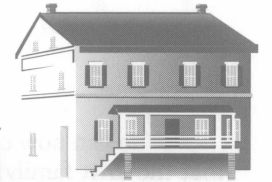


TRITT



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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

DRITTMANSION



ARCHEOLOGICAL REVIEW OF THE

Mansion in the mist

*Since 1998,
the Dritt
Mansion remains
in the midst
of archeological*

excavations and research, while restoration of the three- bay, two and a half story, bluestone mansion continues.

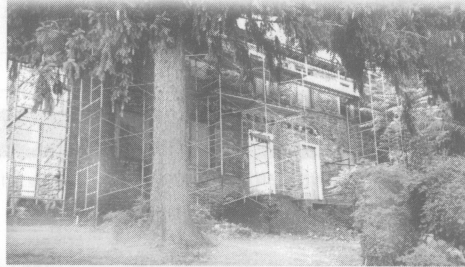




ARCHAEOLOGICAL REVIEW OF THE DRITTMANSION

We can now conclude that the Tritt family residence is related to one of the most significant archeological sites in Pennsylvania. I can tell you that thousands of historic artifacts have been collected from inside the house, outside in the summer kitchen excavation and by miscellaneous surface collections from all over the site. All of these artifacts are in the process of being cleaned and cataloged. Quantity, quality and variety of artifacts are the key to classifying this site as being rare indeed!

John and Kathryn Zimmerman, owners of the mansion, Mr. Greg Lang, superintendent for Kinsley Construction Co., in charge of restoring the house, and myself, President of Down To Earth Archaeology Co., continue to uncover and collect valuable information through archival research and analysis. Our goal is to discover who built this magnificent stone mansion and when it was constructed. The Zimmermans have made arrangements to use the technology of Dendrochronology. Dendrochronology is a



Mansion in the mist

sequential record of climatic changes found in trees by examination of the concentric circles of wood. A new circle, or layer, is added each year. The original study of these rings by an astronomer at the University of Arizona, who wanted to document the effects of sunspot activities on weather, led to the development of a master chart of tree rings. This chart can be used to match the tree rings visible in building materials (beams, etc.) from archeological sites to rings on the chart, thus establishing absolute dates from the building. We are excited

about the building chronology that Dendrochronology will reveal!

Through careful archaeology and research, evidence of a massive stone kitchen that once stood attached to the mansion on the west side was located by the original excavator in 1989, Dr. Barry C. Kent. I spent the summer excavating the summer kitchen with the help of many volunteers from Boy Scouts of America Troop No. 27, Conejohela Chapter 28 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, the Archeological Society of the Northern Chesapeake,

Millersville University students, Chuck Witmer, Bob Wiles, Eric Miller and a special asset to the site, Greg Lang. A stone foundation measuring 18'2" E- W and 20'2" N- S with walls averaging 22" thick was uncovered. A large (beehive) oven was exposed with a generous hearth, measuring 9'2" E- W and 33'9" N- S, with handmade bricks laid sideways, rather than flat, and in a herringbone pattern. The kitchen floor was also constructed with handmade bricks laid in the herringbone pattern, but the bricks were laid flat. We wish to thank all our volunteers for their help and dedication to Pennsylvania's past.

We look forward to many more discoveries at and surrounding this pristine site. Evidence of prehistoric cultures dating to 5000 B.C. has been collected from the site. Historically, there is research evidence of the Blue Rock Ferry, Dritt Ferry not to mention the Susquehanna Canal, just waiting for us to uncover. Old wells, outbuildings and privies are known to reveal interesting stories about folks who lived and died at Pleasant Gardens, originally documented in Baltimore County, Maryland, Great Britain.

BY JAN KLINEDINST Site Archaeologist/President, Down To Earth Archaeology — Wrightsville, Pennsylvania

A Message FROM THE EDITOR

September 11, 2001 (9-1-1)

will certainly be a date that will be forever etched on the minds of people everywhere. While the acts of terrorism upon New York City, Washington, D.C. and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, may have taken away buildings made of steel and taken the lives of many innocent victims, it has not taken away our

spirit, our pride, and our symbol of freedom that stands so proud and majestic in the harbor of New York City, the very city where the terrorists tried to destroy our spirit, our pride, our freedom. The Statue of Liberty stands tall and still holds the flame of freedom high in the air, proclaiming to all people, Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free (Emma Lazarus, The New Colossus, 1883). May Liberty continue to stand holding her torch of freedom for all who gaze upon her. May God bless America — still the land of the free and the home of the brave — and all people everywhere who cherish freedom.

In light of this "date which will live in infamy", if

we may borrow the words of President Franklin D. Roosevelt (8 December 1941), we wish to extend our sympathy to any who may have lost loved ones in these acts of terrorism and also our gratitude and sincere thanks to those in Europe who have sent personal messages of condolence to those involved in Tritt Family Research and to people worldwide who have extended their sympathies and support to America in general. These acts of kindness go a long way in assuring us that we are not in this fight against terrorism alone, but that others who yearn for freedom stand with us. May freedom forever reign and prevail against those who envy our freedom and would try to destroy and take it from us!

SWITZERLAND, OUR HOMELAND

by Connie and Leonard Tritt, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Switzerland, Our Homeland

We were fortunate to take our first trip to Switzerland in 1997 when Tritt Family Research went on a tour of our homeland. When the trip was again offered for 2001, we decided to go once more to visit our Cousins still living there.

When the tour was cancelled due to inadequate participation, we were very disappointed, but decided to make the trip on our own. Our June 13 to July 5 trip was the time of our lives.

Upon our arrival in Zurich early Thursday morning, June 14, we walked this beautiful city and took a relaxing boat ride on the Zurichsee. The following day we drove to the Rheinfalls, which was one of the highlights of the trip. We walked down a stairway along the rushing water cascading over the falls. The Rheinfalls, near Schaffhausen may be likened to Niagara Falls in America and Canada, but are not as large. However, when we visited, there was just as much water. After visiting here, we were on the road to Griessen, Germany, where we met Graham Tritt at his home in this small German village. The following day we were joined in Griessen by Leonard's cousin, Robyn Wampler, and her family. Graham took us to a street festival in Grafenhausen, Germany. Saturday evening, Eugene Tritt of Germany, and his family joined us for a wonderful evening of good conversation, wine and Tritt cheese.

Sunday afternoon, we left Germany and headed south to the mountains we longed to see. We drove over the Klausenpass where it was raining in the valley and snowing on top of the mountain, and we had to stop the car to wait for cows idling by so slowly in the middle of the road. At one point we even stopped to pet two of the cows



Susanna Tritten at their home near Signau in the Emmental. What a beautiful place is the Emmental. Their daughter and son-in-law, Ursula and Heinz, hosted us to a delicious meal at their home one Sunday afternoon.

who didn't seem to mind the attention. After crossing this pass and the following day, we had sunshine for the remainder of our three week stay in Switzerland. We visited the Aare Gorge which was a fantastic walk. We visited Lucerne which is a city we love more and more each time we are there. Observed the lion monument which was awe inspiring. The chapel bridge is also a must while in this old city. Also went up Mt. Pilatus where we were treated with some fantastic vistas of the valley below. The cable car ride down the mountain was a thrill. We also recommend the Swiss folk show performed daily at the top.

