Fall 2007 Issue: 05



# Dellinger; Knecht; Pfeffer; Silar; and allied families

A Family History Newsletter





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### **WELCOME**

Hello everyone;

Welcome to the FALL 2007 issue of this family newsletter. I've included you on my mailing list because you are either close family, a gen-cousin or genealogist who shares a common interest of searching for information on the surnames associated with my paternal family line.

The <u>feature article</u> discusses the impact of the Protestant Reformation on the Dellinger family during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and how these circumstances brought about a move from the ancestral town of Dilligen to Oberacker prior to 1733 when Johann "Jacob" Dellinger emigrated to America.

A new page about researching <u>immigrant ancestors</u>, as well as a page with information that identifies ancestors who immigrated from Europe to the "New World" has been created and uploaded to the website. As a result of this research many passenger lists have been located and placed into the DKPS Source Document Archives.

The DELLINGER surname is featured in the <u>Surname Search</u> section. "Surname Search" displays matches of a surname in our database to the huge resources found at RootsWeb.com.

Don't forget to review new information relative to what has been updated on my paternal family database online at Rootsweb's WorldConnect Project, and recent happenings with regard to the website at RootsWeb's Freepages. A quarterly accounting of the database at RootsWeb shows a <u>new direct ancestral family line</u> I've uncovered as well as the addition of forty <u>new individual records</u>.

As always we will attempt to keep the newsletter brief but informative and hope you will enjoy reading it. If you do not want to remain on my mailing list please let me know and I will stop sending to you. To read my previous newsletters, visit this link Newsletter Archives.

### A QUOTE TO NOTE

"It's not a question of who's going to throw the first stone; it's a question of who's going to start building with it." - Sloan Wilson

# **FEATURE ARTICLE**

# The Dellinger Family in the "Old World"

<u>Hans Dellinger I</u> is the earliest Dellinger in the records of this family lineage. Hans I was most likely born c. 1600 in that area of present day <u>Bavaria (Bayern)</u>, Germany known as <u>Dilligen</u>. His son, <u>Hans Dellinger II</u> born 1635 also at Dillingen married <u>Agnes Katterman</u>. The record of their 1659 marriage in the nearby town of Hochstadt states "bei Dillingen, Bayern" meaning with a family in Dillingen.

Dillingen, established in medieval times, was ruled by the counts of Dillingen from the 10th to the 13th century. In 1258 the territory was turned over to the Prince Bishops of Augsburg. After the Reformation, the <u>Bishops of Augsburg</u> moved to the Catholic city of Dillingen and made it one of the centers of the <u>Counter-Reformation</u>. In 1804 Dillingen and its surrounding area became part of the state of Bavaria. Today Dillingen, or Dillingen and der Donau (Dillingen on the <u>Danube</u>) is a town of roughly 18,000 inhabitants. It is the administrative center of the district of <u>Dillingen</u>.



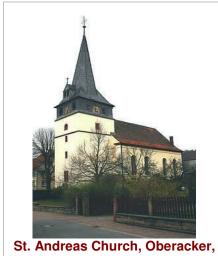
Konigstrasse (Kings road), Dilligen, Bayern



street in front of the Catholic University, Dilligen, Bayern

It is most probable that the Dellinger family had become Protestants during the <u>Reformation</u> begun when Martin Luther had posted his 95 Theses against indulgences granted by the Catholic Church on the castle church door at Wittenberg in 1517. During the early part of the Reformation the area of Germany in which towns of Hochstadt, and Dillingen, were located was under the control of the Fugger family. This was a wealthy family that financed the Catholic side of the Counter Reformation. As such the residents of Dillingen were required to practice the Catholic religion during the early part of the Reformation and up until the middle of the 16th century. At the <u>Peace of Augsburg</u> in 1655, Charles V was obliged to let each member state of the <u>Holy Roman Empire</u> be either Catholic or Lutheran as it locally chose.

It was probably due to these circumstances that, around 1659, Hans and Agnes Dellinger moved from the Catholic controlled Dilligen to the village of Oberacker, a distance of a little over 100 miles. When the Lutheran Reformation was introduced into Württemberg in 1556 most of the populace of Oberacker left the Catholic Church and became Protestants. It is possible that Hans II moved to the village of Oberacker not only because it was Protestant but also of a Dellinger presence there going back to at least 1623 and possibly much earlier as based upon church records that list a Niclaus Dellinger, who died there 29 Oct 1623.





church of the Dellinger family

half-timbered house in Oberacker, built 1567

Oberacker is mentioned for the first time as a populated place around the year 1100. The Knights of Ubstadt and their leader von Bruchsal ruled this area from the church fortress at the Herrenalb monastery until 1288. Starting in 1289 the monastery came into the sphere of influence of the Mark counts von Baden and starting from 1338 under the patronage of the counts von Württemberg.

