



April 2009

Dutch's Space-

Membership in the Lichliter Family Association has reached 60, and counting. We have also received Sustaining Member contributions from 10 people, totaling \$600. Thanks to all who have signed on, Regular and Sustaining. I hope that by July, when we publish our Membership Roster, we will have at least 100 Regular Members and perhaps 25 Sustaining Members. To join, use the application on Page 5 and send it to me. (Don't be shy!)

The website, www.Lichliter.com, is still very active. The user name and password required to enter the secure area are still both "lichliter". We will notify you by email when they change. We hope to add to the photo gallery and to start a video gallery. We will be putting up the video of the 1989 Lichliter Reunion in the near future, and adding to it as time goes on. The John Leighliter Descendent Chart is 29 pages long. I've tried to make it a little easier to navigate by color coding the children of Jacob and Jemima and the children of Jacob and Martha. If you spot missing or incorrect persons or dates on the chart please let me know.

I continue to get new contacts from other branches of the family. Recently I heard from Beth (Leighliter) Burkhart, from Grove City PA. Beth put me in touch with her aunt, Ann Leighliter, who has

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Jacob Leighliter (1788-1881) - Our Most Prolific Progenitor

By Bev Ricks

In 1899, George W. Campbell was publishing *The Mountaineer*, a monthly newspaper in Normalville (Fayette County), Pa. That September, as part of an ongoing series called *Springfield's Early History*, he ran an article on the Leighliter family entitled "Leichliter – Rise and Progress." According to Campbell, Jacob was born August 11th, 1788. Baptismal records from the Towhicken Church, in Bucks County, PA, note that Jacob was the first child of John and Lydda (Green) Leighliter. The family arrived in Somerset County (PA) around 1795, settling in Lower Turkeyfoot Twp. Campbell calls the place "Jersey," noting that Jacob "endured hardships and privation" early in life, but "grew with sterling qualities." The Censuses of 1800 and 1810 list Jacob's occupation as "farmer."

Around the time he was 24, about 1812, Jacob married Jemima Campbell, who bore him eight children; five sons, R. Campbell, Thomas, John, Levi and Samuel; and three daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Lydia. Jemima, died on Feb. 4, 1826. She is buried in a small ceme-

tery on a farm north of Confluence, PA.

About four years after Jemima's death, around 1830, Jacob married Martha Williams. They had seven sons, David, Martin, Jacob, James, William Henry Harrison, George, and Albert; and four daughters, Margaret J., Jemima, Martha, and Sarah A. When Jacob married his first wife, Jemima, she was approximately 20 and when he remarried 18 years later, his second wife, Martha, was about 21. He managed to father 19 children with them over a period of 44 years!

Interestingly, Jacob and Martha named one of their daughters Jemima, born 17 years after the death of Jacob's first wife. A person can't help wondering what second wife Martha thought of that? But the practice of naming a second wife's daughter after a deceased first wife wasn't uncommon in times when women often died relatively young after bearing large broods of children. Then there were two sons, Jacob Williams Campbell and David Williams Campbell, who bore both Martha's and Je-

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researched her husband's (Duane) line. They are descended from Samuel C. Leighliter, the seventh child of Jacob and Jemima.



Ann has provided me with a very important piece of research. There is a Johann Lechleitner on the ships log of the Charming Molly, which sailed from Rotterdam with 57 passengers from the Palatine, and arrived in Philadelphia in 1773. Is this our John? If so it places him in America about 15 years before Jacob's birth in 1788 in Bucks County, PA. Fodder for more research.

About a year ago I heard from Melissa Leighliter Drewry from Florida, who sent me considerable info on her line, which is from the same Samuel C. that Beth and her uncle Duane are from. Beth and Melissa are third cousins.

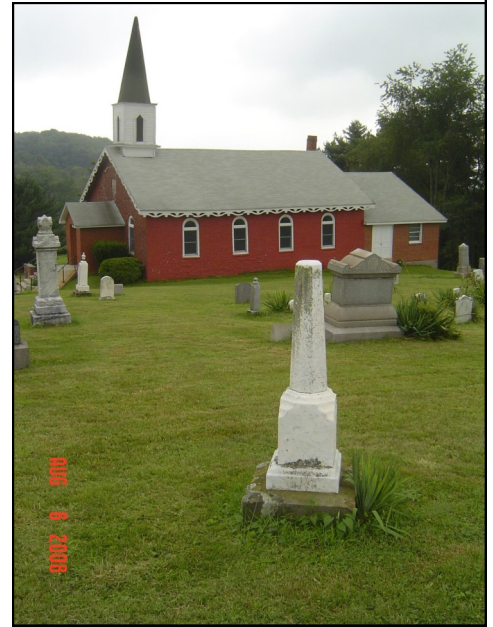
A personal note: My granddaughter Danielle graduates from high school in June. Dani applied to 10 colleges (none in California) and was accepted at all of them. Guess where she has decided to go?? (See page 4)

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 mima's maiden names. These names show up again and again in the family tree, because people often named their children after parents or grandparents, a common practice even today. However, this complicates deciphering who's who when looking at the family tree (see lichter.com— The-Descendants of John Leighliter). There are Johns, Jacobs, Williams, Jemimas, Marys, and Marthas in every branch.

