

Baggenstoss Shield

# Backenstoss

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## Plan to Attend our 64th Reunion

Berks Leisure Area

Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania

**Sunday, August 4, 1996**

**WE'RE PLANNING A PROGRAM FOR ALL**

*Come to celebrate the Family's first 253 years in America!*

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Our 1995 reunion at the Alexander Schaeffer Farm in Schaefferstown, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania again proved to be a very enjoyable and memorable day for all. A group photograph from the reunion can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. Special thanks go to Lee and Dottie Backenstose for reserving the Schaeffer Farm and making many of the arrangements that culminated in our successful gathering.

This year's 1996 reunion will be held on Sunday, August 4, 1996 at the Berks Leisure Area. This picturesque setting along the banks of the Tulpehocken Creek was the site of our 1994 reunion. A map showing the location of the leisure area appears on the outside cover of this newsletter. Ongoing road construction in the immediate vicinity of the Berks Leisure Area may require some changes in the route we will use to enter the park. Signs will be posted if any changes are necessary.

Our schedule will be as follows:

- 12:00 Registration and luncheon. Sign in, get your name tag and get acquainted.
- 1:00 Call to Order of Annual Meeting, Invocation, brief reports of Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, President. Election of ten Directors.
- 1:45 Games (Fisherman may want to bring their equipment.)

Picnic fare will be provided - hot dogs, chips and assorted sodas. We suggest that it would be nice to bring some fruit, cake, or other goodies for dessert, perhaps in quantities that can be shared.

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For our reunion in 1997 we will return to the Berks Leisure Area!

**65TH REUNION**

**BERKS LEISURE AREA, PENNSYLVANIA  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1997**

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**Recognized  
Family  
Spellings:**

BACASTOW  
BACKENSTO  
BACKENSTOE  
BACKENSTOES  
BACKENSTOS  
BACKENSTOSE  
BACKENSTOSS  
BACKENSTOW  
BAGENSTOES  
BAGENSTOS  
BAGENSTOSE  
BAGENSTOSS  
BAGGENSTOS  
BAGGENSTOSS

**OFFICERS**

**President\***

Hon. John E. Backenstoe  
3955 Azalea Road  
Allentown, PA 18103

**1st Vice President\***

J. Harold Backenstoe  
1107 Ave. F, Box 177  
Riverside, PA 17868

**2nd Vice President\***

D. Lee Backenstose, M.D.  
731 Sand Hill Road  
Hershey, PA 17033

**3rd Vice President\***

Brian W. Bagenstose  
117 Marie Drive  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

**Secretary\***

Ethelmae Marushak  
1495 Riverbend Road  
Allentown, PA 18103

**Treasurer\***

Warren B. Backenstoe  
7523 Stein Road  
Zionsville, PA 18092

**Historian\***

Elwood B. Backensto  
32 Holly Drive  
Woodbury, NJ 08096-3316

**Asst. Historians**

Alfred R. Baggenstos  
Hope Baggenstoss  
Milton A. Baggenstoss  
Lois O. Schlichting

**Chaplain**

Bruce R. Backensto

**Directors\***

Russell B. Backensto  
1532 W. Broad St.  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Henry B. Backenstoss  
408 S. Tulpehocken Rd.  
Reading, PA 19601-1030

Earl A. Bagenstose  
16 Edgehill Drive  
Lancaster, PA 17603

Ray R. Bagenstose  
Springside Manor Apts.  
308-1 Amy Court  
Shillington, PA 19607

\*Directors

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our family gathering will be honored by Special Guests traveling from Rafz, Switzerland --- the picturesque village where our forefathers lived before coming to America 253 years ago:

### HANS & HENALISE REUTSCHMANN

(Hans is the President/Mayor of Rafz)

and

### KURT & MARGRIT BAGGENSTOSS

(who live in a Family Homestead  
dating back several hundreds of years)

These and other Rafz townspeople opened their town and hearts to our Roots Trip entourage in 1993. Our American group was pictured in our 1994 Newsletter --- along with a photo taken on the Gnal above Rafz of our Historian autographing copies of the Family History for Mayor Rutschmann and August Baggenstoss, the family researcher who made it possible for us to join the American family line to the Baggenstosses still living in Rafz today.

