

Genealogy of the Schaeffer Family 1740 - 1911 And Michael Schaeffer Family 1740 - 2010

Credits

Genealogy of the Schaeffer Family from 1740 to 1911 (Dark Brown Book) was compiled by Mrs. Leman Hunter of Cleveland, Ohio.

Genealogy of the Michael Schaeffer Family has been compiled and updated as follows:

- Original research and compilation from 1911 to 1941 (Dark Blue Book) was the work of Elizabeth Oetzel-Williams and Eleanor Rosekelly.
- Revisions from 1941 to 1960 (Tan Book) was the work of Grace Gove, Nettie Schmidt and Roy Schaeffer.
- Revisions from 1960 to 1987 (Light Blue Book) was the work of Barbara Pelton, Elosie Malone, Lillian Schaeffer, Nettie Schmidt, Eleanor Rosekelly and Roy Schaeffer.
- Revisions from 1987 to 2010 and entering genealogy data into a computer program data base was the work of James McLane, Jr. from records furnished by Shirley Malone Baraga and Barbara Pelton Ingrassia. (See Note In Appendix)

The Schaeffer Family Genealogy

JACOB SCHAEFFER, father of John George Schaeffer, came from Germany about 1740, from that Province called The Rhine. History tells us the people that came from that Province called the Rhine spoke Pennsylvania Dutch. This Jacob Schaeffer had five sons, Solomon, Jacob, John George, and Charles. One died of typhoid fever while away from home (could not get name).

Jacob and his family located in Northampton County, Pennsylvania. Levi S. Litzenberger visited those Schaeffers 52 years ago. Then he went to visit Jacob, a son of Jacob, Sr., and took dinner in the house on the farm where John George (our grandfather) was born. Seeing that the house was well-made and a door made of two thicknesses of boards sawed through the middle crosswise, the upper part of the door had a hole in it about two and one-half inches in diameter, he, out of curiosity asked them what the hole was for in the door. They told him that when they came there the Indians were quite troublesome, and to protect themselves they would run their musket through the hole and shoot them.

John George followed farming for a time, then he learned the tanners trade and worked near Philadelphia in a tan yard. Here he became acquainted with Elizabeth Beaver whom he married.

After a few years he went back to the farm in Northampton County, Pennsylvania. Later he went to Northumberland County, bought a farm there of 300 acres; where he built a house that is practically as good as when built and is owned by a Mr. Lerch and Levi Litzenberger visited this historical home August 14, 1909.

John George was born January 10, 1763. Married Elizabeth Bieber January 15, 1793. She was born September 29, 1773 and died December 16, 1858.

Note: (Owing to the diversity of the spelling of the same family name, father and son often spelling a different way, and the impossibility of verification by records, one uniform spelling [Schaeffer] has been used throughout).

Copy of Original Baptismal Certificate of Elizabeth Bieber

“To these two married people, namely John Frederick Bieber and his married wife, Elizabeth, whose maiden name was Kifferin, a daughter has been born on the 29th of September, 1773, and baptized by the Christian pastor Lehman, and received the name Elizabeth from her Godmother, Elizabeth Bieber. She was born in America, in the state of Pennsylvania, in the county of Berk, in the township of Macedonia. The sponsors were John Bieber and his wife Elizabeth.

Elizabeth Bieber, when a girl worked in a bake-shop in Philadelphia and the following recipe for crullers is one she used in the bakery and which she gave our grandmother, Mary Schaeffer, as she always used it:

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CRULLERS

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1- pint sour cream | 4 – eggs |
| 2- Teaspoonful soda | Nutmeg |
| 3- Cup sugar | Flour for soft dough |

The first Beavers (later called Biebers) were John, Nicolas and Adam. Four descendants that we know of, Benjamin, Peter, Vanady and Elizabeth were cousins.

General James A. Beaver (second cousin of our grandmother) lost a limb in the Civil War and was Governor of Pennsylvania from 1887 to 1891.

The Beavers that came from Holland, came into this country as redemptionists, that is to say in those days money was very scarce, not having any money to pay their passage, they went aboard the ship Macy and when they landed in this country the government paid their passage and they hired them out and when they had earned enough money to pay their passage, the government released them.