We spent a week in Lenk where it was good to see Walter, Margrit and Pascal Tritten. Margrit and Walter had arranged a lovely reception and dinner for us in Lenk on Saturday evening which was attended by others from America that had gone ahead to Switzerland on their own and other family living in Switzerland. Highlights of our stay in Lenk were the outdoor church service where Margrit was a participant in the choir and walks on Betelberg and Leiterli. We love the peace and quiet of this mountaintop haven.

We also spent time in Brienz going up the Briener Rothornbahn which was a beautiful hour long train ride to the top.

The view at the top was nothing short of spectacular, too. Spent four days with Walter and

We also enjoyed a trip to Grindelwald and up the cable cars to Mannlichen where we were greeted with the most beautiful view of the mountain peaks across the valley and to Jungfrau. We then walked for an hour and a half across the mountaintop to the train station where we boarded a train to go back down the valley to Grindelwald. This was one of our favorite hikes of the trip. Walter and Susanna also took us on a boat trip on the Thunersee from Thun to Interlaken and we returned via train to Thun.

We did more sightseeing than is described here; but, after spending three wonderful weeks in Switzerland, we reluctantly packed all the souvenirs we purchased into our luggage and boarded the plane for home. Before we left Switzerland, we were already planning our next trip, which we will do as soon as possible.

We hope our readers do not lament hearing of Switzerland again. We are sure all Tritt/Dritt/Tritten/Trait/Treat, etc., family members would also be enchanted by this beautiful land. Many, if not most of us, are of Swiss ancestry. To return to your ancestral hometown, especially when it is in such perfect surroundings, is overwhelming. The fine people of our extended family still living there and the natural beauty of the land make us proud to call Switzerland our homeland.

We believe many of you would feel similarly if you visit there.

A Family Affair

It is always wonderful to return to Switzerland. In so many ways, it feels like "home". It was for that reason that we decided that this was the year to take our two daughters for their first visit. Dave and I had been there three times before and had so many experiences to share with them.

Both girls (Chrissy, age 14, and Rachel, age 10) proved to be excellent travelers. They put up with long airport waits, rainy weather, unfamiliar food and language, for the greater reward of spectacular scenery, new experiences and getting to know family members. For me, many repeated experiences seemed fresh when seen through



Front: Chrissy and Rachel Wampler
Back: Robyn Tritt Wampler, Margrit Tritten, Ann and Bob Spann

able to get together with them for some of our activities.

The best thing of all on this trip, in my opinion, was the opportunity for our girls to meet our Swiss family members. We are always so taken by the hospitality of the Swiss Tritts/Trittens. Margrit and Walter in Lenk outdid themselves, as usual. The girls were especially taken with Graham and enjoyed seeing him on several

their eyes.

Going on our own this time, instead of with the Tritt tour group, worked to our advantage in that we were able to set our own schedules each day. We were also glad that some other family members made the trip, and we were

occasions.

Switzerland is a beautiful, welcoming place, well worth visiting. I would encourage all of you to plan a trip to the homeland to experience the beauty of the country and the hospitality of the



Rachel, Graham and Chrissy on Leiterli in Lenk

Going to Switzerland was the best thing I ever did! The first night we slept at Graham Tritt's apartments in Griessen, Germany, close to the



Seeing SWITZERLAND With Graham

by Chrissy Wampler, age 14 Gardners, Pennsylvania

Zurich airport. His two sons also came for the night.

For supper, Graham took us to a carnival at a little town. I had a German sausage that was like a hotdog. We heard a band play. Graham showed us how to do a great game with coins.

Later that night, we played cards with some of Graham's relatives kids in the playroom on the third floor of his apartments. We got to sleep on the first floor. Cousins Leonard and Connie got to sleep on the second floor. The next morning, we all had breakfast on the second floor — I loved those waffles Graham got!

Later in our trip, Graham joined us in Lenk. When we went up on the mountain, he laid on

the ground with Rachel and me to look at the clouds. One looked like a giant smoking a pipe. After the outdoor church service, Graham played with Rachel and me at the lake. He showed us how to kick jump with his crutches onto a hammock. He played with us on the merry-go-round. He showed Rachel some math games.

On our way back to Zurich, we visited Graham in Bern. He works in a building called Titanic II — it looks like a ship! The front leans forward like the bow of a ship. He showed Mom how he does computer work on the Internet. We ate lunch with him at Titanic II's cafeteria.

I had a fun time with Graham. We talked a lot and had fun. I want to go back to Switzerland and visit Graham again!

MODES OF TRANSPORTATION IN SWITZERLAND

During our trip to Switzerland in June 2001, I was reminded again of the easy availability of multiple forms of transportation. Experiencing many of these added to the interest and enjoyment of the trip.

Of course, we arrived in Switzerland by jet airplane. Although the quarters were cramped in the tourist class, Swissair provided timely service and good food! The airport in Zurich provided free luggage carts, and with a little help from the information desk for directions, we were able to walk directly to the rental car garage. After the paperwork was complete, we loaded the car and drove directly onto an interstate-style freeway. Driving in Switzerland was very much like driving in the United States. Perhaps the roads were a little more narrow at spots!

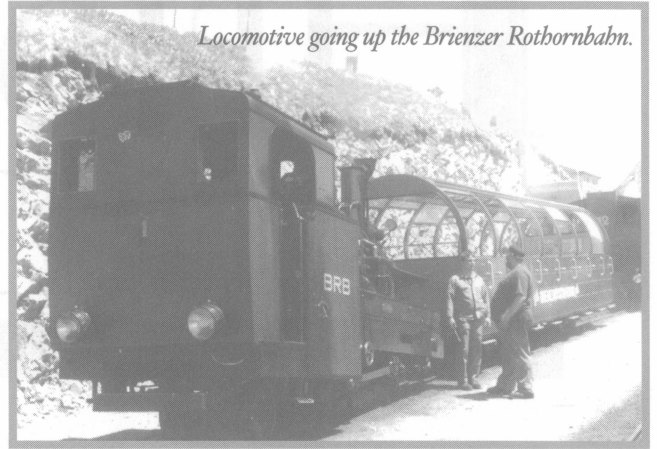
Two days after our arrival, we experienced our next mode of transportation as we ascended Mount Pilatus near Luzern. We parked in their lot and rode aerial gondola (four passengers seated) followed by aerial cable car (multiple passengers standing) to the summit and back again. As an alternative, we could have taken the bus from Luzern to the base station. Also, had we had more time, we could have taken the Golden Roundtrip: Bus from the base station to the train station or pier in Luzern, train or boat to Alpnachstad at the base on the other side of the mountain, cog railway to the summit, then the cable car and gondola to the base station.

We did ride the train two days later as we approached Zermatt, the town at the

base of the Matterhorn to which no cars or buses may drive. We parked in the large lot at the Tasch train station, paid Sfr5 for a luggage cart, loaded it (to the hilt!), bought our roundtrip tickets, rolled the cart onto the special train car where we could tie the cart and then sit for the three mile trip to Zermatt, then rolled it off to the waiting line of electric golfcart-style taxis for our ride to the hotel. Swiss trains are always on time!

