



THE HOUSE OF YODER NEWSLETTER

July 2009

Volume2 Issue 2

Christian J. Yoder

“YANKEE CRIST”

YR261184

Written by: James L. Yoder, Grantsville, MD



Christian J. Yoder and his wife Amanda J. (Miller) Yoder at the Jacob S. Miller Reunion 1924

Christian J. Yoder, son of Jacob and Veronica (Schlabach) Yoder was born September 5, 1864. Jacob and Veronica lived on the farm more recently owned by Paul and Naomi Yoder, between St. Paul and Summit Mills, PA. on Rock Station Road.

Born to Jacob and Veronica were Barbara, Elizabeth, Yost, Christian and Joel. Both Barbara and Elizabeth died in January 1864. Elizabeth on the 3rd, age five and Barbara on the 7th. age seven.

Jacob's also raised a boy left at a station. The boy's parents asked Jacob's if they would

watch their son while they attended to other matters. They never returned. Apparently the couple thought Jacob and Veronica would provide a good home for their son.

Christian's paternal grandparents Yost (YR2611) and Elizabeth (Yoder) Yoder (YR1255) lived on the neighboring farm known as the Henry Yoder farm.

1. Christian Schlabach (Christian J. Yoder's maternal grandfather) and his brother John came to America in September 1819 and settled in Somerset Co., PA. The family in Germany was waiting to hear from the brothers if coming to America is advisable. John was opposed to sending a favorable report, but unknown to John, Christian wrote a letter encouraging the rest of the family to come. One day as Christian and John were working in the field an old man came walking toward them. Christian thought he looked like their father, except for the strange hat. It was their father Christian Sr. He lost his hat on the voyage and bought a new one in Baltimore. Christian Sr.'s wife was Magdalena Schwartzentruber.

Christian and Barbara (Gnagey) Schlabach's

1. From The Story of the Schlabach's by Irvin Schlabach. Page 129

children were all born in Somerset Co. PA., before moving from Summit Mills, PA., to Berlin, OH.

Christian J. Yoder at 21 years of age lived one year in Indiana, where later his son Bill lived. Christian was then asked to come home and take over operation of the farm as his father's health was failing. His father Jacob Yoder died Feb 17, 1894 and was buried in the Hochstetler-Hershberger-Yoder cemetery between Summit Mills and St. Paul, PA, on the farm presently owned by Wendell and Darlene Yoder. His mother Veronica (Schlabach) Yoder died October 19, 1899 in Kokomo, IN.

About two years after Jacob Yoder died, Elias A. Yoder, executor, sold the farm containing 146 acres to Moses D. Yoder(YR26116) (Jacob's nephew) for \$8,000.00.



Home of Jacob and Anna (Beachy) Miller, parents of Amanda, Christian J Yoder's wife. Presently owned by Dirk Yoder, Dorsey Hotel Road, Grantsville, MD.

Amanda's paternal grandparents were Samuel "Posey Sam" and Magdalena (Swartzentruber) Miller who lived on the River Road near Springs, Pa, the later residence of Byard and Vida Bender.

After Christian and Amanda were married, they lived on a farm Christian had bought the previous year. In a deed dated April 3, 1897, Christian Yoder bought from Jacob W. and Elizabeth (Maust) Peck a tract of land containing 413 acres for \$5,000.00. On April 4, 1898, seven more acres were added for a total of 420 acres. Still later 94 acres were added from Jeremiah Keim. This farm is located in Elk Lick Twp. On Mt. Davis Road about two miles south of the highest point in PA.

On February 10, 1794, Moses and Ralph Charey warranted two tracts, each containing 400 plus acres, Moses getting the northern tract and Ralph the southern.. John Jacob and Annie Peck bought these two tracts and there raised a large family.



Farm Christian J. Yoder bought from Jacob W. and Elizabeth (Maust) Peck in 1897. The farm is now owned by the Pittsburgh YMCA. View taken from Mt. Davis, PA., the highest point in PA. Part of the farm lies under the YMCA lake.

John Jacob Peck's father, John Adam, born in Switzerland, and Katarina (Smith) Peck came to America in 1767 and eventually settled in Addison, Twp, PA. south of Mt. Davis Road. John Jacob's sons, John and Jonas, were the next owners with John buying his brother's share in 1856.

