

Backenstoss

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

"For the perpetuation of the history and traditions of the family and its social enjoyment"

VOLUME No. 11

SUMMER 2002

*Plan to attend our 70th Reunion Sunday, August 4,
and celebrate the
Family's first 259 years in America!*

This year's gathering will be held Sunday, August 4, at the Hereford Township Park, Zionsville, PA.

The schedule this year will be as follows:

10:00 - 12:00 Noon	Arrive early for socializing, quiet times, or games before the meeting begins. Registration Sign in, get your name tag and get acquainted.
12:00 Noon	Opening. Following the opening, there will be a break for lunch, games, and socializing.
2:00 P.M.	Business Meeting Call to Order of Annual Meeting, Invocation, brief reports of Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and President, and New Business.
2:45 P.M.	Games and prizes
3:00 P.M.	Adjournment of reunion, followed by a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Picnic fare will be provided – hot dogs, sandwiches and assorted sodas. We suggest you bring chips, cake, pie, other snacks and goodies in quantities that can be shared. Remember place settings for each family member. It has also been suggested that we bring along our favorite recipe, (and the food itself, if practical, for us to sample), to exchange with one another. If making photocopies of the recipe is not convenient, use 3" x 5" cards.

Recognized
Family Spellings:

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

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J. Harold Backenstoe
Hon. John E. Backenstoe
Stanley P. Backenstoss,
2nd
Miriam Bagenstose

Newsletter Editor

Brian W. Bagenstose
*Directors

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wish to extend greetings to everyone.

It has been an eventful year: nationally, for our Association, and for many of us as well.

This year, there is great news as our Historian, Woody, has begun shipment of his latest addendum to the 1993 Family History. I have always enjoyed reading through each new book or addendum to see all the new information, and this addendum has been no exception. Each person who has a 1993 Family History is entitled to a free copy of the new addendum, so those who have not received their copy should contact Woody at his address given elsewhere in this newsletter.

Earlier this year we had a meeting of the Board of Directors. A major topic was the upcoming reunion, but in addition to this, there was a lot of interest raised about having an open meeting where we might gather at some place such as the Black Angus Restaurant or some other attraction. As it has been a few years since the last non-reunion activity, perhaps there is interest enough to arrange something special again. If anyone is interested or has ideas, please let one or more of the Directors know, either at the reunion or by mail.

Our reunion this year will take place on Sunday, August 4, 2002. Although we disperse ever more distantly both geographically as well as genealogically as time goes on, we are still all family. Even in today's world, or perhaps I should say especially in today's world, biological ties are important, so I hope everyone will try to attend. The featured speaker this year is scheduled to be Nancy Roan who is active in the Goshenhoppen Historians. She is an expert in Colonial-era Pennsylvania German cooking and quilting and has written or coauthored several books. She will be speaking on early Pennsylvania German cooking. As has been the tradition, there is no fee for attending the reunion, and food will be served. We do encourage each family who attends to bring a dish to share simply to encourage the family atmosphere.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2001

(Hereford Twp. Park, Zionsville, PA - August 5, 2001)

As always, the highlight of the gathering was the food — hot dogs, hamburgers, and that brought and shared. The meeting was called to order by President Jonathan Hall Backenstose. During Pastor Bruce R. Backensto's invocation he called for a moment of silence in memory of our departed Directors:

Dr. D. Lee Backenstose who died 5-3-2001, age 85, Director for 11 years
Russell B. Backensto who died 6-15-2001, age 62, Director for 29 years, including 22 as Treasurer

After hearing reports by the Secretary, Treasurer and Historian, Woody Backensto read a letter from Lela Mae Bagenstos DeBord of Norwalk, CA as follows: *I had our family's name placed on the Wall of Honor as it states in the letter and certificate I'm enclosing. I have done so in honor of the Family Association trip to Switzerland, most especially for you and Hank & Nicki for conceiving, approving and executing that most perfect trip. It was my last European trip with Don (her husband d. 6-15-1999) and it was wonderful. Please present the Certificate to the family so everyone can go to Ellis Island to see it.*

(The certificate states: *To officially certify that **The Backenstoss Family** came to the United States of America from **Switzerland** joining those courageous men and women who came to this country in search of personal freedom, economic opportunity and a future hope for their families.*)

The Certificate was presented to the President of the Association.

