



BOYER ROOTS

Volume 13, No. 1

The Annual Newsletter of the Association of American Boyers, Inc.

July 1998

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Gettysburg



Boyer Facts &
Stories



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Plus much more !!!



Gettysburg - Here We Come !!! 94th Annual Reunion

You read it right! The Association of American Boyers, Inc. is holding its 94th reunion in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for the very **FIRST** time. It is planned for Saturday July 25, 1998 at the Gettysburg Community Park (rain or shine). Directions and a map can be found on page 4 of the newsletter. The officers of the Association are very excited about having the reunion in Gettysburg. We see it as a chance for Boyers and their descendants to assemble from all over the country for a day of fun and friendly gathering, but also maybe spend some extra days seeing the many historical sites in the region. We have reserved a pavilion at the park which has picnic tables and is covered in the event of inclement weather. As in years past it is a good idea to bring your own chairs as seating can fill up. Again this year a catered buffet lunch will be available for those who wish to avail themselves of it. Because of the change of venue a new caterer has been obtained and with it a new menu. We believe you will find it very nice. Also we **MUST** require advance reservations **ONLY** this year. More information about the lunch can be found on page 10 and the advanced reservation form can be found on page 11. Again this year a genealogical workshop, lead by our Assistant Historian Neil Boyer, will be held beginning at 10:30 am. Our historians will be available to offer ideas in genealogical research and invite questions from those attending. The community park has lots for things for the whole family (playground, ball fields, etc.). There are even horseshoe pits right by the pavilion and we plan to have them ready to go! Also this year we will be auctioning off a wonderfully crafted quilt by our secretary Hilda Yeager. For more information on this see the related article on page 10. Available at the reunion for purchase will be a variety of Boyer crest items (see page 10) and the first three volumes of the 7th edition of American Boyers. We hope to make this a reunion to remember so plan on attending. There is no reason for those in the Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania areas to miss this. So come on out!!! A more detailed schedule can be found on page 4. Remember, rain or shine!



From the President

Changes, are a part of life and a part of an organization. As you can see by the article above we are changing our venue to a new location. We have never in our history been to Gettysburg for a reunion before, but the officers and I felt we needed to make the move so more of you would have the ability to participate. Besides we think Gettysburg makes for a great spot with many other things to do. So I hope to see you there and if you have ideas for possible other future reunion sites let any of us know.



As you will see in Donald's Historian Column (page 2) publication of Volume 4 is imminent. Any publication of this magnitude is a substantial expense. Although we feel

President continued on page 10

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Tyrie Boyer, Esq., Jacksonville, FL



Historian's Column

After several extensions, your historian has retired from his full time accounting job, and is now concentrating on the publication of Volume IV of the Seventh Edition of American Boyers, which is about ready to go to press.

The Following Chapters will be included in Volume IV:
Chapter 32 [BF] Johannes Nicholas Beyer, from Bavaria, to Berks Co., Pa.

Chapter 33 [BG] Johann Friedrich Beier, from Germany to Penna.

Chapter 34 [BH] William Henry Boyer of Grayson Co., Va.

Chapter 35 [BI] Margaret Boyer of Shenandoah Co., Va.

Chapter 36 [BJ] John Bowyer of Philadelphia, Pa.

Chapter 37 [BK] Jacob Boyers of Fulton Co., Ohio.

Chapter 38 [BL] Henry Boyer, from Bavaria, to Northampton Co., Pa.

Chapter 39 [BM] Stephen Bowyer, of Montgomery Co., Pa.

Chapter 40 [BN] Leonard Boyer, from Berks Co., Pa., to Frederick Co., Va., to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Chapter 41 [BO] Philip Beyer; Leonard Boyer from Alsace, to Westchester Co., N.Y.

Chapter 42 [BP] Samuel Boyer, from Scotland, to Tennessee.

Chapter 43 [BQ] Charles William Boyer, of Baltimore, Md.

Chapter 44 [BR] Casper Beyer, from Germany, to Carroll Co., Md.

Chapter 45 [BS] Frederick August Bayer, from Germany, to York Co., Pa.

Chapter 46 [BT] Frederick Bayer, from Germany, to Adams Co., Pa.

Chapter 47 [BU] Nicholas Boyer, from Upper Austria, to Halifax, Pa.

Chapter 48 [BV] Andreas Beyer, from Germany, to Berks Co., Pa.

Your mailing label contains a Boyer mailing list code above your name on the left. [Example B00601]. Most labels will also contain a Boyer Chapter ID number above your name on the right. [Example BA132]. If this number on the right starts with BF, BG, BH, BI, BJ, BK, BL, BM, BN, BO, BP, BQ, BR, BS, BT, BU, or BV, your family will appear in Volume IV.