John and his wife Elizabeth (Maust) also raised a large family on the farm. John and Elizabeth divided the farm between sons Jacob W. and Lewis A. Peck. On April 5, 1897 Jacob W. and Elizabeth Peck sold to Christian Yoder the northern part of the 800+ acre tract which had the original homestead built on it. On this farm is the Big



Big Spring on the farm owned by Christian Yoder on Peck Farm.

original homestead built on it. On this farm is the Big Spring. The spring is active all year round and never freezes over. Boiling white sand is found 18' beneath the surface. Attempts have been made to probe through the sand to find a solid bottom but to no avail. In years gone by, this was a popular gathering spot for many occasions.

Christian and Amanda's children Wilma, Annie and possibly George Ernest were born on the mountain farm.

William Yoder, son of Christian, wrote an arti-

The sale of the farm was recorded on December 13, 1902 for \$7,000.00. In the deed we read "containing 473 acres and 104.7 perches more or less, the same being composed of three parts or tracts of land." It was sold to Lewis A. Peck, brother of Jacob, who sold it to Christian J. Yoder. Also in the deed we read "subject however to the following several reservation; reserving for the favor at present owned by Lewis A. Peck sufficient limestone for agricultural purposes as needed or desired for said farm, the limestone to be taken out at the regular opening on the farm at any time during the year needed with free and unrestricted ingress and egress to and from quarry at all times." The opening can still be seen and the underground mine is now used for boat storage. Still visible is the foundation of a building and nearby are several apple trees. The farm is now owned by Pittsburgh Young Men Christian Association (YMCA)

Christian and Amanda's next purchase was on June 7, 1904 when they bought from Annie J. and Jacob S. Miller 36 acres near Grantsville, MD. This move must have pleased Amanda as they were now living near her home place, one mile north of Grantsville, MD., off Dorsey Hotel Road.

This farm was deeded to Amanda's mother, Annie (Beachy) Miller on November 21, 1894 from Daniel S. and Amanda Beachy who had built the house and barn and planted an apple orchard. Daniel Beachy's bought the farm from Eliza Gnagey and family on January 21, 1891. This was part of the Emanuel Gnagey farm, which was part of Cornucopia.



Christian J. and Amanda Yoder homestead, Grantsville, MD. Presently owned by Donald E. and Mary (Yoder) Opel. Photo by Leo J. Beachy from a postcard dated June 9, 1921 and mailed from Meyersdale, PA., by Richard Maust (son of Joseph Maust) . Maple Glen Conservative Mennonite Church on right, also known as the "Miller Church".

cle in the Casselman Chronicle about the building of the new road. Editor's note: The road was moved about a quarter of a mile east of the road that is pictured above to the present day Dorsey Hotel Road. We are not sure of the exact date that the new road was built. It is speculated it was built about 1915 or soon after, because William wrote that his uncle Simon J. Miller (Amanda's brother) moved onto the Jacob S. Miller farm soon after he married Cora Bender on October 15, 1915. Jacob S, Miller died Jan. 25, 1915.

"A straighter route for the new road than its present location was considered-starting at the sharp corner where the road to the Maple Glen church and the road to Goodwill Nursing Home leave the main road, it would have followed a straight south-east course to the top of the hill, approximately to the place where the Ivan J. Miller lane now leaves the road. Some blasting was done on the southeast corner of said starting point to the knoll on the east side of the creek, but the idea was finally abandoned because of the large out-cropping of stone which made the project almost impossible. I still remember the almost heated discussions that went on as some wanted it and some did not. The impression still sticks strongly in my mind that Uncle Simon was very much in favor of it though

that doesn't make sense to me now, since the road eventually was put right past his home, giving him the advantage of a much shorter lane to maintain. I remember the blasting very vividly as I was always sent home before the charge was set off. Once, however, I managed to stay close by unobserved, and I can still see the rocks and dirt filling the sky and falling all around me when the charge went off. Miraculously, I was not hit, and when I was discovered, everyone was aghast that I had been there and was not hurt."

One year after buying the 36 acre farm, Christian, on June 1, 1905, bought from Dr. Rufus M. Beachy a lime quarry at Niverton, PA. In the deed we read: "containing 35 acres adjoining D. F. Lee on the north Emmanuel Yoder on the west and south, Moses Beachy on the east with the understanding that the lime plant with all machinery as the same is now on the premises shall pass with the land herein specified, being part of a tract of land which was conveyed to grantor by deed of Manasses J. Beachy and wife, dated February 23, 1899." Apparently Christian had been operating the lime plant for some time before he bought it.

The following are ads and stories of interest about Christian J. Yoder:

In the Meyersdale Republican dated January 28, 1904:

C.J. Yoder, of near Grantsville, MD, was a business caller at this office Friday. He deals extensively in granulated lime for fertilizing purposes."



