

Eventually, the English blocked new arrivals and sent many of the Germans, including virtually all of the Catholics, back to their homeland. Although some of the remainder were resettled in Ireland and Scotland, a stubborn bunch insisted that the Queen’s “promise” of transportation to America be honored. Viewing this situation as an opportunity for helping his nation while at the same time amassing great wealth, Robert Hunter, the English Governor of the Colony of New York stepped in with an offer. He would provide passage and subsistence of these stolid Germans, which they would repay by the manufacture of naval stores (tar and pitch), which were essential to the English Navy.

Late in the summer of 1710, a fleet of 11 ships carried 3000 people (peonant workers and their families) to the port of New York. The voyage of several months was extremely harsh. At least 450 died en route and many, weakened by the ordeal, succumbed soon after. Their arrival increased the population of the colony by about 50%. Most were settled in camps further up the Hudson River. This location was not prime agricultural land. Further, Hunter forbid the cultivation of farmland, with the objectives of keeping the Germans dependent for most of their food, while freeing them up for the manufacture of naval stores.

Unfortunately, neither the English nor their German charges knew precisely how to make the tar and pitch. The result over the next two years was deforestation of a large area without the completion of any tar or pitch. The poor soils, meager rations and physical effort in a star-crossed project engendered much resentment and episodic passive resistance by the Germans.

In the fall of 1712, Hunter countered by ordering cutoff of food to the Germans. Surprisingly, a majority of the survivors refused to knuckle under, but moved out of their camps on the Hudson and into the wilderness. The rigors of their circumstances had forced these disparate Germans into a common unity. Most of the migrants purchased land from the Native Americans along the Mohawk River. However, smaller groups moved down the Susquehanna River into Pennsylvania and up the Raritan River into north-central New Jersey, where they made similar land purchases. In these new locations, beyond the reach of English rule, they lived for several generations in general harmony with the Native Americans, whose settlements often surrounded them. For the time being, the English grudgingly accepted the loss of their exploiters by considering them buffers against expansion of French territory.

In New Jersey, the Germans not only maintained cordial relations with the indigenous Lenape, but admitted free Africans (former slaves) into their religious congregation. In a few cases, even intermarriage with Blacks and Indians occurred.

Beginning in the late 1720s, a flood of more Germans arrived in America. Many traveled with their families, friends and neighbors. Most landed in Philadelphia, both to avoid the scene of harsh treatment by the government in New York and because toleration of religious differences prevailed. By the 1730s, the German settlements in New Jersey spread into Hunterdon and Morris Counties. The later immigrants tended to settle among those who shared a common origin and were most willing to provide assistance. Many of the Westerwalders, who were known in Germany as “Basaltkopfs” (“rock heads”) due to their rural stubbornness and the abundance of basaltic outcrops, chose similar landscapes with rolling, forested hills. (In fact, Dr. Otterness suggested that Hunterdon Country could have been named “New Nuewield” (Nuewied being the origin of many of the immigrants from the Westerwald).

Unfortunately harmony with the Native Americans was struck a fatal blow with the unimagined massacre of settlers along the Mohawk River during the French and Indian War (1757-1763). These unimaginable horrors resulted in an abrupt shift of German
allegiance back to the English, including the German communities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey (although in the latter case, the Indians had vacated the territory by that time).

Thus, instead of being tolerant of non-Europeans and maintaining their own native European language and customs, the grandchildren of the 1710 immigrants learned the English language and English ways, including tolerance of slavery and, in some cases, acquisition of slaves of their own. One of the latter was Fritz Epgert’s eldest son Herbert, who inherited the original Apgar family homestead south of Cokesbury. In 1800, Herbert referred in his will to the property as “my plantation” and included two slaves as part of his estate.

History resulted in our ancestors taking a dramatic turn for the worse, towards racial bigotry and exploitation. We Americans have still not escaped the legacy of slavery. Thus, despite the great pride which we take in the hardships and struggles of our immigrant forebears, Becoming German provides a very sober and sad reflection of our ancestral past...and a wistful “what if’. Read the book!