While in Zermatt, we rode our first cog railway to Gornergrat, a high point between the Matterhorn and Monte Rosa with spectacular views. I think the views are even better while engaging in one of the most popular forms of transportation in Switzerland — hiking! We started partway down from Gornergrat and hoofed it back to Zermatt, following the well-marked trails which one can find all over the country. Similarly, the following day, after gondola and cable car rides to Klein Matterhorn, we hiked partway down. I guess I was hiking the family to death — they wanted to get back on the gondola for the final leg!

Our favorite hike was several days later with a large Tritt/Tritten family group up, the Simme River to Siebenbrunnen — the

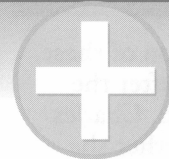
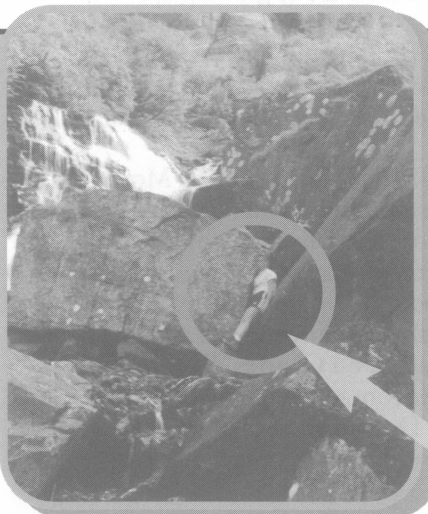


Locomotive going up the Brienzer Rothornbahn.

seven springs. One can ride a bus from Lenk to the starting point at the hotel at the falls, but we traveled by car. The next day an even larger family contingent took gondolas and cable cars to Leiterli, a beautiful alpine area above Lenk. Can you believe I was the only one who wanted to hike down!

Our last cog railway journey was with Leonard and Connie Tritt up from Brienz to the Rothorn. I really enjoyed that trip because most of the locomotives there are the old steam variety. Next time I want to hike down!

As you can see, there are lots of ways to travel and see the sights in Switzerland. My dream is to some day travel the country only by public transportation — mostly by train and perhaps by postal buses that serve the smaller towns. I hope to keep hiking, as well!



MY FIRST TRIP TO SWITZERLAND

by Rachel Wampler, age 10 Gardners, Pennsylvania

Switzerland is really cool. Look at all the things to do. In Switzerland the best thing to do is hike. My dad made us hike until our legs almost fell off!

Siebenbrunnen [in Lenk] is the place I liked best. At Siebenbrunnen, you can climb the rocks where the falls are. You can also eat meringue and cream.

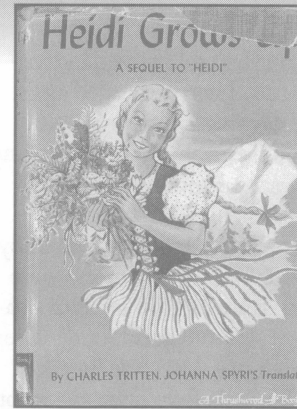
In Zermatt you can't drive, so you

walk everywhere. The good thing about not being able to drive is you can look at menus so you know where to eat! But for a place where you can't drive there sure are lots of electric trucks and taxis! In Zermatt we hiked a lot near the Matterhorn.

This was the best trip ever! Everyone should plan to take a trip to Switzerland.

Rachel hiking at her favorite place, Siebenbrunnen.

HEIDI AND THE TRITTEN



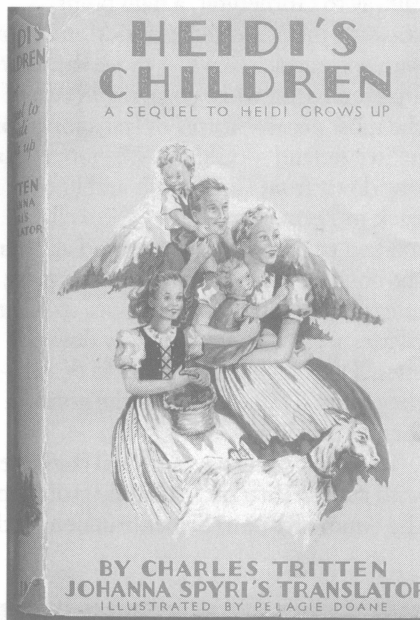
C O N N E C T I O N

It is likely that you know the much beloved children's story of Heidi, first written—in German in 1880 by Johanna Spyri. This story of a young Swiss girl, her family and friends from the mountains of Graubunden, has captivated the imagination of generations of readers, movie-goers and television audiences worldwide. Johanna Spyri's best seller has been translated into fifty languages and has sold nearly 50 million copies. In 1937, Shirley Temple portrayed Heidi. But did you know about Charles Tritten, her Swiss-French translator and author of books about Heidi following the death of Johanna Spyri in 1901?

All that is known about Charles Tritten is that he lived in Lausanne, Switzerland, and probably died in 1942 or 1943. He was Chief of the library of the shop Grands Magasins Innovations SA, and also translated Pinocchio

Although Johanna Spyri wrote thirty other stories about Swiss children and millions pleaded with her during her lifetime to tell what became of the little Alpine girl, no sequel ever appeared to *Heidi*. After many years, the character of Heidi came into the Public domain. With a readership eager to know more about Heidi, this

prompted her translator, Charles Tritten, to write two sequels, *Heidi Grows Up* (1938) and *Heidi's Children* (1939).



Following publication of these books, some 37 years after the death of Johanna Spyri, Charles Tritten was asked whether she would approve of the liberty he had taken in these later books about the meaning of living "happily ever after". Charles Tritten responded: "I know Madame Spyri as well as one human, even of a different race, could know another. Every book she wrote was a labor of love for the children she knew

so well. Each was written in memory of that little 'lost one' who used to ask her to tell him what lay beyond 'forever after'.

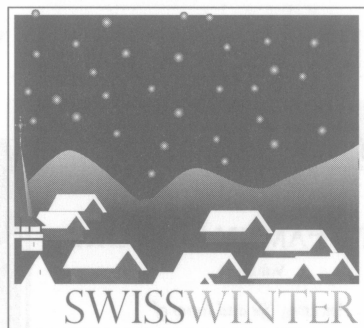
One commentary written in 1938 put the contribution of Charles Tritten this way: The children of today, and their parents as well, owe a great debt of gratitude to Charles Tritten, not merely because he has rolled back that curtain and fulfilled the promise of the last chapter (of Heidi), but for the way in which he has done it, for the way he has made us feel once again the warm sun and the smell of the spring flowers high up on the mountain meadows, for his simplicity and understanding of young children embarked upon the breathless adventure of growing up.

For more information on Johanna Spyri and the story of Heidi, you can consult the following: www.heidi.ch.

[EDITORS' NOTE: More information about Charles Tritten is being sought by authors who wrote an article about him in a centennial publication. If anyone has any information on Charles Tritten, you can contact Donald G. Tritt at 81 Donald Ross Drive, Granville, Ohio 43023-9794.]