Your historian will accept updates for Volume IV until our reunion on July 25. If you submitted information several years ago, we urge you to submit data on events that have occurred since then, so that Volume IV will be up-to-date.

A separate newsletter [Boyer Roots] containing ordering instructions for Volume IV will be mailed later this year when prices and publication plans for Volume IV are finalized.

Your historian is also reviewing the vast amount of information that has accumulated over the years, much of which was received before we started using a computer. He will also attempt additional research to try to resolve some conflicting data before Volume IV goes to press.

We encourage everyone to continue to report new information and findings, and thank you for the information that has been received. Information may be mailed to your historian at 990 E. Philadelphia St., York, PA 17403-1121. You may also bring information to the reunion where the historian and assistants will be glad to receive your data. Forms for reporting information are available from the historian.

Historian continued on page 6

Boyer Roots, published annually by the Association of American Boyers Inc. © 1998
Editor - William L. Boyer Contributors: Neil Boyer, Donald Boyer, William Boyer

The Association of American Boyers is open to all persons with the name of Bayer, Beyer, Bowyer, Boyer, Boyers, Byer, Byers, etc., or anyone married to or descended from anyone with that name.

1997 Annual Reunion Bids Adieu to Boyertown

After eight years of reunions at Boyertown Park in Boyertown, PA the Association said farewell (for the time being). Boyers and their families from all over the country came to the 93rd reunion to share fellowship and stories. The day turned out to be very nice and just right for a gathering. **Rev. Lloyd Yost** and his wife **Ellen** presided over the genealogical workshop this year, offering suggestions and discussion on gathering information from a variety of sources. Lloyd also gave a history of conditions in Europe in the early 17th to mid 18th century and some of the reasons our ancestors left Europe to come to America.

Lloyd also offered prayer before the midday meal and many enjoyed the catered buffet offered along with meals others brought along. After a filling lunch **Bill Boyer** presided over the afternoon program. Sisters **Harriet Harman** and



Boyers arriving at the 1997 reunion

Patricia Lewis led the group in the singing of the Boyer songs. Part way through the rest of the program **Hilda Yeager** surprised Bill, an expectant father, with a gift from the officers and directors. The gift was a lovely baby quilt, designed and hand-sewn by Hilda. Bill was very surprised and anxious to show his wife the gift when he returned home later in the day.

Bill called upon **Donald Boyer**, our historian, for a status report of his work. Donald informed everyone he hoped to retire in the next month or so. At that time he planned on spending more time on the Boyer books with hopes to complete the series much sooner than originally anticipated. **Rev. Paul Boyer** from Lima, OH presided over the election of officers. All of the current officers were nominated and voted back into their positions for another year.

Vice president **Rick Boyer** led a general discussion of all those gathered, asking for interesting stories, and providing information. He urged everyone present to let others know about the Association and

also suggested people buy the books and donate them to their local library. Rick also awarded prizes for various categories. They were:

Oldest man present:	Paul A. Koch, Tamaqua, PA - 91 years
Oldest woman present:	Vera Wolfe, Tower City, PA - 94 years
Farthest distance traveled:	Dr. JoAnn Boyer, Manhattan Beach, California

Robert Boyer, president emeritus, offered some stories and experiences. He also said how pleasant it was to sit in the audience enjoying the program rather than standing up front. The program ended shortly after and everyone headed home to all parts of the country.

Boyer/Beyer/Beyers/Byers!! All in one Family!

John Beyer (BV15) was born John Boyer in Berks County PA in 1771. He later moved to Frederick County MD, and then to Clark County, Ohio. In Maryland, he changed his name from Boyer to Beyer, apparently to distinguish his name from the non-related Boyers who lived there.

John's son Benjamin spelled his name Beyers when he moved to Kentucky, adding an "s" to "make the sound more euphonious." Later the first "e" was dropped when Benjamin's son Lilburn mustered into military service in 1847 for the war with Mexico. The enrolling officer had misspelled the name. Lilburn later said he did not see any good reason to restore the "e" and in time the entire family used the spelling "Byers."