Reference:

See also:

What’s New at the State Archives?
by Lynn Conley

What’s new at the New Jersey State Archives? The answer is numerous online searchable databases that are outstanding. Several of the databases are updated weekly so finding genealogical data is getting easier and easier.

The online searchable databases include: Marriage Records, 1665-1799; Index to Marriages, 1848-1878; Death Records, 1878-1885; Proprietary Warrants and Surveys, 1670-1727; Inventories of Damages by the British and Americans in New Jersey, 1776-1782; Supreme Court Case Files, 1704-1844; Legal Name Changes, 1847-1947; Passaic County and Atlantic City Census, 1885; William S. Stryker’s Record of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Civil War, 1861-1865; and Civil War Treasury Vouchers, 1861-1865.

What is so great about the archive databases is that you can research at home for free. Once you have your family data you then have the option to go Trenton and print the records for 50 cents or request them on line with a preprinted order form for $5.00 a record. If you must travel a great distant to reach the New Jersey State Archives their $5.00 a record fee is bargain, realizing that gasoline is almost $3.00 a gallon. The other advantage of having these records online is that they can make your visit to the state archive more productive and rewarding when acquiring needed primary records.

The following are examples of Apgar genealogical data that was found in two of these databases which highlights how easy it is to extend our knowledge of family history, thanks to the hard work of the New Jersey State Archivists.

The following exhibit is an example from the Apgar-Supreme Court Cases, 1704-1844, and Civil War Treasury Vouchers, 1861-1865.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case #</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Case Title</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13735*</td>
<td>Apgar, Joshua (Defendant)</td>
<td>Enoch Green v. Joshua Apgar</td>
<td>Trespass on the Case</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33696</td>
<td>Apgar, Paul B. (Defendant)</td>
<td>Peter P. Schamp v. Paul B. Apgar (et al)</td>
<td>Trespass on the Case</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1840-1841</td>
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<td>29031</td>
<td>Apgard, Charles F. (Defendant)</td>
<td>James Parker v. Charles F. Apgard</td>
<td>Trespass</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1807</td>
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<td>35143</td>
<td>Apgar, William (Witness (Testifying))</td>
<td>Aaron Sutton v. Thomas M. Force</td>
<td>Error on Debt</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1819 - 1822</td>
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<td>35143</td>
<td>Apgar, John (Esquire) (Flemsfelt v. Shyler) (Named in Case)</td>
<td>Aaron Sutton v. Thomas M. Force</td>
<td>Error on Debt</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1819-1822</td>
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<td>35143</td>
<td>Apgar, Conrad (Enjoined in Bond)</td>
<td>Aaron Sutton v. Thomas M. Force</td>
<td>Error on Debt</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1819 - 1822</td>
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<td>35615</td>
<td>Apgar, Conrad (Enjoined in Bond)</td>
<td>Aaron Sutton v. John Huffman (et al)</td>
<td>Appeal on Debt</td>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>1820</td>
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“The Other Germans” Conference
Report by George Apgar, Jr., on the Grantville, PA, Conference (April 2010)

I just got back from attending my second Palatine to America three day Conference held in Grantville, Pa. [Editor’s Note: the theme of this conference was the “other” Germans—those Germans from Central Eastern Europe and those Germans who came to America from Russia.]

Like last year, just under forty attended this Saturday day-long conference.

We elected a new chapter President and moving forward we should invite him to attend a future family reunion. He cannot attend this September for he will be in Germany most of the month. Our new chapter President works as a German consultant and maybe he can help us translate our early family church records found at the Lebanon Reformed Church someday.

Also if we want to spend some genealogical budget monies a Ken McCrea would be willing to research our lines from Puderbach into Philadelphia and Cokesbury.

Talking to the delegates, I found out that someone from the Wagner line wants to be the next Governor of Pennsylvania. Could he be from the same line that our Sophia married?