SWITZERLAND IN WINTER

by Randy Tritt,
Blacksburg, Virginia



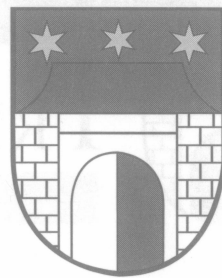
Over the Christmas holiday this past year, I was fortunate enough to participate in a study abroad program through my university, Virginia Tech. Originally, the trip was to be going to Egypt to explore the pyramids and temples along the Nile River. However, the university canceled this trip three weeks prior to departure due to tensions in the Middle East. This left us all with non-refundable plane tickets and a very short amount of time to reschedule plans for an impromptu trip through Europe. I flew into Frankfurt, Germany and took a train to Zurich, Switzerland to meet a friend, Peter Gimbel. Peter and I traveled through Zurich and Lucerne before taking an overnight train to Florence, Italy. From Florence, home of the best food in the world, by the way, we traveled to Rome. After days in Rome, we journeyed back to Switzerland.

Peter and I took an incredible train ride from Montreaux to Spiez on a snowy Sunday morning. Walter and Susan Tritten picked us up at the bahnhof in Spiez, and played generous hosts to us for the next days. The next day, after quite a large breakfast, they drove us from their home in Heimburg into Lenk, where we met Margrit and Walter Tritten. After a short conversation at their garage, Margrit led us on a walk through Lenk to the ski lift area, and we rode halfway up the mountain for a small snack. Of course, after a walk, and Margrit then led us along a cross-country skiing trail to Lenkersee and back into town. From Lenk, we rode into St. Stephan to

visit the church and see the famous Tritten bell. After a soothing glass of Swiss hot wine (and a nap in the car), we rode back to Heimburg for a very large dinner.

The next day was the only clear day we had in Switzerland, and we took full advantage! Walter, Susan, Peter, and I were joined by Margrit and her son Pascal as we ascended up to the Schilthorn. What a beautiful place! I don't remember ever being so cold, but we didn't care. The snow-covered Alps were spread out in every direction. It was a very enjoyable day for all, and we enjoyed a (rather expensive) meal in the revolving restaurant. After a short stop in Thun for another scenic coffee, we regretfully said our goodbyes to Margrit, and Pascal showed Peter and I around Thun for a short while. We then returned to Walter and Susan's for another large dinner.

Unfortunately, the next day was time to leave. I had to find my way back to Frankfurt for my flight home, and Peter to Zurich. We both enjoyed our stay with Walter and Susan, as it was nice to have hosts who could take us around areas of the country that we wouldn't see from a train. It was also very good to not have to fight to find a hotel room as soon as we arrived in a new town. Peter and I are forever grateful to Walter, Susan, Margrit and Pascal for being our tour guides through their beautiful country. I only hope to return someday when I may stay longer. And in the summertime, when the sun might shine for more than one day! But my first trip to Europe was a very memorable experience, thanks to the generosity of our Swiss cousins.



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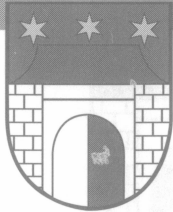
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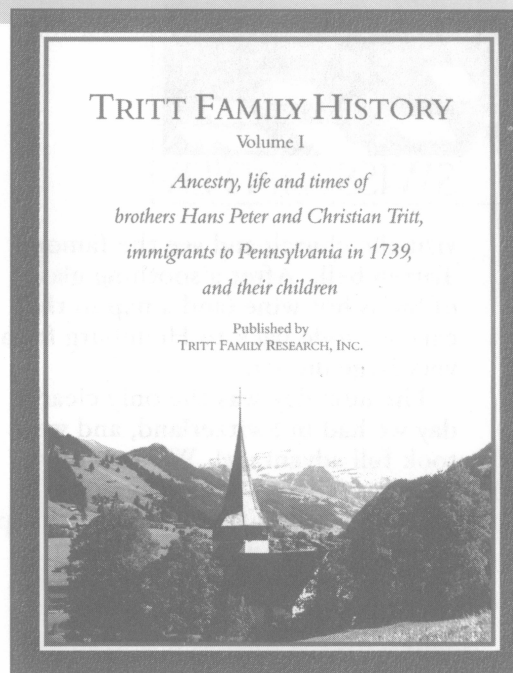
TRITT FAMILY HISTORY - VOLUME I

The following review was written by Raymond S. Martin, McLean Virginia, and Darwin L. Martin, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and appears in *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, Vol. 24, #4, October 2001, and is used here by permission from David J. Rempel Smucker, Editor:

Although its contents are not directly relevant to family historians of Mennonites in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, this top-quality history demonstrates how to organize, research, and present the story of a Pennsylvania German family with Swiss roots.

Interested Tritt volunteers formed Tritt Family Research, Inc. in 1977, later obtaining official recognition as a non-profit corporation. They held business meetings and assigned volunteers to tasks such as building a database of Tritt descendants, publishing a newsletter, organizing reunions in the U.S. and Europe, researching early Tritt pioneers in North America, raising funds to commission professional research on Tritt ancestors, planning publication of this book, and creating an archive at the Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Ten volunteer researchers investigated the early Tritts and systematically documented the Tritt genealogy, building on a century of sporadic work by various Tritts. Nine editors and authors put together this book, drawing on the input of 34 persons acknowledged for important contributions. Other individuals or couples (54) donated funds toward the publication.

Researchers have identified the Obersimmental Valley, in southern Canton Bern, Switzerland, as the place of origin of the Tritt family. The name is spelled variously as Tritt, Tritten, Tritter, and Treat among the Swiss records, and standardized to Tritt (sometimes Dritt) in colonial Pennsylvania. A map on the front



inside cover detailing a five-mile stretch of the Simme River draws attention to five early ancestral villages where Tritt family records have been found. Among the earliest is a 1590 record from the village of Lenk, along the upper reaches of the Simme River, which shows a family member fined 10 Pfennig for permitting dancing at his home on Christmas Eve. However, an even earlier record, dated March 8, 1485, declares Petrus Tritten of the Simmental as a witness on a legal document in Sion, in the house of the ruling governor of the Canton of Valais (p. xviii). This proves that Tritt families have lived in the Obersimmental at least since the fifteenth century, and that they had maintained contact across the Alps by way of Rawyl Pass to Canton Valais to the south. The Tritt/Tritten family name is likely derived from the German noun "Tritt" which meant "the one living at the path that has steps."

In the 1690s the Tritts became part of the general exodus out of Switzerland into lands to the north. Friedrich Tritten left the Obersimmental and settled in Deidendorf, Alsace, forty miles north-

west of Strasbourg. His grandsons, Hans Peter Tritt, Jr., and Christian, left from there for Rotterdam, Holland, where they embarked on the long trans-Atlantic voyage to Pennsylvania, arriving in 1739.

Researcher Harold M. Hegyessy ponders the reasons for emigration. Were the Tritts Anabaptists driven out of Switzerland by religious persecution? This is plausible since Hans Peter Tritt was christened as an adult in the Diedendorf Reformed Church in 1710, indicating that he may never have been christened as a youth. One quibble of these reviewers came with calling Anabaptists a "dissident group of the Zwingli Early Swiss Reformed Church" (p. xx) when in fact the Swiss

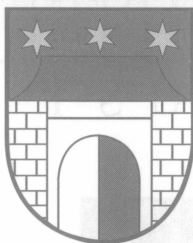
Anabaptists separated from Zwingli's followers. In addition, economics certainly played a role in migrations. The cycle of poverty ground tightly around the rural population as small tracts of land could no longer be subdivided to satisfy all heirs and the few other occupations were rigidly controlled by powerful trade guilds. Wealthy merchants and bureaucrats were actively buying up rural lands and displacing the inhabitants from their livelihoods.