(continued on next page)

The Directors commissioned our Fraktur art expert, Ronnie Backenstoe, to create a citation as follows:

The Backenstoss Family Association of America
Presents this Certificate of Merit to

Elwood "Woody" B. Backensto

(contained within a PA German Fraktur Heart is)
*His continued dedication as the Historian of the
Backenstoss - Baggenstoss Association for many
years and the research of voluminous information,
culminating in 1993 a genealogy account
of the family to commemorate the 250th
anniversary of our forefather's arrival
in America*

Signed by the President & Secretary and dated August 5, 2001

Reunion prizes were presented to the following:

Youngest Boy Present	Keith Backensto of Beaver Falls, PA, age 7
Youngest Girl Present	Aloha Backenstose of Arlington, VA, age 5
Female nearest age 40	Dawn Rosenbaum of Harrisburg, PA
Male nearest age 50	John H. Backenstose of Barto, PA
Traveling greatest distance	Bruce R. Backensto & family from Beaver Falls, PA
Married most recently	Bruce R. & Kim Backensto, 9 years
Oldest person present	Irene Backenstoe Roberts of Allentown, PA, age 81
Winning name tag	Dorothy Backenstoe Roth of Emmaus, PA

Floral bouquets, sponsored by Dottie Backenstose of Hershey, PA, were given to Ronnie Backenstoe & Ethelmae Marushak for their continued dedicated service to the Family Association

IN MEMORIAM

DOROTHY JEAN HALL BACKENSTOSE*

Dorothy Jean, wife of Dr. Daniel Lee Backenstose, passed away on September 19, 2001.

A 1951 graduate of Lankenau Hospital School of Nursing, Dorothy Jean was an accomplished field hockey player at the high school and collegiate levels. She was active as a parent in both the cub scouts and girls scouts. She was also active in Job's Daughters, an affiliate association for families with Masonic members.

For a ten year period beginning in 1987, Dorothy Jean served as manager of the Franklin House Hotel and Restaurant in Schaefferstown, Pennsylvania. For many years, she ordered and brought food supplies to the Backenstoss Family Association reunions - often cooking the meals as well.

Dorothy Jean was predeceased by her husband by four months after being devotedly married to him for 46 years. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

Dorothy Jean is survived by her children Daniel Lee Jr., Mary Elizabeth, Jonathan Hall and Amy Hall Backenstose.

*Information for this "IN Memoriam" announcement has been edited from an article submitted by Jonathan Hall Backenstose and members of his family. The full article is scheduled to be included in the 2003 newsletter.

LOIS JUNE BACKENSTOE

Lois, wife of Judge John E. Backenstoe passed away February 11, 2002, in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

A graduate of Cedar Crest College, she was a home economist for Pennsylvania Power and Light Company from 1953-1960. Lois was a member of Emmaus Moravian Church and her volunteer list of accomplishments were many: a former board member of the Allentown Women's Club and a former board member and secretary of Cedar Crest Alumnae Association; Lehigh County Historical Society member, Lehigh county Republican Women's Club and Lehigh County Republican Committee; a Lehigh County Heart Association division chairman for six years and division chairman of the United Way of Lehigh County for 10 years. She received an Oscar award in 1990 as the most successful division leader. She was a board member and recipient of a 10 year certificate for meritorious service from the Weld Society.

Lois was a faithful member of our Backenstoss Association and she graciously hosted the Board Meetings for the many years her husband served as President. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

Lois is survived by her husband Jeb; sons David, Gerald, Thomas, and six grandchildren.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

The Final Addendum to the BACKENSTOSS - BAGGENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY is with the printer. My objective has been met. As proposed in our 1999 Newsletter, everyone had two years to help make the final Addendum as accurate and up-to-date as possible. Most everyone seemed on a different wave length. For the most part, individual prodding was needed to get updated information. Perhaps procrastination set in or the proposal was misunderstood.

What Was Proposed?

