



BOYER ROOTS

Volume 21, No. 1

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

July 2006

102nd Reunion returns for more FUN at Knoebels



The Association of American Boyers Inc., 102nd Annual Reunion is set for Saturday, **July 29, 2006** in tent #10 at Knoebels Amusement Park and Resort in Elysburg, Pennsylvania. Please note this year that due to scheduling conflicts we had to move the reunion from its normal 4th Saturday in July date to the 5th Saturday (July 29). Please mark your calendars accordingly. Also we will be in tent #10 this year. For those that attended the reunion last year, it is right next to the tent that we were in. Directions to Knoebels and the reunion can be found on page 3.

**Free Parking
and
Free Admission**

As in other years, the Reunion is a chance for Boyers and their descendants to assemble from all over the country for a day of fun and friendly gathering. The tent at the park has seating and picnic tables, and is covered for your protection from inclement weather.

Knoebels is a step back to the amusement parks of the past. Parking and admission is **FREE**. Rides for both the kids and adults are extremely reasonable.

Important note: We are offering a very nice catered lunch through Knoebels catering service. More information and reservation forms can be found on page 7 of the newsletter. Please send your reservation in as soon as you can. Also bring your own lunch or wander into the park and purchase something from the very reasonably priced concessions and bring it back to the tent. There is a wide variety of food available and it is very good. You should note that it is a little bit of a walk from the tent so if you don't feel up to it then take advantage of the catered lunch.

A genealogical roundtable will be held beginning at approximately 10:30 am. A discussion of genealogy related information will be led by one or more of the officers of the Association. We invite anyone interested in participating to join in and offer their ideas and experiences. So don't forget to toss those binders of research in the car and bring them along.

**Great
Rides**

The park has an awesome assortment of rides, games, activities, entertainment, and a swimming pool (admission required) at very good prices. As an example; ride the grand carousel and try to grab the brass ring for only 80¢.

**Family
Fun**

Knoebels is one of the last of the traditional amusement parks, but with some thrills for the younger set. They have been highly rated for their food. Also, they have great acts providing entertainment in the bandshell. You won't believe how nice it is until you get there.

Available at the reunion for purchase will be a variety of items with the Boyer crest and the first seven volumes of the 7th Edition of American Boyers. Please let us know if you will be purchasing a book so we can guarantee having one there. Either send us a note or email us at boyerbook@americanboyers.org with a short note. Neither of these obligates you to purchase, but helps save us from having to haul to many books to the reunion.

We hope to see you there and enjoy a day of fellowship with other Boyers. A more detailed schedule can be found on page 5. For more information on Knoebels check their web site at www.knoebels.com. If you have any questions you can also email us at reunion@americanboyers.org

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Dr. Kenneth Boyer, Richardson, TX
Ray Y. Boyer, Independence, MO
Patrick, Boyer M.P., Etobicoke, Can
Tyrie Boyer, Esq., Jacksonville, FL



Historian's Column

The first edition of *American Boyers* was published in 1915. This was a 532 page volume with a brown cover compiled by our first historian, Dr. Charles C. Boyer of Kutztown, Pa.

The second, third, and fourth editions were issued in 1916, 1918, and 1924 as addenda to the first edition.

The fifth edition of *American Boyers* was published in 1940. This was a 664 page volume with a dark reddish cover compiled by our second historian, Melville James Boyer of Allentown, Pa. The sixth edition was issued in 1963 as a 334 page supplement to the fifth edition.

We are now in the process of publishing the seventh edition of *American Boyers*. Your current historian has combined the 1940 and 1963 editions with the vast amount of new information which has come from many sources, including family members, correspondents, newspapers, libraries, historical and genealogical societies, court houses, and cemeteries. Female lines of descent have been included where information has been submitted or the historian has researched his thousands of relatives. Consequently, the seventh edition has expanded to multiple volumes.