John George Schaeffer's experience – During President John Adams' administration from 1797 to 1801, the Sedation Law was passed and under this law any one libeling the President, Government, or Congress could be fined and/or imprisoned. During this time Grandfather Schaeffer was accused of saying, "If Adams is President, I shall not be ruled by him." He offered to get witnesses among his neighbors to prove that he never made the remark, but without a trial he was held in Philadelphia prison for a year. The soldiers in searching for him ran their swords to the hilts in the wheat bins. Grandmother, at that time had two or three small children and through the year she did what work was done on the farm, putting on grandfather's boots, taking the children to the fields with her, harvesting a field of buckwheat unaided.

About 20 men were imprisoned at that time, and grandfather Schaeffer was one of the three sentenced to be hanged. After they were cast in prison a "light-horse company" of soldiers was formed with Kepler for their Captain. The day before the one appointed for the hanging, this company rode to the prison. Captain Kepler jumped off his horse, asked his aide-de-camp to hold it, went in before the Cabinet (which was in session) and the President and said; "If you hang these men tomorrow I swear that John Adams shall be the next man to hang." The men were released. He struck his sword on the table with such force it broke in three pieces.

April 22, 1822, the Schaeffer family, 20 in number, moved from Northumberland County to Fayette, New York, where he bought 300 acres of land and lived until his death, January 4, 1843. Reuben, his youngest son, bought part of the farm and lived there until his death in 1884, and Laura, Reuben's daughter, is living on the farm which has been in the Schaeffer family 87 years.

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A Paper Containing Some Interesting History of the Family As Furnished by Levi S. Litzenberger:

Hayt's Corners, August 18, 1910

My Dear Cousins and Friends:

This is the day set for another Schaeffer reunion and I am very sorry to say I cannot be with you, as I had such a good time at the last reunion, think I had more pleasure than anyone else, as I saw nearly all my cousins many I had not seen for more than forty years and some I had not seen for more than fifty years and one I had not seen for sixty-five years. She was 89 years old and happy and lively as a cricket.

I have a little history to offer in regard to this great family, time was so limited last year that I could not get it all together.

Now John George and Elizabeth Bieber Schaeffer, who had their union by marriage in 1793 at which time they commenced housekeeping and made farming their business in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and they were very successful in raising large crops and a large family, after years they moved to Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, place called Warrior Run, and at that time had fifteen children, two dying in infancy.

In 1822 he moved with eleven of his children to Fayette, Seneca County, New York, two remaining in Pennsylvania; there he became the owner of 400 acres of land. After some 20 years he met with a misfortune by which he lost all of his property, about \$35,000. The shock and the strain on his mind was more than he could endure and he lived only a short time.

To give you an idea of the friends he had, in his funeral procession there were one hundred carriages, the largest funeral ever held in Seneca County.

Some called his family, the Great Schaeffer Family, on account of its large number, its large stature, and great longevity – seven of the second generation being over six feet tall, and of them were from 81 to 87 years of age. About one-half of the third generation are still living and thirteen of them are from 81 to 90 years old, two who are 90 years are enjoying good health.

This family and descendants numbered last year 525 and cannot tell there may be 100 more today. These are all Schaeffer blood, This family is quite enterprising and represents many occupations and professions.

The first, second and third generations are all full blood Dutch, no one seems to know the kind, some say low and some say high. Now to find the difference between high and low Dutch we go back to the first settlement of this, the German Empire, which commenced in the first century. The people who commenced to settle this Empire talked the Scripture German Language and they divided themselves into two classes to the 7th century, then they joined in one class to the 12th century, when they divided again into two classes and by this time found the Empire consisted of upland country which was very desirable and valuable, so that only those who had plenty of money could afford to buy the land and they erected colleges and schools to educate their children and they were called the high Germans; and the other people that lived on the low land of the Empire were the poorer class and were called the low Germans.

Those high Germans are great farmers and raise great quantities of potatoes, last year their average crop of potatoes was 205 bushels per acre. In this country 104

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bushels per acre. Now the high and low Dutch of Holland are about the same as Germany. Those Hollanders who are located on the highlands or Netherlands are called the high Dutch. The greater part of this Holland country is very low and adapted to grazing purposes, great for stock-raising and the making of butter and cheese. The best Holstein cattle came from Holland, called the Dutch Belted Cattle. The cheese is made in a province called Limberger, therefore it derives its name Limberger cheese.

Now when those high Germans or Dutch came to this country and located in Pennsylvania, they took up farming and were very industrious and built up one of the best farming systems in the country. They did all their heavy work with 4-horse teams, driven by one line and many without any. They took great pride in their horses. One old farmer thought so much of his horses that his mind a little weak, so he would drive four horses to church, and one Sunday morning in summer he got his sleigh ready and hitched his four horses on and took his family to church; upon their arrival he was greeted by some of the members saying; "Good morning, Mr. Kemery, poor sleighing today;" "yes it is poor, but you see in the winter when there is snow any fool can sleigh ride, but it take a wise man to sleigh ride in summer."