Former Christian J. Yoder homestead, presently owned by Donald E. and Mary (Yoder) Opel.

Rufus Beachy advertised for lime on January 10, 1904. On January 28, 1904 is the following ad by C.J. Yoder:

Granulated Fertilizer Lime FOR FARMERS

This Lime is especially prepared to drill
In with the crop the same as Phosphate.
Lump Lime can also be gotten by the car
load.

Write for circular giving full information.

C.J.YODER,
GRANTSVILLE, MD
(Successor to R.M. Beachy.)

In the Meyersdale Republican on Thursday, October 26, 1905 we read:

C.J. Yoder, the well known lime manufacturer and dealer from Grantsville, was in town on Monday.

Black powder and dynamite was used for blasting at the quarry. One day when Christian was opening a keg of black powder with an axe, he may have hit the metal hoop igniting the black powder and severely burning him. Noah Beachy's brother remembering the incident said when they brought Christian to the company house, the skin of his hands and arms hung in shreds. When Amanda's brother John Miller saw him, he fainted. When they attempted to remove his shirt, the skin came off with it. When the doctor, a personal friend of Christian's came, Christian asked what his chances of survival were. The doctor answered that he had none. Christian told the doctor if he was going to die, he wanted to die at home. They put cotton in a spring wagon and took him home.

Christian's grandson, Walter Maust said they wrapped him in cotton. As Christian lay in the bedroom, ministers Jacob S. Miller, his father-in-law, and Jonas Miller were in the living room, making funeral arrangements.

Christian heard every word and thinking if they knew how good I feel, they would not be making my funeral arrangements. He had no pain. Later as life came back to his nerves, he said it felt as if he was in a kettle of boiling water. He survived and according to Willis Maust, a grandson, Christian later told them what the funeral arrangements were. Willis recounted this incident on numerous occasions.

The following were printed in the Meyersdale Commercial.

Always in Demand

June 14, 1906

Mr. J. A. Shoemaker, of Hyndman, PA., was a town visitor Tuesday. He was on his way to the C.J. Yoder lime kilns. Mr. Yoder will have to build two more kilns as his business is going forward by leaps and bounds. Mr. Shoemaker, who is one of the best and most careful masons atop the ground, with his sons Norman and Grover, just completed a large kiln of 50,000 brick capacity for the Swartzentruber Brothers near Oakland. MD.

June 14, 1906

"There was an explosion of six or more powder kegs at the C.J. Yoder lime kilns on Monday or Tuesday last. It seems one of the men opened a powder keg by simply driving in the head with an axe. This ignited the powder and the entire lot let loose burning Messer's. Yoder and Blough some, but Ghering got the full force of the explosion and was seriously burned. All of them, we are glad to learn are doing well."

June 21, 1906

"The burns Mr. C.J. Yoder received in the powder explosion last week are very deep and he lies in a serious condition, made so in great part by his tendency to worry. We sincerely hope the worst is over. He has excellent physicians and the best of home attendance. Mr. Yoder has hosts of friends here who are continually inquiring after his condition."

July 5, 1906

"Latest accounts from the sick chamber of Mr.

C.J. Yoder is to the effect that he is making steady improvement. We are glad to be able to say this. Powder burns are deep as well as painful.

After the accident, in 1908, Jacob S. Miller (Christian's father-in-law) bought the lime quarry and Annie Miller (Christian's mother-in-law) the 36 acre farm, both at public auction. In the quarry transaction at Niverton we read:

"Whereas the said C.J. Yoder owing to sundry losses and misfortunes is at present unable to discharge his just debts and liabilities."

Christian's son William wrote "after my parents moved into the Grantsville area, life never was to easy. As I recall, it seemed to be a constant struggle. However, we always had good nourishing food, and clothes to wear." Christian and Amanda again took ownership of the farm in 1917.

Editor's note: In a deed transfer dated December 8, 1917, between Valentine Bender and Caroline Bender, his wife, of Greenwood, DE., and Annie Miller, widow of Jacob S. Miller, deceased, of Grantsville, Maryland, and all their children, sold to Lewis Race of Allegheny County of the state of Maryland for \$3,500.00 a certain tract of land situate in district number 3 in Garret County, Maryland, being lot number 11, part of a tract of land called "Bear Camp." This was to settle the estate of Jacob S. Miller, father of Christian's wife Amanda. Christian and Amanda would have inherited some money from this transaction. This is the year that the farm was transferred back to Christian and Amanda. It's interesting, but we don't know why the farm was transferred to