Hans Andreas Dellinger, son of Hans and Agnes, was born circa 1660, and lived his entire life in the village of Oberacker, which during this time had a population of about 100 souls. Hans Andreas first married Margaretha Kolb in 1681. They had four known off-spring between 1683-92. His second A least four known marriage in 1697 was to Anna Margaretha whose maiden name is unknown. children were produced of this union. It was their son Johann "Jacob" Dellinger, born at Oberacker in 1698, who with his wife Maria Barbara Gossner, a native of nearby Sulzfeld, emigrated to America in 1733.

Today Oberacker is still a small village, population 685. Located in the Kraichgau Mountains about 150 km SSE of Heidelberg. Oberacker is in the Administrative District of Bruchsal, in formerly what was the Duchy of Baden until Baden merged with Wurttemberg after World War II to form the German state of Baden-Wurttemberg.

# **NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE FAMILY HISTORIAN**

## Family Research at the York County Heritage Trust

This article is the second in a series focusing on the York County Heritage Trust. The York County Heritage Trust is a not-for-profit educational institution that preserves and uses its collections, historic sites and museums to inspire people to explore the history and culture of York County, Pennsylvania.

The Library/Archives collections include nearly 7,200 genealogical surname files. Each of these files may include many different variant spellings of that surname. These files might contain: clippings of obituaries, weddings, and engagements; short genealogies (under 40 pages); family group sheets; pedigree charts; copies of original documents and photos; or any other material pertaining to that family that has been submitted over the years.

Five sets of index cards accompany each surname file. These cards include abstracts from church records, cemetery records, Will books and Orphans Court dockets (1749-1850); a sampling of pre-1800 tax records; and other selected sources.

The Trust's web site is designed to be an introduction into the rich and diverse heritage of York County and can be located at <a href="http://www.yorkheritage.org/">http://www.yorkheritage.org/</a>>.

## **Five Projects for Family History Month**

October is Family History Month, a time when we, and our families, should celebrate our family heritage. This means sharing information about our ancestors and commemorating their lives and accomplishments. Most of all, this should be a family affair. The following are suggestions for five projects you and your family for Family History Month.

A great project for Family History Month is a family <u>storytelling night</u>. Declare a night each week throughout the month, and set aside an hour when no television, telephone or other interruptions are allowed. Gather in a comfortable area of your home, and encourage the sharing of stories about yourself, your parents, your grandparents, and other ancestors. Try to couple the stories with times, places, and historical events to help bring history alive.

<u>Family photographs</u> are excellent reminders of people, times, and events. Most of us, however, probably have loads of loose photographs in boxes or drawers that need to be labeled and organized. A great project for Family History Month involves getting your family together, sitting down with your photographs, and working together to organize them. Find a place where you can spread out your materials—make sure it accommodates the group. Examine photographs, and label them as appropriate. Passing around the photographs and sharing stories about the people, places, and events helps involve everyone in the project. Discuss and agree upon an organizational scheme that allows you to sort the photographs and then place them in some order. This project may take several sittings, depending on the number of photographs you have. However, it can be an enjoyable experience for every member of the family, and it can also promote good preservation skills for everyone.

Most of us have family recipes that have been passed from generation to generation. They may have been jotted down on scraps of paper or clearly typed out on index cards. A great project with recipes can involve gathering them together, sorting through them, and transcribing them into a family cookbook. If you want to transcribe them into a word-processing document, one person can read the recipe while another types it into the computer, and still another person can be responsible for editing. In the process of working on the cookbook, you and your family can prepare meals using the recipes. You might want to consider establishing a "family recipe" night each week on which the main dish or even the entire menu consists of special family recipe items. This involves each person as either the preparer of ingredients, the chef, and/or the consumer.

One way to involve children in learning more about their ancestors is to host a theme party. Children love to play dress-up, and they love to make up stories. You might consider an "I'm My Own Grandpa" party. This event involves urging the children to learn something about an ancestor. It doesn't have to be a grandfather; it could be a grandmother, a great-grandparent, or some other ancestor. Encourage them to gather facts about the person's appearance and their life, and to construct a short story about a particular event. They can also be encouraged to create a costume so they can dress for the part. Set a time for the entire family to gather together, and let the children present their stories in costume. Serve cake, cookies, and other refreshments appropriate for children's parties.