Margrit, a nurse, helped her father-in-law August, a master mechanic who retired in 1978, in his early researching days. Kurt, the son of August, is an architect.

Incidentally, a 27-year old Johannes Rutschmann was with the Hans Ulrich Baggenstoss family that left Rafz in 1743.

Come Meet Our Guests!

They are excited about coming here. For years, they have been Ambassadors of Friendship for American relatives passing through Rafz. Let's Reciprocate!

John E. "Jeb" Backenstoe

President

## IN MEMORIAL

Many will recall MARY MARTHA BACASTOW, from our 1993 Roots Trip and who came to our PA Reunion the past three years from Oregon, who died 10-10-1995, age 78 (p. 161, E11.).

## DID YOU KNOW?

WILLIAM GUY BAGGENSTOSS who earned a B.S. in Mech. Eng. UCLA 1979 and an MBA UCLA 1981 made a career switch in 1994 when he and his wife, Elizabeth, began service as missionaries with Latin America Mission. Now living in San Jose, Costa Rica. They would welcome contact from friends and relatives who might be passing nearby (see p. 293)

These FAMILY NAMES began to two persons:

BRIAN KEITH BACKENSTO - one *b.* 1973 (p. 121,I2) and the other *b.* 1975 (p. 185,H3.)

JOHN EUGENE BACKENSTO - one *b.* 1924 (p. 233,sF3.); the other *b.* 1952 (p. 252,sH1.)

KEITH RICHARD BACKENSTO - one *b.* 1977 (p. 1977,J1.); the other *b.* 1994 (Add. p. 180,H4.)

BARBARA ANN BAGENSTOSE - one *b.* 1941 (p. 64,G3.); the other *b.* 1945 (p. 97,G3.) plus a BARBARA ANN BACKENSTOE, *b.* 1838 (p. 135,D3.)

DANIELLE RENE BACASTOW, *b.* 1978 (Add. p. 146,I2.) and a DANIELLE RENAE BACKENSTO, *b.* 1974 (p. 180,I2.)

## OF HISTORIC NOTE

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States prepared "A National Salute" commemorating the 50th Anniversary of V-E Day, May 8, 1945. This Salute was published in the May 8, 1995 *Washington Times*. They pointed out:

*Today, more than 1,600,000 active duty military personnel stand vigilant around the world.  
More than 11,000,000 veterans of America's foreign conflicts are alive today.*

The VFW published a list of supporters ---- more than 80,000 names. Of all the names on this list, our family name (including all variations) could be found only **once** --- with residency in New Jersey. What a surprise!

## HISTORIAN'S REPORT

HISTORY is the branch of knowledge dealing with past events. In other words, HISTORY is a gift to those who follow. Accounts of human pedigrees of ancestors or relatives is genealogy. For example, genealogical lines can found in the Bible.

Family HISTORIES have personalities all their own. Hence, those fortunate enough to know their pedigree can better understand their makeup, mentality, intuition, and psychic.

Our Family Association was founded in 1927; its stated purpose is "for the perpetuation of the HISTORY and traditions of the family". To help commemorate the 250th Anniversary of our forefathers arriving in America, a 432-page comprehensive FAMILY HISTORY was edited, printed, and copyrighted. I thought most family members would want a copy for themselves or as a heirloom for each of their children. It appears my enthusiastic estimate was unfounded. While millions of people are searching their roots, the BFA has been researching our ancestry or HISTORY for nearly 70 years. The results have been published for all to enjoy.

Last year I reported that 28 libraries have a copy of our FAMILY HISTORY. During the past year five libraries were added to that list; namely --- Swiss American Historical Society; DAR Library in Washington,DC; the Balch Institute of Ethnic Studies in Philadelphia,PA; The Genealogical Forum of Oregon; and the Public Library in Hershey,PA.

The most frequently asked question I get is --- are copies of the HISTORY still available? Yes, over 200 are still looking for a home. We'll let you know when the supply is nearly exhausted.