I thought the proposal would be a winner. I agreed to produce and pay for the final Addendum. Few seemed to understand. Since an Addendum can not stand alone, by definition it must be an extension of its mother. So the Addendum was offered FREE to those owning or willing to buy the 1993 Family History. The buy-one-get-one-free promotion failed to sell all available Family Histories. I over estimated the family interest. Most families wish for a history; our family has a great one. As matter of fact, quite a few members mentioned they were interested in "purchasing" the new book "when available". To clarify the situation, I wrote to those to explain the Final Addendum was not for sale. My effort at clarification failed in most cases.

What Will the Product Be?

I'm proud of the result — although it lacks considerable update information I expected to receive. As advertised, the final Addendum will be a hardbound book to match the 1993 Family History. It will contain just over 300 pages. Material in the 1995 Addendum is repeated in the final version which makes the paperback edition obsolete. In addition, there will be several "Special Features". This segment was included to preserve selected family records published in our annual Newsletters. For example, our Secretary's Report of our 2001 annual gathering is included because a number of significant awards and presentations were made during that meeting. Also, there were selected highlights from the Historian's Reports and "Did You Know?" segments. Also, an updated revision of the constitution and Bylaws of the Backenstoss Family Association in America resides therein. These should enhance the worth of having facts and records available to generations yet to come. These pluses hopefully add interest to the product.

What's Next?

The hard part still lies ahead — to get the Addendum to those having copies of the 1993 History. The book should be in my hands by April. I will concentrate first on sending the books to those having addresses believed to be current. Some purchases of the Family History are deceased and others we can't locate. Some close relative of these people have been contacted, but most don't know or don't care to find out where those books might be. I'll be paying the printer nearly \$26.00 per book. Help me minimize the number of Addenda that will be returned or lost if the Post Office can't deliver them.

What Help is Needed?

1. If you are coming to the Pennsylvania Reunion this year, let me know and your books will await you.
2. If you purchased a History at either a PA or MN Reunion, make sure I have your current address.
3. If you are reading this report, we have your address on our mailing list (meaning the Post Office has not returned your Newsletter marked F.O.E.) And your Addendum will be sent after the Reunion.

The task ahead appears fraught with difficulty. Much correspondence will be required to locate quite a few 1993 Family History purchasers. Help make this Historian's transition to retirement a pleasurable event. Thanks for your understanding.

Elwood Bruce Backensto, Historian

FOREWORD*

This is a Final Addendum to the BACKENSTOSS – BAGGENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY published in 1993. Addendum means “things to be added.” Therefore, it is an extension of the 1993 History and as such reports mainly **additions and corrections**, coded back to the referenced publication. The term “Final” is used because a paperback Addendum was printed in 1995. The material in the 1995 edition has been included here, making the paperback Addendum obsolete.

Hence, this volume begins with the “Preface” from the 1995 Addendum followed by the “Dedication” to our Swiss Hosts who made our 1993 “Roots Trip” unforgettable, plus a statement of “Format”. To preserve selected interesting family records previously published in our annual Newsletters, there follows a “Special Features” segment, as follows:

Title	Page
Secretary’s Report 2001	i
Official Certificate of Registration	iii
Oral History – The Backenstoss Family Association of America	iv
Highlights from Historian’s Reports	ix
Did You Know?	xv

All following information is coded back to the designated page in the 1993 Family History. When the information required additional space, those pages are noted by adding “a”, “b”, “c”, etc. An updated revision of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Backenstoss Family Association of America begins on page 345. The compilation of “Patents Having a Backenstose-Related Name” begins on page 403. The Addendum ends with a “Family Name Index”.

Family Histories are compiled by interested family members who assist Family Historians who in turn edit and organize the material received. This couplet of books represents over 30 years of continuous research and prodding of family members by the Historian. The results have been gratifying. Original research has made possible corrections in earlier publications, a better understanding of the origin and meaning of the family name, and that all known family members in North America can trace their roots back to families in Switzerland.

It would be impractical to try to list all contributors. Several researchers who have shared their work with us are named in the text. The unprecedented expansion of information for the Minnesota Branch is largely due to the efforts of our assistant historian, Lois (Baggenstoss) Schlichting. Her efforts have been most commendable.

May this effort provide inspiration and knowledge to family members yet to come!