<u>Visiting sites of family interest</u> is another way of commemorating family and celebrating family history is to visit places that have some meaning associated with your family. A visit with other relatives at their homes might make a nice trip, especially if it is an old family home where grandparents and/or other ancestors lived. If you want to learn more about your ancestors' place in history, a visit to a museum, the historical society, or an archive might be appropriate. A visit to the cemetery where relatives and ancestors are interred also makes a good trip and can be combined with cleaning, maintenance, reminiscences, and storytelling. If you have a Civil War ancestor, you might consider a trip to a battlefield at which he fought or to a memorial site.

All of the projects above are intended to involve all members of the family. It is especially important to involve children so that they gain knowledge about their family and an appreciation for the pride and family values you already have. These projects are actually events and can become family traditions as well.

Genealogists and family historians often work alone, but here is an opportunity to share some fascinating information and stories you've gathered with other members of the family in a fun and exciting way.

#### Have You taken a look at the User-Contributed Databases at RootsWeb??

Here is an idea that you might consider to "jump start" your research. RootsWeb has a multitude of databases contributed by people like us. These resources may be viewed by either location or category. The following are links to the aforementioned resources.

COUNTRY: <u>Australia | Canada | Eng | France | Germany | Irl | Italy | Jamaica | Multi-National | Netherlands | New zealand | New Zealand | New Zealand | New Zealand | Philippines | Russia | Sct | Sri lanka | Sweden | United Kingdom | Us | USA | West indies |</u>

STATE/REGION: Lihus-le-Grand, Oise, France | All | One-Name Studies | Forfar | \*\*
Various Locations | \*\*\* Book Index | \*\*\* Book Indexes | \*\*\* Military Records | \*\*\* Native
American Records | Alabama | Alaska | Arizona | Arkansas | California | Colorado |
Connecticut | DC | Delaware | Florida | Georgia | Hawaii | Idaho | Illinois | Indiana | Iowa |
Kansas | Kentucky | Louisiana | Maine | Maryland | Massachusetts | Michigan | Minnesota |
Mississippi | Missouri | Montana | Nebraska | Nevada | New Hampshire | New Jersey | New
Mexico | New York | North Carolina | North Dakota | Ohio | Oklahoma | Oregon | Pennsylvania |
Rhode Island | South Carolina | South Dakota | Tennessee | Texas | Utah | Vermont | Virginia |
Washington | West Virginia | Wisconsin | Wyoming |

CATEGORY: Alumni | Atlas/Gasetteers | Births | Book Indexes | Cemeteries | Census |
Church Records | City Directories | Colored/Black Records | Court Records | Deaths | Deeds |
Divorces | Land Records | Marriages | Military | Mortality Schedules | Native American
Records | Naturalizations | Newspaper Indexes | Obituaries | One-Name Studies | Passenger
Lists | Plats | POW/MIA | Professional, Society, Religious Groups | State Archives | Tax Lists



# A "FAMILY TREE" TREE GROWS AT ROOTSWEB



#### **SCHIECK Surname Added To The Database**

An updated version of my paternal lineage database was recently uploaded to the World Connect site at RootsWeb.com. 40 new names have been added during the past three months. It now has information on 1,377 persons, which include, ancestral grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Since the database is updated quarterly to coincide with the publishing of this newsletter you are all reminded to take a look at what is new with our family history research. If you do check the database site you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may find some errors in my data that I need to know of.

To access the database just click on the following link: My Paternal Ancestors: Dellinger; Knecht; Pfeffer; Silar and allied families. You may also access our family tree by going to http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/. On that page you will see on the left column a box entitled "jump to a specific tree". Type in *fgsiler* and click on "go", or just search for any name in the database and you will be taken to that record.

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

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# WHAT'S NEW AT THE WEBSITE?? OUR MATERNAL AND PATERNAL ANCESTORS: 350 YEARS OF HISTORY IN AMERICA

# New Web Page Identifies Our Immigrant Ancestors Four New Surname Pages Added Ship's Passenger Lists Naming Eight Ancestors Added to Source Documents

For many of us a primary research goal is to establish the identity of the brave men and women who left their "Old World" homeland and took the daring step a tumultuous ocean voyage in an effort to make a new life in America. With this in mind I've designed and created a new web page entitled Immigrant Ancestors: Research and Resources. This web page is intended to provide information that will assist with the research of finding the when, where, and how of our ancestors' immigrant experiences. On this web page you will find information on search strategies for tracing your immigrant origins. In addition there are lists of informative websites where one can find facts on immigration and naturalization, records, as well as ship, passenger & crew lists.