Those people took great pride in their farm buildings, and kept them in good repair. Great churches were built after the Dutch style, 50 years ago I was in one of them and I saw in large figures 1750, so the church was then over 100 years old, and seemingly as good as new.

A cousin of grandmothers, whose name was Peter Bieber, built a church in Union County Pennsylvania, all at his own expense and when completed he contributed it to the people in that location free of any charges.

These people consider themselves very honest, one of those Biebers went to one of his neighbors by name of Homar Schaeffer saying; "Mr. Schaeffer I want to buy your horse, will you sell him?" "Cell is gute – you just make a note." So Bieber wrote a note and handed it to Schaeffer who read it and handed it back and said; "it is gute – take the note and horse home with you." Bieber says, "Mr Schaeffer, don't you want the note?" "No, you take him home mit you so you can see when he is due, den you come and pay me, see."

Now their early days of house-keeping came so soon after the tea war and there was but very little money in circulation, not enough for farmer to pay their bills, so that farm help and merchandise bills were all paid with produce from the farm. They would save the hides from the cattle they butchered and have them tanned into leather, they saved the wool from the sheep which they made into cloth; and raised flax which they made into cloth, and this work was nearly all done by the ladies and that meant work for the whole family every day during the year; no camping vacations, excursions or entertainments, except the Fourth of July and General Training Day, yes everybody was happy. After the farmers had their material ready, along would come the harness maker, shoe maker, tailor, and cabinet maker and take orders and make what the family might need and for this the farmer paid with produce from his farm.

In those days the ladies had a great many inconveniences to contend with; they did all their cooking by the fire place. I remember seeing my mother cook and bake by the fire place. She had a tin oven which she would set on the hearth next to the fire and do her baking. We had long handles to her waffle irons and frying pans five feet long. We would set those on the fire and rest the handles on a chair or have a child hold

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them. Oh! Dear, how good those victuals would taste. Grandmother used to tell about people who were careless about their fire on going to bed, then in the morning they would have no fire and they would have to borrow some. The man would put some ashes in a pail and start out and would have to go two miles sometimes to get some fire. Some families would take some grease and put it in a saucer with a rag, light the rag and that was all the lamp they had. I have been told of a man near Hayt's Corners, who owned 3600 acres of land, that this was all the light they had during his sickness and death; that might do then, but not now.

The ladies were a great help to the farmers. I heard Grandmother say that a maid would go to the barn, milk several cows and carry three pails of milk to the house at once, one pail on her head and one in each hand.

Tea and coffee were a great luxury and expensive; it took one bushel of wheat to buy one pound of coffee.

My mother used to tell me about the early days of York State; they had four miles to go to church, the boys would go on foot, the girls ride on horse back, and the father and mother go in one horse shay and when there were "sixteen of them", enough to fill three pews. Now it takes two or three families to fill one pew and have automobiles to go in.

I knew a young man who was leader of a choir, he always walked. On Sunday he started in his shirt sleeves, his straw hat in one hand and his hymn book in the other and when he got to church, some one said to him "Johnny, what is the matter with you this morning, you are barefooted." He looked down at his feet and said, "by jocks I am barefooted, well I can sing just as well." His name was Uncle John Schaeffer.

I heard an old farmer say, when he came to Seneca County he had a hard time to get along, the only way he could get his grist to mill was on horse back, he would take the grist in front of him and cry all the way home to think what a fool he had made of himself.

Levi S. Lützenberger

There were fifteen children born to John George and Elizabeth Bieber Schaeffer, viz:

Christiana --	Born September 1, 1793;	Died at Fayette, OH, June 8, 1881
Elizabeth ---	Born November 21, 1795;	Died September 13, 1871
George -----	Born 1797;	Died at Muncy, PA 1881
Solomon ---	Born May 5, 1798;	Died at Beary Town NY, January 5, 1832
David -----	Born May 7, 1801;	Died at Ypsilanti, MI, Dec 14, 1859
Hannah ----	Born December 22, 1804;	Died June 4, 1869
Michael ----	Born February 9, 1804;	Died at Milan, OH, September 14, 1884
Mary -----	Born February 23, 1805	Died September 4, 1891
Rebecca --	Born April 15 15, 1808;	Died September 3, 1887
John -----	Born April 4, 1810;	Died at Shelby, MI, January 9, 1887
William -----	Born September 14, 1811;	Died at Adrian, MI, April 29, 1895
Reuben ----	Born May 12, 1814;	Died at Fayette, NY, 1884
Susannah -	Born 1818;	Died at Fayette, OH, January 1856

Two children died in infancy.

