

KILTS FAMILY NEWSLETTER

2009

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Dear Kilts Descendants and Friends:

The 2009 Kilts Family Reunion will be held at Glimmerglass State Park, Cooperstown, NY on Sunday, August 16. This is on Otsego Lake (see attached map for directions). This site was well liked last year. There is swimming, hiking, fishing, and a playground for the children. The cost of entry to the state park is \$7 per car load. Their website is www.nysparks.state.ny.us for more information. Please bring a favorite dish to pass. There are grills to barbecue hotdogs & hamburgers. We will have a silent auction of donated items. Activities are planned for young and old.

Last year's reunion was attended by about 30 descendants. There were 3 descendants of Peter Kilts, 4 descendants of Nicholas Kilts, and 23 descendants of Philip Kilts. The oldest male was Ed Konchar and oldest female was Dorothy Konchar. The youngest male was Jonathan Kilts and the youngest female was Kierra VanNorstand. The longest married was Dorothy & Ed Konchar – 50 years. The farthest traveled were Steven & Brandy Hane from Maryland. Our treasurer reported \$1455.39 in our bank account. We paid \$60 for the pavilion reservation and \$42 on newsletter postage. We have cut our newsletter expense due to using e-mail. It was decided to purchase a new coffeepot for the reunion. Many inquiries have been made about reprints of the Kilts genealogy. We have permission from Dr. David Kendall Martin to reprint his [Eighteenth Century Kilts Family of the Mohawk Valley](#). Jody Rothmeyer volunteered to make some copies of the book on CD. It was decided to also have 20 copies printed and to also contact Herman Witthoft to see if copies could be made of his book. Election of officers was held. Nancy Cioch – president, Sarah Israel – vice president, Barbetta Rothmeyer – secretary, Dorothy Konchar – treasurer, Joe Stevens – registrar, Herman Witthoft – genealogist, Jody Rothmeyer – hospitality, and Nancy Cioch – editor of newsletter with Joyce Berry. We had our

“pass the hat” for donations and collected \$69.

New births were noted as Benjamin Israel May 2008, grandson of Sarah.

New marriages were Debbie & Brian Evans 8/31/08– daughter and son-in-law of Nancy.

We are very sorry to hear of the passing of Ed Konchar, February 23, 2009. We were also informed of the passing of Mary (Mrs. Alfred) Kilts May 2, 2008 age 101. Lucille Gosch passed away July 25, 2008. Roxie (Kilts) Kelly passed away in Casper, WY September 19, 2006, Ruth Kilts passed away in Topeka, KS on February 8, 2008, and Carol Pennington passed away in Wichita, KS in June 2008. Our condolences go out to all family members who have lost a loved one recently. Please send us dates of deaths, births, and marriages so that our records are up to date.

I received an email from Sharon Kilts on our Kansas Kilts relatives. They will be holding a reunion this year Sunday, June 21, 2009. It will be held in Sedgwick County Park, 6501 West 21st Street North, Wichita, KS. “We hope everyone can arrive by noon, with dinner starting at 1:00pm. The Reunion committee pays for the shelter rental, furnishes the meat, coffee, tea, ice and all the paper products. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish of their favorite vegetable, salad, bread or dessert. We will hold an auction of hand crafted items donated by those attending of which the proceeds go towards the next reunion to be held sometime in June 2011. There will be a moonwalk for the children to play on and door prizes. All Kilts cousins are invited. More information contact Sharon at phone 316-776-2606, cell: 316-648-5536, email Kilts1@msn.com.”

I received a letter from the Town of Germantown historian, Marguerite Riter. She wanted to inform the Kilts Family of the 300th anniversary of the Palatines coming to America in 1710. They are planning a celebration in Germantown on October 2 & 3, 2010. They will have Hank Jones and Rev. Jay Webber as speakers. The Palatines

settled in East Camp & West Camp on the Hudson River in 1710 on 6000 acres of the Robert Livingston Manor. 3000 Palatines came to the New World to work on the tar project for Queen Ann of England.

There will also be a National Conference in June 2010 set up by the New York Chapter of Palatines to America in Newberg, NY. This is open to the public and will have speakers on the immigration and settlement of those early Palatines who came to America in 1710 and also speakers on more recent German speaking immigrants who came to America. For more information on this, you may contact Sarah Israel, sarahtisrael@hotmail.com.

Sarah had the 20 copies printed of Dr. Martin's [Eighteenth Century Kilts Family of the Mohawk Valley](#). The cost of this book is \$20 and they will be available at the Reunion. Our newsletter will be posted at <http://nancyscorner.net> also.