Another incident occurred when 77 years of age, Christian had surgery for a ruptured appendix with peritonitis already set in. The operation took place at the Hazel McGilvery Hospital in Meyersdale, PA. A grandson, Walter Maust, recalls while waiting in another room during the

operation with his mother Wilma and grandmother Amanda, an old man nearby was smoking quite a bit. Amanda said, "Walter go witness to that man and tell him it's wrong to smoke. Dr. Solosco later told Christian he didn't sew him up properly, as he was afraid he would die before he got him off the operating table. Dr. Solosco later commented on the survivability of Christian J. Yoder. If you would like to know the exact quote that Dr. Solosco said, ask Harold Maust, a grandson of Christian.

Christian was an adventurous kind of a man, earning him the nickname of "***Yankee Crist***". It's been said he had 100+ dates in his youth. The family believes there are love letters hidden in the house, perhaps between the joists in the second floor. As the present owners, Don and Mary (Yoder) Opel remodel, they are on the lookout for these letters!

Christian's boys had some close calls as well. The house had a double porch and according to Harold Maust, sons William and Allen were tussling around on the upper porch and Allen went over the banisters and landed on the ground breaking his collarbone. Another time after Allen had thrown hay down from the mow, he gave the fork a pitch and sliding down the pile of hay, ended up with the fork in his behind. They had quite a time removing the pitch fork.

Back to the farm: Son William wrote in The Casselman Chronicles:

Christian and Amanda had a beautiful apple orchard. At one time they shipped apples in wooden barrels to New York City, hauling them to the depot in West Salisbury. PA. When the orchard was in full bloom it looked simply gorgeous and the aroma was out of this world." And at the edge of the lawn along a small stream was a grape arbor with concord grapes.

Christian and Amanda were among the last in the church to get a car. William remember graduating from a Model T to a used 1929 Model A car.

They had 1,000 laying hens, The pullets were raised in round brooder houses under the apple trees. In 1922, Christian and Amanda built the incubator house and bought a 10,000 capacity Buckeye incubator.

Ads in the Meyersdale Republican

3-16-1922

2-2-1922

For Sale— Incubators and brooders or any other poultry supplies. I can save you money if you give your order early. C.J. Yoder

Anyone wanting baby chicks or eggs for hatching should please order early. Will continue hatching until about June 15. Also for incubators and brooders so I can get in time by freight. Also hard coal for brooders. State early how many egg cases wanted out of car to arrive at Niverton in April.

C.J. Yoder

5-

25

-1922

For Sale— 100 S. C. white leghorn pullets 11 weeks old. Also a few fresh Jersey cows and spring heifers.

C.J. Yoder

1928

30,000 BABY CHICKS FOR 1928—G. B. Giants and S. C. W. Leghorns, from trap nest and pedigreed stock. I guarantee all my chicks till 4 days old. Place order early. Write for pedigree and prices. Also custom hatching done. No Sunday sales. GRANTSVILLE HATCHERY, C. J. YODER, Grantsville, Md. 30-15.

Meyersdale Republican

May 31, 1928

C. J. Yoder's Automobile Wrecked.

Wednesday afternoon of last week while C. J. Yoder, a well known poultry man and farmer residing near Grantsville, MD., was on his way to Meyersdale with a load of baby chicks, his car was suddenly wrecked by colliding with a telephone pole, while descending the hill at the north end of Salisbury. Mr. Yoder had his chicken crates covered with a blanket, and while descending the hill the wind partly blew the blanket from

the crates, whereupon he took one hand off the steering wheel and attempted to pull the blanket back in place. At the same time he also tried to apply the footbrake in order to slow his speed, but by mistake got his foot on the gas lever, causing the car to make a quick lunge to the left side of the road, where it was brought to a sudden stop by colliding with a telephone pole.

The car was put out of commission by the hard jolt it got, but fortunately, Mr. Yoder, the baby chicks and the car all escaped serious injury. However, one of Mr. Yoder's hands was cut to some extent by fragments of glass from the broken windshield, and his car had to be towed to a garage for repairs. The M. & M. Automotive Company supplied a truck to take his chicks to their destination, and Mr. Yoder felt very thankful that the wreck was far less disastrous than it might have been.