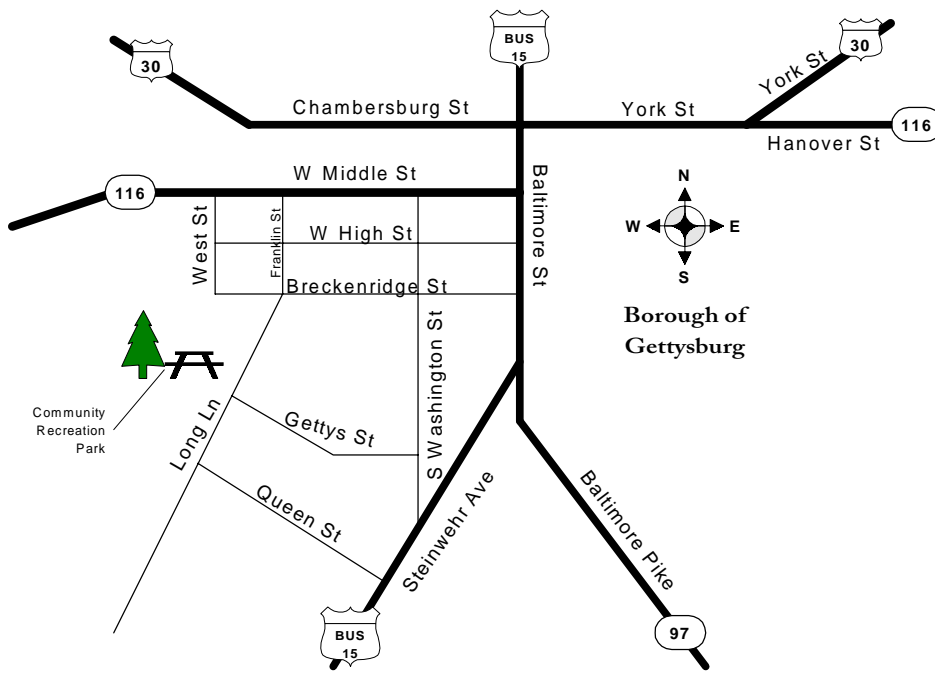


Boyer Association Web Site Status

We are getting closer to having a web site for the Association. We had hoped to have one up and operational by now, but not having enough time to work on it was the biggest contributing factor to the delay. Now that there are some nifty computer programs available the task should be easier, plus we have a rough draft of the layout already done. At this time the web site will either be www.boyerfamily.org or www.boyerfamily.com. Please be patient and keep an eye out for us.

Directions

Gettysburg is located in Southern Pennsylvania about 130 miles west of Philadelphia, 190 miles east of Pittsburgh, 40 miles south of Harrisburg, and 80 miles north of Washington, DC. There is very easy access from many directions with many of the roads being well marked. The main artery which passes from north to south around the east side of town is U.S. 15. There are at least six exits from there into Gettysburg. The directions given here are only a suggestion, but with the enclosed map, should make your trip easier. We will also try to have large signs at some of the intersections in Gettysburg.



From the North

Take U.S. Route 15 south to the exit for U.S. 30.
 Take U.S. 30 west into Gettysburg to the town square.
 Turn left at the square and continue for about 3 blocks to Breckenridge St.
 Turn right onto Breckenridge and follow for a couple blocks to Long Lane.
 Turn left onto Long Lane. Proceed a short distance to the entrance of the park on the right.
 The reunion is being held in the Fireman's pavilion.

From the South

Take U.S. Route 15 north to the exit for Route 97.
 Take Route 97 north into town where it merges with Baltimore St.
 About 2 blocks after the merge turn left onto Breckenridge, follow for a couple blocks to Long Lane.
 Turn left onto Long Lane. Proceed a short distance to the entrance of the park on the right.
 The reunion is being held in the Fireman's pavilion.

From the East

Take the turnpike west to the U.S. 15 exit
 Follow U.S. 15 south and follow the directions in the section "From the North."
 or Take U.S. 30 west and follow the directions once in town in the section "From the North."

From the West

Take the turnpike east to the U.S. 15 exit
 Follow U.S. 15 south and follow the directions in the section "From the North."
 or Take U.S. 30 east to the town square. Turn right at the square and continue for about 2 blocks to Breckenridge St. The remainder of the directions are the same as the last three lines in the section "From the North"



94th Reunion Schedule

10 til closing
 10:30 am
 12 pm til 1:15 pm
 1:15pm

- Registration
 - Genealogical Workshop
 - Lunch and Mixer, Catered or bring your own
 - Reunion Program, William L. Boyer (President) presiding
- Planned events include:
- Welcome, Boyer Songs, Stories and Anecdotes
 - Election and brief report from officers.
 - Awarding of prizes by Richard Boyer
 - PLUS..... More to be Announced.....

Souvenir ribbons will be available at the registration desk.



Boyer Family Stories

A Sampler from Volume IV



The items below are taken from entries in the forthcoming Volume IV of the 7th edition of our history, American Boyers. References are to chapter and family member.

Leonard Boyer (BO114), was born July 4, 1819, in Herkimer County NY. He was a stone-cutter at age 15, and at 20 began his own contracting business. In 1842, at the age of 23, he was elected Captain of the State Militia, and five years later Commissioner of Highways. He had a contract to build a small section of the Erie Canal at St. Johnsville and all the bridge abutments in a certain area. In 1861 he organized a plan for keeping the poor, which was adopted by the state legislature in Albany.