Many have said, after submitting data not in the current book, "I'll wait to purchase the next HISTORY." No "next" HISTORY is planned. It would be impractical to print a new HISTORY until another generation has been added --- meaning another 30 plus years. Nonetheless, I shall continue to collect family data for the future generations, but my time will run out before a new printing is contemplated.

Here, in part, is a review of our HISTORY in "The Journal of American Family Records":  
*The job of Historian for a family association is a formidable (look up that word in your dictionary!) task. The book is a compilation of data supplied by persons of the variations of the Backenstoss/Baggenstoss surname from the time of immigration. The goal is to trace all persons in North America with a variation of the surname back to their European ancestors. . . . Included are sections on the original homestead, the will of Ulrich, unconnected names and a discussion of the family surname. Part 1 concludes with a section on the family association including a history, constitution and bylaws, officers and reunion dates. . . . Part 2 details the family in Switzerland, Germany, England, and New Zealand. . . .*

My computer is now "keeper of the records". We'd love to hear from you.

Woody Backensto, Historian

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Our financial condition remains sound. Dues are \$2.00 as before. We are still encouraging all to step up to the \$5.00 level if they can. Thanks to all who have done so. This really does make a difference.



Group Photo - Schaefferstown, PA - 1995

U.S. MILITARY SERVICE OF THOSE WITH VARIATION OF BACKENSTOSS FAMILY NAME

Revolutionary War(1775-81)

Andreas (Andrew) Backenstoss(1753-1805) p206,sB2  
 Hans Heinrich Backenstoss(1738- ? ) p203,A5  
 Jacob Backenstoss(1757-1818) p207,sB2  
 Johannes Backenstoss(1734-1799) p162,A3  
 Johannes Backenstoss(1736-after 1800) p208.sA2

War of 1812

Flieger Backenstoc(1769-1851) p225,sC4  
 John Hanger Backenstoc(1794- ? ) p210 & 224,sC3  
 Jacob Backenstoss(1769-1813) p242,sB4  
 George Backenstoss(1782- ? ) p205,sB10

Mexican War (1846-8)

Jacob B. Backenstos(1811-1857) p195,C7

Civil War (1861-5)

George A. Backenstoc(1841- ? ) p145, ?  
 John Backenstoc(1816-1866) p223,sD3  
 William Frederick Backenstoc(1844-1914) p224,sE1  
 Benjamin S. Backenstos(1846-1870) p213,sD8  
 George William Backenstos(1835-1903) p211,sD2  
 Henry Backenstos(1842- ? ) p212,sD6  
 Edmund Willcets Backenstoc(1842-1861) p242,sD2  
 George W. Backenstoc(1846-1913) p253,sD1  
 John H. Backenstoc(1842-1905) p244,sD1  
 Daniel L. Bagenstos(1828-1900) p39,D3

Spanish-American War(1898)

Pempus (Pete) Eugene Backensto(1872-1907) p281,sE4  
 Charles Marburger Bagenstoc(1879-1898) p86,E1 *d. in action*

World War I

Simon Peter Bacastow(1893-1962) p153,E5  
 Arthur Byron Backensto(1898-1978) p191,F3  
 Elias Kinzer Backensto(1859-1931) p198,D7  
 George Harold Backensto(1895-1976) p268,sF3  
 Lloyd Benjamin Backensto(1893-1972) p179,F1  
 Hughey Backenstoc(1896-1965) p214,sG1 wounded

Miers Selers Backenstoc(1896-1965) p186,F2  
 Joseph Harrison Bagenstos,Jr.(1889-1974) p42,F1  
 Abner Harvey Bagenstoc(1894-1954) p94,F2  
 Arthur Samuel Bagenstoc(1896-1975) p112,E6  
 Edwin Mast Bagenstoc(1891-1968) p83,E9  
 Raymond Morris Bagenstoc(1896-1967) p95,F3  
 Albert Fred Baggenstoss(1895-1964) p274,aB1  
 John Jacob Baggenstoss(1900-1993) p307,bB1