Volume one of the seventh edition was published in 1984, with volume two appearing in 1986. All work to that point was compiled manually on a typewriter. In 1987, the historian acquired his first computer, and began the long and tedious task of converting all his information to the computer, using both a Boyer file he created in the Q&A database, and documents for each Boyer chapter in Q&A write. Volume three was published in 1992, with volume four appearing in 1998. With the historian's retirement from his regular employment, volumes five, six, and seven were able to be published at two year intervals in 2000, 2002, and 2004. All seventh edition volumes have bluish covers.

The seventh edition now has seven volumes in print, consisting of 416 chapters, 6,613 pages, and 203,435 names. We are now at the point of completing the seventh edition. We anticipate at least one more volume of information and three volumes for the indexes and appendices. Volume eight will begin with Chapter 417 [QA], and will include the remaining chapters that have not yet been published in the seventh edition. Hopefully, they will fit in the 1200 page limit for each volume. We urge you to submit updated information now if your line has not been published in the first seven volumes of the seventh edition. The deadline for volume eight information is July 31, 2006. The final volumes of the seventh edition will contain an index of the Boyer-Byers, etc. names, a name index for all other persons mentioned in the seventh edition, and appendices of interesting Boyer information.

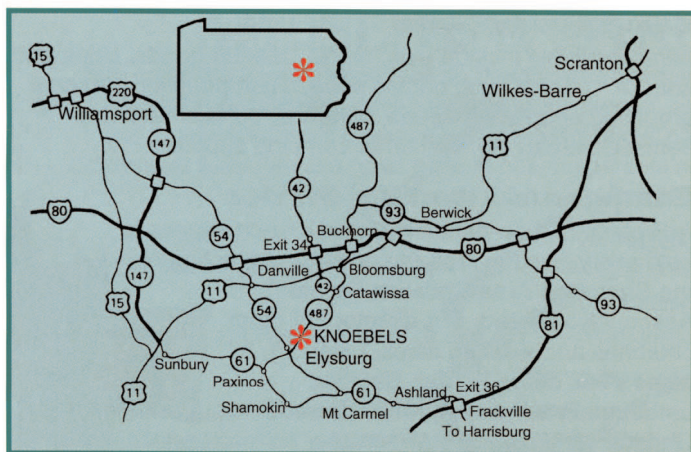
We encourage everyone to continue to report new information and findings, and thank you for the information that has been received. Information may be mailed to your historian at 990 E. Philadelphia St., York, PA 17403-1121. You may also bring information to the reunion where the historian and assistants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

How should your information be submitted? Printouts from your computer program are acceptable, and even preferred. However, vital facts that sometimes are missing from submissions are month and day of birth, place of birth, death, and burial, birth dates of spouses, city or place of current residence, and occupations. If you are not using a computer, forms for reporting information are available from the historian. All information submitted is appreciated and will be incorporated into its appropriate chapter for later publication.

Continued on page 4

Boyer Roots, published annually by the Association of American Boyers Inc. © 2006
Editor - William L. Boyer Contributors: Donald Boyer, William Boyer, Janice 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.



Directions to Knoebels



Conveniently located in Central Pennsylvania, Knoebels can be found on PA 487 between Elysburg and Catawissa. The map at left is just a quick drawing of the approximate location. Knoebels has a number of billboards and signs directing you to the park from most every direction.

Bloomsburg: US 11 south to Catawissa exit. PA 42 south thru Catawissa. Cross bridge and watch for

487 south to bear right up incline. PA 487 south for 6 miles. Campers continue to the top of the hill and turn left into the park. All others turn left at the light into Knoebels.

Danville: PA 54 east thru Danville, just across the river, PA 54 turns left to Elysburg. Left on PA 487 north at the light. Campers bear right into the park, all other park traffic should enter at the light.

Mt. Carmel: PA 61 north thru Mt. Carmel, cross bridge, 1 mile to signals. Right on 54 west to Elysburg. Right on PA 487 north at the light. Campers bear right into the park, all other park traffic should enter at the light.