Margaret Boyer (BL2), was born about 1746, in Northampton County PA. Tradition claims she was captured about 1757 by Indians and taken to Canada with her brother Frederick and sister Elizabeth Catharine. Tradition also claims one of the sisters married an Indian chief.

Nicholas Boyer (BU) was born around 1755 in Upper Austria and died in 1823 in Halifax, Dauphin County PA. He came to Pennsylvania to live on the Herrnhut estate of Count Nicolas von Zinzendorf, a reformer of the Moravian Church. It has been passed down through Boyer descendants that Nicholas was of royal descent in the Austrian dynasty, but this has neither been proven or disproven. Nicholas settled first at Bethlehem, then lived in Halifax, where he was a cabinet-maker until he died. His wife Eve ran the Union Hotel in Halifax.

Mahlon Boyer (BL415), born in 1837, went to California as a gold miner, then returned to Pennsylvania to organize a timber business in the west end of Schuylkill County. He owned several sawmills, several farms, hundreds of acres of timberland, and employed many wood choppers and sawmill hands.

Andreas Beyer (BV) was born in 1711 at Eppstein, Palatinate, Germany, and died in Heidelberg Township, Berks County PA, in 1768. He arrived in Philadelphia in 1731 aboard the ship **Pennsylvania Merchant**; apparently he was married at the time. They had six sons and four daughters.

Daniel W. Boyer (BF1H5), 1839-1917, was a cavalry man in the Civil War in Illinois. He was buried in Iowa. He owned the 200-year-old clock of his grandfather, Johannes **Nicolas Beyer** (BF1).

John Boyer (BO112), 1760-1836, enlisted several times in the American Revolution, in 1777, 1780 and 1787. He engaged in battles in Johnstown and West Canada. After the War of 1812, he moved to Indiana. He was buried there, on the Boyer homestead near Greensburg.

Harvey Thomas Boyer (BH116), 1847-1928, operated Boyer's Ferry in Grayson County VA.

Mary Jane "Molly" Boyer (BH116), 1866-1931, married Thomas Carr and moved from Virginia with a group of young couples to Madison County, Nebraska. In 1900 they moved in covered wagons to Sand Hills, Nebraska.

Peter Boyer (BO112), born in 1798 in Manheim NY, is described as a lawyer, cloth dyer, contractor, abolitionist and Lutheran. His wife Polly composed several excellent poems.

Daniel Boyer (BT1A), born in 1811 near Gettysburg PA, moved to Ohio in 1835 and built a log cabin on a site which is now part of the public square in Lima. Boyer Avenue in Lima is named for him. He was also a tailor and justice of the peace.

Lanson Boyer (BO112), born in New York state in 1824, spent two years adventuring as a laborer, teacher and peddler in the Far West, then returned to New York City and owned and ran one of the largest tugboat and barge operations in New York. He died in 1879.

Josiah Damuel Lowrie Adair Bowyer (BM179), born in 1853 in Indiana, was given three middle names after the doctor who brought him into the world.

Stories continued on page 9

Historian continued from page 2

EDITIONS OF AMERICAN BOYERS

First edition - 1915 - 532 pages - by Dr. Charles Clinton Boyer, Kutztown, Pa.
Second edition - 1916 addenda - 62 pages
Third edition - 1918 addenda - 18 pages
Fourth edition - 1924 addenda - 64 pages
Fifth edition - 1940 - 664 pages - by Melville James Boyer, Allentown, Pa.
Sixth edition - 1963 supplement - 334 pages
Seventh edition - Vol. I - 1984 - 646 pages - Chapters 1 [AA] to 7 [AG]
18,842 names
Vol. II - 1986 - 670 pages - Chapters 8 [AH] to 24 [AX]
19,073 names
Vol. III - 1992 - 776 pages - Chapters 25 [AY] to 31 [BE]
23,146 names

[Seventh edition by present historian, Donald Arthur Boyer, York, Pa.]

Unlike other publications by commercial ventures, for which you may have received a solicitation from time to time, American Boyers traces family lines from the earliest known ancestor to the most recent additions, and enables you to determine relationships between individuals. An order form for Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of the Seventh Edition is included with this newsletter.

An annual Memorial List is compiled by the historian each July before our annual reunion. Information for the memorial list is obtained from newspaper obituaries in Indianapolis, Ind., Baltimore, Frederick, Hagerstown, and Westminster, Md., Mullen, and North Platte, Neb., Dayton, and Toledo, Ohio, Allentown, Butler, Carlisle, Chambersburg, Hanover, Harrisburg, Johnstown, Lancaster, Lebanon, Norristown, Philadelphia, Pottstown, Pottsville, Reading, Shamokin, Somerset, Sunbury, and York, Pa., and Galax, Va., as well as data sent to us from correspondents. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Bill Boyer, 3435 Livingston Dr., Jefferson MD 21755, and we will send you a copy when the listing for the past 12 months is completed in July.

