

Baggenstoss Shield

Baggenstoss

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Plan to Attend our 67th Reunion
Berks Leisure Area
Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania
Saturday, August 7, 1999

WE'RE PLANNING A PROGRAM FOR ALL

Come to celebrate the Family's first 256 years in America!

Our previous reunions at Berks Leisure Area have been very enjoyable. We will return there for this year's gathering.

The schedule this year will be as follows:

- 11:45 Registration. Sign in, get your name tag and get acquainted.
- 12:00 Luncheon.
- 1:00 Call to Order of Annual Meeting, Invocation, brief reports of Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and President. New Business.
- 1:45 Heritage Train (See President's Message on Page Two).
- 1:45 Games and prizes.

Picnic fare will be provided - hot dog sandwiches and assorted sodas. Remember place settings for each family member. Each family should bring a covered dish, chips, fruit, cake, pie or snacks, in quantities that can be shared. And please remember, this year's Reunion is Saturday, August 7!

The easiest way to travel to Berks Leisure Area is to first locate the Sheraton Berkshire Hotel. The Sheraton Berkshire is located next to the Berkshire Mall just off Rt. 422 in Reading. Use the Paper Mill Road exit.

The road behind the Sheraton is Berkshire Boulevard. Follow Berkshire Boulevard past the Sheraton property and Carmike Theater complex for approximately 1/2 mile until the road "T's" into Tulpehocken Road. Turn right onto Tulpehocken Road. Go approximately 2/10 (two tenths) of a mile to the park entrance on your left. The entrance is marked by a large "Berks County Department of Veteran Affairs" sign.

* * * * *

68TH REUNION

1st Weekend of August 2000

Saturday or Sunday

Location To Be Determined

**Recognized
Family Spellings:**

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

OFFICERS

President*

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Riverside, PA 17868
570-275-2417

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610-775-1760

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Asst. Historians

Hope Bagenstoss
Milton A. Bagenstoss
Lois O. Schlichting

Chaplain

Bruce R. Backensto

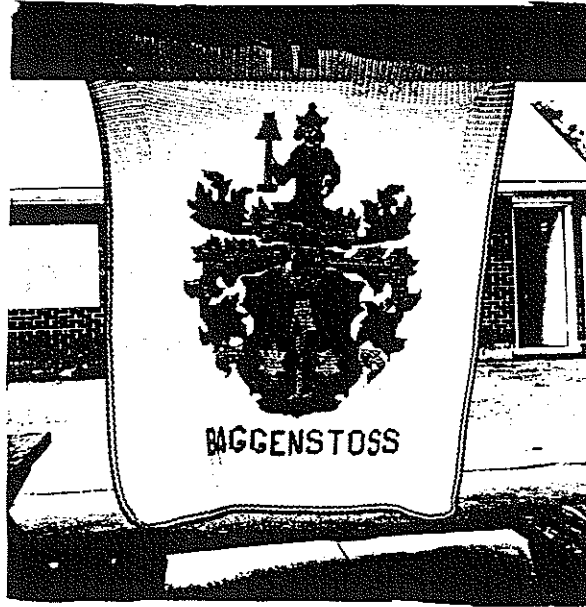
Directors*

Russell B. Backensto
David M. Backenstoe
Gerald J. Backenstoe
Hon. John E. Backenstoe
Thomas E. Backenstoe
D. Lee Backenstose, M.D.
John H. Backenstose
Miriam Bagenstose
Ray R. Bagenstose

Newsletter Editor

Brian W. Bagenstose

*Directors



The beautiful multi-colored
afghan handcrafted by
ELANOR J. BAGENSTOSE
in 1989, as displayed at our annual reunions.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again, warm greetings to all members of the Backenstoss Family Association of America. Please note that our 1999 Reunion will be at the Berk's County Leisure Area on Saturday, August 7. (See map on last page). The picnic shelter has been reserved for our use from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Please keep Woody Backensto, our Family Historian, informed about any changes in your family status and any items of interest for his "Did You Know" column, in the Newsletter.

May I remind you that our annual dues are only \$2.00 per person. This helps us meet our expenses for the Newsletter and for the Reunion. If you are unable to attend, please mail your dues money to our Treasurer Warren B. Backenstoe, 7523 Stein Road, Zionsville, PA 18092. Any amount above the recommended \$2.00 minimum will be appreciated.

