



The House Of Yoder Newsletter December 2015

Remembering Gerald A. Yoder YR234491111

October 28, 1920 – December 23, 2015



Pauline and Gerald Yoder

Gerald A. Yoder, scientific objector. He married Sarah Blough of Woodbury, in May 1943, they had four children. She was (Bedford Co.), PA, killed in an automobile accident in August passed away 1959. In August 1961, he married Pauline Boyd from New Enterprise, moved the family to Woodbury and farmed from 1961 until 1979. He served as a member of the board of directors for Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the regional chapter of the American Red Cross, and he was a founding director of The House of Yoder, Grantsville, MD. In 1978, he was elected register and recorder of Bedford County and served four consecutive terms until he retired in 1993. He enjoyed flying, gardening, raising orchids, genealogy and traveling. The family wishes to recognize Donald Bulger, MD; Lisa Foor, RN; and Jada Kagarise, RN; and aides, April Hammel, Cathy Miller and Betty Shandles for their care and compassion, and the Lingenfelter family, neighbors whose helpfulness is deeply appreciated. At the request of the deceased, there will be no service, private interment at Maple Spring Cemetery Jerome, will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a charity of your choice.

Gerald's involvement with The House of Yoder began with a group of interested Yoder's

Gerald was a "Founding" Board Member of The House of Yoder. Gerald was born in Davidsville, PA, son of Dorsey C. and Sadie E. (Thomas) Yoder. Preceded in death by parents; first wife, Sarah E. (Blough); second wife, V. Pauline (Boyd); sister Aleda Harding; and brother, Dorsey C. Yoder Jr. Survived by sister, Rena Kaufman (Karl), Alum Bank; children, Susan E., Washington, D.C.; Joseph J., Altoona; Sylvia E., Paoli, PA; and Rebecca R. Ward (James), Washington, PA.; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephew. Mr. Yoder graduated from Johnstown High School in 1937. He served two years as a con-

looking at Yoder houses in Berks County, Oley Valley, PA. The church in the back ground was constructed in 1820, formerly the Oley Reformed Church, now the Salem Reformed (United Church of Christ) Church.



Pictured above front row, left to right: Eva Mae Crist, her mother Eva Barton, Ruth Yoder, Dr. Don Yoder, Gerald Yoder. Back row: Kenneth Yoder, Pauline Yoder, unknown. Phyllis Weaver-Hearn was also along on this tour, but had to leave before the photo was taken. Not picture: Harvey and Benny C. Yoder.

The group spent two days touring the area, looking at different historical places. They were taken to see the “Widow Barbara Bible”.

***Note: Kenneth Yoder is asking if anyone knows where the “Widow Barbara Bible” is, please let us know.**

Gerald Yoder and Henry Yoder, husband of Esther E. Yoder, former mail manager of



Yoder Newsletter, looking at barn beams that were used in the framing of The House of



Yoder.

Some of the beams were bought from the Harry Pope farm, Grantsville, MD.

Pictured above is Gerald Yoder, installing the computer system that he bought for The House

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Gerald was also responsible for designing and setting up the original web site for The House of Yoder. The House of Yoder got its official name from Gerald!



Pictured above is a chart that Gerald brought of the Yoder Genealogy. He always displayed this chart at Summer Fest.



Gerald explaining the genealogy chart to a visitor to our first official opening to the public and Summer Fest on July 10, 1999. It is unknown where Gerald got this chart/or who made it. Notice the unfinished walls.



Merrill Yoder and his son Brian from Telford, PA built the windows in his shop in Telford. Some of The House Of Yoder Board members were going to put the glass in the window frames and do the glazing. After doing a grand total of one or two frames, Gerald was at a Board meeting when he saw the windows and the “attempt” at glazing the window panes. Gerald said that he would take all of the frames to his house, and he (Gerald) and his brother-in-law, (Karl Kaufman) would do the glazing. Approximately 280 panes of glass were glazed by Gerald and Karl. And each spring, when The House gets the annual cleaning, all of us that clean the windows appreciate a job well done by Gerald and Karl.





Rachel Kreider, born May 28, 1909, passed away on Friday, October 30, 2015 at the age of 106. She married Leonard Kreider in June, 1933. They had three children: Emil, Sara and Anna. She graduated from Goshen College in 1931 with a Latin major and English minor. After teaching English and Latin for two years, she entered graduate school at Ohio State University, where she earned a degree in philosophy. Rachel is probably remembered by many people as a genealogist, especially for the 850-page book **“Amish and Amish-Mennonite Genealogies”** that she co-authored with Dr. Hugh Gingerich of Washington, D.C., in 1986. In 1992, Rachel was one of the main speakers for the **“Two Hundred and Fifty Years of American Amish Yoder History”**, program, held at the Maple Glen Mennonite Church, by The Casselman Valley Historians, Grantsville, MD. Rachel was the senior contributing editor for the Yoder Newsletter.

Dr. Don Yoder, 93 of Devon, PA, died at his home of natural causes on Tuesday, August 11, 2015.

He was born on August 27, 1921 in Altoona, Blair County, to the late Jacob H. and Ora M. (Cronister) Yoder, and spent his summers as a

youth in the Hegins valley with his grandparents.

Dr. Yoder was the co-owner of the Roughwood Collection with Dr. William Woys Weaver. He is predeceased by a sister, Mary (Yoder) Miller.