World War II

Dr. Merle Stoner Bacastow(1917- ) p152,F2  
 Edythe Pauline Bacastow(1910-1990) p152,F1  
 Jack LeRoy Bacastow(1925- ) p160,F2  
 Ronald Lysle Bacastow(1923- ) p159,F1  
 Wesley Gene Bacastow(1928- ) p160,F3  
 Arthur Byron Backensto,Jr.(1926- ) p181,G1  
 David Edgar Backensto(1925- ) p194,F3  
 Edna (Edie) Lorraine Backensto(1920- ) p232,sF2  
 John Eugene Backensto(1924- ) p233,sF3  
 Joseph Richard Backensto(1923-1988) p229,sG1  
 Richard Moyer Backensto(1918- ) p177,F5  
 Dr. Gerald Selers Backenstoc(1903-1984) p186,F5  
 Edgar Miles Backenstoc,Jr.(1916- ) p194,F2  
 Mark Delbert Backenstoc(1925- ) p146,G7  
 Warren Benjamin Backenstoc(1921- ) p183,G2  
 Richard Neil Backensto(1924- ) p212,sG1  
 Dr. Daniel Lee Backenstoc(1915- ) p130,F3  
 Dr. Thomas Cecil Backenstoc(1918- ) p131,F4  
 Rev. J. Donald Backenstoc(1906-1985) p130,F1  
 Robert Oliver Backenstoc(1919-1984) p270,sF2  
 Earl Winch Backenstoc(1907-1991) p255,sF3  
 Herbert Webster Backenstoc(1912-1965) p202,F1  
 Ross Elwood Backenstoc(1914-1974) p201,F2

Stanley Pierce Backenstoss(1921- ) p201,F1  
 Lloyd Marion Bagenstos(1921-1962) p48,G1  
 Carl Lester Bagenstoc(1926- ) p113,F4  
 Charles Danical Bagenstoc(1915- ) p55,F1  
 Earl Adam Bagenstoc(1918- ) p112,F4  
 Francis Eric Bagenstoc(1920-1967) p67,G1  
 George Edgar Bagenstoc(1925- ) p53,G4  
 James Jerome Bagenstoc((1909-1993) p55,F4(Add.)  
 Kenneth Sherwood Bagenstoc(1928- ) p59,G7  
 Wayne Joseph Bagenstoc(1926-1988) p81,F10  
 Fred Bagenstos(1918-1974) p314,oB7  
 George Bagenstos(1920- ) p318,wC4  
 Albert Emile Baggenstoss(1913-1991) p310,bB6  
 Charles William Baggenstoss(1910- ) p309,bB5  
 Elmer Joseph Baggenstoss(1916- ) p298,aB6  
 Elwin Paul Baggenstoss(1914-1992) p301,aB4  
 Frederic Conrad Baggenstoss(1908-1979) p309,bB4  
 Harold A. Baggenstoss(1911- ) p301,aB3  
 Herman Edward Baggenstoss(1904- ) p309,bB3  
 Louis Baggenstoss(1922- ) p302,aB8  
 Robert Walter Baggenstoss(1902- ) p308,bB2  
 Rollin Neumann Baggenstoss(1921- ) p302,aB2  
 Wayne Henry Baggenstoss(1924-1964) p294,aB5

Korean War

James Warren Bacastow(1946- ) p146,H1  
 Mark Delbert Backenstoc(1921- ) p146,G7  
 Wayne Joseph Bagenstoc(1926-1988) p81,F10

Vietnam War

James Edward Backenstoc(1951- ) p257,sG2(Add.)  
 Tom Jay Bagenstoc(1947-1967) p67,H1 *d. in action*  
 John Alexander Baggenstoss(1937- ) p300,aC2

U. S. Air Force

Clinton Franklin Bacastow(1920- ) p154,F1  
 Robert Bruce Bacastow(1930- ) p154,F1



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 George Harold Backensto(1895-1976) p268,sF3  
 Lloyd Benjamin Backensto(1893-1972) p179,F1  
 Hughey Backenstoe(1896-1965) p214,sG1 wounded