[Editor’s Note: Mike Apgar reminds us that Maria Sophia Apgar, who married Adam Wagner in the Alexandria church in Mt. Pleasant, Hunterdon County in about 1760, migrated with him and some other German families to Frederick County, MD. Adam Wagner died during the Revolutionary War (quite possibly service-related). Her two sons, William (Wilhelm) and Christopher (Christian) moved into southern PA before the end of the 18th century and had descendants there. Sophia married another Revolutionary War veteran, Christian “Stauffel” Nead, and moved to southern PA around 1800. All of the male descendants of William and Christian Wagner spelled their names “Waggoner” or “Waggoner”. Thus, it’s very unlikely that the current gubernatorial candidate, surnamed “Wagner” is a descendant of Adam Wagner and Maria Sophia Apgar.]

I found a possible Catherine Emery descendant and invited her to our September reunion. While talking with someone else, the person said he went to High School with an Apgar who died suddenly several years ago. Turns out he was speaking of our former family treasurer, Ron Apgar!

I enjoyed hearing Irmgard Hein Ellingson, who currently works as a Lutheran minister in Iowa. Her talk on Germans who immigrated to Western Russia and the Eastern Austro-Hungarian Empire was most informative. After listening to her talk I was glad Fritz and Anna immigrated to Port Philadelphia in 1740!

[Editor’s Note: Mike Apgar reminds us again that more interesting Philhowers overseas myself, if they did come from the Pfalz itself, the village of origin would more probably be Steinwenden, not Steinwerden, which is not in the Pfalz but up North closer to Hamburg. Steinwenden was a real seedbed of American emigrants in the early 18th century.”]

George brought back a banner which displayed three prominent emigrant ships, arriving in the New World in different waves and at different ports but with passengers critical to our genealogy study. They are:

1710 (June 16) — Port New York City
- Ship “James and Elizabeth”
- Passengers Mathes Reinbold and Anna Eva Buckel (Pickel), who emigrated from Durkham in the Palantine.

1740 (September 30) - Port Philadelphia
- Ship “Samuel and Elizabeth”
- Passengers Fritz (Frederich) Ebgert (Apkert) and Anna Eva Schaefer, who emigrated from Puder-bach in the Westerwald in the Palantine.

1748 (September 16th) - Port Philadelphia
- Ship “The Patience”
- Passengers Philip Wolhauer (Philhower) and Anna Maria Mueller, who immigrated from Steinwenden, Hamburg.

George eminently described the early German migration, commencing in 1709, in last year’s newsletter in an article which also reviewed several comprehensive books on the subject.
Fishkill Conference

George Apgar, Jr., led a team of 30 Apgar Family Association travelers to Fishkill, NY, to participate in the 300th anniversary celebration of Palatines in America. Events included presentations by noted author Philip Otterness and other genealogical speakers. A sub-theme of the conference was “Palatines celebrate 1709-1710 immigration twice in New York State - Fishkill in June 2010 and Germantown in October 2010.” The conference was sponsored by “Palatines to America,” which was established in 1975 to facilitate genealogical research. Interested members should check its web site at www.palam.org, where you can read their newsletter, “The Palatine Patter.”

The Pennsylvania chapter of Palatines to America will hold a Fall conference on September 25 with presentations by Paul Peucker about using the resources of the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, PA. The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg- Hershey near Grantville. Call George at (732) 297-6686 for more information.

George is planning to create a pamphlet to describe the Apgar’s Palatine heritage. He expects to publish it in late 2010 or early 2011 and is looking for volunteers.

Who Were the Palatines?

Palatine migrations into Hunterdon County were de-scribed by Stephanie Stevens of Whitehouse Station in a Readington News article in May 2010. Stephanie is Hunterdon County Historian and has given George permission to reprint all or part of her story. An extract is included here; perhaps in future news-letters, we can publish the full article.

Stephanie answers her own question: Who were the Palatines? She tells us that during the 1500s, Europe saw the rise of Protestantism. England, with her vast sea-going fleets was forging ahead with world-wide colonialism.