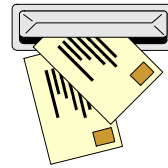
Recipients of this newsletter are urged to clip items concerning Boyer-Byers, etc., from newspapers, include the date and name of the newspaper, and send them to the historian. We thank those who have sent information and trust that you will continue to send additional news.

We hope to have the remaining volumes ready in two year intervals. Our goal is to complete the 7th edition, including complete index, by our reunion centennial year of 2004.

DANGER

Heritage Book Scam

We want to let you know that the only official Boyer histories are published by the Association of American Boyers. From time to time family history scams pop up around the country. Do not order anything from these people – they are rip-off artists and are just trying to get your money. For arguments sake a few years ago we ordered one of these “family histories.” What we got was a far thing from what we expected. Instead of detailed genealogy information there was an introduction about family histories in general and the rest of the book was a printout of Boyers from a census report. There were addresses and other information, but no genealogy. Your best bet is to throw these right into the trash when you get them. We just want to make sure that our members get only the best product for their investment.



Correspondence & Address Changes

We would like to remind you that when corresponding with officers of the Association please send along a self-addressed stamped envelope. The cost of replies is not small, as we get large numbers of requests for information. Also please be aware responses may take some time. Many of us work full-time and can only spend a fraction of our time on Association business. We will try to get back to you as soon as possible.

When moving or if you have a change of address, **PLEASE** keep us informed. We have discontinued having the newsletters returned to us for address correction by the post office. The cost was becoming too great. Therefore, we have no way of knowing if there is a change without you letting us know. We don't want anyone to miss an issue of the newsletter, so help us keep our address information current. Thank you.



The Family Tree a poem

*I think that I shall never see,
the finish of a family tree,
as it forever seems to grow
from roots that started long ago.*

*Way back in ancient history time,
in foreign land and distant clime.*

*From them grew trunk and branching limbs,
that dated back to time so dim.*

*One seldom knows exactly when,
the parents met and married then;*

*Nor when the twigs began to grow,
with odd-named children, row on row.*

*Though verse like this is made by me,
the end's insight, as you can see.*

*'Tis not the same with family trees,
that grow and grow through centuries.*

-- Author unknown



Boyers on the Move

Compiled by Neil Boyer



This column, appearing in each of our newsletters, provides interesting items on recent events in the lives of Boyer family members. Contributions for future issues are welcome. Family ID numbers, where known, are from our genealogy.

Most prominent Boyer of the year, without doubt, was **Eleanor Boyer**, 73, of Somerville NJ, who achieved national fame in November 1997 when she announced she would give away \$8 million of lottery winnings to her church and her town. A never-married retiree, Eleanor won a total of \$11.8 million in the state lottery and decided to give the balance, after taxes, to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, the Somerville rescue squad and Great Expectations, a clinic and shelter for homeless pregnant women. "God takes care of me," Eleanor said. Her house is paid for, she has a pension, and doesn't want a new car, even though her 1968 Malibu is in the shop for repairs.

Messiah College in Grantham PA has established the "Boyer Center for Advanced Studies," in honor of **Ernest L. Boyer, Sr.** (BA232), an alumnus and former chair of the Messiah Board of Trustees. Ernest, who was U.S. Commissioner of Education, died in 1995. The first activity of the Center was planned as a conference on "The Boyer Legacy: Prospects for a New Century," set for June 4-6 in Hershey. (See boyerctr@messiah.edu.)

Angie Boyer of Lebanon PA placed first in the International Powerlifting Association national competition in November 1997 in Maryland. She totaled 690 pounds in the meet, squatting 250 pounds, benchpressing 185 and deadlifting 255. She now holds five world powerlifting records.

Carlton Earl Boyer, who died in April 1998 at his home in Midland, Michigan, at the age of 70, helped develop and commercialize the Ziploc bag product line. As a scientist with Dow Chemical, he conducted research into plastic processing and applications, including Handiwrap and Saran Wrap.

Carl Boyer 3rd (AC111), of Newhall CA, in early 1998 published the third edition of his book **Ancestral Lines**. The book includes 51 detailed pages on descendants of the immigrant **Johann Philip Boyer**, the focal point of Chapter AC in Volume I of the 7th edition of **American Boyers**.

Boyers live longer!! The Boyer Memorial List compiled by our historian shows that more than 13% of the family members who died over the past two years were aged 90 or above. Of a total 708 deaths, 94 people were 90 or older, 31 were 95 or older, and 9 were aged 100 or more. The oldest Boyer relative on the list, at 104 years, 5 months and 22 days, was **Ralph Thierwechter** (AJ518) of Lebanon PA.