Miers Selers Backenstoe(1896-1965) p186,F2  
 Joseph Harrison Bagenstos,Jr.(1889-1974) p42,F1  
 Abner Harvey Bagenstose(1894-1954) p94,F2  
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 Edwin Mast Bagenstose(1891-1968) p83,E9  
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 Albert Fred Baggenstoss(1895-1964) p274,aB1  
 John Jacob Baggenstoss(1900-1993) p307,bB1

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 Wesley Gene Bacastow(1928- ) p160,F3  
 Arthur Byron Backensto,Jr.(1926- ) p181,G1  
 David Edgar Backensto(1925- ) p194,F3  
 Edna (Edie) Lorraine Backensto(1920- ) p232,sF2  
 John Eugene Backensto(1924- ) p233,sF3  
 Joseph Richard Backensto(1923-1988) p229,sG1  
 Richard Moyer Backensto(1918- )p177,F5  
 Dr. Gerald Selser Backenstoe(1903-1984) p186,F5  
 Edgar Miles Backenstoe,Jr.(1916- ) p194,F2  
 Mark Delbert Backenstoe(1925- )p146,G7  
 Warren Benjamin Backenstoe(1921- ) p183,G2  
 Richard Neil Backensto(1924- ) p212,sG1  
 Dr. Daniel Lee Backenstoe(1915- ) p130,F3  
 Dr. Thomas Cecil Backenstoe(1918- ) p131,F4  
 Rev. J. Donald Backenstoe(1906-1985) p130,F1  
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Stanley Pierce Backenstoss(1921- ) p201,F1  
 Lloyd Marion Bagenstos(1921-1962)p48,G1  
 Carl Lester Bagenstose(1926- ) p113,F4  
 Charles Danical Bagenstose(1915- )p55,F1  
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 Francis Eric Bagenstose(1920-1967) p67,G1  
 George Edgar Bagenstose(1925- ) p53,G4  
 James Jerome Bagenstose((1909-1993) p55,F4(Add.)  
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 Harold A. Baggenstoss(1911- ) p301,aB3  
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 Louis Baggenstoss(1922- ) p302,aB8  
 Robert Walter Baggenstoss(1902- ) p308,bB2  
 Rollin Neumann Baggenstoss(1921- ) p304,aB2  
 Wayne Henry Baggenstoss(1924-1964) p294,aB5

Korean War

James Warren Bacastow(1946- ) p146,H1  
 Mark Delbert Backenstoe(1921- )p146,G7  
 Wayne Joseph Bagenstoe(1926-1988) p81,F10

Vietnam War

James Edward Backenstoe(1951- ) p257,sG2(Add.)  
 Tom Jay Bagenstoe(1947-1967) p67,H1 d. in action  
 John Alexander Baggenstoss(1937- ) p300,aC2

U. S. Air Force

Clinton Franklin Bacastow(1920- ) p154,F1  
 Robert Bruce Bacastow(1930- ) p154,F1

