



Dellinger; Knecht; Pfeffer; Silar; and allied families



A Family History Newsletter

Genealogy is Hereditary

My ancestors did WHAT?

Genealogy is Hereditary

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WELCOME

Hello Everyone;

Welcome to the **Summer 2010** issue of the *Dellinger, Knecht, Pfeffer, Silar (DKPS)* family newsletter. I've included you on my mailing list because you are someone who shares a common interest of searching for information on the surnames associated with my paternal family line. I hope that some of the topics addressed within this newsletter will assist you with your genealogical endeavors.

This issue's **Feature Article** explores the Keller name to illustrate how surnames are treated within the "Origins of the Surname" segment that is a part of each webpage dedicated to the surname of a direct ancestor.

See the **News of Interest to the Family Historian** section for links to worthwhile *FREE* websites for U.S. Researchers. As well as other interesting news which include submissions by our readers that may enhance your research efforts.

A quarterly accounting of the **DKPS Database** at the *RootsWeb WorldConnect Project* indicates the addition of 11 new individual records.

Take time to look at the new and revised web pages and image galleries recently uploaded to the **Maternal and Paternal Ancestors Website** at *RootsWeb's Freepages*. Included here are pages containing worthwhile information about individual surnames, and ancestral locations, as well as special topics such as military units, our genealogy reference book library, and historic American roads and trails.

You are reminded to check out the **Research Connections** to see if anyone else is researching your family or a similar surname.

The **Schuster** surname is featured in the **Surname Search** section. "Surname Search" displays matches of a surname in our database to the huge resources found at *RootsWeb.com*.

As always I will attempt to keep the newsletter brief but informative and hope you will enjoy reading it. If you do not wish to remain on the mailing list please let me know and I will stop sending it to you. To read my previous newsletters, see the link in the **Contact Information** section of this issue.

Fred Siler

A QUOTE TO NOTE

The past is a source of knowledge, and the future is a source of hope. Love of the past implies faith in the future. - Stephen Ambrose, 1936-2002

FEATURE ARTICLE

WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

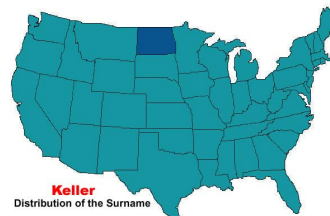
There are now over 60 surnames of my direct ancestors in the Dellinger, Knecht, Pfeffer, Silar, family tree. Each one of these has a webpage dedicated to it. Each page addresses topics about the specific family such as a brief description of its history, ancestral lineage, ancestral places, and migrations. In addition there are several supplementary generalized topics of interest about that surname designed to be both informative as well as to assist with additional research into the family name. It is the purpose of this article to illustrate how our German surnames are presented. Each name is introduced with several statements regarding the general history of German names. The following sub-section discusses how surnames came in to existence and how the meaning of the name being researched fits with the primary sources of name development. The final section deals with what is known about the history to the specific surname. The following is information that has been obtained regarding the **Keller** name.

The practice of inherited family surnames began in England and France during the late part of the 11th century. Surnames were first utilized in the Germanic region of central Europe during the second half of the 12th century. The custom of taking on surnames began in the southern areas of Germany, and gradually spread northward during the Middle Ages. It took about three hundred years for this tradition to apply to most families and become a constant part of one's identity.

With the passing of generations and the movement of families from place to place many of the original identifying names were altered into some of the versions that we are familiar with today. Over the centuries, most of our European ancestors accepted their surname as an unchangeable part of their lives. As such they rarely changed their surname. Variations of most surnames were usually the result of an involuntary act such as when a government official wrote a name phonetically or made an error in transcription. Research into the record of the Keller family line of York County, Pennsylvania indicates that the variations, meanings and history of this surname are most likely linked to that area of Europe where German linguistic traditions are commonly found.

German surnames, as a means of conveying lineage, were developed from four major sources: (1) Patronymic & Matronymic surnames most common in northern Germany are based on a parent's first name, such as Niklas Albrecht (*Niklas son of Albrecht*); (2) occupational surnames are last names based on the person's job or trade for example Lukas Fischer (*Lukas the Fisherman*); (3) descriptive surnames are based on a unique quality or physical feature of the individual like Karl Braun (*Karl with brown hair*); (4) geographical surnames are derived from the location of the homestead from which the first bearer and his family lived such as Leon Meer (*Leon from by the sea*), or derived from the state, region, or village of the first bearer's origin for example Paul Cullen (*Paul from Koeln/Cologne*).