January 2002

Elwood Bruce Backensto

*Editor’s Note - This Foreword is from the Final Addendum of our Family History



AMANDA BACKENSTO came to our attention when she appeared on “Love Connection” in 1998, which has been repeated at least 6 times. She reported: “I auditioned for the show. It’s a great way to be seen when you are an actress in this town. In fact, quite a few famous people have been on “Love Connection” such as Arnold Swarzenager, Tom Selleck, Suzanne Sommers, to name a few. It was fun and a little nerve wracking. One downside is that it seems a lot of people watch the show. “I was recognized too much where I work”. She has been in Hollywood, CA for over 5 years and lives around the corner from Manns Chinese Theater. She is a makeup artist for Christian Dior at the Nordstrom store and has taken care of a few celebrities. She also auditions and works various trade shows representing clients at their booths in Las Vegas, San Diego, and San Francisco. She has been in Amtrak and a casino commercial along with extra work on “Days of Our Lives” – “which is interesting and well paying.”

MINNESOTA BRANCH REUNION 2001

Our “Come early, stay late. . . Let’s make a day of it” went off with a blast on June 24, 2001 at our MN Baggenstoss Reunion. There were 155 in attendance (up 34 from the 2000 reunion). We had a very warm, sunny day. Everyone was “rolling” full with our incredibly delicious potluck. The “surprises” went off with a hit! We had a lot of children in attendance, of whom participated in the games and other goodies we had in store. They were delighted. The youngest family member in attendance was Samuel Wayne Luepke who was 7 months old. The eldest in attendance was Elmer Baggenstoss, who is 96 years old.

As the day continued, we laughed even harder with the games and fun provided by the David Baggenstoss family. Our afternoon “surprises” went off with a cool refreshing twist! We had long-distant relatives come from FL, IL, MA, MI, and WI. For some it was the first time; for others it had been 5+ years since the last reunion attended. It was great to see them all. We had 5 people in attendance that hadn’t missed one reunion since it all began in 1972. Isn’t that cool?!!

We had great response to ideas for changes. Everyone of all ages shared games, parks, theme, ideas, and more with us. They were very receptive and excited to see and learn what was to come for our future reunions.

The conversations were many, and the cameras were flashing. Any one without an extra set of clothing stayed away from water balloons and the super-soaker waterguns. It was after 8 p.m. when the last left the park. It was great!! We had a memorable time!!