Upon arrival in Pennsylvania Hans Peter Tritt settled near Reamstown, Lancaster County, and associated with the Muddy Creek Reformed Church. Around 1750, he left Lancaster County and moved to Windsor Township, York County, where he acquired over 200 acres and died in 1768. Some of his descendants later settled in Cumberland County, near Newville. Several researchers detail the stories of Hans Peter Tritt's children, providing photographs of homesteads and illustrated reproductions of various historical documents, including survey maps, deeds, and wills. The eldest son, Johan Jacob Dritt (1746-1817), was a prosperous citizen of York County.

He acquired large tracts of land in Lancaster County as well, and attempted to establish a town on the east bank of the Susquehanna River near what is now the west end of Blue Rock Road in Manor Township. On Saturday, March 14, 1807, 300 lots were advertised for the newly formed town of Woodstock, which would be sold by lottery drawing. One lot was reserved for a market and four others for churches of the Mennonite, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Moravian confessions (p. 40). In addition, Dritt also agreed to pay \$800 to the person drawing lot #16, which also planned to include a bridge across the Susquehanna. The lottery produced so few respondents that the idea was dropped until 1811 when Dritt laid out 122 lots for the town of Washington (now Washington Boro) near the same site as Woodstock. This time all the lots were drawn and the new town Washington was birthed. John Jacob Dritt drowned on the evening of December 19, 1817, while attempting to cross the swollen Susquehanna from Washington.

The book also includes a section of Tritt family legends, an etymology, a description of early life in the Obersimmental, and a history of Diedendorf. The back cover details a section of the Susquehanna Valley in Pennsylvania from Shippensburg to Gap showing fifteen colonial locations pertinent to Tritt family history. Currently the family is found in France, Germany, Uruguay, and New Zealand, in addition to the major groups in the United States, and the descendants remaining in the original communities of the Obersimmental in Switzerland.

These reviewers have the impression of systematic, thorough, and well-documented research. The enthusiasts in Tritt Family Research, Inc. are already planning four future volumes to further share their family history. With their inspiring example combined with ample research tools, now including e-mail and the Internet, Mennonite researchers should rise to the challenge of understanding our own history as a people and sharing our heritage with our children and others.



©Tritt Family Research, Inc. 1998

PLANS FOR TRITT FAMILY HISTORY-VOLUME II ARE COMPLETED

At the August 2001 meeting of Tritt Family Research, plans were completed to write Volume II of the Tritt Family History. Volume II will trace the descendants to modern times of the immigrant brothers Hans Peter Tritt (1715 -1768) and Christian Tritt/Treat (1719 -1801). Richard L. Miller, of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, will be Editor-in-Chief with contributing authors, as follows: Barbara Holloman, Silver Spring, Maryland; Jeanette C. Miller, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania; Ernest J. Trait, Long Beach, California; Judy and David Tritt, Canton, Ohio; Richard L. Tritt, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania; and Mercedes and Perry Woolsey, Alpine, Utah.

Volume II will be divided into major sections representing the descendants of the children and grandchildren of the two immigrants. Tentatively, these sections are:

1. Jacob Tritt/Dritt (1746 -1817)
2. Paul Tritt (1752 -1820)
3. Peter Tritt (1755 -1839)
4. Jacob Tritt (1780 -1856)
5. Peter Tritt (1782 -1860)
6. Joseph Tritt (1786 -1873)
7. George Tritt (1791 -1882)
8. Catherine Tritt Feighner (1794 -1871)
9. Christian Tritt (1796 -1871)
10. John Tritt (1801 -1880)
11. Anna Tritt Weber (1798 -1837)
12. Samuel Tritt (1803 -1873)
13. William K. Tritt (1807 -1851)
14. Joshua/Joseph Tritt (b. 1762)
15. Henry Treat (1744 -1793)

It was decided to use the computer software Family Tree Maker version 9.0 with the contributing authors entering and cross checking the data for their branch of the Tritt family over this coming year. Special thanks goes to Judy and David Tritt, of Canton, Ohio who did the typing and organization of the initial data.

We need your help! The authors are seeking help in compiling the data for the various family lines listed above. We are also seeking photographs of Tritt family groups or individuals to include in the new volume. If anyone is interested in helping compile data or has any photographs that they would like to share with Tritt Family Research, please contact Richard L. Miller, 510 Schoolhouse Lane, Shippensburg, PA 17257 (phone: 717 -530 -1639; e-mail: rlmiller@pa.net) or Richard L. Tritt, 33 Silver Maple Drive, Boiling Springs, PA 17007 (phone: 717 -258 -6181; e-mail: rntritt@pa.net).

If you have any new information on Tritt family members (births, deaths, marriages, etc.), please contact any of the contributing authors. The authors are also extremely interested in significant true stories about any of the Tritt ancestors. We feel that it is very important to share and to preserve in writing those interesting stories that helped shape who we are today.

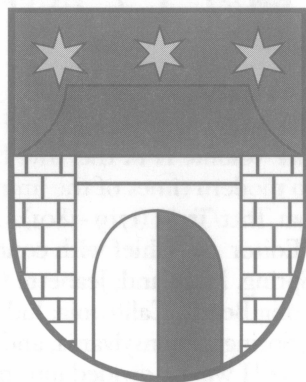
THE TRAIT/TRATE/TRITT REUNION

O F 1 9 A U G U S T 2 0 0 1

It was the 50th reunion for this organization. August 19 was an anniversary to be proud of, marking a continuous annual gathering of members of a line of descendants from one immigrant ancestor who came to the colonies before the American revolution. My father, Samuel (E) Trait, was one of the founding members of this reunion effort. I just wish he could be here now to see what we now know about our ancestors and where they originated.

It was not a large and pretentious celebration. In fact, it wasn't much different from many of the other gatherings that have been attended at the Harmony Church Social Hall just off Route 10, the old Morgantown to Reading road. The members were short in number due to some sudden deaths occurring this winter. This, along with other activities, limited attendance to about forty members, half the normal gathering. Sandy Naiva, our newly elected president, was absent, grieving over the sudden demise of her husband, Bill. We all wish her comfort in this time of need. The other passing was that of Anna Jennie Byler, mother of Charles Edward Byler, in January. It was a beautiful day with temperatures about right for sitting out under the trees for conversation, a light breeze adding to the comfort. Lunch inside at 1:00 P.M., was the usual pot-luck with many tasty dishes and deserts to sample. The table always has an abundance of food deliciously home cooked. In honor of the occasion, a cake was present with all the family name spellings beautifully done in red and blue icing for the "BIG 50th".

There was something different for this occasion, however. A



singing group of seniors called "The Happy-Go-Lucky Chorus" sang for us a bunch of S.O.S. — 'Silly Old Songs' as they called them. A delightful and fun loving group, they soon had the rest of us singing and laughing along with them as they went through their program.