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A Soldiers' Scythe Tree

When President Lincoln issued the call which took thousands of brave boys from the North, the country knew little of the grim memorials which would from that day be scattered thruout the nation from one end to the other. These silent markers of the life blood spilt that a country might live and a race be freed are objects of sacred reverence. One such token near Waterloo, Seneca Co., NY, was left by a young farmer who gave his life for his country.

This living monument, which nature has raised to the sacred memory of William J. Johnson, is located on the Johnson farm, now owned by C. L. Schaeffer, about four miles east of Geneva and about two and on-half miles west of Waterloo.

The tree itself, a Balm of Gilead, is a species rarely found in this section. Back in 1861 this tree was barely more than eight inches in diameter and but a few feet in height. When the war of the rebellion broke out thousands of our brave men and boys rushed to arms. Recruiting officers visited this section of the country and held patriotic meetings in the district school houses and even in the churches to get recruits for the Union Army.

On the little farm on which stands this historic tree lived James and Elizabeth Godhue Johnson, They had four children, Two sons and two daughters, James Wayman Johnson, the oldest son, was born at Pennfield NH, January 1, 1835, attended one of these meetings, held in what was then called the Vail District schoolhouse. Not only did the appeals of the recruiting agents arouse young Johnson's patriotism, but the urgent words of Rev. S. H. Gridley, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Waterloo, made him feel that it was his duty to respond and, if need be, give his life for his country.

Young Johnson pondered over this important question. On the following morning he went out into the field to mow , and while swinging his scythe he decided it was his duty to enlist. Hastening to the house he told his parents of his intentions, placed his scythe in the crotch of the tree, saying, "Leave this scythe in the tree until I return." With tears streaming down their cheeks his parents consented, and their son strode toward the village.

He enlisted October 28, 1861 in Company G 85th New York Volunteers. He was then 26 years of age. In 1863 he returned home on a furlough. His bearded, melancholy face caused him to look like a man twice his age. His grave face told the story of the great struggle he had endured. When his furlough was ended he returned to battle leaving his parents more heart-broken than ever. And still the scythe hung in the in the tree. He was taken prisoner at New Berne, NC, and thrown into one of the war prisons. He was released after a time, in an exchange for prisoners, and went back into battle. On April 20, 1864, he was wounded in the thigh at Plymouth, NC where he died from his wounds on May 22, 1864. He was buried in an unknown grave.

Hearing the news of the death of their son the parents refused to believe it, and prayed that he would some day return to them. Year after year passed by and faith in the return of the son still remained to the ageing father and mother. Nine years later the father died. The mother lived nine-teen years after the death of her son.

In 1916 Francis Bacon, patriotic instructor of the G.A.R. for Seneca County, received word from the Quartermaster General of the United States army that the grave of Wyman Johnson had been found in the Confederate cemetery at Raleigh. The

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remains were taken to the National cemetery where a tombstone was erected to his memory.

During the years that have elapsed this tree has grown to maturity and is a massive one, with wide spreading branches, measuring one hundred feet in height and at least five feet through its butt. The scythe is now embedded in the heart of this mammoth tree, only about six inches of the steel blade being visible. The snath has decayed and dropped off.

In 1916 the lightning struck the tree, rending the bark from top to the bottom, killing three of its limbs. The tree was treated, and nature seems to have taken special care of that three. No mausoleum could equal in beauty its vast spread of branches and massive trunk.

Each year on Memorial Day, the Women's Relief Corps of Tyler J. Snyder Post, No. 72, G.A.R., places a new flag on this historic scythe tree, with appropriate services to commemorate the event.

In April 1917, when this country was plunged into the World War, in answer to the call to young men living on the Scythe Tree Farm, as it is now called, enlisted. They are the sons of Mr. C. L. Schaeffer, present owner of the historic farm. Raymond L. Schaeffer enlisted in the United States army January 18, 1918, and was called into service in Company F 33rd Engineers, Camp Devans, March 22 1918. On leaving his home he placed his scythe in the old scythe tree. The Carpenters' Local Union 187. of Geneva. NY. of which he was a member, kept an American flag floating over his scythe.