This year at the Reunion we would like to walk down the Backenstoss Heritage Trail. Think about the following suggestions, and what you might be able to add concerning our heritage during the fellowship time.

1. Who is the oldest living Backenstoss that you know, and what do you remember about that person?
2. Tell about some interesting thing or happening about the Backenstosses that you learned from someone other than another Backenstoss in the family clan.
3. What family trait do you associate with the name Backenstoss and tell a story to illustrate that trait?
4. Describe a hero in the Backenstoss clan and tell us why.
5. Explain a family tradition in your family, such as family vacations, Christmas traditions, special foods, etc.

Join us for a good time of fellowship and fun. I look forward to meeting each of you at the Berk's Leisure Area.

Sincerely,

J. Harold Backenstoe,

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

For 30 years I have served the Family Association as Historian, Why? Because I believe strongly that every family name needs a recorded history --- for those relatives living now and especially for relatives yet to be born. No one wanted to update our 1949 History --- it raised more questions than we had answers. Rather than hope for a miracle, I gave the task my best effort.

Now it is time to retire. In those 30 years there can be no accounting of the time or money spent. Thousands of letters were written asking for information, addresses, correction, and additions. The vast majority of those letters remain unanswered. Yet each year a few "thank you" and "keep up the good work" remarks kept the desire alive. Here's my last proposal, God willing!

Proposal

I will produce one last ADDENDUM to the 1993 BACKENSTOSS - BAGGENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY with:

- A. All the information in the 1995 Addendum, plus
- B. All subsequent information collected and stored in my word processor, namely:
 1. Corrections and updates supplied by family members.
 2. Major expansion of the MN Branch because of the dedication of some of their members.
 3. Expansion of some of the Switzerland information, especially the Gersau lines.
 4. Some additional information on unconnected families mentioned in our History.
 5. An all-inclusive name index.

The publication is scheduled for 2002. All the work must be done in 2 years from the time you read this.

The Result

The new Addendum will be 3-4 times the size of the 1995 Addendum and may even be hardcover bound. As before, I will pay the cost of publication. The copies will be donated to the Family Association and sent free to all those owning copies of the 1993 Family History. I have a record of all books purchased or donated. However, the biggest problem will be to locate all books --- some of the purchasers are deceased and we don't have current addresses for others.

The 1995 Addendum will be superfluous and should be discarded. Only enough new Addenda will be **PRINTED** to send to **KNOWN** owners of the 1993 History. Then, excess 1993 Histories will be obsolete because they will only be part of the story. Hence, excess Histories will be destroyed. We're talking about destroying heirlooms which would not be complete without the new Addendum. Conversely, the new Addendum will be worthless without the 1993 History, for the Addendum is coded back to the 1993 comprehensive Family History. Now is the time to get the Family History while copies are still available. That's the **WHOLE** story; Paul Harvey will never have "the rest of the story".

Will You Help?

I need to receive updated information and corrections to material printed in our 1993 Family History, as follows:

1. If you bought a History, let me know who has it --- so the new Addendum can meet its mother.
2. We want **ALL** family members to know of this **FINAL** proposed publication. If you know of **ANY** family member **NOT** receiving this proposal, please send me their mailing address.
3. Check the Family History for names, dates, and places that are missing for births, deaths, and marriages.
4. If you don't know what has been published, I'll send you (on request) a copy of your page in the Family History and a copy of my updated notes for that page. That will make it easy "for you to take it from there".

This is the proposal, the anticipated result, and what needs to be done. Please help to make my job practical.

Respectfully submitted, your Historian,

E. B. "Woody" Backensto, 32 Holly Drive, Woodbury, NJ 0896-3316

ORDER FAMILY HISTORIES FROM OUR FAMILY HISTORIAN - PPD

Herr,
gieb
ihm
die
ewige
Ruhe,



Und
das
ewige
Licht
leuchte
ihm!

Zur frommen Erinnerung
an unsern innigst geliebten Vater

Caspar Baggenstos

geb. d. 21. März 1844; gest. d. 15. April 1905.

Gefreulich sorgtest du hienieden,
Als braver Vater für dein Haus,
So ruhe denn in Gottes Frieden,
Von dieses Lebens Mühen aus.

○ göttliches Herz Jesu, sei meine Liebe!
○ süßes Herz Mariä, sei meine Rettung!

Gebet.