Nancy Boyer is editor of *The Pioneer*, a publication of the Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Pioneers, in Sunbury. The journal has published valuable advice to individuals doing genealogical research, and was praised in the Lebanon Daily News in February 1998.

Nancy Derrick Boyer (BX562) in October 1997 became coauthor of a unique new "nickname" telephone directory of Treverton PA, alphabetizing the town's residents by their nicknames. The 16-page book documents and explains the often humorous names among the neighbors, including Porky, Puddle Jumper, Butter Nose, Dead Eye and Whup Di Do.

Teddy Boyer (BH146), of Wytheville VA, a maintenance crew member for the Virginia Department of Transportation, placed first in the VDOT Truck Rodeo for Grayson County in September 1997. Teddy also placed second in the backhoe competition.

Paul Boyer is editor of a magazine begun in 1996, the **Susquehanna Senior**, aimed at the "over-50 group" in Sunbury PA. Paul said the magazine will focus on retired people who have made career changes and on volunteers in such programs as Foster Grandparents.

Move continued on page 9

Boyers in the Civil War

In preparation for the first Boyer Association reunion in Gettysburg, our historian used his computer to search for Boyers and people of similar name who served during the Civil War.

A total of 207 names were found in the data base. Most of them lived and served in Pennsylvania, but there were also Boyers with service in Florida, Texas, Missouri, Iowa, Ohio, Michigan, Nebraska, Indiana, Minnesota, Tennessee, Kansas, Illinois, West Virginia, Virginia, Colorado and Arkansas.

New Life Members

577	Patrick Rodolff
578	Holly M. Baker
579	Sarah B. Arduis
580	Hugh M. Boyer
581	John C. Donaldson
582	Virgie A. Evans
583	Ernie Boyer
584	Marva Hothan



Crest Items

Boyer crest items are back again this year. We are hoping to offer some new items. Some of these may be in limited quantity as we want to see how many find them worthwhile. In addition to some of the old standards (coffee mugs, plaques, sweatshirts, etc...), we are looking to have some hats, polo shirts, additional ceramic/glassware, and maybe a couple of surprises. So bring along your checkbook or cash (we don't accept credit cards) and do some early Christmas shopping. Currently these items are only available at reunions. There is some discussion about making the clothing available via mail, but until the logistics work out it is not an option at this time. Remember all proceeds from the sales of these items will go back into the Association's treasury to help support its work.

Volunteers

The Association of American Boyers is managed and run by volunteers. Many of the officers have full time jobs and can only spend a limited amount of time on Association business. The more people that we can get to help spread out the work load the more productive everyone can be. Also everyone will get more enjoyment out of the experience. With that said if you have some spare time and would like to help out contact any of the officers by mail, e-mail, or stop and see us at the reunion. Your help would be greatly appreciated by everyone in the Association.

Move continued from page 7

Christine Messina-Boyer, of Bethlehem PA, is chief of staff for Congressman Paul McHale (D-Lehigh Valley). Christine had been a vice president of Muhlenberg College in Allentown. Her husband, **Dave Boyer**, continues writing a column for the **Easton Express-Times**.

Dwight Boyer is the author of *Ghost Ships of the Great Lakes*, an account of shipwrecks, raging lake storms and watery death. The Michigan Historical Commission called Dwight a natural-born story teller.

Sheila Byer, of Windber, near Somerset PA, was voted coach of the year in November 1997 for guiding the Lady Volunteers to the District 5 high school volleyball finals for the second straight year. It was the fourth time Sheila had received this honor.

Betty Byers, who lives near Hagerstown MD, for two years in a row has won top prize for cut roses -- for her peach-colored Brigadoon -- at the Washington County Ag Expo. Betty and her husband **Roy Byers** operate Linden Hall Orchard.

Ed Boyer of Galax VA in 1947 stopped by a new radio station, WBOB, just after he graduated from Capital Radio Institute in Washington DC. He became the station's first engineer and didn't leave for 28 years. Although WBOB is now 50 years old, Ed still makes frequent stops to troubleshoot problems with the transmitter.

David Boyer, a retired resident of the Frederick PA Mennonite Community, got publicity this year for his expertise on crewel work and cross-stitching, a hobby he pursued for more than 20 years until Parkinson's disease made it too difficult. He has sold or given away many of his quilts.

In the "Yesteryear" column of the Norristown PA **Times Herald**, it was reported that 100 years ago a valuable Irish setter belonging to **J. Frank Boyer** (AD26A) was killed by a trolley car on Chestnut Hill Road.