Life in Europe at this time was tumultuous. By the early 1600s (1618-1648), the Thirty Years War was in full force as a religious war between Catholics and Protestants. The Palatine area of Germany saw fierce fighting, ravaging, and disease. The Protestant escape route was down the Rhine River to sanctuary with the Dutch (Netherlands) and then to refugee tent-camps near London where Queen Anne had promised to accept all Protestants for immigration status. When a boat became available, Palatines left England for the colonies.
Historical Happenings

by Judy Beck, Apgar Family Association Historian

Send updates to judithb@embarqmail.com or call (908) 823-0413

Deaths:
APGAR, Agnes (unknown line, w/o Ward Apgar), 80, died 5/18/10. Res: Islip, NY.
APGAR, Agnes A. (w/o 6.2.3.1.9.4.), 96, died 5/26/10. Res: Mendham, NJ.
APGAR, Doris B. (unknown line, w/o Dale Apgar), 89, died 7/3/09. Res: Middletown, OH.
APGAR, George W. (3.5.5.2.2.1.1.), 91, died 10/2/09. Res: South Hadley, MA.
APGAR, Gerald L. (unknown line), 82, died 1/31/10. Res: Ocala, FL.
APGAR, Gregory J. Sr. (1.2.11.5.3.3.1.5.), 62, died 11/23/09. Res: Phillipsburg, NJ.
APGAR, Harold L. “Spike” (2.3.1.11.6.1.), 89, died 7/4/09. Res: Tewksbury Twp, NJ.
APGAR, Helen Bernice Zywicki (w/o 1.2.11.8.1.3.1.), 91, died 6/3/10. Res: South Plainfield, NJ.
APGAR, James Robert (unknown line), 54, died 8/2/09. Res: Houston, TX.
APGAR, Karen L. (w/o 1.2.11.5.3.3.1.4.), 64, died 12/28/09. Res: Phillipsburg, NJ.
APGAR, Kenneth L. “Blackie” (2.3.1.2.1.2.3.), 82, died 5/1/10. Res: High Bridge, NJ.
APGAR, Mary E. (unknown line, w/o Harry R.), 81, died 12/1/09. Res: Vestal, NY.
APGAR, Mildred Estelle (unknown line), 90, died 11/27/09. Res: Kansas City, KS.
APGAR, Murriel Jo (unknown line, w/o Charles E. Apgar), 94, died 5/21/10. Res: Fenton, MO.
APGAR, Paul H. (3.7.7.2.1.7.3.), 82, died 12/23/09. Res: York, ME.
APGAR, Robert Glenn (6.10.3.3.4.3.2.), 80, died 1/14/10. Res: Hampton, NJ.
APGAR, Ruby Castner (unknown line, w/o Harry Apgar), 102, died 8/12/09. Res: Washington, NJ.
APGAR, Warren C. “Dick” (9.5.5.6.5.2.), 96, died 9/22/09. Res: New Orleans, LA.
APGAR, William F. (7.9.2.3.4.4A), 95, died 11/12/09. Res: Lebanon Twp, NJ.
APKER, Elizabeth M. “Libby” (w/o 10.1.5.4.2.1.), 83, died 6/22/09. Res: Vestal, NY.
APKER, Frederick A. (10.1.5.4.2.2.1.), 61, died 7/26/09. Res: Dryden, NY.
BLOOM, Reba Higgins Harden (w/o 9.5.9.2.1.4.), 96, died 12/21/09. Res: Basking Ridge, NJ.
BUNN, Norma Melson (w/o 6.11.11.3.4.2.), died 6/4/09. Res: Franklin, WI.
CARVATT, Beryl Sharrer (w/o 3.11.1.3.1.5.), 93, died 5/4/10. Res: Califon, NJ.