In memory of Johnson and in honor of the two Schaeffer brothers three flags were kept continually waving over the scythes until the close of the World War. The two boys safely returned, Raymond honorably discharged and Lynn released from active duty. Each removed the handle from his scythe, and left the blade in the tree.

--- Louis Menzer

Michael Schaeffer, son of John George and Elizabeth Bieber Schaeffer born at Warrior Run, PA, February 9, 1804; married January 18, 1829 to Mary Elizabeth Gambia in Seneca County, NY by Rev. J.J. Bielhartz. They lived at Seneca Falls until October, 1843. They came to Milan Township, OH, and lived eleven years on a farm on the Berlin Road, which he sold to John Williams.

Then he purchased the St. John Farm of 320 acres of Thomas Butman, situated on the Huron River, 1-1/4 miles from Milan, where he resided until his death, September 17, 1884.

Mary Elizabeth Gambia (his wife) was born July 2, 1811 at Fayette, NY. At the age of sixteen she united with the Lutheran Church, of which she was a member until her death, December 8, 1889.

There were fourteen children born to Michael Schaeffer and Mary Elizabeth Gambia Schaeffer, viz:

Jacob Gambia ----- Born June 7, 1830, at Seneca, County, NY
Died (date unknown)

George Gambia -- Born November 25, 1831 at Seneca, County, NY

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William Harrison --- Died May 30, 1919 at Milan, OH
Born May 29, 1833 in Seneca County, NY.
Died July 17, 1913 at Milan, OH

Mary Kathryn ----- Born February 23, 1835 in Seneca County, NY.
Died November 20, 1855 in Seneca County, NY

Mary Elizabeth ----- Born August 23, 1836 in Seneca County, NY
Died September 20, 1926 at Milan, OH

Rebecca Catherine Born May 4, 1838 in Seneca County NY
Died October 3, 1907 at Steuben, OH

Susannah ----- Born May 18, 1840 in Seneca County, NY
Died January 29, 1928 at Milan, OH

Benjamin Franklin - Born July 2, 1842 in Seneca County, NY
Died January 6, 1907 in Oregon

Sarah Ann----- Born September 3, 1843 in Seneca County, NY
Died August 1, 1893 at Milan, OH

John Jesse ----- Born June 16 1845 at Milan, OH
Died May 10, 1931 at Moro, OR

Joseph G. ----- Born June 26, 1847 at Milan, OH
Died January 13, 1872 at Milan, OH

Reuben Cooney --- Born October 11, 1849 at Milan, OH
Died February 22, 1924 at Amherst, OH

Franklin Pierce ----- Born April 27, 1852 at Milan, OH
Died April 27, or 29, 1940 at Cleveland, OH

Mandana Marion -- Born October 8, 1855
Died August 8, 1887 at Milan, OH

George G. Schaeffer emigrated with his parents from Seneca Co. NY, to Ohio in the year 1843, coming by wagon and driving their cattle with them. They came by way of Buffalo to Cleveland, thence to Milan, Ohio. A rugged boy of twelve years and one of the oldest of a large family, he was delegated to drive the cattle through, which he did for a distance of 300 miles until, at Cleveland he became lame and other members of the family took up the burden, allowing him to ride the balance of the journey.

At that time there were only three stores on the East side of the river and about 5,000 inhabitants made up the population on the West side, then known as Ohio City. The only means of crossing the river at Cleveland was on a pontoon bridge and much difficulty was experienced in getting the cattle across, as they were afraid of the bridge and refused to go across. They finally secured the assistance of a gang of carpenters who were working in the vicinity, and the cattle were forced across and the journey continued.

This family reached their goal on the John Williams farm, east of Milan, Ohio, now owned by Mr. F.A. Kelly, and took up housekeeping in a log house which they occupied until the year 1850, when Mr. Schaeffer built the substantial house which still stands as a monument to the thrift and courage of those pioneer days.

"In those days," says Mr. Schaeffer, "deer and all kinds of game abounded in this section of the country, where now there is practically none." (In papers in 1911)

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Jacob Gambee Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer married Miss Susan Bird, November 2, 1862 and resided at Decatur, IL. No Children were born to them.