Sunbury: PA 61 south from Sunbury to Paxinos, 12 miles. At light, left onto PA 487 north thru Elysburg. Campers bear right into the park, all other park traffic should enter at the light.

Shamokin: PA 61 north to Paxinos. At light turn right onto PA 487 north thru Elysburg. Campers bear right into the park, all other park traffic should enter at the light.

I-80 West: Any of 3 Bloomsburg exits 232, 236, 241. With a trailer, we suggest 232, Buckhorn, PA 42 south to Catawissa. Cross bridge and watch for 487 south to bear right up incline. PA 487 south for 6 miles. Campers continue to the top of the hill and turn left into the park. All others turn left at the light into Knoebels.

I-80 East: Danville exit 224, follow Danville directions.

I-81 South: Near Hazleton, take I-80 and I-81 junction. Follow I-80 west (See I-80 west directions)

I-81 North: Minersville exit 116. Turn left onto 901 north to PA 54 west. Right on PA 487 north at the light. Campers bear right into the park, all other park traffic should enter at the light.

Taking Rt.15 North: Follow 15 N. to Hummels Wharf. Bear right at the fork, follow signs to Danville(Rt. 11N). At Danville follow signs to Elysburg (Rt.54). Follow signs to Knoebels.

Taking Rt.15 South: Follow 15 S. to I-80. Follow I-80 E. to Bloomsburg exits 232, 236, 241 (old exits 34, 35, 36). We suggest 232, PA 42 South to Catawissa. Cross bridge to PA 487 South. Follow PA 487 for six miles.

Please note that Knoebels does not have an official street address. Please do not rely on online or map software to find Knoebels. Always travel with a roadmap and be alert for road signs. As a reference Knoebels is approximately 70 miles from Harrisburg, 52 miles from Williamsport, Pa., and 15 miles from U.S. 15.

DNA from page 8

So whether you want to go way back in time or just verify more conclusively who your relatives are or were this new technique may be of use to you. Additional information on various vendors offering DNA analysis can also be found at the following web sites: <http://www.oxfordancestors.com> , <http://www.familyreedna.com> , <http://dnaancestryproject.com> . Please note that the Association of American Boyers does not endorse or provide any review of the services for any of the web sites mentioned in this article. In the end think of it as another potentially useful tool to further your research.

Local Reunions, Announcements, Stories

Just a reminder. If you have a local reunion and would like to let others know then send us a note. We would be glad to post this in the newsletter. Also if you have some interesting stories or an announcement of a event that other Association members would find useful also let us know. We want to make sure information about the Association gets out to the largest number of people possible. If you happen to be having a reunion in the Maryland, Pennsylvania area and would like an officer of the Association to come and talk we would love to do that. Any which way we are here to serve.

Historian 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

Vol. IV - 1998 - 1,095 pages - Chapters 32 [BF] to 48 [BV] 36,594 names

Vol. V - 2000 - 1,100 pages - Chapters 49 [BW] to 124 [ET] 37,096 names

Vol. VI - 2002 - 1,126 pages - Chapters 125 [EU] to 213 [IE] 35,564 names

Vol. VII - 2004 - 1,200 pages - Chapters 214 [IF] to 416 [PZ] 33,120 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, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Seventh Edition is included with this newsletter. Significant data on Abel, Poff, and Dellinger families in York Co., Pa., is included in Volume 7.

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 IF through IZ, J, K, L, M, N, O, or P, your family appears in Volume VII.

An annual Memorial List containing over 500 names with identification numbers 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, Indiana, Johnstown, Lancaster, Lebanon, Norristown, Pottstown, Pottsville, Reading, 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 21755-7917, and we will send you a copy when the listing for the past 12 months is completed in July. Or check our web site at <http://www.americanboyers.org> and you can download a copy saving yourself postage costs.



Volunteers and New Project

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. There is always a lot of things that would benefit greatly from more people being involved. We know everyone has a very busy life style, but if you can see fit to help out it would be greatly appreciated by everyone in the Association.