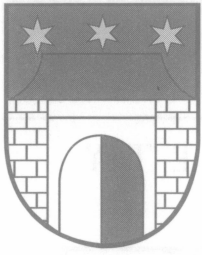
There were games for the children and the child in the adult — though, fortunately, the adult child didn't have to move too much. There was also a table laden with pictures laid out for review. There are always some images that are not known and someone in attendance just may have an answer. A short business meeting led by Vice President Gerald Trate out under the trees set off the conversations again. There we remembered those not present or no longer with us. The remaining officers for the new year are Louise Strunk, Secretary, and Catherine Steffy, Treasurer. Hard working Lisa Johnson will again keep the children occupied with activities next year.

C. Raymond Treat of the San Diego, California, area, finally made a visit last year with brother Walter along. After many years of contributions they were able to come and enjoy the festivities. They both thoroughly enjoyed themselves and, I believe, all relished in their enthusiasm. Fully intending to attend again this year, things were going

well until just two weeks before their planned August 15 departure when Raymond hurt his lower back pinching a nerve. It affected his left leg and severely restricted his activity thus canceling a much-desired trip. His situation has improved but not quickly enough to come east. They were sorely missed by the folks present who wanted to talk with them. Better luck next year. Charles Raymond and Walter Frain Treat are sons of Samuel Treat (1866), a son of Philip (1830). Samuel went to Arizona in the 1890's to seek his fortune and stayed there.

Three new family groups were recognized with a marriage last year and new children born. These were added to our records and a position located on the family tree sheet laid out on the table. The descendant chart shows the direct line from immigrant Christian TRITT (1719) to Philip TREAT (1830), the common great-grandfather of most of those present. As has been explained before, the immigrant Christian (1719) and brother Hans Peter Tritt both arrived in Philadelphia in 1739 aboard the ship 'Robert and Alice'. After about ten years in the Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, area, Hans Peter went to York County, Pennsylvania, to live. That's when these branches seem to have separated in spelling as that line kept Tritt and Dritt for the most part while Christian's descendants evolved to Treat. But we are still connected and should work to develop our family trees for the upcoming publication of Volume II of the Tritt Family History.

It would be wonderful if sometime soon we could get a combined reunion planned and get to know others in the family tree.



TREASURER'S REPORT

September 1, 2000 to August 15, 21

Balance September 1, 2	\$ 2, 532.21-
Income All Sources	2, 645.45-
Total Expenses	(2, 844.5)-
Balance August 15, 21	\$ 2, 333.61-

Rosemary Tritt Smith	Kingsport, TN
Catherine Steffy (Trate Reunion)	Mohnton, PA
Donald G. Tritt	Granville, OH
Hollis C. Tritt	Spokane, WA
Leonard and Connie Tritt	Carlisle, PA
Marg Tritt	Burnaby, B. C., Canada
Oliver D. and Olive Tritt	Humboldt, TN
Robert L. Tritt	Kansas City, MO
Samuel and Josephine Tritt	Delray Beach, FL
Tim Tritt	Massillon, OH
W. Wayne and Esther Tritt	Carlisle, PA
William M. and June A. Tritt	Punta Gorda, FL
Alfred and Janis Tritten	Eugene, OR

This report covers the time period which reflects the expenses of publishing issue #2 of our newsletter, maintaining our website, and the continued sales of the genealogy book Family History Volume I. As of this date, of the 1000, books published, 372 books have been sold. The loan for publishing the books has been completely paid.

The following is a listing of individuals who made donations to Tritt Family Research since the publication of our last newsletter:

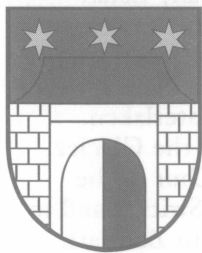
Elaine Tritt Collins	Omro, WI
Gladys V. Cramer	Shippensburg, PA
Margaret T. Ellington	Bells, TN
Janis Habermehl	Columbia, IL
Richard L. and Jeanette C. Miller	Shippensburg, PA

These contributors donated to the general fund, donated toward paying for the newsletter, and/or gave to the website fund. THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,
Richard L. Miller
Treasurer

A QUEST TO FIND FAMILY

by Jack Tritten and Maryanna Robinson, Utica, New York



In spite of the fact that we were very disappointed that the family trip was canceled, we decided to plan our own trip.

Through the Internet on a site called "Our Switzerland" we found a wonderful travel agent who was a specialist in Switzerland and whose office was just twenty minutes from where we were living last winter in South Carolina. He helped us plan our entire trip of two weeks and met with us many times telling us about Switzerland and things to look for, where to go and what to do. It was a wonderful help. Meeting Connie and

Leonard Tritt and Robyn Wampler in May in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, also helped a great deal in increasing our knowledge and building our enthusiasm for the June trip and in anticipating another meeting in Lenk a month and a half later.

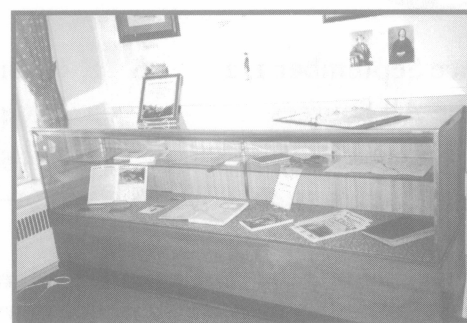
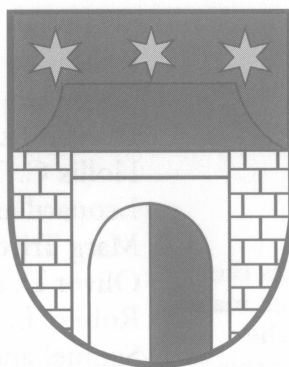
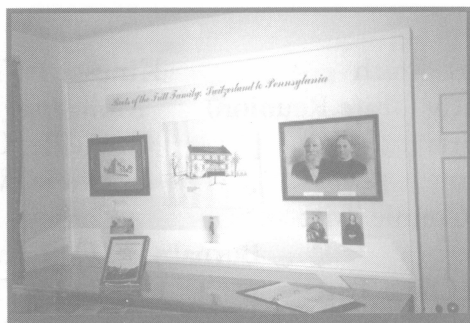
We flew from Newark to Zurich, transferred to the train and went right through to Luzern, as did our luggage. We tried to see the whole country and do nearly everything in limited time so probably moved around too much; but, other than lugging our bags up and down stairs in the train stations which was a bit hard, everything worked out very well. We had chosen to do all our travel by train and found it quite satisfactory. The trains are clean, quiet

and on time and we quickly learned how to read the departure schedules. We stayed a few nights each in Luzern, Chur, Zermatt, Interlaken, Bern and then a bit longer in Lenk. We went up Mt. Pilatus, Mt. Arosa, the Gornagrat and the Schilthorn, eating lunch in the revolving restaurant on top, finding snow, wind and clouds on nearly every one. It was interesting and beautiful in spite of some limited views with the clouds. We were very impressed with the cog railways and cable cars, tunnels through massive rock mountains and bridges over large expanses. During the second week, the weather warmed up and was warm and sunny. One day in Lenk we went up Betelberg to Leiterli in the cable cars and it was beautiful

continued on page 12.