From the Casselman Chronicles:

"The Springs Mutual Telephone Company was formed in 1897. the Grantsville office was first located in the home of Amanda's parents, Jacob S. Miller, later moved to the home of Christian and Amanda. Christian was a stockholder in this company, a lineman and installed phone. Christian's son William wrote "there were about thirty lines, about eight parties on a line. Incoming calls were by a ring, and the line was located by what we call a drop at each line plug. The call was answered by a hello, and the caller gave the name of the party to be called. We in turn called the party by a crank turning the proper longs and shorts. When the party answered, they were connected and told to go ahead. There was a list on the wall of the rings of all the parties. This was a family operation and most of the rings were memorized"

William also relates that one Sunday morning, "my sisters Amelia and Luella stayed home during Sunday School and I was supposed to come and relieve then during church service. When I did not show up, Amelia sent Luella to get me and informed me in a loud voice that I was to go home so Amelia could go to church. Of course everyone in the church house heard it and I was

embarrassed beyond words. We all took our turns taking care of the central during church hours. Wilma was considered to be the official operator. Christian and Amanda's only surviving child, Mary, said they also had incubators in the basement of their house., the eggs in the basement were turned individually every day. In the large brooder house the entire tray could be turned. I remember washing the trays in the creek. At one time they sold butter for eight cents a pound and eggs for twelve cents a dozen".

"Both my parents worked hard. They were church janitors at Maple Glen which was right next to our place. Mother was easy going and Dad loved company and enjoyed talking. They entertained many visitors including tramps, two whose names were Dan and Steve."

"Before I was old enough to go to the singings, Mother and Father would sit with me on the front porch and we would sing together."

"One day when Dad was chopping wood, a piece flew in his eye causing blindness in one eye. Mother sewed a patch for his eye. Christian sat near the front in church and used a magnifying glass to read the words in the hymnal when he sang."

"Our family knelt for prayer each morning. At Christmastime they would buy 25 pounds of chocolate drops from Bentley Schriver in Baltimore. The boy left at the station and raised by Jacob's would visit at our home and was like a brother to Dad."

Mary chuckled when she said dad taught his granddaughter Miriam how to spread butter on both sides of the bread.

As a young lady Mary attended E.M.C. Her subjects were Latin, Chemistry, Biology and Bible. She then taught 2 years at Cross Roads School (1948 & 1949) to pay off her \$500.00 debt. While in nurses training in Delaware, she lived with her cousins Ellen, Jacob and Amanda Miller's granddaughter, who was married to Ira Miller. Ira and Ellen had three children named Philip, Mary Lou, and Jonathan. After Ellen's death in 1955, Mary married Ira Miller.

Harold Maust remembers the white lozenges kept in the desk for the children. He was not to ask for lozenges, but if he stood at the desk long enough, he got lozenges. As a young man, Markel Maust remembers hearing Christian and Amanda praying in their bedroom, Walter Maust, staying with his grandparents for the weekend, said before going to church the entire family knelt by chairs for prayer.

Christian's son William wrote: "Mother was one who mended the hurts, who smoothed troubled waters, and calmed many a storm, a great influence that helped mold our lives. I remember father say that she never gave him a cross word. I'm sure she inherited the gentle, forbearing disposition that her father had."

Together Christian and Amanda showed the way of life to their children. Each year in late July or early August, their descendants gather at Camp Peniel or Camp Albryoka near Pocahontas, PA. A testament and honor to Christian and Amanda (Miller) Yoder.

Children born to Christian and Amanda

1. **Wilma**— Born April 25, 1899. Died May 27, 1960. Married March 12, 1931 to Aza Maust— born April 6, 1900. Died June 12, 1960. 5 Children. Lived at Accident, MD.
2. **Annie**— Born August 6, 1900. Died January 23, 1989. Married December 24, 1927 to Dorsey Wisseman— born December 4, 1902. Died December 25, 1986. 6 Children. Lived in North Fork, CA.
3. **George Ernest**— Born April 21, 1902. Died April 18, 1964. Married June 3, 1928 to Lena Bender— Born February 5, 1904. Died November 3, 1955. 8 Children. Lived near Salisbury, PA.
4. **John**— Born January 12, 1905. Died May 2, 1905.
5. **Norman**— Born April 11, 1906. Died March 19, 1983. Married April 26, 1930 to Florence Miller— Born January 28, 1901. Died February 17, 1997. 5 Children. Lived at Virginia Beach, VA.
6. **Amelia**— Born October 15, 1908. Died December 9, 1965. Lived at Grantsville, MD.
7. **William**— Born September 24, 1911. Died August 14, 1998. Married February 22, 1936 to Alma M. Kaufman— Born July 1, 1913. Died September 23, 1992. 6 Children. Lived at Middlebury, IN.
8. **Luella**— Born May 9, 1914. Died June 26, 2005. Lived at Grantsville, MD.
9. **Ralph**— Born January 2, 1916. Died December 10, 1916.
10. **Allen Oliver**— Born July 10, 1918. Died April 26, 2006. Married August 16, 1942 to Clara Lois Peachey— Born

Married August 16, 1942 to Clara Lois Peachey— Born June 17, 1920. 4 Children. Lived at Washington, DC.