If you live in the northern Maryland or southern central Pennsylvania some areas that could use a “full-time” volunteer include: book order fulfillment, membership list, and reunion coordinator(s). These tasks would require attending meetings or being able to readily access Association resources so you should live in the area.

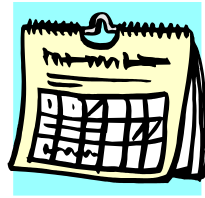
If you aren't “local”, but have a computer then we may have a project for you. As we near completion of our 7th edition of *American Boyers* we have a need for lots of hands to help out. The completion of the books will occur with the printing of the indices which cross reference all of the books. To do this we need the help of folks that have computers, email, one or more of the books, time, and perseverance. If this sounds like you, then get in touch with us and we can go over the specifics. If you are interested, you can e-mail us at boyerbooks@americanboyers.org.

As always if you are just interested in sharing ideas or helping work some of the tables at the reunions or anything else that you think will benefit the Association then please let us know either by writing to us at the address on the outside of the newsletter or emailing us at volunteer@americanboyers.org.



Reunion Lodging

For those coming to the 102nd Reunion and looking for accommodations in the area, there are a number of options. Although Elysburg itself does not have any lodging there are a number of towns within 30 minutes of the amusement park with hotels and motels. For those not familiar with the area, you should search for lodging availability in these towns: Danville, Selinsgrove, Lewisburg, Shamokin Dam, Sunbury, and Williamsport. There are also numerous Bed & Breakfasts in the area. We suggest if you have Internet access to check out the links from Knoebels web site www.knoebels.com to make it easier to find rooms in the area. Staying over allows you to take full advantage of the amenities of the park and not have to worry about being home the same day.



Reunion Schedule

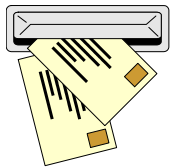
- 10 til closing
 - 10:30 am
 - 12 pm til 1:15 pm
 - 1:15pm
- Registration
 - Genealogical Roundtable
 - Lunch and Mixer, Bring your own or purchase
 - Reunion Program
- Planned events include:
- Welcome, Boyer Songs, Stories and Anecdotes
 - Election and brief report from officers.
 - Awarding of prizes by Richard Boyer
 - PLUS..... More to be Announced.....

Souvenir ribbons will be available at the registration desk.
Crest items will be for sale at the reunion.
The Genealogical Roundtable will consist of a panel of participants.
Boyer songs will be led by Harriet Harman and Patricia Lewis.

Boyer Crest Merchandise

The Boyer crest items were a big hit at the 100th reunion. We know some of you could not make it there, but we still want you to have the opportunity to purchase some of these items. We will be bringing limited number of the clothing and other items to this year's reunion. Some things are in limited supply and we don't anticipate any restocking. We are still looking at sales of the clothing by mail order, but volunteer help is currently at a premium so we plan to look into this option again soon. Remember all proceeds from the sales of these items will go back into the Association's treasury to help support its work.

Membership, 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, but it could be weeks to months based on availability of time.

Membership donations are completely voluntary. We do not remove individuals from our mailing list for not making yearly donations. We feel it is important to keep members up-to-date to when the book relating to their family becomes available. Keep in mind all donations are essential in helping us meet our goals in a timely fashion.

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.

Membership Donation Form

7/06

Remit to:

Association of American Boyers
Memberships
P. O. Box 363
Jefferson, MD 21755-0363

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State and Zip _____
 Email address _____

\$5.00 \$10.00 \$50 Life Membership Other \$ _____

Make checks or money orders payable to: **Association of American Boyers, Inc.**

101st Reunion takes a Ride on a Carousel

The sun came up over the hills of Pennsylvania to shine down on the 101st American Boyer reunion held at the wonderful Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, Pa. Although near the end of July the day turned out beautiful with a cool breeze swirling under the picnic tent. This was the first reunion held at Knoebels, but by the end of the day it was agreed that we should comeback again. The tent was very nice with picnic tables and the Boyers added their own touches with a banner hung from the side telling all that passed that the Boyers were here.