Guy Leader Hovis (BA231), 52, geology professor at Lafayette College in Easton PA, was inducted into the William Penn High School (York PA) Hall of Fame in 1995, 35 years after his graduation. Guy tinkers with minerals by treating them with chemicals, heating them or bombarding them with X-rays. "It's sort of the science-nerd thing," he said.



Officers of the Association of American Boyers

1st row – Hilda Yeager, Marion Boyer, Betty Boyer, Harriet Harman.

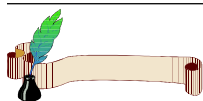
2nd row – Ellen Yost, Jim Boyer, Rick Boyer, Bill Boyer, Lloyd Yost, Donald Boyer, Robert Boyer.

In Memoriam



It deeply saddens us to announce the passing of Marion Boyer this past year. She will be greatly missed.

Marion was an officer of the Association for many years. She took any task given to her and did an excellent job. Her offices held included Treasurer, Secretary, and Director. In recent years many of you met her at the reunions in Boyertown. She helped keep order when everyone came up to the buffet lunch. She always had a smile or a nice thing to say to anyone who came up to talk to her. Her interest and volunteering helped the Association for more than twenty years. Future reunions will be a little less bright. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Marion's family.



Civil War Letters

While surfing the Internet we ran across the following web site with some interesting reading maintained by Jim Kadel. It turns out his ancestor John N. Boyer of Adams Co. served for a mere six months, and although wounded early on he feels it is his duty to continue to serve. Fifteen of his letters to his wife Anna and his father are available for reading. They provide some insight into the Civil War.

The site is <http://www.gettysburgguide.com/preface.html>

Stories continued from page 5

William Boyer (BG221), 1782-1853, moved from Lancaster PA to Chambersburg and Mechanicsburg. He lost his sight while blasting for the Cumberland Valley Railroad.

Hieronymus (Jerome) Krone Boyer (BV311), born in Harrisburg PA in 1814, edited newspapers in Harrisburg, Carlisle and Pottsville PA. He published the Carlisle American and the Pottsville Emporium. Later he was a bookkeeper for coal operators in Pottsville.

John Michael Byers (BR311), 1851-1913, was an engineer for the Union Pacific railroad, from Omaha to Cheyenne when buffalo and Indians still roamed the plains.

Mary Ann Boyer (BG249), born in 1819, owned three hotels in Tyrone PA. Her brother John Jefferson Boyer was the proprietor of Boyer House, in Tyrone.

John Harvey Boyer (BU23A), born in 1856 in Halifax PA, died of a fractured skull after being hit on the head by a flying emery wheel while working at the Dennis Machine Shop in Hutchison Mills NJ.

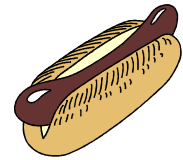
Leonard Boyer (BO118), born in 1797 in Herkimer Country NY, moved his family in 1837 to Eaton County, Michigan, in June 1837, and obtained 240 acres of land. The family made the trip from Syracuse to Buffalo on the Erie Canal, then to Detroit by boat, then from Detroit by land -- a trip of 37 days.

Rev. Joshua Boyer (BF1H), born in 1805, was a stonemason near Reading PA when he saw General Lafayette on his visit to the United States in 1824.

Martin Beyer (BV8) was born in 1750 in Tulpehocken, Berks County PA, and was a tavern keeper in Schaefferstown PA. His wife Catharine Medlern came to America with her parents when she was a baby, and all children on the boat died except two. One descendant still has Catharine's singing book which gave the date of her birth, April 25, 1752.



Catered Lunch Information



Again this year the Association will be offering an optional catered lunch at the reunion. In years past it has always been a huge success and we expect it will be again this year. We know many of you travel long distances to attend the reunion and it can be difficult to bring along a lunch. Don't let that get you stressed out, as we can offer a catered lunch at what we believe is a reasonable price. There are two major changes to the lunch this year. The first change is that it will be a hot buffet. The menu will consist of the following:

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Fried Chicken | Hamburgers | Hot Dogs |
| Baked Beans | Potato Salad | Apple Crisps |
| Rolls & Butter | Condiments | Lemonade, Iced Tea, & Water |

We think this is a great combination and we feel confident that you will enjoy it. This leads to the second change. You **MUST** pre-register to partake of this buffet. Due to constraints from the caterer, we need to be assured we have an accurate count before the reunion. If you want to take advantage of the buffet use the form found on the top of page 11 and send it with your payment before July 11, 1998. The cost (which includes sales tax) is \$7.00 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages (6-10), and children ages 5 and under are free. You can pick up your tickets at the lunch table at the reunion. Remember there will be **NO** tickets for sale at the reunion. You **MUST** pre-register using the form in the newsletter and make sure you send it to the address on the form.