The Leighlitters were, as Campbell put it, a "family of ministers [and] teachers . . . [and an] influence of good example." Indeed, Jacob and Jemima's sons, John and Levi, were ministers. Levi "founded Wesley Chapel [a Methodist church] on his farm." Jacob and Martha's sons, Jacob and George, were leaders in their church, and Albert was a minister. Son David taught school and served as a local constable. That trend is obvious even in more recent family history. Several of the Lichliter men have been burgess (mayor) of Salisbury (PA). Levi (grandson of Jacob), and several of his sons and grandsons held the office. At least half of the members of the Steering committee for the LFA are teachers, either retired or active.

Jacob's death on May 29, 1881, when he was almost 93, was followed within a year by Martha's on Feb. 28, 1882.

She was 73. Jacob and Martha rest beside each other, beneath an unusual monument, in the United Methodist Church cemetery in Normalville, PA.



It's hard to know what Jacob Leichliter's life was really like. We do know that his parents were likely from Germany, and if so, he may have spoken some German. However, he married two non-German women. Jemima, was from Dublin, Ireland, and Martha Williams, was almost surely of English descent. With these two women he managed to produce nineteen children, 88 grand-children and 128 great-grandchildren (that we know of) There were undoubtedly many more. Now, after 10 generations or so, it's likely that he has 5000 or more descendants.

Whattaguy!!



2009 REUNION SET FOR AUGUST 8

The 2009 Lichliter Family Association Reunion is scheduled for the weekend of August 7-9, 2009, in Somerset, PA. I hope that you have marked this weekend on your calendar and are planning to join us.

A block of rooms has been reserved for Friday and Saturday nights at the Somerset Holiday Inn, located just off the turnpike interchange. To receive the per diem discount, inform them that you are with the **Lichliter Family Reunion**. Room details of your choice will be provided when you make your reservations. We need at least 10 rooms reserved to receive the discount. The rate will be \$89.00 + tax per night. Call the Holiday Inn at 814-445-9611

We will kick off the weekend with a Hospitality Gathering on Friday evening at the Holiday Inn. This is a great opportunity to meet and greet family prior to the reunion. As in the past, a variety of activities are being planned for those who wish to learn more about the family, get some exercise, or familiarize themselves with the area their forefathers settled in following their immigration.

The main event on Saturday will be from 12 noon to 4:00 pm in the Baker Room at Oakhurst Tea Room on Route 31 west of Somerset, well known for its smorgasbord. This restaurant has been a local tradition since 1933 and provides excellent food and a comfortable atmosphere. With a subsidy from the LFA, your cost for the meal will be \$10 for adults and \$4 for children under 12.

Following the reunion at Oakhurst, all family members are invited to the home of Christa Cober (the John and Lucille Lichvar home – 1134 Stadium St. - across from the BBHS football complex) in Berlin where we will continue socializing. Refreshments will be provided, and a play area will be set up for youngsters.

Kay Ann Cober, V.P. and Reunion Chair
rockymt1@verizon.net
Phone 814-442-5667.

Please complete the form below.
Detach and send w/check to:

Lichliter Family Assoc.
Debra Spencer, Treasurer
PO Box 143
Smithburg WV 26436

Lichliter Humanitarian Recognition

To nominate a family member for Humanitarian Recognition, submit a written statement of not more than 200 words, describing their humanitarian contributions or service, to Bev_Ricks@hotmail.com by July 15. All nominees will be recognized at the Reunion.

REUNION RESERVATIONS

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

of Adult Meals (ages 12 & up) @ \$10.00 each _____ \$ _____

of Children Meals (under 12) @ \$4.00 each _____ \$ _____



JENNI SPENCER SELECTED MARINE CORP PILOT

Midshipman Jennie Rae Spencer of Smithburg, West Virginia, has been selected Marine Corp Pilot. Service selection announcements were made November 19th at the United States Naval Academy. Spencer was notified that she received her first choice, Marine Air, in the very competitive field. She is scheduled to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology and will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corp May 22nd.



the Physical Readiness Test, and Commandant's List three semesters. As a four-year member of the Navy Women's Swim Team she was named to the Patriot League Academic Honor Roll 2008, First Team All Patriot League 2006 and Second Team All Patriot league 2007 and 2009. She finished her career earning two individual backstroke records, two individual Lejune Hall pool records and was a member of five record breaking relays.

MIDN Spencer is a 2005 graduate of Doddridge County High School. She is the daughter of Ron and Debbie Spencer of Smithburg, West Virginia and the granddaughter of Emily Jane (Lichliter) Hickson of Confluence, Pennsylvania.

Other honors and achievements she has received during her four years at the academy include being named Battalion Midshipman of the semester her

plebe (freshman) year, the Superintendents List, which requires a 3.4 SQPR as well as an A in Military Performance, an A in Conduct and an A or B on

WELCOME TO THE WORLD, COUSIN (Another descendent of Jacob's!)