Submitted by

Leah (Baggenstoss) Rodriguez, President

BACKENSTOSS - BAGGENSTOSS FAMILY HISTORY

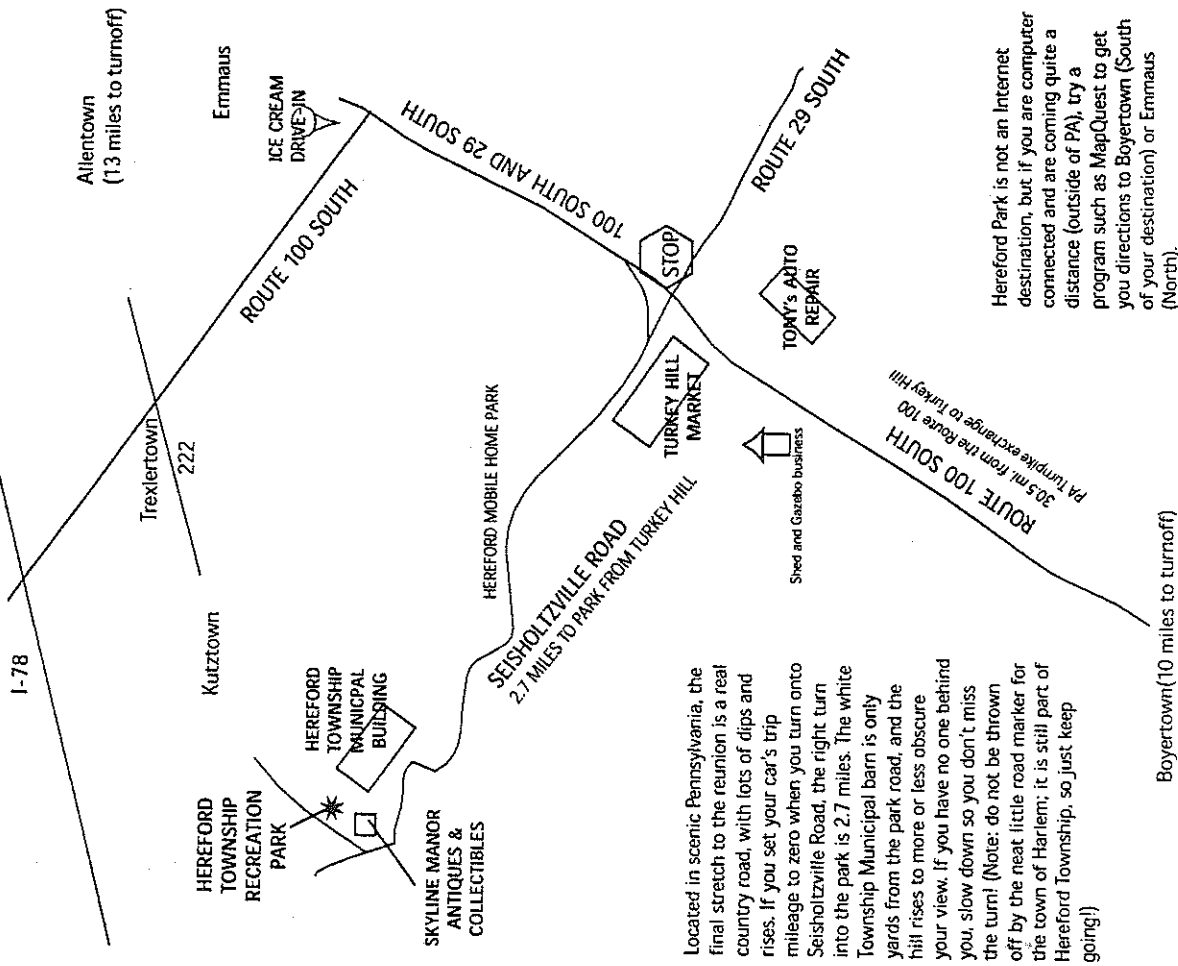
located in the following LIBRARIES

*Since 1999 Newsletter

Albany Public Library, Albany,NY	Heart of America Genealogical Society,Kansas City,MO	*Missouri Hist. Soc. Library, St.Louis,MO	*St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis,MO
Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne,IN	Hist. & Gen. Soc.of Somerset Co., Inc.,Somerset,PA	Museum in Gersau Rathaus, Gersau,Switzerland	Schwenkfelder Library, Pennsburg,PA
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester,MA	*Hist. Soc. of Cocalico Valley, Ephrata,PA	Museum in Rafz, Rafz,Switzerland	*The Seattle Public Library, Seattle,WA
American Family Records Assn., Kansas City,MO	The Historical Society of Berks County,Reading,PA	National Genealogical Society, Arlington,VA	*Sons of the Revolution Lib., Glendale,CA
Balch Inst. for Ethnic Studies, Swiss Collection, Philadelphia,PA	Historical Society of Dauphin County, Harrisburg,PA	National Society D. A. R., Washington,DC	*So. Dakota State Hist. Soc., Pierre,SD
*Beaver County Genealogy Society,Beaver Falls,PA	The Historical Society of York County, York,PA	*Nebraska State Hist. Soc., Lincoln,NE	Staatsarchiv Des Kanton Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
Berks Co. Gen. Soc. Library, Weisenberger Alum. Ctr., Kutztown Univ., Kutztown,PA	*Hummelstown Area Hist. Soc.,Hummelstown,PA	*The Newberry Library, Chicago,IL	State Hist. Soc.of Iowa Iowa City,IA
*Bucks County Gen. Soc., Doylestown,PA	Indiana State Library - Gene- alogy Section - Indianapolis,IN	*New Jersey Historical Society Newark,NJ	*State Hist. Soc. of ND, Bismarck,ND
*Carnegie Public Library, Wash. Ct. House,OH	*Iowa Genealogical Society, Des Moines,IA	*New Jersey State Library Trenton,NJ	State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison,WI
Clay County Historical Soc. Center Point,IN	*Kansas State Hist. Soc., Topeka,KS	New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, New York,NY	*State Library of Ohio Columbus,OH
*Clayton Library for Genea- logical Reasearch, Houston, TX	Karlsbad - Auerbach Archives, Germany	*New York Historical Assoc., Cooperstown,NY	*State Library of Pennsylvania Harrisburg,PA
Collier County Public Library, Naples,FL	Kittochtinny Hist. Soc.,Inc., Chambersburg,PA	The New York Public Library, New York,NY	Staunton Public Library Staunton,VA
*Connecticut State Library Hartford, CT	*Knox Co. Public Library, Knoxville,IN	*New York State Library, Albany,NY	Stearns County Historical Society, St. Cloud,MN
*Derry Township Hist. Soc., Hershey,PA	Lancaster Mennonite Hist. Soc.,Lancaster,PA	*Northampton Co. Hist. & Gen. Society, Northampton,PA	*Sutro Library, San Fransisco,CA
Emmaus Public Library, Emmaus,PA	Lebanon County Hist. Soc., Society, Lebanon,PA	North San Diego County Genealogical Society, Carlsbad,CA	Swiss American Historical Society, Evanston,IL