President continued from page 1

confident to be able to publish this volume there are at least three more planned in the future to complete the set. Donald has set a goal to complete work on the remaining volumes, including the index, by our 100th anniversary. If this is to happen we need sustained monetary support from you - the members of the Association. If everyone would donate \$3 yearly we would be in excellent shape for getting the job done. Please keep us in mind when making a donation.

Another change which you can already see is the newsletter. I thought it was time to give it a new look. This is just the first phase. I have added 50% more pages to it, some pictures, and more articles. Let me know what you think. I am still hoping one of these days (when we are better off financially) of doing more than one issue per year. If you have some interesting articles please forward them to me.

Changes have also occurred in my personal life. My wife Peggy and I are the proud parents of a wonderful little girl (our first child). Her name is Alison Nicole Boyer and as you can see by the picture, she is a cutie. She keeps us very busy and is one of the reasons things don't get done as fast, especially Association business. We hope you get a chance to say Hi to us all at the reunion.



In closing, I want to say how very much I have enjoyed guiding the Association through the years, but we can use your help also. There are many areas within the Association that your expertise could be put to good use. Some that come to mind are membership coordinator, reunion organizer, directors, and public relations. If any of these or something else interests you contact me or one of the officers and we will be glad to talk with you. That's about it for this newsletter. As always I hope to see you at the next reunion.

Bill Boyer

Boyer Crest Quilt Auction

Get your bidding pencil sharpened, we are having an auction at this year's reunion. Our secretary **Hilda Yeager** (AI621) graciously and with much labor created a Boyer quilt for the Association. We are planning to offer it through a silent auction at the reunion. The quilt is all white with the Boyer crest outline sewn into it in black thread. The size of the quilt is 92 inches by 76 inches. Hilda and her quilting bee worked on it over this past winter. The proceeds from its sale will go to help defray various costs within the Association. If you can't come to the reunion you can send in or e-mail a bid to the president Bill Boyer (His address is on page 2) Don't send any money until you hear if you had the winning bid. We are sorry we couldn't put a picture in, but the nature of the quilt (mostly white) made it difficult to get a good photo. So come on out and place your bid.



Legal Services

The Association is in need of some pro bono legal services. If you live in the Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, or the Washington DC area and would like to help please contact Bill Boyer; his address can be found on page 2.

Reunion Buffet Lunch Registration Form

Remit to: Association of American Boyers
c/o Harriet Harman
1435 County Line Rd
York Springs, PA 17372

Name _____
Address _____
City, State and Zip _____

_____ Number of Adults X \$7.00 = _____
_____ Number of Children (ages 6-10) X \$3.50 = _____
_____ Number of Children (ages 5 & under) Free
Total _____

Deadline for ALL registration is July 11, 1998

Order Form for the 7th Edition of American Boyers History

Remit to: Association of American Boyers
c/o Robert A. Boyer
2000 Cambridge Ave., Apt 129
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Name _____
Address _____
City, State and Zip _____

No. of Copies Volume I No. of Copies Volume II No. of Copies Volume III

Add the number of books from all three volumes to a get total number and write it here.

Multiply your total number of books by \$45 and enter as your Subtotal here. _____

PA residents add 6% sales tax _____

Grand Total _____

Membership Donation Form

7/98

Remit to: Association of American Boyers
c/o William L. Boyer
3435 Livingston Dr
Jefferson, MD 21755

If your address has changed please print the new one below, otherwise we will use the mailing label on the other side.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State and Zip _____

\$5.00 \$10.00

\$50 Life Membership Other \$ _____

**Please make sure that you send the correct form to the correct address.
It helps us respond more efficiently to your request.**

Gettysburg Visitor Information



If you are coming to the reunion think of making it a weekend or longer trip. Gettysburg is rich in history and activities. Besides touring the Civil War battlefield and museums there are many other sites here and in the surrounding region. Just south of Gettysburg is the Dwight Eisenhower farm, maintained by the National Park service. A little over 30 minutes north is Harrisburg, PA. The same weekend as the reunion a couple of the events are also occurring in the region, they include:

Carlisle Summer Car and Bike Show in Carlisle, PA (over 4,000 vendor spaces)

Annual Civil War Medicine Program with exhibits and demonstrations at the battlefield

To get more information on these and other items such as lodging and dining you can contact the Gettysburg Convention & Visitors Bureau at (717)334-6274. If you have Internet access you can check these sites out for more detailed information on attractions, lodging and dining:

Various pointers
Eisenhower site
NPS Gettysburg site
Gettysburg Welcome Center
Gettysburg Times

http://city.net/countries/united_states/pennsylvania/gettysburg/
<http://www.nps.gov/eise/>
<http://www.nps.gov/gett/>
<http://www.gettysbg.com/>
<http://www.visitgettysburg.com/gtimes/>

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**94th Annual Boyer Reunion July 25,
1998 – Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**