The German surname of Keller is of three-fold origin: (1) it was a descriptive name for someone with some deformity of the throat or neck, perhaps a goiter, which was common in Alpine regions; (2) an occupational name originated from Middle High German *kellaere* 'cellarman', 'cellar master' (Latin *cellarius*, denoting the keeper of the *cella* 'store chamber', 'pantry'). Hence an occupational name for the overseer of the stores, accounts, or household in general in, for example, a monastery or castle; (3) it was also a geographical name for someone who lived by a narrow gorge or valley.



Switzerland	4889.5
Germany	897.21
U.S.A.	454.58
Hungary	307.75
Austria	175
Denmark	169.93
Canada	164.35
France	154.19

The information presented above shows where the Keller surname is distributed within the United States as well as a listing of the top countries in the world where this surname is highly clustered as per frequency per million people.

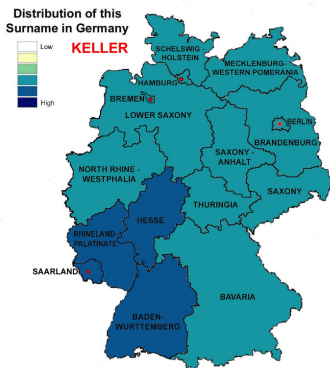
Throughout the centuries, the German surname Keller, and its variant spellings, have traveled widely in many forms throughout Europe. This surname has continued to unfold and expand leading to a large number of variants because in early times, spelling in

Continued on page 3

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general and thus the spelling of names were not yet standardized. Later on spellings would change with the branching and movement of families. Spelling variations of the German family name include: Keller, Keler, Kelle, Kellaere, Kellere, Kellner, Kaeller, Kaellner, Kelner, Celler, Cellner, Celer, Celner, Kellern, Cellern and many others.

Keller was first found in the Germanic region of Swabia, where the name was closely identified in mediaeval times with the feudal society which would become prominent throughout this geographical area.



Distribution of the Keller surname in Germany is highly concentrated in Baden-Württemberg, Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate, and Saarland

Keller is a very early Germanic surname and is one of the very first recorded in that country. Killers who derived their name from their occupation were important as trusted stewards in a great household and in some cases were promoted to ministerial rank. Thus the surname is widespread throughout central Europe.

The Keller name does tend to be confused with the English versions, and particularly so in the United States where immigration from both countries was at its height in the 18th century. In any case the name from both countries is often in the same spelling, which is perhaps not surprising as they share similar pre 7th century "Anglo-Saxon" roots.

The Keller surname appeared quite early into the former British colonies of North America, especially William Penn's colony of Pennsylvania. One reason for this was that after the kings of Hanover, Germany, also became kings of England in 1715, German emigration to America was greatly encouraged. Many of these German immigrants, particularly those with easy English equivalents, were encouraged and in some cases required to change to an English spelling. Also many German surnames were re-spelled in America because of the close relationship between the English and German languages. Some Germans are able to transform their names to the English form just by dropping a single letter. This often occurred with many sea captains or their agents who, when making up the ships passenger lists, found it easier to use a more familiar English spelling. After the start of World War One, Germans in great numbers Anglicized their names in an effort to remove all doubt as to their patriotism.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Search 1880 DDD Schedules for 14 States on Ancestry.com

Subscription genealogy website Ancestry.com has added 1880 special census schedules of "defective, dependent and delinquent" classes, also known as DDD schedules. You'll know to look for your ancestor in DDD schedules if his 1880 US census listing has a mark in columns 15 through 20, showing whether he was ill or had a physical or mental disability. If so, DDD schedules might give you more information about his condition or reasons for being institutionalized. Surviving DDD records are scattered among libraries and state archives. But now you can search many of the records from home: Ancestry.com subscribers can search DDD schedules from California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington Territory.

"Who Do You Think You Are?" Gets Second Season

"Who Do You Think You Are?" from executive producer Lisa Kudrow averaged a 1.6 rating, 6 share in adults 18-49 and 6.8 million viewers overall results for its first season. In fact, "Who Do You Think You Are?" won the 8-9 p.m. ET hour in adults 18-49, marking the first time any regular competitor in this slot has beaten an original episode of CBS's "Ghost Whisperer" in 18-49 rating since November 17, 2006. "Who Do You Think You Are?" ultimately improved the time period by 23 percent in adult 18-49 rating versus NBC's average for the traditional 2008-09 season in "live plus same day" results. The upshot of these excellent statistics is a commitment by NBC to a second season. You can watch "Who Do You Think You Are?" episodes on NBC.com by using the following address: <http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are/video/>

NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Some "Good News" submitted by our Readers

Scottish Dream Tours

For those who want my scone recipe. I make scones the same way that I make everything else, with lots of butter and cream! Julia Childs would be so proud! I have converted the recipe to American measures as that is where the majority of readers are from. There are many, many scone recipes out there but this one is very simple and pretty much foolproof. These scones will win you rave reviews and that is a promise! You will need:

2 cups of flour
3 tablespoons of baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup sugar
8 oz softened butter
light pouring cream

Combine dry ingredients in medium sized mixing bowl. Cut in butter until the mix resembles peas sized crumbs. Moisten with just enough cream to bind the mixture together and then turn out on a floured surface. Roll out until about 1/2 inch thick and then cut into rounds. You can brush the tops with a beaten egg

for a golden effect. Baked at 400F for about 12 minutes. You can make variations by adding chocolate, raisins, bananas etc. Plain scones are best when split and spread with jam and whipped or clotted cream. Some people like to add a beaten egg to the batter but I think this makes the scone too heavy and they should be light and flaky! Please don't substitute margarine or milk unless you are willing to forego taste for calories! *Submitted by Margaret Kerr Beckwith at:*
< margbeckwith@verizon.net >

Jamestown and the Virginia Experiment, this website is a digital research, teaching and learning project that explores the legacies of the Jamestown settlement and "the Virginia experiment. You may access this worthwhile web site at:
<http://www.virtualjamestown.org/>.

Submitted by Michael Wooton at:
< michaelwooton@hotmail.com >

If you have any research tips, recipes, photographs, web links, news articles, maps, etc. that you would like to share with our readers please feel free to send them to me at silrem@comcast.net.

Best FREE Web-sites for U.S. Researchers

Overwhelmed by the number of family history-related Web sites popping up? The folks at FamilyTreeMagazine <<http://tinyurl.com/re5ryu>> have taken the time to sort through them to bring us the best. As a result they have recently identified the following worthwhile websites:

Archives of Maryland Online Access more than 471,000 historical documents, including Maryland land, military and probate records. <<http://www.aomol.net/html/>.

Arizona Genealogy Birth and Death Certificates <<http://genealogy.az.gov/>>. Those with Arizona ancestors can do so with this recently expanded index to births (1855 to 1932) and deaths (1844 to 1957), linked to PDFs of the original certificates.

Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records < <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/> >. This is the place to start exploring land records, including more than 3 million federal land title records for Eastern public-land

states (1820 to 1908) and images of serial patents issued from 1908 to the mid-1960s. Images of field notes and survey plats, dating to 1810, are being added on a state-by-state basis. Searching is fast and powerful, and you'll find plenty of help for understanding the records you locate.

Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection

< <http://tinyurl.com/5nclsq> >. Click on the county map to see what's available and where to find it in this collection of nearly 450,000 digitized pages from 136 Colorado newspapers, published from 1859 to 1933. Coverage spans 71 cities and 41 Centennial State counties. You'll need Internet Explorer to get the most out of this site.

Illinois State Archives Online Databases

< <http://tinyurl.com/2fca9bp> >. Search statewide indexes of marriages (1763 to 1900) and deaths (pre-1916 and 1916 to 1950), plus veterans' records ranging from the War of 1812 to the 1929 Roll of Honor. An index to the Illinois Regional Archives Depositories will tell you where to go next in search of records on your Prairie State ancestors.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have any ideas, and or information you might have regarding ways to enhance our researching experiences. Send them to me at silrem@comcast.net.



Database Updates



11 New Records Added To the Database at Rootsweb

Our **Siler-Pfeffer Family Line** database at *Ancestry.Com* currently contains the records of **2,091** persons. The database can be viewed by all Ancestry subscribers. This tree will change every three months as we edit, remove, or otherwise modify the data therein.

An updated version of our **DKPS** Database was recently uploaded to the, open to all and FREE, World Connect site at RootsWeb.com. **11** new records have been added over the past three months. We now have information on **1,878** persons. Since we update the database quarterly to coincide with the publishing of this newsletter our readers are all reminded to take a look at what is new with our family history research.

If you do check out the website you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may find some errors in ours that we need to know of.

The **Database at Rootsweb** free for all to use. It is located at: <http://tinyurl.com/4z3ky6>. You may also access our family tree by going to: <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/>.

The **Database at Ancestry.com** can only be accessed by subscribers. It is located at the Home Page <http://www.ancestry.com/> in the "Search" pull-down button under "Public Member Trees".