Please send us your updates – weddings, deaths, births, new e-mail or regular mail addresses. Hope to see you on the 16th of August.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cioch, President

ncioch@yahoo.com

Sarah Israel, Vice President

sarahtisrael@hotmail.com

Barbette Rothmeyer, Secretary

barbettef@yahoo.com

Dorothy Konchar, Treasurer – 1685

Co. Hwy 35. Maryland, NY 12116

OTHER RELATED EVENTS:

June 28 Sunday 11 AM Independence Day Service - Ft Herkimer Church & Herkimer Home State Historic Site picnic www.littlefallsny.com/HerkimerHome

July 4 12 -5 PM Strawberry Festival at Fort Klock w/ Tryon County Militia .

July 19, Nellis Reunion will be held at the Nellis Tavern

Sunday, August 2 Snell-Zimmerman-Timmerman Family Reunion at the Snells Bush Church. **Saturday evening August 1** will be our annual ice cream social.

August 1 & 2 – Fort Plain Museum – “Holding Down the Fort”

August 6 Memorial of the 1777 Battle of Oriskany at Oriskany Historic Site.

August 3 -6 – Canal Days, Little Falls, NY

August 16, Sunday 1-4 PM - General Herkimer Home State Historic Site program commemorating the Life and Death of Nicholas Herkimer

August 16 Kilts Family reunion – Glimmerglass State Park, Cooperstown, NY
September 13 & 14 will be the annual craft fair at Fort Klock.

September 26 & 27 – “Interrupted Harvest” – Fort Klock – re-enactors

October 4 Herkimer Homestead Day: An 18th Century Autumn Celebration at Herkimer Home State Historic Site 12-5

December 6 will be St. Nicholas Day at Fort Klock. <http://fortklock.org>

Directions

to Glimmerglass State Park:

From the west: Thruway (I-90) east to exit 30 at Herkimer. Route 28 south to Richfield Springs. Route 20 east to East Springfield. County Route 31 south to park entrance

From the east: Thruway (I-90) west to exit 25A to I-88. One exit on I-88 to Duaneburg-Cooperstown exit. Route 20 west to East Springfield, County Rte. 31 south to park entrance.

Johannes Kilts

Johannes Kilts was the son of Johann Conrad Kilts and Susanna Margaretha Moor Kilts. He was born about 1727 in Henau, Germany and immigrated to America with his parents and three siblings. The family was living in Stone Arabia by 1739. Johannes Kilts was on a Stone Arabia Reformed Church register of members on June 16, 1745. Johannes was not found on a list of militiamen who served in the French & Indian War. However, his brothers: Peter, Adam, and Phillip were listed. He was a naturalized citizen March 20, 1762 along with his brothers: Peter, Adam, & Nicholas.

Johannes was married twice. He married his first wife, Catharina, about 1750. Their children were John Kilts born 1751, Suzanna Margaretha Kilts born 1754, and Maria Elizabeth Kilts born 1756. Also in 1756, Johannes Kilts was born. It is believed that Catharina had died and Johannes was an illegitimate son by Anna Marie Seeber. Anna Marie later married Johannes Pickle. Johannes was adopted by Johannes Pickle and went by the name of Johannes Pickle, Jr. after 1770. The church records show Johannes Kilts was the natural son of Johannes Kilts and adopted son of Johannes Pickle. Clues in the will of Johannes Pickle Sr. mentions the child, Johannes and in the will of Anna Marie Pickle, her “natural” son Johannes. Therefore, it is deduced that

Johannes was conceived between the death of the first wife and the second marriage.

The second wife, Margretha and Johannes Kilts had children: Maria Kilts 1759, Anna Kilts 1761, and Nicholas Kilts 1763. Johannes died about 1763.

Much of genealogy is a mystery. Many of the records were lost over the years or just not accurately kept in the first place. Church records are an excellent primary source and of course census records and wills. There isn't much information on Johannes and we are fortunate to have dedicated researchers

who have done a lot of digging to place Kilts family lines. Often after searching all of the facts, the deductions include best guesses.

The sons of Johannes Kilts served in the American Revolution. John Kilts, Johannes Pickle, Jr. and Nicholas Kilts appear on lists of enlisted men serving in the Revolution.

Sources: **The Eighteenth Century Kilts Family of the Mohawk Valley** by David Kendall Martin 1985, **The Descendants of Johann Conrad Kilts, Emigrant to America** by Herman Witthoft, Sr. 1999