Registration started early and as people came and settled in they had a chance to look over some of the Boyer crest items available for purchase. Also the 7th volume of American Boyers was available fresh off the press along with other volumes for sale.

Bill Boyer led a genealogy discussion in the morning. Numerous attendees participated in the roundtable discussion. Dana Blomquist gave a status report on his research about Boyers in the military. The research is expected to be published as part of the American Boyer books in the future. Donald Boyer, our historian, also provided some interesting information to everyone present.



Lunch was an “on your own” affair. Participants either brought their meals or went further into the park to partake of the great variety of foods available at very reasonable prices. It was decided afterwards that we would try to have a catered lunch available next time to allow everyone to stay through lunch and provide for more comradery and conversations.

After lunch the Boyers gathered again for our reunion program. Bill Boyer asked around to see who were “first timers” and where folks hailed from. Rick Boyer, the Association’s vice president, took over the reigns and hosted the remainder of the program. Prizes were handed out for oldest, farthest, and youngest present. Donald Boyer presented the historian’s report and gave everyone a status of the book publication timeline. Some of the attendees also spoke and shared some of their stories with everyone. Harriet Boyer Harman led everyone in singing the American Boyer songs, which drew a lot of interest from passersby. In concluding, Bill Boyer suggested if folks weren’t in a hurry to stay and enjoy the parks amenities. He wished everyone a safe trip home and hoped to see everyone back at Knoebels again soon.



Catered Lunch Information



The catered lunch has returned. Many folks missed it last year and based on suggestions we have decided to give it a try again this year. We will have Knoebels catering for us this year. We know many of you travel long distances to attend the reunion and it can be difficult to bring along a lunch. Now don’t let that worry you, because available at the reunion will be a catered lunch at a reasonable price. For those interested, the catered lunch will consist of the following: 1/4 Bar-B-Qued chicken, Hot Dog, Macaroni & Cheese, Potato Chips, Cole Slaw, and Ice Cream. The Association will also be offering a vegetable tray and dip for you to get started on. Also included are drinks (Coffee, Iced tea, and Lemonade). Let us reiterate that the catered is an option; those who wish to bring their own meals can do so. If you want to take advantage of the lunch we strongly request that you use the form provided below and pre-register by July 15, 2006. We need to get a fairly accurate count for planning to the caterer by this date. The cost if you pre-register is \$7.95 for adults and children ages 5 and up. Children ages 4 and under are free. If you decide to register at the reunion the prices go up to \$8.50, and free respectively. Again, please pre-register if at all possible as there will only be a **limited** number of tickets available at the door. For those that do pre-register there will be a table at the reunion where you can pick up your tickets.

Reunion Buffet Lunch Registration Form

Remit to:

Assoc. of American Boyers
Lunch
P.O. Box 363
Jefferson, MD 21755-0363

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

_____ Number of Adults or Children(5 and over) X \$7.95 = _____

_____ Number of Children (ages 4 & under) Free

Total _____

Deadline for pre-registration is July 15, 2006

7th Edition – American Boyers History Order Form

Mail to:

Association of American Boyers
 Attn: American Boyer Books
 P.O. Box 363
 Jefferson, MD 21755-0363

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State and Zip _____
 Email address _____

Please allow 8 to 10 weeks for delivery. All books are packed and shipped individually. All questions as to shipping status should be made to the above address. Please note do to circumstances beyond our control an interim system is in place while we restructure our fulfillment process. Please bear with us.