Please know that we would always welcome any new information that you may have on our common ancestors.

What's New at the Website?

Our Maternal and Paternal Ancestors: 350 Years of History in America

The Pennsylvania Reference Book Collection adds books on Religion New Page developed for York County Militia during the Revolutionary War

Because we usually update this site several times between the publishing of this Newsletter you are reminded and encouraged to periodically review what is new with regard to the family information and genealogical resources contained at our internet web site entitled, **Our Maternal & Paternal Ancestors 350 Years of History in America: An Archive of Genealogical Information**, at the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>.

Over the past three months **four** new or revised surname pages have been uploaded to the **DKPS Subside**. The DKPS War Veterans page has been updated and now includes more information on ancestors who are recognized as Patriots of the American Revolutionary War.

14 new or revised web pages have been created and added at to our **Ancestral Locations** sub-site. Since the discovery of New England Ancestors we've added pages and corresponding image galleries for Middlesex and Suffolk counties in Massachusetts.

The scope and volume of the various sub-sites created for our **Special Topics** continued to increase since the last issue of this newsletter. We have continued to upgrade and increase the number of volumes within our **Genealogy Reference Library**. During this quarter we've added **10** books to the shelf for "Religion in Pennsylvania". In

addition, many of our collections have been re-catalogued according to author. Most of these books are fully searchable and can be downloaded to your computer. In addition text may be cut & pasted directly to your family tree software or other document. Readers who have an interest in **Historic American Roads And Migration Routes** should take a look at the new updated page that addresses routes taken by pioneers to settle Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia. In addition new maps of the Great Indian War and Trading Path have been developed and posted. If you have ancestors who served in the York County Militia during the American Revolution be sure to take a look the new webpage on this topic. In addition, we have posted the rosters of several militia companies from York County. You can access this information through our **War Veterans** sub-site home page. We've revised our **Research Tools** webpage and added a tool to help you research "census records", and a "glossary of old occupations".

As with the database you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may want to advise us of some new information that we can include at the site. Either way we would appreciate an email from you just to let me know that you've found your way to our online website.

NEW AND REVISED “DKPS” SURNAME PAGES

To access these pages follow this **link** <<http://tinyurl.com/mpyqar>>.

SURNAME INDEX: Attig; Beissel; Blau; Keller

SOURCE DOCUMENTS:

FAMILY PHOTOS / IMAGES: **OTHER:** War Veterans

NEW & REVISED “ANCESTRAL LOCATION” PAGES

To access these pages follow this **link** <<http://tinyurl.com/5rcafv>>.

UNITED STATES: States – Alabama; California; Georgia; Massachusetts; Tennessee **Counties** – Knox Co., TN; McMinn Co., TN; Middlesex Co., VA; Middlesex Co., MA; Queens Co., NY; Queen Anne’s Co., MD; Salem Co., NJ; Sevier Co., TN; Suffolk Co., MA; Suffolk Co., NY

GERMANY: Bergstrasse

UNITED KINGDOM:

NEW & REVISED “ANCESTRAL LOCATIONS” PHOTO & IMAGE ARCHIVES

To access these pages follow this **link** <<http://tinyurl.com/nczbsj>>.

UNITED STATES: Knox Co., TN; Middlesex Co., MA; Queens Co., NY; Salem Co., NJ; Sevier Co., TN; Suffolk Co., MA; Suffolk Co., NY

GERMANY: Bergstrasse

UNITED KINGDOM:

“SPECIAL TOPICS” NEW & REVISED PAGES

To access these pages follow this **link** <<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>>.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH LIBRARY: General Reference Collection; United Kingdom Reference; United Kingdom Locations; France Reference; Germany Reference; USA Reference; USA Locations; New Jersey; Pennsylvania; Virginia

HISTORIC AMERICAN ROADS AND MIGRATION ROUTES: Migration Routes to Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia

RESEARCHING OUR WAR VETERANS: Pennsylvania Militia of York County (Rev. War)

OTHER: Research Tools; Surname Locator Resources

“SPECIAL TOPICS” NEW & REVISED PHOTO & IMAGE ARCHIVES

To access these pages follow this **link** <<http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>>.