For those of our readers interested in knowing more about the immigrant ancestors of various family lines found within my paternal family database I've created a web page entitled, Immigrant Ancestors: Dellinger, Knecht, Pfeffer, Silar and allied families. This page contains a listing of all appropriate direct ancestral family surnames. When known, the names of my forefathers and mothers credited with being the progenitors of their family lines in America, their place or origin, date and place of arrival in the "New World", name of ship, as well as were they settled, has been included. To supplement this information the entire passenger lists showing eight of my immigrant ancestors have been incorporated into the "Source Documents" archives under the appropriate surname.

You are invited to take a look at my four new surname pages at Home Page DKPS. Recent research shows that my 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather Valentin Reinhardt came to the Maryland colony in 1753 and settled in Frederick County. Also, the Cammerer ancestral line has been traced back two additional generations to my 9<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather Isaak Cammerer who was most likely born around 1627 in that area of Germany now encompassed by the state of Baden-Wurttemberg.

Over the past three months many new web pages and images have been created and added to Ancestral Locations. I've revised numerous "USA State pages" to include new maps showing the locations of our ancestral counties, as well as links to resource information for all counties in that State. New "USA County web pages" now include links to the major localities as identified with each ancestral county.

Because we usually update this site several times between the publishing of this Newsletter you are reminded and encouraged to take a look at what is new with regard to the family information and genealogical resources contained at our internet site, Our Maternal & Paternal Ancestors 350 Years of History in America: An Archive of Genealogical Information. As with the database you may find some new information that will enhance your own research or you may want to advise of some new information that we can include at the site. Either way I would appreciate an email from you just to let me know that you've found your way to our online website.

#### **NEW AND REVISED SURNAME PAGES:**

Cammerer; Reinhardt; Ruppert; Ziegler

#### **NEW SOURCE DOCUMENTS:**

Will of George Rinehard (Reinhardt); Will of Valentine Rinehard (Reinhardt);

Elizabeth Passenger List (Dellinger); Governor Douglass Passenger List (Hayes); Loyal Judith Passenger List (Keller);

Patience Passenger List (Reinhardt); Snow Squirrel Passenger List (Lieberknecht); St. Andrew Passenger List (Ilges);

Thistle Passenger List (Schaffer); Townsend Passenger List (Kuffer)

#### **NEW FAMILY PHOTOS AND IMAGES:**

#### **NEW & REVISED ANCESTRAL LOCATION PAGES:**

#### **USA STATES & COUNTIES:**

<u>Kansas; Kentucky; Maryland; Missouri; Ohio; Pennsylvania; Virginia Anderson Co., SC; Chester Co., SC; Edgar Co., IL; Frederick Co., MD;</u>

Lancaster Co., PA; Pickens Co., SC; York Co., SC

#### **WORLD STATES & LOCALITIES:**

Cockpen Parish, Scotland; Midlothian, Scotland; Dilligen District, Germany; Gloucestershire, England

PHOTO AND IMAGE ARCHIVES developed or updated for the following localities:

Maries Co., MO; Anderson Co., SC; Chester Co., SC; Edgar Co., IL; Pickens Co., SC; York Co., SC; Gloucestershire, UK; Cirencester Parish, UK; Dilligen District; Dilligen Stadt; Hochstadt

SURNAME SEARCH			
DELLINGER			
Featured Databases	Matches	Other Searches	Matches
WorldConnect	20,806	Alumni Lists	2
Social Security Death Index	2,736	Book Indexes	8
Rootsweb Surname List	33	Cemetery Listings	10
Vital Records	Matches	Census Records	35
California Death Index	120	BLM/GRO Land Records	1
Texas Death Index	87	<u>Obituaries</u>	4
Kentucky Death Index	14	Newspaper Indexes	77
Kentucky Marriage Index Husband	6	Tax and Voter Lists	1
Kentucky Marriage Index Wife	8	Obituary Daily Times	1,194
South Dakota Birth Index	1		
World War One Draft Index	6		
Early Death Records	5		
Pre-1920 Marriages	12		

<sup>&</sup>quot;Surname Search" features matches, found at <u>RootsWeb.com</u>, of a surname from my database. 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 follow the links to my <u>website</u>, and <u>database</u>.

# **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 at: <a href="mailto:DKPS">DKPS</a>
<a href="mailto:Newsletter TOC">Newsletter TOC</a>
. Submissions of articles, photos, documents, etc., are strongly encouraged. Please email to silrem@comcast.net.

Someday you'll be an Ancestor too!