11. **Mary Olive**— Born December 28, 1922. Married May 5, 1956 to Ira Miller— Born January 17, 1927. 4 Children. Lived at Dry Fork, WV.

Obituaries of Christian and Amanda

Yoder— Amanda J. Miller, daughter of the late Jacob and Anna (Beachy) Miller, was born near Grantsville, MD. September 19, 1878; passed away August 31, 1954; aged 75 years, 11 months and 12 days. On May 1, 1898, she was united in marriage to Christian J. Yoder who preceded her in death Aug. 5, 1950. To this union were born six sons and five daughters; Wilma, Mrs. Aza Maust, Accident, MD.; Anna, Mrs. Dorsey Wisseman, North Fork, CA.; Ernest, Salisbury, PA.; John (died in infancy); Norman, Norfolk, VA.; Amelia, Grantsville, MD.; William, Middlebury, IN.; Louella, Grantsville, MD.; Ralph, (died in infancy); Allen and Mary, Grantsville, MD. Surviving are also thirty-two grandchildren, three brothers and three sisters: John, Biglerville, PA.; Elizabeth, Mrs. William Hochstedler, Greenwood, DE.; Amelia, Mrs. Alvin Schrock, Salisbury, PA.; Simon, Gulfport, MS.; Lucy, Mrs., Samuel Swarzendruber, Wellman, IA.; Noah, Canton, OH.; Two brothers, Menno and Harvey, and five grandchildren preceded her in death. She accepted Christ as her Savior in her youth and united with the Amish Mennonite church, in which faith she died. Mother had been in failing health for a number of years, having had repeated light paralytic strokes. However, the past several months she declined rapidly with more paralytic complications including the loss of speech the last few weeks. Funeral service were held at the Maple Glen House of worship, Grantsville, in charge of Ivan J. Miller. Bro. Mark Peachey read the devotional reading and led in prayer. Bro. Shem Peachey, Quarryville, PA., preached the principal sermon and Bro. Miller closed the appropriate words of comfort and admonition. Interment was made in adjoining cemetery.

Yoder—Christian J., son of Jacob and Fannie

on September 5, 1864; departed this life Aug 5, 1950 at his home near Grantsville, MD at the age of 85 years and 11 months. On May 1, 1898, he was united in marriage to Amanda J. Miller, daughter of Jacob S, and Anna (Beachy) Miller, who survives him., They lived in matrimony 52 years. To them were born 6 sons and 5 daughters: Wilma— Mrs. Aza Maust, Accident, MD.; Anna— Mrs. Dorsey Wisseman, North Fork, CA.; Ernest, Salisbury, PA.; John who died in infancy; Norman, Norfolk, VA.; Amelia, at home; William, Middlebury, IN.; Luella, at home; Ralph who died in infancy; Allen, Grantsville, MD; Mary, at home. Thirty-two grandchildren survive, and one brother, Jost, of Kalona, IA. Four grandchildren, 2 brothers, and 2 sisters preceded him in death. He accepted Christ as his Savior in his youth

and united with the Amish Mennonite Church, in which faith he died. Death followed a fifteen months' illness which he bore with much patience, leaving this life on the homestead on which he lived over 47 years. He was a sixth generation from Jacob Yoder who migrated in 1742 from Switzerland. Bro. Yoder was very faithful in attendance at worship in the years when infirmities made it more or less difficult. The reading of the Word was precious to him, even though it was sometimes quite difficult for him. Funeral services were conducted on Aug. 8 at the house by C.W. Bender and at the Maple Glen house by Ivan Miller and Mark Peachy. Interment in Maple Glen Cemetery,

Editor's note: Some of the early publications thought that Yost Yoder's (YR26) descendants came from Jacob Yoder YR14(Strong Jacob), the above obituary (underlined portion) this was incorrect. Christian J. Yoder (YR261184) was a descendant of Yost Yoder (YR26).



The Christian and Amanda Yoder Family
From left: Amelia, Richard, Mary, George Ernest, Allen, Lena (holding David), Luella, Asa, Bill, Wilma (holding Walter), Christian, Norman, Amanda, Florence (holding Marvin).