Wir bitten Dich, o Herr, erlöse die Seele Deines
Diener Caspar, auf daß er, für diese Welt ge-
storben, bei Dir leben möge; und was er wäh-
rend seiner irdischen Pilgerschaft aus menschlicher
Schwachheit gefehlt, verzeihe ihm nach Deiner un-
endlichen Barmherzigkeit, durch Jesum Christum,
unsere Herrn. Amen. Vater unser etc.

DRUCK VON FERN WANDERER GERSAU



Zum frommen Andenken
an unsere liebe, gute Mutter,
Schwiegermutter, Großmutter,
Schwester und Tante

Witwe

Cäzilia Baggenstos-Waad

Tanzplatz

gestorben den 2. Juli 1926
im 75. Altersjahre.

Erhöre gnädig o Herr unser Gebet durch
das wir Deine Barmherzigkeit anrufen und
führe die Seele Deiner Dienerin Cäzilia die
Du von dieser Welt abberufen hast zu dem
Lande des Friedens und des Lichtes und
nimme sie auf in die Zahl Deiner Auserwähl-
ten, durch Jesum Christum unserm Herrn.
Amen. Vater unser. Ave Maria.

GEHR MÜLLER GERSAU

These photo obituaries are reproduced from newspapers printed in Gersau, Switzerland.

* * * * *

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

Enclosed is my check to B.F.A. for support in 1999 (dues contribution)

\$ _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ *"Wilcum tzu unser Yaerlich Fersommling"* is the way our forefathers who settled in Pennsylvania would have sounded when welcoming us to our yearly gathering. Note how the German word *"versammeln"* sounded in the new dialect.

- ◆ When the *Pennsylvania-German Dictionary* was reprinted in 1977, the new "Introduction" by Willard Martin, Ph.D., stated: *The use of the Pennsylvania German dialect by all except the horse and buggy Mennonites and Amish is rapidly declining. Except among these plain people it is becoming increasingly difficult to find children who can speak the dialect. This fact suggests that within a generation or two the vast majority of Pennsylvania Germans will no longer be able to converse in the language of their forefathers.*

- ◆ If the first stanza of "America" were sung in the Pennsylvania German dialect it might sound like this:
*Mei Land ich sing vun dir: Siess iss die Freiheit mir
Do will ich sei; So wie die alte Leit
So fiehl ich as noch heit; Bin dir zu yeder Zeit
Immer gedrei*

- ◆ "As life ends, a new life begins." The event of Mary E. Backensto's death at age 101+, prompted the funeral director to request a tree be planted as a living memorial. This memorial is through an agreement between the United States Forest Service and the Batesville Casket Co., Inc.

- ◆ This page would be blank if it relied on contributions from family members, as requested last year by our Historian.

- ◆ Nancy Ann Bagenstose was Valedictorian of the 1995 Dublin, OH High School class with the highest G.P.A. in the 98-year history of the school.

- ◆ Several family members have sponsored placing our Family History in local or county libraries. No new sponsors appeared after our Historian issued a formal call for others in 1997.

- ◆ Joanna Cavendish from Columbus, OH attended our Reunion last summer and purchased Family Histories for her three daughters. She requested our Historian to autograph these copies.

- ◆ Three relatives attended our 1998 Reunion from Houston, TX; namely, Helen C. and her husband Ken Geihlsler and Helen's sister Ruth S. Affeld. The Family Historian is still waiting for the promised family information update.