COOPER, Harry J. (h/o I.8.8.5.2.2.), 90, died 4/13/10. Res: Titusville, NJ.
DILTS, Darmon (9.5.9.9.2.I.), 97, died 1/7/10. Res: Bethlehem, PA.
FARLEY, Earl B. Jr. (6.4.2.1.3.1.L), 75, died 1/4/10. Res: Lopatcong Twp, NJ.
FARLEY, Miriam Towle (w/o 1.2.3.3.2.3.5.1.), 83, died 11/15/09. Res: Lebanon Twp, NJ.
FREIBERGS, Marilyn Jean Philhower (3.5.3.2.6.I.I.), 78, died 5/7/10. Res: Califon, NJ.
HANKINSON, Donald L. “Hank” (h/o 3.5.3.1.4.4.1.), 92, died 10/27/09. Res: High Bridge, NJ.
HOFFMAN, Peter A. (h/o I.2.2.4.8.1.2.1.), 87, died 8/2/09. Res: Hertford, NC.
LINDABURY, Frederick L. Sr. (6.4.3.4.7.4.I.), 92, died 3/3/10. Res: Findlay, OH.
MURRAY, Richard H. (1.5.3.1.1.1.1.3.), 78, died 5/11/09. Res: Glassboro, NJ.
SNYDER, Madolyn Jean (6.7.1.3.1.1. / 3.7.5.2.2.3.1.), 83, died 3/29/09. Res: Dunnellon, FL.
STIGER, Ruth Philhower (6.10.2.2.2.2.2.), died 6/15/09. Res: Huntsville, AL.
VANDOREN, Benjamin (h/o 4.1.3.1.2.4. -divorced), 94, died 4/3/10. Res: North Branch, NJ.
WILSON, Sally Ann Apgar (2.3.1.7.3.1.2.), 66, died 9/12/09. Res: Lebanon Boro, NJ.
YOUNG, Wilma Seals (w/o 2.3.5.1.5.4.L), 86, died 7/10/09. Res: Union Twp, NJ.

Births:
DUNCAN, John McCabe III, born 5/31/09 to Mark and Stacey Apgar (2.3.1.8.1.1.2.1.) Duncan.

There are no marriages or other noteworthy events (landmark anniversaries, etc.) to report.

Notes: The following abbreviations are used in reporting historical happenings.

h/o - husband of
w/o - wife of

Notices of births, marriages, deaths and noteworthy events come from you! Hearing from “family” is the best way for the Association to have accurate, current genealogy. When you become aware of a happening, please inform Judy, our genealogist, or a trustee.
Apgar Family Association Officers and Trustees

Current Officers & Trustees (years as trustee to end of current term)

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president@apgarfamily.com
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technology@apgarfamily.com
(2006-2010)

Jeanette Lesinski (Recording Secretary)
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Bridgewater, NJ 08807
(732) 469-1246
trustee.jeanette@apgarfamily.com
(2007-2011)

Helen Apgar (Historian Emerita)

Former Trustees (years as trustee)

Helen Apgar (1986-1987)
Howard Apgar (1999-2004)
Laurence D. Apgar (1999)

Mary Apgar (1988-1997)
Richard Apgar (1986-1990)
Dolorita Cronk (2006-2007)
Lois Dege (2001-2004)
Roger Flarney (2003-2009)
Wendy Rumhill (2006-2008)
John W. Shuster, Jr. (1990-1996)
Al Tiger (1986-1997)

Deceased Trustees (years of life)

Barbara Apgar (1929-2001)
Dorothy Apgar (1923-2005)
George M. Apgar, Sr. (1921-2004)
Henry E. Apgar, Sr. (1907-1998)
Robert O. Apgar (1919-1995)
Ronald F. Apgar (1940-1998)
Phyllis Apgar (1928-2009)
Ruth Apgar (1915-2008)
Reba Bloom (1913-2009)

Plan Ahead for Next Year...
Apgar Family Association 37th Annual Reunion
September 17, 2011
APGAR FAMILY ASSOCIATION
35th ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2009

The Annual Family Reunion began with a Coffee Hour and the usual morning Show and Tell time as well as our Genealogy Assistance.