HISTORIC AMERICAN ROADS AND MIGRATION ROUTES: Great Indian War & Trading Path: South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina; Oceechee Road

MILITARY Image Galleries: Pennsylvania Militia of York County (Rev. War); 2nd Va. Cavalry (Civil War); 5th Va. Cavalry (Civil War);

OTHER:

RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

Since the first issue of this newsletter back in the Fall of 2006 its distribution list has grown significantly. Along the way I have interacted with many genealogists that have expressed an interest in one or more of the family lines contained within my DKPS Database at RootsWeb. Because networking is a key to the success of any family historian I feel that it is important for this newsletter to help in making that connection. Below is a listing of several subscribers and the common family lines they are researching.

Who	Researching Surname(s)	Who	Researching Surname(s)
Debbie Quinlan dqpeds@hughes.net	John Keller (d.1802)	Melissa Fitzkee Mzfitz40@aol.com	Ilges
Marie Shaffer marieshaffer@verizon.net	Shaffer, Shaver	Jim Gilbert jmgil@ptd.net	Gilbert, (DNA Project)
Guy B. Frick gfrick@kns.com	Pfeffer, Knauf	Erika Leiberknecht enl113@psu.edu	Leiberknecht Surname
Roger Dellinger radellinger@argothor.net	Dellinger	Patricia Baron p2e7b5@texasbb.com	Knecht Surname
Monica Lacy ironduck2000@yahoo.com	Margaretha Bard. b. 1824, Hesse Darm, Prussia, m. Augustin Meyer	Sivia Neublum sneublum@uol.com.br	Looking for Mildenberg in Germany
Edleen Garrett Rodriguez esgr60@msn.com	Benjamin F. Arnold b. 1858 Chanceford Twp.	Scott Robertson aircaraccess@millenicom.com	Quickel Family of York Co. PA
Verna McDowell vernae@smnet.net	Pfeffer from Mecklenburg Ger. Hartmann from Saxony	Wendy Howard wendynai@att.net	Hauer Ancestors of George Howard (1836-1908)
George Howard g-howard@charter.net	Need direct male ancestors George Howard (1836-1908) for DNA project	Dave Barnett dtb1322@yahoo.com	Parents of Sarah Abel, Philadelphia c. 1820-50 (possible John – Mary)

If you would like to be included into this list, or should any of the above named persons would like their information deleted or revised please contact me.

SURNAME SEARCH

“Surname Search” features matches of a direct ancestral surname from our database to records that can be found at RootsWeb.com that may be useful and hopefully rekindle your own research into this family as well as other topics at RootsWeb. To see what information we have uncovered on this family surname follow the links to our Website at <http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>. and Database at <http://tinyurl.com/4z3ky6>.

Search RootsWeb.com

	SCHUSTER	Search
First Name	Last Name	By Keyword

To access the databases listed below
Follow this address:

<http://searches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>.

At the Rootsweb Home Page type this or any other surname into the “Last Name” box and click “Search”.

SCHUSTER

Featured Databases	Matches
WorldConnect	22,526
Social Security Death Index	7,159

Vital Records	Matches
California Death Index	625
Texas Death Index	145
Kentucky Death Index	140
Kentucky Marriage Index Husband	33
Kentucky Marriage Index Wife	37
Maine Death Index	4
South Dakota Birth Index	10
World War One Draft Index	17
Early Death Records	21
Pre-1920 Marriages	20
Pre-1920 Births	3

Other Searches	Matches
Web Site Search	10,498
Swedish Records	5
Australia and New Zealand Records	3
Alumni Lists	42
Book Indexes	68
Cemetery Listings	29
Census Records	8
Church Records	3
BLM/GRO Land Records	22
Naturalization Records	12
Obituaries	12
Atlas/Gazetteer Listings	3
Military Records	7
Newspaper Indexes	14
Professional, Society, Religious Groups	2

“Surname Search” features matches of a direct ancestral surname from my database to records that can be found at RootsWeb.com(<http://searches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>). At the Rootsweb Home Page type this or any other surname and follow the links to information that may be useful and hopefully rekindle your own research into this family as well as other topics at RootsWeb. To see what information I have uncovered on this family surname follow the links to my website at <http://tinyurl.com/3lbrly>, and database at <http://tinyurl.com/4hbsrt>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dellinger, Knecht, Pfeffer, Silar, and allied families” is a family-history newsletter published quarterly by Frederick G. Siler, 889 Dante Court, Mantua, New Jersey 08051. It is available both in print and online. Print copies may be obtained through written correspondence that includes a SASE. The online version is sent as an attachment to an email message. Issues are also posted into my DKPS Newsletter Archives at <http://tinyurl.com/3vnd3b>. Submissions of articles, photos, documents, etc., are strongly encouraged. Please email to silrem@comcast.net.



Someday you'll be an Ancestor too!