James Eugene Backensto(1934- ) p252,sG1/sG2(Add.)	William Michael Backenstose(1945- ) p270,sG1	<b>U. S. Marines</b>
Jan Roseann Backensto(1950- ) p195,G2	Gary Keith Backenstoss(1948- ) p201,G2	Ricky Lee Backensto(1954- ) p252,sH2
Robert Howard Backensto(1931- ) p119,H1	Robert Alan Backenstoss(1943- ) p202,G3	Robert Richard Backensto(1952- ) p252,sH3 (Add.)
Russell Bruce Backensto(1939- ) p185,G3	Dale Raymond Bagenstos(1937-1995) p32,H3(95 Add.)	Herbert Calvin Bagenstose,Jr.(1950- ) p60,H1
Terry Louis Backensto(1950- ) p252,sH2 (Add.)	Jim Merlin Bagenstos(1939- ) p36,H1	<b>U. S. Navy</b>
James Willard Backenstoe(1940- ) p216,sH2	<b>U. S. Army (cont'd)</b>	Arthur Jacob Bacastow(1927- ) p121,G10
Eugene Lee Bagenstos(1932- ) p22,H1	Jon Lee Bagenstos(1953- ) p33,H3	Donald Earl Bacastow(1940- ) p154,F2
Herbert Jay Bagenstos(1929- ) p24,H1	Robert Ray Bagenstos(1926- ) p49,G2	Robert Kenneth (Jim) Backensto(1925- ) p121,G10
Steven Earl Bagenstos(1952- ) p33,H2	Larry Lee Bagenstose(1947- ) p55,G3	William Howard Backenstose,Jr.(1936- ) p84,G1
William Frank Bagenstos(1917- ) p317,wC2	Arnold John Baggenstos(1921- ) p318,wC5	David Earl Bagenstose(1957- ) p112,G3
John Alexander Baggenstoss(1937- ) p300,aC2	William Frank Baggenstos,Jr.(1952- ) p318,wD4	Dr. Clinton Harvey Bagenstose(1915-1972) p96,F1
<b>U. S. Army</b>	Arthur Andrew Baggenstoss(1913- ) p298,aB5	Dr. Archie Herbert Baggenstoss(1908- ) p298,aB2
Albert Hans Bacastow(1916- ) p158,F3	David James Baggenstoss(1940- ) p286,aC10	James Robert Baggenstoss(1946- ) p308,bC2
Clinton Shearer Bacastow(1945- ) p154,G1	Delmar Albert Baggenstoss(1926-1974) p275,aC3	Joel Ned Baggenstoss(1950- ) p284,aD1
David Lee Bacastow(1949- ) p157,G1	Donald John Baggenstoss(1923- ) p299,aB8	Kevin Paul Baggenstoss(1954- ) p303,aC3
Todd Smith Bacastow(1970- ) p153,G2	Fred Michael Baggenstoss(1946- ) p310,bB6	Lloyd August Baggenstoss(1924- ) p302,aB9
Gary Eugene (Butch) Backensto(1946- ) p117,H3	Glen August Baggenstoss(1932- ) p285,aC6	Minars Alfred Baggenstoss(1927-1987) p277,aC1
J. Roby Backensto(1939- ) p177,G1	Gordon Albert Alexander Baggenstoss (1918- ) p301,aB6	Virgil Baggenstoss(1927- ) p284,aC2
Larry Russell Backensto(1947- ) p121,H2	Laurel Gordon Baggenstoss(1935- ) p286,aC8	<b>Persian Gulf Conflict</b>
Richard Harvey Backensto(1933- ) p122,G12	Milford Paul Baggenstoss(1934- ) p289,aC1	John Howard Backensto(1963- ) p230,sH1
Roger Dale Backensto(1948- ) p180,H2	Milton Albert Baggenstoss(1930- ) p285,aC4	
James Sumner Backenstoe(1942- ) p196,G1	William Jay Baggenstoss(1956- ) p295,aC4	
John Edwin Backenstoe(1932- ) p187,G2		
Lloyd George Backenstoe(1918- ) p267,sG1		
Lester Ray Backensto(1933- ) p137,G1		
Gene Raymond Backenstos(1941- ) p213,sG5		
Dr. James (Jeb) Ellis Backenstose(1946- ) p94,H1		
Robert D. Backenstose(1968- ) p84,H1		

(Reference -- Page(p) & Code from 1993 Family History)  
(Many Spouses & Relatives also have had Military Service)  
(Additions & Corrections Welcomed by Family Historian)

**BACKENSTOSS FAMILY ASSOCIATION**  
Publication Fund Account  
April 1996

Value of Publication Fund Account on 7-18-1996		S 1,691.76
Income 7-18-1995 to 4-10-1996		
3 Histories @ \$27.50	\$ 82.50	
9 Hist. + Add. @ \$32.00	288.00	
Donations	140.00	
Interest	20.31	
	<u>S 530.81</u>	530.81
		<u>S 2,222.57</u>
Expenses 7-18-1995 to 4-10-1996 (owed Historian)		
Postage	82.28	
	<u>82.28</u>	
In Account #1008-021479 on 4-10-1996 (Corestates, NJ National Bank, Woodbury, NJ 08096)		<u>S 2,222.57</u>
Cost of Histories -- Paid for by Historian -- \$12,984.72		
Repaid on 7-30-1993	\$ 1,651.74	
Repaid on 7-22-1994	3,332.98	
Repaid on 7-11-1995	2,000.00	
	<u>\$6,984.72</u>	
Amount Owed Historian on 7-18-1995	<u>\$ 6,000.00</u>	

Submitted by,  
E. B. Backensto, Historian

**WHO'S WHO IN THE BFAA**



*Martine and Hank*

This year again we are honoring someone "in our own back yard!" A member of our Board of Directors since 1978 and President from 1988 to 1995, Henry (Hank) Backenstoss has taken an active role in the family association. He has been responsible for initiating this newsletter, which has been so useful in conveying important information to our some 1,000-plus members.