Family History Library(Ch.of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) Salt Lake City,UT & Portland,OR Branch	Lehigh County Hist. Soc., Allentown,PA	*Ohio Genealogical Soc., Mansfield,OH	*Tennessee State Library & Archives, Nashville,TN
*Franklin County Hist. Soc., Winchester,TN	*Lewis Co. Hist. Museum, Chehalis,WA	*Orange Co. Library System, Orlando,FL	*Texas Statc Library, Austin,TX
Friends of Genealogy, Inc., Shreveport,LA	Library of Congress, Washington,DC	*Oregon State Library, Salem,OR	Troy Public Library, Troy,NY
Genealogical Forum of OR, Portland,OR	*Library of Michigan, Lansing,MI	*Pennsylvania German Society Kutztown,PA	University of Illinois Library, Chicago,IL
The Genealogical Helper (Everton Publishers), Logan,UT	*Library of Virginia Richmond,VA	Picton Press Library, Rockport,ME	West Deptford Public Library, Thorofare,NJ
The Genealogical Society of PA,Philadelphia,PA	*Lincoln Library Springfield,IL	Pioneer Historical Society, Bedford,PA	Westdeutsche Gesellschaft fur Familienkunde,Bruhl, Germany
Geneva Historical Society, Geneva,NY	Los Angeles Public Library - Genealogy,Los Angeles,CA	Posey County Historical Soc., Mount Vernon,IN	The Western Reserve Hist. Society, Cleveland,OH
Gloucester County Historical Society, Woodbury,NJ	*Maine State Library, Augusta,ME	Poweshiek County Historical & Genealogical Society, Montezuma,IA	*Wichita Public Library, Wichita,KS
*Goschenhoppen Historians Green Lane,PA	*Maryland Hist. Soc., Baltimore,MD	*Punxsutawny Area Hist. Soc., Punxsutawny,PA	*West Virginia Division of Culture & History, Charleston,WV
Greenville Historical Society, Greenville,PA	*Mayo Clinic Rochester, MN	Ray County Genealogical Assn., Richmond,MO	*Willametta Valley Genea- logical Society, Salem,OR
The Hackley Public Library, Muskegon County Gene- alogical Society, Muskegon,MI	Mercer County Hist. Soc., Mercer,PA	*Reading Public Library Reading,PA	*Woodbury Public Library Woodbury,NJ
	*Miami-Dade Public Library, Miami,FL	*Richland Library,Inc. Quakertown,PA	*Zelienople Hist. Society, Zelienople,PA
	*Mid-Continent Public Lib., Independence,MO	*St. Louis County Library, St. Louis,MO	
	Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul,MN		

Reunion 2002 Map

Sunday, August 4th



Located in scenic Pennsylvania, the final stretch to the reunion is a real country road, with lots of dips and rises. If you set your car's trip mileage to zero when you turn onto Seisholtzville Road, the right turn into the park is 2.7 miles. The white Township Municipal barn is only yards from the park road, and the hill rises to more or less obscure your view. If you have no one behind you, slow down so you don't miss the turn! (Note: do not be thrown off by the neat little road marker for the town of Harlem; it is still part of Hereford Township, so just keep going!)

Backenstoss Family Association of America
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Thank you for your continued genealogical support!