TRITT FAMILY EXHIBIT

S H I P P E N S B U R G H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y



The Shippensburg Historical Society sponsored an exhibit called "Roots of the Tritt Family: Switzerland to Pennsylvania" at the Stewart House located at 52 West King Street, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. The exhibit was on display from September 15, 2000, through January 15, 2001. One of the goals of the Society is to promote genealogical research on local area families and doing an exhibit on the Tritt family helped in achieving that goal.

The display showed the Swiss roots

of the Tritts as well as the early days in Lancaster, York and Cumberland Counties, Pennsylvania. On top of the showcase was not only a copy of the new genealogy book *Tritt Family History Volume I*, but a copy of an older Tritt genealogy so that people who came to see the display could "thumb thru" the pages and see where they might fit into the family. Several visitors who had seen the Tritt exhibit have come to our attention as Tritt descendants!

Special thanks go to Meriem Kaluger, President of the Society, who organized and set up the display with assistance from her husband, George, who scanned photographs and made the display banner. Also, thanks goes to W. Wayne Tritt of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, for providing the Tritt Family Tree display and other items of interest from Tritt Family Research and to Richard L. Tritt and the Cumberland County Historical Society for lending many books and photographs.

A QUEST TO FIND FAMILY

from page 11

and the views were spectacular.

Margrit Tritten was a joy to meet and so helpful. Jack was interested in searching for records of family and Margrit made appointments for us to meet with the keepers of records, first in Zweissimmen, then in Lenk. Jack's father, Johannes Gottlieb Tritten, was born in Lenk in 1881 but, to our surprise and pleasure, we also found out his grandfather, Johannes Tritten, was born in Lenk in 1848 and his grandmother, Anna Ritter, was born in Berne, and they were married in Lenk. He traced back five generations of Trittens who were born in Lenk. We have copies of the original records

but, since they are in German we will not try to give you all the names and dates, though Margrit did some translating for us before we came home. Jack's father was the fourth child in his family and the last born in Switzerland. There were five more born in Utica, New York, and we would love to hear from any of their descendants.

Our general impression of Switzerland was very positive. The food was delicious and always presented so artistically and waiters and waitresses were very helpful and gracious. The people in general were friendly. We really enjoyed the

smaller towns, especially Lenk. Some of the highlights of our trip were a train ride from Interlaken to Brienz and a boat ride back across the Brienzler See to Interlaken. Another day we took the Glacier Express Train from Chur in the east, across much of Switzerland to Brig, and then down to Zermatt. We saw many different sights and beautiful areas of the country. There were flowers everywhere, green mountainsides dotted with chalets and snowcapped mountains in the background. It is a beautiful country and we are very glad we made the trip.

IN MEMORIAM

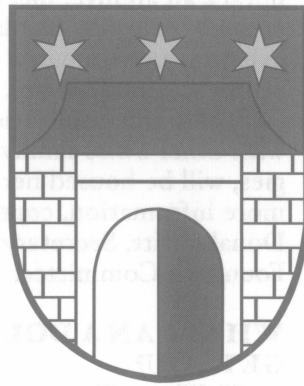


Walter and Ernest Tritten

ERNEST THEODOR TRITTEN

by Donald G. Tritt Granville, Ohio

We are saddened to report that Ernest Theodor Tritten of Lenk, Switzerland, passed away April 16, 2001. Participants in previous reunion trips remember, with much appreciation, the warm hospitality Ernest and his older brother, Walter, extended to us. (Walter passed away May 26, 1990.) Beginning in the 1980's, we recall, with real pleasure, meeting the two patriarchs of the Tritten family in their second floor apartment near the Standesamt office. We would all be graciously welcome, offered a seat in their living room and introductions given. Ernest would tell stories and repeatedly offer us tea and cookies. We all felt from both Ernest and Walter a special sense of welcome and that we all had come back home to the source of a very special family. We went away renewed in our commitment to tell the story of the Tritten/Tritt family.



Bill and Sandy Naiva at the 2000 National Tritt Reunion

BILL NAIVA

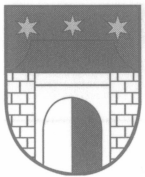
by Leonard Tritt, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

The extended Tritt/Tritten/Dritt/Treat family lost one of its members on February 13, 2001, with the sudden passing of William "Bill" Naiva. Born February 17, 1939, in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Bill graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1963 and served in the Navy during the Viet Nam War. His civilian career was with New York State Electric and Gas, from which he was retired.

In 1963, Bill married one of "our family", Miss Sandra Treat, from near Reading, Pennsylvania. They have three children, Scott, Matthew and Susan, as well as three grandchildren. A brother also survives Bill.

Those of us on the 1997 Tritt tour of Switzerland got to know Bill well. He was a vibrant, fun-loving man, very outgoing and with a good sense of humor. And those attending the 2000 National Tritt Reunion in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, will remember Bill as the not-so-dainty Swiss milkmaid wearing coke-bottle-lens glasses who succeeded in milking the contrary cow that Hans Peter and Christian Tritt could not milk. But, Bill also had a very serious side, deeply devoted to Sandy, their children and grandchildren, and God. All who knew Bill will remember him as a good man.

We extend our collective condolences to Sandy and her family. They can be proud of Bill as their respective husband and father.



ON THE RESEARCH TRAIL

by Dave and Judy Tritt
Canton, Ohio

Recent health problems have limited our travel research but we have kept busy with our local genealogy groups. We have used Tritt Family History, Volume I as our aid while speaking at various chapter meetings. Dave has also honored ancestor, Peter Tritt (1755-1839), by becoming a member of the Canton, Ohio, Chapter of The Sons of the American Revolution through his direct linkage to Peter. Our daughter, Edie Tritt Richeson, has joined the Canton, Ohio Chapter of The Daughters of the American Revolution through this same ancestor. If interested in becoming a member of either of these fine organizations you might contact either of their national headquarters or visit their web sites. We enjoy sharing with others also interested in furthering the research of family history.

SWISS CENTER OF NORTH AMERICA

by Donald G. Tritt
Granville, Ohio

Plans are progressing well for the creation of the Swiss Center of North America to be located in New Glarus, Wisconsin. This center will be a state-of-the-art facility telling the story of the

Swiss in America. It will have a library, an archive, meeting and conference space, displays and exhibits, a genealogical research center and much more.

Certainly, our publications along with other Swiss family genealogies, will be housed here. For more information, contact Donald Tritt, Secretary of the Founder's Committee.

WHAT CAN A DOLLAR GET YOU?

by W. Wayne Tritt
Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Those of us who are responsible for keeping our cars in good operating condition or for keeping our pantry filled with our household needs, are rather knowledgeable of what a dollar fifty will purchase today. If you watch the sales ads, you can usually find a good grade of motor oil for \$1.49 per quart. Or at the supermarket, one can get a four roll package of toilet tissue for \$1.50. Or perhaps four 15 ounce cans of mixed vegetables can be had for this amount.

And the list goes on. But, may I suggest for one dollar fifty you could also get a copy of the annual newsletter of Tritt Family Research. Assuming that all who receive a copy of the newsletter were to contribute one dollar fifty (\$1.50), then the paper would be self-supporting and thus free up more funding for preparing for Volume II of Tritt Family History. Funding

for printing and mailing the newsletter is an ongoing problem. You can help alleviate some of the burden by sending us a donation today. Please don't put it off. **DO IT NOW!** Thank you.