The world has been Hank's oyster. Graduating from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1935, he presciently took a 3,300-mile bicycling vacation in Europe before joining a Boston consulting engineering firm specializing in the field of electric power that fall. Some 24 years later there was an opportunity to join the Faculty of Engineering of the American University of Beirut in Lebanon at the eastern end of the Mediterranean.

Rejoining his former consulting engineering employer 3 years later, Hank found himself in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 1962, heading a group charged with advising the government of that oil-rich desert kingdom with respect to its electric power policy. To improve the service provided by the electric companies there, and to lower what were very high electric rates, was seen by the Saudi government as an important element in modernizing life and improving its quality. It was a fascinating and important assignment, one providing many memorable incidents as well.

To those who have read thus far, the person who shares the accompanying photograph is not a well-known British subject, but a joint production with Hank's Paris-born wife.

**DATA for BACKENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY**

	<u>First Name.</u>	<u>Middle Name.</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City and State</u>
<b>BIRTHS</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Parents' Names	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>DEATHS:</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>MARRIAGE OF:</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TO :</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
				(Birth)	
Wife's Parents' Names:	_____				

Send to: E. B. Backensto, Historian  
 32 Holly Drive  
 Woodbury, NJ 08096-3316

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_  
 Page in 1993 History, if known \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*  
 To Order

**BACKENSTOSS - BAGGENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY(1993)**  
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Only From Family Historian: --- E. B. Backensto, 32 Holly Drive, Woodbury, NJ 08096-3316

\* \* \* \* \*

To: Warren B. Backenstoe, Treasurer  
 7523 Stein Road, Zionsville, PA 18092

Enclosed is my check to B. F. A. for support in 1996 (dues contribution) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## 1995 Reunions

The 23rd annual Baggenstoss reunion of the Minnesota branch was held at the Lions Park in St. Joseph, MN on June 25, 1995. One hundred and thirty two relatives and friends attended. J. Harold Backenstose from Riverside, Pa, included our family reunion in his trip to Denver CO. We enjoyed his visit with us and we look forward to his return in the future.

St. Joseph, MN is near Albany, MN, where Jacob and Rosina Baggenstoss settled when they arrived in the United States from Switzerland. The 1996 reunion will be held at the same park on June 23rd. We look forward to having more of our relatives from that area join us that day.

As always, the food was of a great variety and very delicious. Many games were planned by the game committee and enjoyed by all who participated. The same three young men, Florian, Daniel, and Darrell Baggenstoss will be planning the games again for our next reunion.

The park was beautiful as was the weather. We welcome all relatives to join us again. If you have never joined us before, please come and join us in 1996.

Lois Schlicting  
Historian, MN Branch

### Romance at Shady Rest Finds Couple Anxious to Wed

That's a headline from the *Ft. Myers, FL News-Press*. The following quotes give the rest of the story.