	No. of Copies	Cost		No. of Copies	Cost
Volume 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	x \$50 = <input type="text"/>		Volume 5	<input type="checkbox"/> x \$50 = <input type="text"/>
Volume 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	x \$50 = <input type="text"/>		Volume 6	<input type="checkbox"/> x \$50 = <input type="text"/>
Volume 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	x \$50 = <input type="text"/>		Volume 7	<input type="checkbox"/> x \$50 = <input type="text"/>
Volume 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	x \$50 = <input type="text"/>			

Subtotal _____

6% sales tax (PA residents only) _____

Shipping & Handling x \$7 = _____

Total No. of Books _____
Grand Total _____

Make checks payable to: **Association of American Boyers, Inc.**

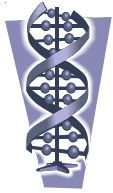


From the President

Another year has come and gone. In my opinion too quickly. I had hoped by this time things would be running a little smoother. As they say never assume anything. As president and the one with which much of the work rests on, I must apologize for not responding to your requests and orders in anywhere near a timely manner. I know this is a major disruption on everyone's agenda and expectations. Please do not blame the Association. Not to sound like a broken record, but volunteer work is just what it says it is and as much as it is important other events and crises in my life take precedence. This does not resolve the fact that orders were delayed and membership requests went unanswered. To this end, if there is any outstanding business you have with the Association then you will be receiving correspondence from me with a letter on what we can do to mutually resolve things and get everything back on track. Additionally, we found with the demise of the book fulfillment provider that some checks and orders were not forwarded or were misplaced and have only recently come into our possession. We will also be working to get in touch with folks on those.

On a more upbeat note the Association is moving forward. I had many comments to me personally about how much people enjoyed Knoebels last year. By adding a catering option this year we hope this makes it even more attractive for you to join us. Being a parent I can tell you my daughter had lots of fun on the rides after the reunion was over. We spent the rest of the day trying out lots of rides and eating lots of great food. To make the trip even nicer we stayed overnight in Selinsgrove so that we did not have to make a long ride home that same day. Keep this in mind when planning your trip to the reunion.

Finally I hope you enjoy the newsletter this year. Although we did not have some of our standard columns like "Boyers on the Move" and "Boyer Stories" we did have some new and useful information. We would love to have you send to us some of your Boyers news items as we can only look through so many newspapers. Additionally, check out the short article on volunteering as we need help in a number of areas especially data gathering for our indices for the 7th Edition of *American Boyers*. Till next year stay safe, healthy, and keep digging for your family roots.



DNA and Genealogy: Is it a Match?

A new area in genealogical research that is showing an increased interest is the use of DNA testing. Through this method a researcher can pursue numerous avenues to obtain varying degrees of detail for his use. This discussion provides a brief overview to help point you to places with more information so you can make an informed decision when pursuing your line of research. As DNA is know as the building block of life, it contains a astronomical amount of information including that which can point a person to a specific heritage, geographical region, or even to a distant relation. This can allow someone to go back through both their maternal and paternal lines. There are some arguments going on as to how accurate and useful the results really are to the genealogical researcher. An interesting article discussing this can be found at <http://www.genpage.com/genealogyDNA.html>.

A reported case study shows some of the potential usefulness of this technique. In this case an African-American researcher had heard that possibly some of his ancestors may have been of Caucasian origin. After having DNA samples from a number of his relatives analyzed he did find that this indeed was the case and it corroborated the family story that had been handed down through the generations.

Just as interesting and something any of us can participate in is the National Geographic's Genographic project. This project has been discussed in the media over the last year, with even the anchors on NBC's Today Show being re-searched. Using a simple kit you can submit a DNA sample to find out where your ancestors may have migrated to/from. This migration goes back anywhere from 10,000 to 100,000 years. It does not give details for recent history (such as the last 500 years). The main website at <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/> is very interesting and educational. You can also order your kit from this site.

Continued on page 3

Volumes I thru VII of *American Boyers* are now available.

**102nd Annual Boyer Reunion July 29, 2006
Knoebel's Park, Elysburg, Pennsylvania**

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hagerstown, MD
Permit No. 93

**THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN BOYERS, INC.
P.O. Box 363
Jefferson, MD 21755-0363**