BACKENSTOSS - BAGGENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY

located in the following
LIBRARIES

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Albany Public Library,
Albany, NY | Hershey Public Library,
Hershey, PA | North San Diego County
Genealogical Society,
Carlsbad, CA |
| Allen County Public Library,
Fort Wayne, IN | *Historical & Genealogical Society
of Somerset County, Inc.,
Somerset, PA | *Picton Press Library,
Rockport, ME |
| American Antiquarian Society,
Worcester, MA | The Historical Society of Berks
County, Reading, PA | *Pioneer Historical Society,
Bedford, PA |
| American Family Records
Assn., Kansas City, MO | Historical Society of Dauphin
County, Harrisburg, PA | *Posey County Historical
Society, Mount Vernon, IN |
| Balch Inst. for Ethnic Studies
Swiss Collection,
Philadelphia, PA | The Historical Society of York
County, York, PA | *Poweshiek County Historical &
Genealogical Society,
Montezuma, IA |
| *Berks County Genealogical
Society, Library at Weisen-
berger Alumni Center, Kutz-
town, Univ., Kutztown, PA | *Indiana State Library - Genealogy
Section, Indianapolis, IN | *Ray County Genealogical Assn.,
Richmond, MO |
| *Clay County Historical Society,
Center Point, IN | Karlsbad - Aucherbach Archives,
Germany | Schwenkfelder Library,
Pennsburg, PA |
| *Collier County Public Library,
Naples, FL | Lancaster Mennonite Historical
Society, Lancaster, PA | Staatsarchiv Des Kanton Zurich,
Zurich, Switzerland |
| *Emmaus Public Library,
Emmaus, PA | Lebanon County Historical
Society, Lebanon, PA | *State Historical Society of Iowa,
Iowa City, IA |
| Family History Library (Ch. of Jesus
Christ of Latter Day Saints)
Salt Lake City, UT &
Portland, OR Branch | Lehigh County Historical Society,
Allentown, PA | Staunton Public Library,
Staunton, VA |
| Friends of Genealogy, Inc.
Shreveport, LA | Library of Congress,
Washington, DC | State Historical Society of
Wisconsin, Madison, WI |
| Genealogical Forum of Oregon,
Portland, OR | Los Angeles Public Library -
Genealogy, Los Angeles, CA | *Stearns County Historical
Society, St. Cloud, MN |
| The Genealogical Helper (Everton
Publishers), Logan, UT | *Mercer County Historical
Society, Mercer, PA | Swiss American Historical
Society, Evanston, IL |
| The Genealogical Society of PA,
Philadelphia, PA | *Minnesota Historical Society,
St. Paul, MN | Troy Public Library,
Troy, NY |
| Geneva Historical Society,
Geneva, NY | Museum in Gersau Rathaus,
Gersau, Switzerland | University of Illinois Library,
Chicago, IL |
| Gloucester County Historical
Society, Woodbury, NJ | Museum in Rafz,
Rafz, Switzerland | West Deptford Public Library,
Thorofare, NJ |
| *Greenville Historical Society,
Greenville, PA | National Genealogical Society,
Arlington, VA | Westdeutsche Gesellschaft fur
Familienkunde, Bruhl, Germany |
| The Hackley Public Library,
Muskegon County Genealogical
Society, Muskegon, MI | National Society Daughters of
The American Revolution,
Washington, DC | The Western Reserve Historical
Society, Cleveland, OH |
| Heart of America Genealogical
Society, Kansas City, MO | New York Genealogical &
Biographical Society,
New York, NY | |
| | The New York Public Library,
New York, NY | |

*Since 1997 Newsletter

MINNESOTA BRANCH UPDATE

1998 Reunion

Our 26th Reunion was held on a beautiful Sunday, June 28, 1998. We returned this year to Millstream Park in St. Joseph, MN. It's a beautiful park and seems to serve all our needs very well. Our faithful member, Gerald Baggenstoss, is happy to make the necessary arrangements for us, for which we are most grateful.

We had 185 in attendance. A few first-timers, i.e. --- Janet Baggenstoss of Rochester, MN, daughter of Dr. Archie Baggenstoss. Also, Elmer Baggenstoss and his nephew and wife, Steve and Audrey Sidener of Minot, ND. It's always great having new faces at our reunions, but also very special to be able to greet the faithful members year after year. That's what makes it a reunion.

It was again a busy day; updating data sheets, address changes, partaking of a delicious pot-luck dinner. After dinner a short business meeting and then games for both children and adults.

A reminder: There are still "Cook Books" available for \$10.00 plus postage from Kelly Baggenstoss, Route 2, Gaylord, MN 55334, Greetings to all you "Easterners"

---reported by Joyce Lobitz

A Highlight!

Elmer Baggenstoss, the only surviving child of Fred and Minnie (Shumann) Baggenstoss, who lives in Upsala, MN, celebrated his 90th birthday with many of his family and friends at an Open House on October 17, 1998. His birthday was on October 7th. Elmer still enjoys doing a few dance steps and singing the Golden Oldies in a sing-along with his family and the nieces and nephews. Elmer's sister Malinda (Baggenstoss) Middendorf also attended the celebration but was called to her eternal home one week later at the age of 87, just 10 days short of her 88th birthday.

---reported by Lois Schlichting

DATA for BACKENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY

	First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date	City and State
BIRTHS	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Parents' Name	_____	_____	_____		
DEATHS	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
MARRIAGE OF:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
TO:	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
					(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 _____