Dr. Don Yoder was Emeritus Professor of Folklife Studies, Religious Studies, and American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he taught for 40 years (1956-1996) and directed 60 PhD dissertation. Dr. Yoder was responsible for the **introductions of the term “folklife” to its present academic use in the United States**, and he helped to found the Center for American Folklife at the Library of Congress. In 1947, he received his PhD from the University of Chicago in religious studies, and in his early career he taught at Franklin and Marshall College, and later at Muhlenberg College. In 1949, Dr. Yoder co-founded the Pennsylvania Folklife Center with Dr. Alfred L. Shoemaker and J. William Frey, and together they established the Kutztown Folk Festival in 1950, the first ethnic festival of its kind. Dr. Yoder has published seventeen books, and countless articles on Pennsylvania Dutch folk cultures. He was widely known in Europe and his work was influential to the German-American composer Paul Hindemith and the writings of H. L. Mencken. He was considered the dean of German-American genealogy. A self-described **“incurable Pennsylvanian,”** Dr. Yoder devoted his life to the study and cultural preservation of the folkways of his native people and has inspired new generation in reviving and maintain the spirit of the Pennsylvania Dutch



Dr. Don Yoder

When The House of Yoder was in the planning stages, **Dr. Yoder** was their “tour guide” to different Yoder and historical houses in Berks County, PA. Dr. Yoder also spoke to the group about the first Yoder’s arrival in Oley Valley, PA.

At this time, plans have been made for a donation of some of **Dr. Yoder’s** personal artifacts to be presented to The House of Yoder for display.

Christmas In The Village



The weather was unusually warm for the first weekend in December for the annual Christmas in the Village, which was held Friday, December 4, and Saturday, December 5. The

House of Yoder was festively decorated with live pine wreaths, beautiful poinsettias, a Christmas tree strung with popcorn and cranberries, paper stars and a warm fire in the fireplace. The mouth-watering aroma of freshly popped popcorn drifted in the air, creating a welcoming atmosphere.



The back of the main floor fire place, decorated with wreaths, poinsettia and the tree.

Rita and Virgil Yoder, of Irwin, PA served as our hosts for the occasion. Rita and Virgil also serve as hosts for The House during our summer months of operation.



Virgil Yoder, center, showing our visitors through The House



Friday evening, a singing group sang Christmas Carols in the German language.



Above: Isolde Yoder Porter handing out popcorn to the visitors.



Above: Benny C. Yoder demonstrates how a wreath is made.

House of Yoder Annual Meeting

The House of Yoder Annual Members Meeting was held on Saturday, November 7, 2015. There were nineteen members present with four guests. Because of health issues, Dan Yoder, Sr., was not able to conduct the meeting. Doris Ours, Vice President, stepped up to help out. Treasurer and Secretary reports were given as was the Library report by Ray Yount. Reports accepted by the members. Agnes Yount gave a report on the audit of the financial books of 2008-2014.

A photo of The House of Yoder was presented to Doris Ours in appreciation for her many years as President of the Board of Directors of The House of Yoder. Harvey Yoder made the presentation. Thank You Doris for all that you have done to make The House of Yoder what it is today.



Doris Ours with the framed photo of The House of Yoder

Dan Yoder, Sr. was nominated and reelected to a five year term.

Virgil Yoder, of Irwin, PA was our speaker. His presentation was entitled: "Who Am I and Where Did I Come From?"



Virgil Yoder, Irwin, PA with his presentation of "Who Am I, and Where Did I Come From?"

Virgil, our main speaker for the Annual Meeting presented a power point program, that according to DNA testing shows that descendant's of the Swiss Yoder's have a profile with the "Haplogroup" "I1c". The "I1c" likely has its roots in Northern France. Today it is found with in the Viking/Scandinavian populations in Northwest Europe. He also brought us up to date on the now known relationship between the European Yoder's and the American Yoder's from DNA testing.



Dan Yoder and the new sign in front of The House

A New Sign!

It has been brought to the attention of The House of Yoder, that a sign was needed in front of The House, to indicate to visitors to the Spruce Forest Artisan Village just exactly what The House of Yoder is. Peggy Nixon, who had previously been the "Slate Painter" in SFAV, designed and painted the sign.

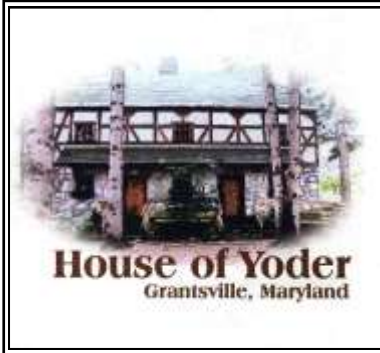


Rev. Paul and Patricia Yoder

HOSTING!!!

Rev. Paul Allen Yoder, a grandson of Menno S. Yoder YR2337a5 and Carrie (Hostetler) Yoder and his wife, Patricia, from Markesan, WI, first time hosts to The House. They found out about The House of Yoder through the Yoder Newsletter (Chris Yoder, Editor). After touring the Grantville, MD, Shanksville, PA (Flight 93) and hosting for a week, they continued their travels to the New England states.

If you would be interested in hosting for the 2016 season, the weeks of June 5-11; June 12-18; July 3-9; July 17-23; 24-30; July 31-Aug 6; Aug 7-12; Oct 2-8; are still available. For more information, Contact Mayla Yoder 814-267-3383 mhyoder@msn.com



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: Dan Yoder, Sr., Vice President: Doris Ours. Secretary: Mayla H. Yoder, Treasurer: Isolde Yoder Porter. Board Members: Harvey Yoder, Mark H. Yoder. Esta Yoder, Keith Yoder, Lowell Bender, Associate Member: Benny C. Yoder Sr., Editor: Mayla H. Yoder.

The House of Yoder Membership:

Make check payable to "The House of Yoder" and mail to Mayla H. Yoder
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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