At 11:30 am, speaker David Kemp (see photo) presented a 45 minute talk on Mapping Fritz Epgert’s Descendants. He presented his research on a map of New Germantown which showed land purchases made by Fritz’s children and grandchildren during the 18th and early 19th centuries. The annual group photo followed and lunch was served at 12:45 pm.

Following Lunch, at 2:15 pm, Lynn Conley presented a tribute to Dr. Virginia Apgar, marking the 100th anniversary of her birth on June 7, 1909 in Westfield, NJ. Mike Apgar gave a genealogy update which included present day DNA research.

The Official Apgar Business meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm in the Grange Hall, Stanton, New Jersey. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted by the trustees.

After introductory remarks by Lynn Conley, our President, the following business was transacted.

Old Business

Auctioning of the set of Wm. Rogers silverware donated by Arthur Koenig and Jean Apgar Koenig. The bidding began with a $50.00 minimum bid and after a lively and competitive auction the silverware was sold for $105.00. The silverware is now a family heirloom for Cheryl Apgar and her family. Mr. and Mrs. Koenig were very pleased that their heirloom silver now had a new home and a gift of $105.00 was given to the Apgar Family Association.

New Business

Awards

The following individuals were presented with prizes in the categories indicated.

• Senior male: Bill Roberts, AL - 88 years
• Senior female: Jean Reinhart & Irene Ellis, 84 years, both from NJ
• Longest married: The Suttons, MD - 62 years
• Traveled farthest: Marybelle Hoffman – Colorado
• Youngest child present: Patrick Michael Lance, PA
• Largest family group present: Howard Apgar
• Married the Most Times: Mike Apgar - 3 times
• Afghan: won by Judy Fury

Webmaster — Mary Carpenter announced that the last two parts of Red Books will be finished this Fall; the Newsletter Archive should be available on our web-site by the end of the year.

Vice President — George Apgar discussed the Palatine trip.

Membership - Debbie Apgar reported that she mailed out approximately 480 membership cards and as of our 2009 reunion we had 196 members for 2009. She also mentioned that it would save our Association some mailing costs in the 2010 membership drive if you paid your membership for 2010 today and then she would not have to mail your membership form.

Treasurer—Dave Rich provided a printed financial statement for those in attendance and reading from the report stated the AFA checking balance, as of August 31, 2009, was $2,548.66, the CD value was $7,028.48, for a total of $9,577.14.

President — Lynn Conley thanked everyone for coming to the reunion and making time in their busy schedules for the Apgar Family. She also stated that she hoped to see everyone again next year. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Lesinski, Recording Secretary

Help plan our 37th Annual Family Reunion

You are invited to attend a workshop to begin planning the September 2011 reunion. This meeting will be held at the Hunterdon County Library on Route 12, just west of Flemington, on November 13, 2010, from 1:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon. Please call George Apgar, Jr., (732) 297-6686 or just show up if you would like to participate.
2009 Reunion Photos

Youngest Child Present: Patrick Michael Lance, with proud parents and Lynn Conley

Celebration Cake: Honoring Dr. Virginia Apgar’s 100th Birthday

Senior Females: Jean Reinhart and Irene Ellis (84 years) with Lynn and George Jr.

Senior Male Bill Roberts, (88 years) with Lynn Conley

Afghan Winner: Judy Fury, with George Jr.

Mary Apgar and Son, George Jr.

Largest Family Group, Howard Apgar (13 members)

Longest Married, the Suttons (62 years) from Maryland

Reunion Photos on pages 15 and 16 by Jim Pickell
More 2009 Reunion Photos

Traveled Farthest: Marybelle Hoffman, Colorado

Howard and Althea Apgar

Hank Apgar (Newsletter Editor) and Sister, Virginia Henry

Mary Carpenter (Webmaster)

Lynn Conley and Family

Bill Fury, Judy Fury, Jack Shuster

George Apgar, Jr., Vice President

Tom and Jeanette Lesinski (Recording Secretary)

Bill Roberts, Dottie Pickell, Frances Apgar

Tracey Apgar, Gail Apgar