George Gambee Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer, married Rebecca Sayles, October 25, 1860.
There were three children born to them:

Eliza Jane -----Born February 11, 1862 at West Berlin, Erie County, OH
Mary Elizabeth ----- Born December 7, 1863 at West Berlin, Erie County, OH
Georgia Sophia -----Born June 11, 1872 at West Berlin, Erie County, OH

William Harrison Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer married Mattie E. Grover, November, 1874 at Topeka, KS. No children were born to them.

Mary Kathryn Schaeffer, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer died in infancy.

Mary Elizabeth Schaeffer, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer, married Orlando Bassett, September 23, 1856, at Milan, OH.
There were five children born to them:

Annie M. -----Born May 24 1857, at Milan, OH
Died February 21, 1920, at Milan, OH
Waldo Elmore -----Born August 18, 1858, at Milan, OH
Died August 20, 1902, at Cripple Creek, CO
Lizzie L. -----Born March 19, 1860, at Milan, OH
Died September 19 1892, at Milan, OH
Morgan H. -----Born October 9, 1862, at Milan, OH
Died February 11, 1920, at Toledo, OH
Minnie May ----- Born September 19, 1867, at Milan, OH
Died

Rebecca Catherine Schaeffer, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer, married James McLane, of Steuben, OH, November 16, 1869.
There were four children born to them:

Michael Schaeffer - Born October 8, 1872 at Steuben, OH
Died
Howard ----- Born August 13, 1874 at Steuben, OH
Died February 28, 1875, at Steuben, OH
Mary Catherine ---- Born May 20, 1877, at Steuben, OH
Died
Robert Dana ----- Born June 5, 1879, at Steuben, OH
Died July 1965, at Milan, OH

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Susanah Schaeffer, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Gambée Schaeffer, never married.

Benjamin Franklin Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambée Schaeffer, never married.

Sarah Ann Schaeffer, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Gambée Schaeffer, married Peter Williams, May 18, 1865, at Milan, OH.

There were six children born to them:

Emma May -----Born April 7, 1866, at Milan, OH
Died May 11, 1919, at Milan, OH
Delbert Eugene ----Born November 13, 1868, at Milan, OH
Died December 23, 1936, at Milan, OH
Alonzo -----Born August 16, 1869, at Milan, OH
Died April 18, 1871, at Milan, OH
Mary Elizabeth -----Born July 30, 1872, at Milan, OH
Died
George Schaeffer --Born April 17, 1874, at Milan, OH
Died
Grace -----Born December 17, 1879, at Milan, OH
Died

John Jesse Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambée Schaeffer, married Mary Eliabeth Snoderly, at Pineville, OR, on November 15, 1894.

There were two children born to them:

Lois Eliza -----Born March 8, 1896, Moro, OR
Died
John Joseph -----Born February 16, 1911, at Kent, OR
Died February 13, 1918, at Moro, OR

Joseph G. Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambée Schaeffer, never married.

Reuben Cooney Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambée Schaeffer was born October 11, 1849, at Milan, OH. At the age of eighteen, he went to Panama, spending three years building the Transpanama Railroad. While there, he contracted a fever and was presumed dead, after which he was placed in a wooden coffin. Dr. Elliott, the Company doctor and a close friend happened to be in the camp that very day, and had asked about Reuben. When told the burial would be in the afternoon, Dr. Elliott went to pay his respects and discovered Reuben was not dead and immediately transferred him to a hospital where he soon recovered. Reuben married Nettie Bradley, September 17, 1881, at Norwalk, OH. He farmed in Adrian, Michigan and Monroeville, Ohio; and worked for the railroad company in Norwalk and Amherst, Ohio. where he died February 22, 1924. His wife Nettie died September 24, 1951.

There were eight children born to them:

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- Michael Bradley---- Born October 18 1881, at Adrian, MI
Died May 15, 1938 at Amherst, OH
Michael Bradley Schaeffer was a Marine during the Spanish-American War, stationed in the Philippine Islands. "Mike" as everyone called him, never missed a family reunion. He worked for the National Tube Company for 34 years. Twenty of those years had been Foreman of one of the departments. He was a leader in the Democratic Party of Lorain County, a volunteer fireman in Amherst and a member of Odd Fellows and K of P Lodges. He died at the age of 56 in the year 1938
- Vera Belle ----- Born July 23, 1884, at Adrian, MI
Died in
- William G. ----- Born March 2, 1886, at Norwalk, OH
Died
William G. Schaeffer stopped formal schooling at the eighth grade, and at the age of 25, he decided to become a dentist. He entered Ohio University and made up his high school work, enabling him to enter dental college. Before graduating from Ohio State University in the year of 1915, he married Ruth E. Rogers, whose father was also a dentist. "Will" practiced dentistry in Amherst, Ohio for 33 years. Upon retirement in 1947, he spent full time with his hobby, "Beaver Park," a summer resort on Lake Erie. Always active at the family reunions, he is one of the few living members to have never missed a reunion since 1907. To keep the young people interested in reunions, he offered the facilities of Beaver Park for annual meetings. Boating, bathings, and togetherness of the family has been enjoyed by all since 1944.
- Ruby Adelia ----- Born July 27 1887, at Norwalk, OH
Died January 2, 1918, at North Amherst, OH
- Woolsey ----- Born February 3, 1889, at Monroeville, OH
Died August 18, 1907, at North Amherst, OH
- Benjamin Franklin - Born July 19, 1891, at Monroeville, OH
Died
Benjamin Franklin Schaeffer was a Marine during the Spanish-American War, stationed in Haiti. He was Shipping Master in Fairport Harbor in Cleveland and Lorain, Ohio. When he retired he bought a grocery store in Brownhelm, Ohio.
- Robert Quintard ---- Born August 10, 1893, at Norwalk, OH
Died August 28, 1893, at Norwalk, OH
- Bernice A. ----- Born September 27, 1895, at Norwalk, OH
Died

Franklin Pierce Schaeffer, son of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer, married Sue Armstrong, April 22, 1884, in Cleveland, OH.

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There were three children born to them:

Milo Joseph-----Born September 29, 1885, at Cleveland, OH
Died (disappeared)

Elizabeth Leone ---- Born March 20, 1887, at Cleveland, OH
Died

Byron Franklin ----- Born April 11, 1890, at Cleveland, OH
Died November 29, 1898, at Bellevue, OH

Mandana Marion Schaeffer, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Gambee Schaeffer, married Charles W. Mixer, at Milan. OH.

There were three children born to them:

Breta L. ----- Born November 12, 1881, at Geneva, MI
Died

Josie C. ----- Born February 19, 1883, at Geneva, MI
Died

Susie L. ----- Born July 17, 1886, at Clayton, MI
Died

Distinguished Family Members

The following members have been elected to the Amherst, Ohio “Distinguished Alumni Gallery of Success”

Dr. Roy E. Schaeffer, D.D.S.

Dr. Charles K. Alexander

Head of the Electrical Engineering School, Temple University

Claude Miller

Senior Scientist, International Business Machines (IBM)

The Schaeffer Family Genealogy

Schaeffer Reunion History

The reunion idea was started at the time of Aunt Rebecca McLane's funeral in October of 1907. Several of the older Schaeffer's expressed a desire for a get-together which was not to be a sad occasion. Thus the Schaeffer reunion was born.

The **FIRST** Annual meeting of the Schaeffer family was held at the home of O. Bassett, August 22, 1908. There were 82 present. Seventy-four of whom were members to the Schaeffer family. Monday, August 24, 1908 a number assembled at the home of D.E. Williams who resides at the homestead of Michael Schaeffer. At the assembly a business meeting was held and the following officers were elected.

G. F. Schaeffer, Michigan, was made Honorary President
F. P. Schaeffer, Columbus, Ohio, President
William G. Schaeffer, Vice President
Annie Bassett, Secretary
D. E. Williams, Assistant Secretary
G. G. Schaeffer, Treasurer
Mrs. Leman Hunter, Genealogy

To defray expenses of this association a motion was made and carried that an assessment of twenty-five cents be made on the head of each family. The meeting adjourned to meet the third Saturday of August at the home of G. G. Schaeffer in Milan, Ohio. *--- Annie Bassett, Secretary*

The **TWENTY-FIFTH** Annual Reunion of the Schaeffer family was held at Cayuga State Park, Seneca Falls, New York, August 20, 1932. More than 60 were present. Eighteen from Pennsylvania. Twelve from Ohio, and three from Michigan. D. E. Williams said that although we all greatly enjoyed coming to New York he thought the reunion belonged to Ohio and suggested that each state organize its own reunion and all who could, would attend the different meetings. Several people thought it too late to organize in separate states and were satisfied to attend reunion in Ohio when ever possible.