Miss Harper Lynn Crist, born on March 12, 2009. Weighing in at 8 lbs, 5 oz, 21 1/2 in. Proud parents Shannon and Matt Crist. Shannon is the daughter of Buck Newman, grand-daughter of Winnie Lichliter) Newman (d.2007). The Crist's live in Moberly, MO.



Dani and Popop- We Are...Penn State!!

Have an event (birth, death, wedding, move or promotion?) you'd like to share in the Lantern? Send the information, with photos to: **Bev Ricks, Editor**

7505 Jackson Ave
Takoma Park, MD
20912-5706 or bevricks@hotmail.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY COUSINS

APRIL

1 – Chris James (18)
 3 – Amy Leichliter (25)
 4 – David Shoemaker (61)
 Jeanne Updegaraff (50)
 Daniel Ketcham (31)
 5 - Ronald Wolfe (59)
 Eric Thiry (19)
 Allison Ketcham (31)
 6 - William Cozad (57)
 Gene Lichliter (78)
 8 - Michael Wilson (54)
 10- Verna Leichliter (69)
 Abigail Leichliter (20)
 13- Betty Apple (65)
 Bobby Leichliter (65)
 14- Edward Catto (35)
 15- Steven Ostrander (44)
 16- Kirk Leichliter (52)
 17- Jeffrey Cron (19)
 Charles Griffin (53)
 Nicholas Nowicki (24)
 Donna Lichliter (53)
 18- Janet Griffin (53)
 26- Gerald Jackson (71)
 27- Cameron Nelson (25)
 29- Larry Jacobs (25)

MAY

1–Rachel Gubernator (32)
 Daniel Feeser (21)
 2- Homer Leichliter (65)
 Michael James (61)
 4- Cindy Wedgle (51)
 Ruth Oarker (49)
 5- Laura Leichliter (72)
 8- Cindy Ambrosan (54)
 David Kingman (24)
 Maile Clark (36)
 April Kingman (39)
 Amy Edwards (20)
 10- Corliss Keller (54)
 12- Charles Griffin (77)
 Diane Kingman (53)
 Deborah Leichliter (59)
 15- Mark Leichliter (47)
 Michael Colling (41)
 16- William James (50)
 18- Justin Leichliter (37)
 19- Theodon Adair (3)
 20- James McClung (53)
 21- Thomas Clark (64)
 22- Elana Feeser (13)
 23- Robert Lint (82)
 Donald Netzel (62)

24- Stephanie Billard (16)
 25- Jerry Nowicki (55)
 Mary Blocher (81)
 26- Kirk Leichliter (44)
 Alan Leichliter (53)
 Kathleen Edwards (49)
 28- Barbara Tice (62)
 29- Rachel Leichliter (39)
 30- Lee Keller (52)

JUNE

1- Laura White (29)
 2- William Leichliter (79)
 Eric James (37)
 4- Norman Leichliter (69)
 Jessica Miller (28)
 5- Peggy Nowicki (55)
 Christa Cober (36)
 Carol Lichliter (54)
 7- Michelle Thiry (14)
 8- Deborah Lichliter (50)
 Emily James (56)
 9- Melissa Leighiter (38)
 Emily Hickson (86)
 Sharon Pepper (48)
 Kevin Billard (20)

10-Elizabeth Poletti (75)
 Patricia Maust (56)
 Ryan Miller (17)
 Elizabeth Vanderloo (75)
 14-Karen Murphy (56)
 16-Kevin Wagner (45)
 Karen Steward (44)
 18-Diana Leichliter (54)
 Scott Thiessen (34)
 Ronald Keller (66)
 20-Retina Griggs (47)
 21-Megan Walker (26)
 22-LuAnna Leichliter (65)
 Cordelia Clark (64)
 23-Gayle White (80)
 Courtney Smith (16)
 24-Ashlyn McKerahan (17)
 25-Linda Harms (55)
 26-Adrienne Lichliter (23)
 27-Marlene Lichliter (73)
 28-Otto Leichiter, Jr. (90)
 Elizabeth Keller (24)
 Alexis Keller (26)
 29-Bonnie Apple (48)
 Laci Leichliter (26)

JOIN THE LICHLITER FAMILY ASSOCIATION!!

Becoming a member of the LFA entitles you to continue to receive this newsletter and all other communications, and to receive the password needed to access the private portions of our website, Lichliter.com. Fill out this simple application and send it along with a check to the LFA for \$5.00 for each person that wants to become a member.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I prefer to receive communications via: E-mail _____ US Postal _____

Mail to:

Lichliter Family Assoc.
 Dutch Lichliter, President
 366 Singing Brook Circle
 Santa Rosa CA 95409

OR

I'd like to be a Sustaining Member of the LFA this year. Enclosed is my check for \$25.00 (or more), which I understand also makes me a Member for life. \$ _____ amount enclosed.



Lichliter Family Association
366 Singing Brook Circle
Santa Rosa CA 95409
DLichliter@aol.com

Your Name Here