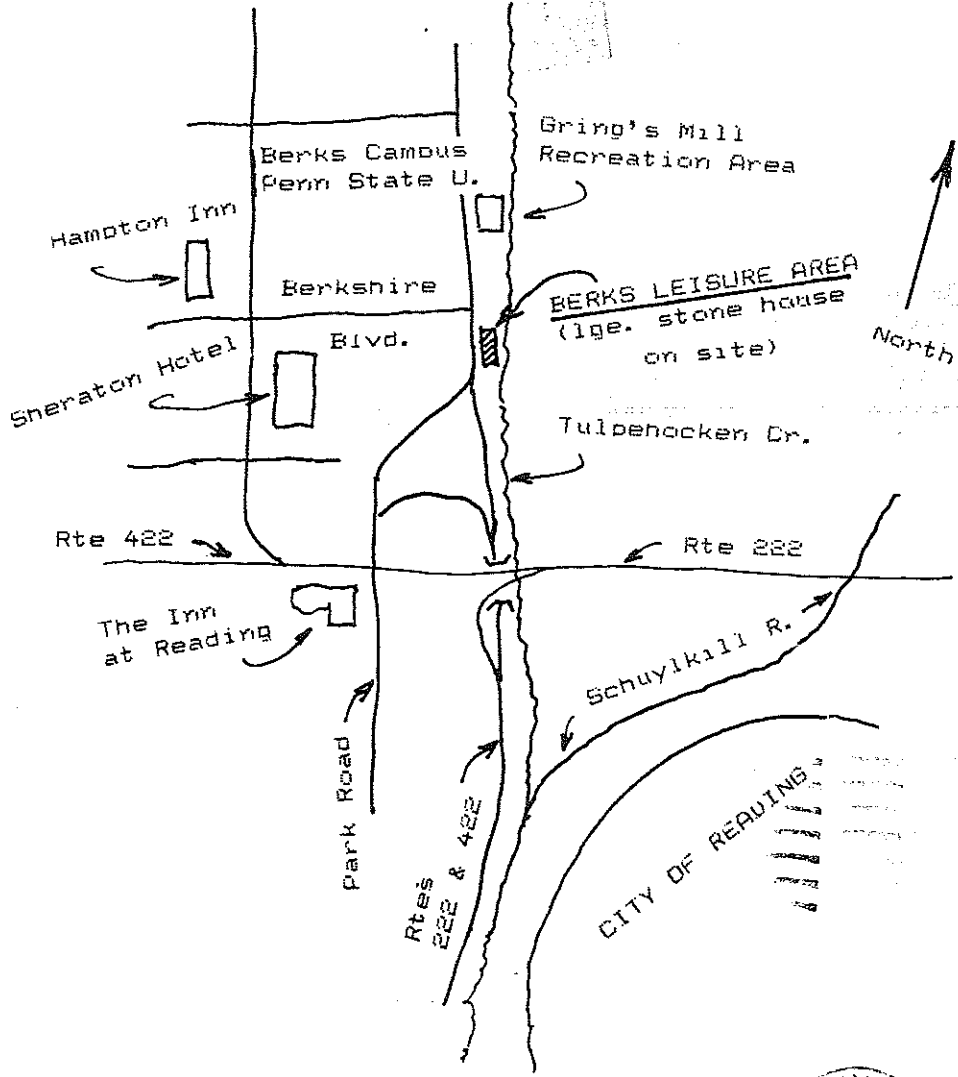
Prince Charming is 67, a squatty little fellow -- 4-feet-10 -- with snowy white hair, a playful smile and a still boyish gleam in his aging eyes. Cinderella is 81, but there is an endearing, little girl quality in her shy smile and innocence.

The prince in this story is Rodger "Shorty" Backensto and his princess-to-be is Mary McAvoy, both residents of Shady Rest Care Pavilion in Fort Myers. At 1:30 p.m. Saturday (1-15-94), they will marry in the new Shady Rest Firestone Chapel with most of their longtime resident friends in attendance.

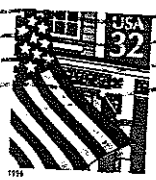
It's the first marriage for Backensto, reported as 'everybody's handyman', while McAvoy is a widow. "I waited all my life, but I didn't find the right one until now", Backensto said. "Mary and I met about six years ago on the bus to the Riverside Baptist Church, and we've been hand-to-hand ever since, haven't we honey."

An activity specialist at Shady Rest said, "It's just really neat. They've both been very lonely, and now they will finally have each other. Like a special kind of fairy tale for the older generation. " A new Shady Rest building has a double room earmarked for the newlyweds.





Backenstoss Family Association of America  
 1495 Riverbend Road  
 Allentown, PA 18103



M/M Warren Backenstoe  
 7523 Stein Rd.  
 Zionsville PA. 18092

Thank you for your continued genealogical support!