~ family Record ~			
Parents	Births	Marriages	Deaths
Jacob S. Miller	Aug. 22, 1855	Dec. 13, 1877	Jan. 25, 1915
Annie J. Beachy	Mar. 20, 1863		Dec. 2, 1935
Children			
Amanda Miller	Sept. 10, 1875	May 1, 1898	Aug. 31, 1954
John Miller	Sept. 14, 1880	Oct. 13, 1907	Mar. 11, 1961
Means Miller	Dec. 27, 1882	June 20, 1902	Jan. 10, 1953
Amelia Miller	Jan. 2, 1885	Aug. 30, 1908	Aug. 10, 1957
Elizabeth Miller	Apr. 18, 1887	Dec. 10, 1919	May 3, 1967
Simon Miller	Apr. 18, 1890	May 13, 1920	Dec. 14, 1971
Lucy Miller	Dec. 1, 1891	Feb. 4, 1917	Feb. 17, 1970
Noah Miller	Mar. 30, 1893	Mar. 12, 1918	June 18, 1973
Harvey Miller	Jan. 8, 1895		Oct. 7, 1897

Hand written by Jacob and Amanda's Grandson, John E. Miller, son of Menno.

WE REMEMBER GRANPA YODER

Presented by David Yoder

At the Yoder Reunion

Camp Hickory at Accident, MD.

July 24, 2000

David is the son of George Ernest Yoder

In this portion, Christian is referred to as "Grandpa":

Grandpa was known as C.J. Yoder in his business dealings and had acquired the well known nickname "Yankee Crist" during his lifetime. Humorous and also affectionate nick names were very common throughout the region during this period of time.

Grandpa traveled for business purposes in the Mid-West before he was married and he lived in Indiana for about a year. Robberies and intruders in hotels were common. As a precaution, he usually placed a chair or possibly his bed against the hotel room door. On one occasion, someone did attempt to break in during the night, Grandpa yelled out a warning in his "Yankee Crist" character. The intruders immediately abandoned their efforts. Editors note: For an actual quote contact Christian's grandchildren..

On one occasion, while Grandpa was herding his cattle, they turned and the pony he was riding turned. Grandpa fell off and hit his head on a rock. He lay unconscious for 24 or 48 hours before he was found. This was perhaps the first of what were sometimes called Grandpa's nine lives.

Grandpa also fell from the hay mow and broke his hip at the age of 79. This was on or about August 25, 1944. He was in a cast for his hip and both legs for almost three months and many of us remember him walking on crutches for the rest of his life. This was another accident which could have taken his life. He wrote to his old friend, the Editor of the Meyersdale Republican, that "old boys should let the younger ones put the hay down. And this age should be perhaps as young as 75."

Grandpa always loved company. Travelers from other areas and from communities in other states would often stop overnight and be treated to supper and breakfast. Sunday dinners were a regular even at Grandpa's house. People came uninvited and knew they would be welcomed. On one Sunday, John D. Yoder, also known as "Fuzzy John", came with his large family when the house was already nearly filled. But everyone was well fed. I also remember how our family was there on a regular basis.

As previously noted, Grandpa was affectionately known in his time as "*Yankee Crist*". He was also exceptionally well known in many church communities from the Eastern Shores to the Midwest and beyond. I could find no one who could tell me where the nickname, "Yankee Crist" came from. But everyone I have talked to believes his nickname is in character with the way he met the many challenges in his life with such great zeal. In his letter to his friend at the Republican, his love and zest for life was further evidenced by his statement: "I spent many hours in prayers of thankfulness to our Heavenly father for prolonging my life." We remember Grandpa for his generous attitude to all those who knew him. Even the small children knew he was sure to have an endless supply of their favorite candy. Our fond memories and these remembrances of Grandpa and Grandma can serve as a great inspiration and

a guiding light for all the adventurers and entrepreneurs of the extended Yoder family.

Christian's grandson, John W. Yoder, of Middlebury, IN, the circulation manager of The Yoder Newsletter, provided the lumber that was used in making the window frames on the second floor of The House of Yoder in Grantsville, MD. He brought the lumber from Indiana from a tree that he had cut and had stored in his garage. John is the son of William Yoder who wrote a lot of articles for the Casselman Chronicles, Springs, PA.

Editor's note: It was believed by some that at one time, Christian owned 1,200 acres of land on Mt. Davis. We were not able to find any documentation to validate this.

MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS;

We are continuing our series of "Meet the Board of Directors" for The House of Yoder. We will be hearing from Paul H. Yoder (YR261191233). Paul is the son of Eli and Amanda (Hershberger) Yoder. Paul was born August 28, 1921 near Salisbury, PA. Paul was an employee and part owner of Yoder's Locker Plant in Grantsville, MD. Paul also served as a Mennonite Minister. Until recently, Paul has served as Secretary for The House of Yoder. Here is Paul's story:



Paul H. and Marie Yoder

"Nine generations of Yoder's have lived since 1700. The year 1700 is given as the year that Christian Yoder(YR2) was born in Europe. His son, Yost, having lived for some time in Berks, County, PA., in about 1775 bought a farm located three or four miles from Meyersdale, PA. For seven generations that farm went from father to son. My great grandfather, Solomon Yoder is almost at the half way point in the genealogy from Christian to myself.

My youthful years were spent on my parents farm near Grantsville, MD. We always had a lot of work. Martha Marie Miller and I were married in 1953. We lived near Grantsville, and raised our family of seven children. One son, born with a degenerative disease, died in 1992 at the age of 29. Of the six living children, only one lives near us. Our grandchildren number 15, and seem "so far away" to Grandma. We have one great grandson.

Since the time of our marriage in 1953, I worked both as an employee and as a part owner. Work has been in the Packing Plant or the County Market, begun by my father, Eli Yoder. Work in the Church, both as requested, and as a volunteer have been important to me.

Involvement in The House of Yoder organization has provided much enjoyment and many

challenges. According to the purposes as outlined by the founders of the organization, there is a mission to fulfill both now and in future generation.

In a day of modern inventions, we need reminders of how the pioneers “roughed” it. In a day of wastefulness, we need reminders of examples of thrift and saving. In a day of modern conveniences, we need reminders of the hard work necessary for pioneers. In a day of hand outs, we need reminders that the world does not owe us a living. And lest we forget, we need reminders of how we all need the Lord.”

ELECTION OF OFFICERS
For the Board of Directors of
The House Of Yoder.
Meeting held April 4, 2009
President: Doris Ours
Vice President: Lowell Bender
Secretary: Mayla Yoder
Treasurer: Edgar Yoder

SPRING CLEAN UP!!!
May 9, 2009

The House of Yoder gets a good cleaning! Many hands make the job much easier. A delicious noon time meal was shared by all, courtesy of Harvey and Nancy Yoder of Holliday, MO. Harvey is on the Board of Directors of The House of



Dan Yoder, Sr. trimming.



Ruth Yoder



Doris Ours

Yoder. They brought the food from their home, which she prepared in the kitchen of the apartment in The House of Yoder.



Nancy Yoder, on left, from Holliday, MO, and Ellen Yoder (Mrs. Edgar) from Grantsville, MD, working in the kitchen of The House of Yoder.

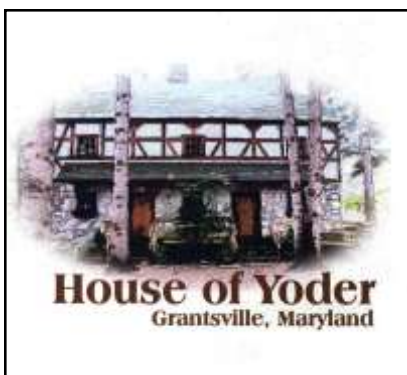


Harvey, and Edgar Yoder, washing windows.



Lowell Bender and his wife, Verna

Any corrections, comments or questions are welcome at: mhyoder@msn.com
or
2274 Salco Road, Berlin, PA 15530

 <p>House of Yoder Grantsville, Maryland</p>	<p>The House of Yoder Newsletter is published by The House of Yoder, Inc. Grantsville, MD. 21536, located 1/2 mile east of Grantsville, MD. on Route 40 East. at Penn Alps Restaurant and Spruce Forest Artisan Village President: Doris Ours. Vice President: Lowell Bender. Secretary: Mayla H. Yoder. Treasure: Edgar R. Yoder. Board Members: Lonnie D. Yoder, Kenneth Yoder, Paul H.. Yoder, Gerald Yoder, Harvey Yoder, Phyllis Weaver Hearn, Mark H. Yoder. Associate Member: Daniel Yoder, Sr., Marian Diehl, Editor: Mayla H. Yoder.</p>
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The House of Yoder Membership:

Make check payable to “The House of Yoder” and mail to Mayla H. Yoder
Membership Coordinator
2274 Salco Road
Berlin, PA 15530

	1 Year	5 Years	Lifetime
Individual	\$25.00	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
Couple	\$35.00	\$150.00	\$1,500.00

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%Mayla H. Yoder
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