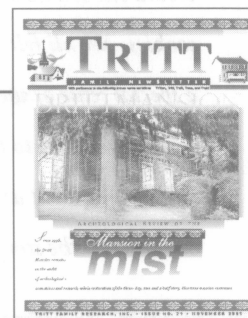
MAILING LIST FOR TRITTS

by Graham Tritt
Berne, Switzerland

Graham Tritt, from New Zealand and now living in Berne, Switzerland, has started an email mailing list for Tritts all around the world. You are invited to join it by sending an email to tritts-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. There are currently 70 members from four countries, and approximately one mail a week on topics such as visits to Switzerland, Tritt reunions and cultural differences and similarities. Mails are moderated by Graham to make sure that it is cleanly edited without junk. You can unsubscribe at any time. The mailing list is based on Yahoo Groups, which places a small ad at the end of each mail to pay for the service. If you have a Yahoo ID, you can also access a file store which contains photos and other facilities. You are welcome to subscribe. Browse awhile and then answer any posting by simply using Reply. Mail Graham at: grahamtritt@hotmail.com if you have questions.

SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN BAKER

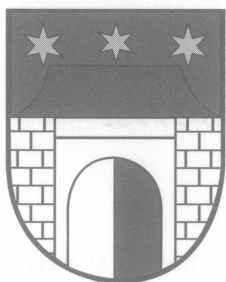
We often receive comments about the quality of the Tritt Family Newsletter. These come not only from our own readers, but also from others in the wider community of family genealogical organizations. Our publication, it seems, has become a standard of excellence. In addition to the authors of its content, this distinction has come about, in large measure, because of the artistic and computer talents of John Baker, son-in-law of Richard and Nancy Tritt of Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania. John, we all are most appreciative to you for your generous contribution of talent and time.



SPECIAL HOLIDAY 2001 OFFER:

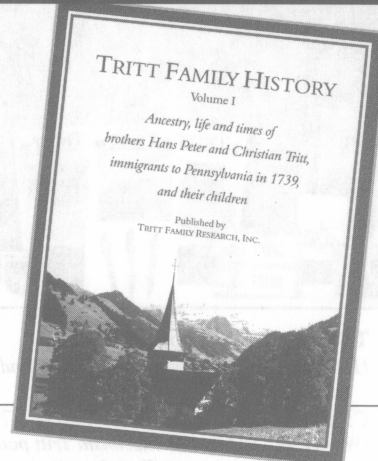
2 Tritt Family History - Volume I Books for \$80.00

TRITT FAMILY HISTORY — Volume I



*Ancestry, Life and Times of
Brothers Hans Peter and
Christian Tritt, Immigrants to
Pennsylvania in 1739, and Their
Children*

Published by Tritt Family Research, Inc.



Tritt Family Research proudly announced in 1999 publication of the first documented account of Tritt Family History. The Tritt story in America began with the arrival of two immigrant brothers, Hans Peter Tritt and his younger brother, Christian, in 1739. This volume traces their origin from 1562 in Canton Bern, Switzerland, through the birth of their grandchildren in America. Sections of the history dealt with:

- ▶ Preface and Preliminary Pages
- ▶ SECTION I — The Family Story
- ▶ SECTION II — Family Records
- ▶ SECTION III — Related Topics
- ▶ SECTION IV — Tritt Family Research
- ▶ Index

"Although its contents are not directly relevant to family historians of Mennonites in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, this top-quality history demonstrates how to organize, research, and present the story of a Pennsylvania German family with Swiss roots."

Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage, October 2001

The book consists of:

- ▶ 8½ x 11, 191 pages, full color hard bound cover
- ▶ Over 150 photos and illustrations plus charts, maps, inventories, wills, family records

2 Tritt Family History - Volume I Books for \$80.00 - regular price \$45.00 per volume

Questions?

Email Connie J. Tritt, Secretary, at ctritt@earthlink.net
OR call Richard L. Miller, Treasurer, at 717-530-1639.

Make your check or money order payable to:
Tritt Family Research

Fill out the form below and mail to:

Tritt Family Research
c/o Richard L. Miller
510 Schoolhouse Lane
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1020

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

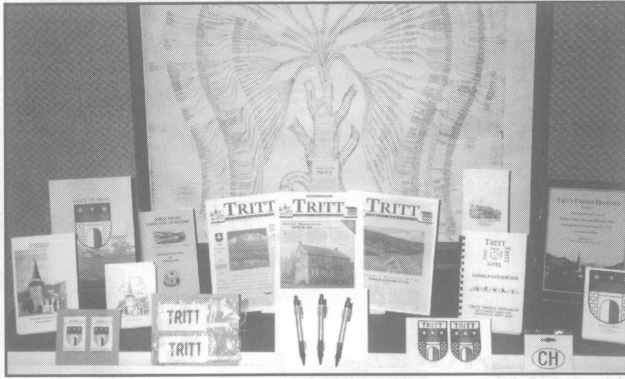
Number of copies ordered _____

Price \$ _____

Shipping & Handling (\$4.00 plus \$2.00 for each additional book ordered) .. \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

TRITT FAMILY RESEARCH, INC.



The following items are available for purchase from TFR. Please complete the following form and mail to: W. Wayne Tritt, 24 Old Stone House Road-North, Carlisle, PA 17013-9773.

- Tritt Family Cookbook – \$7.50
(100 pages of Tritt family recipes, new and old, from all over the U.S.)
- Civil War Diary of William Tritt – \$7.50
(Written in 1864 by the Wisconsin Tritt patriarch while confined in Danville and Andersonville prisons)
- Annual Newsletters – Issues 1-21
*(specify issue numbers) – \$1.50 each-
(If you're new to TFR, catch up on the issues you missed!)*
- 1906 Tritt Family Tree – \$10.00
(An amazing original size copy of the descendants of the 1739 immigrant, Hans Peter Tritt)
- The Church of St. Stephan – \$3.00
(A translation of the 18 page German illustrated booklet published by our ancestral church in Switzerland)
- Pack of 10 note cards with the Church of St. Stephan – \$5.00
(Our own original drawing)
- Pack of 10 postcards with Tritten coat-of-arms – \$3.00
- 8 x 10 color print of the Tritten coat-of-arms suitable for framing – \$4.00
- Shoulder patch with Tritten coat-of-arms – \$5.00
- Pens with Tritt Family Research and the web site imprint – \$2.00
- Luggage tags with Tritt on one side – \$2.00
- Tritt Family History - Vol. I – \$45.00
(Our European origins through Hans Peter Tritts arrival at Philadelphia)
- Map of local interest to Tritts – \$1.50

CHANGE OF INFORMATION NOTICE

Please detach and mail to: Connie J. Tritt, 7 Ironstone Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013-9705
or E-mail changes to **Connie at ctritt@earthlink.net**

Your Full Name _____

Current Address _____

If moving, anticipated new address _____

Please check here if you would like to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Do you know of a family member who does not receive the Newsletter but would like to. If so, please send his/her

Name _____

Address _____

Other Changes:

Births:

Marriages:

Deaths:

Other:

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