The **FIFTIETH** Annual Reunion of the Schaeffer family was held Saturday, August 17, 1957 at Beaver Park, Lorain, Ohio. President W. G. Schaeffer called to order the business meeting. The minutes of the 1956 reunion were read and approved. This being the 50th reunion, Dr. W. G. Schaeffer and Mary McLane Drake related some of the stories they remember hearing their parents tell of experiences on the way fro New York State to Ohio, and the early days in Ohio. Letters of greetings from Josie Mixer Stanley and Breta Mixer Shrode were read. News paper clippings of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schaeffer were read. These clippings belong to Mary

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McLane Drake, and kept by her mother Rebecca Schaeffer McLane, daughter of the couple.

The **SEVENTY-FIFTH** Reunion was held at Beaver Park, August 21, 1982 with 75 members and guests present.

This being our Seventy-Fifth Reunion – Henry Sharp and his committee had special entertainment, he asked everyone present to tell how they were related and this was very amusing and entertaining. Jean Vros had made a special cake and Grace Gove had brought special mints with 75 on each one. A group picture was taken by Al Pelton and it was suggested we purchase one for our records.

Ben and Earl Schaeffer had come the furthest from California. Dorothy Horning was the oldest as she is 76 years old.

Sarah Elizabeth Schaeffer, daughter of William and Gayle was the youngest at 5 months old.

Dorothy Horning and James McLane were the only two present who had attended the first reunion.

Barbara Shimer had composed a very unique poem about the reunion and enjoyed it very much. (See Appendix)

The **ONE HUNDREDTH** Annual Reunion was held at Beaver Park, August 4, 2007 with approximately 70 members and guests present. The meeting was called to order by President John Schaeffer at 2:35 pm. He reflected on 100 years and urged everyone to return next year. John offered to make files of pictures to be left with the Secretary.

Minutes were read and approved including a balance on hand of \$356.65. Thanks given to Libby Adkins, Sandy Alexander and Barb Shiner for candle centerpieces. Roy Schaeffer at 92. The youngest person was Linday Upson and the furthest travel was Fresno, California. We had a moment of silence for Eleanor Dillons's 2 grandsons who are in Iraq. Introductions and updates by all those attending. Thanks also given for delicious potluck lunch. Bills for the candles was submitted and approved, \$47.72. It was decided to keep the first Saturday in August. Jim McLane from Tennessee offered to work on updating and entering the genealogy into a computer program. The last book was done in 1987 so there are lots of updates and changes.

Motion to adjourn by Jim Alexander, seconded by Barb Shimer. Pictures and boat ride to follow.

Attendees:

Joanne Wagner, Hillary Webb, Warren & Donna Pelton, Mike & Lena Pelton, Rus & Barb Ingrassia, Ray & Shirley Baraga, Dick & Mary Stutsman, Dave & Cindy Eaton, Barb Noftz, Nikki Beese, Conner Beese, Roy & Ruth Schaeffer, Tim & Barb Shimer, Libby & Jim Adkins, Blair Adkins, Jim Adkins, Charles & Ann and Matt Alexander, June Alexander, Paul & Eleanor Dillon, Lloyd Williams, Lynne Miller, Jerry & Gladys Drake, Jeriod & Sandy DuPier, Hollie Heath, Jim & Lolly McLane, Laurel Pyron, Blake Pyron, Kendall Pyron, Matt, Judy and Lindsay Upson, Mark & Clara Marus, Don & Heather

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Kane, John & Sue Schaeffer, Matt & Chrystal and Jackson Schaeffer, Josh Schaeffer, Bill & Gail and Megan Schaeffer, Jim and Sandy Alexander, Nettie Shimer Schaeffer.

Next reunion, August 2, 2008.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Shirley Baraga, Secretary.

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PRESIDENTS

Frank D. Schaeffer	1909 – 1911
Delbert E. Williams	1911 – 1917
Robert D. McLane	1917 – 1930
Michael B. Schaeffer	1930 – 1938
William G. Schaeffer	1938 – 1967
Roy E. Schaeffer	1967 –

VICE PRESIDENTS

William G. Schaeffer	1908 – 1911
George Schaeffer	1911 – 1917
Delbert E. Williams	1917 –
Roy Schaeffer	1964 – 1967
John Drake	1967 – 1971
James McLane Sr.	1971 –

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

George F. Schaeffer	1908
James McLane Sr.	1982
Earl Schaeffer	1987

SECRETARIES

Anna Bassett	1908 – 1920
Georgia Hamm	1920 – 1930
Hazel Rosekelly	1930 – 1963
Norma Young	1963 – 1975
Eloise Malone	1975 -

HISTORIANS

Leham Hunter	1908 – 1930
Dorothy Williams	1930 – 1938
Elizabeth Williams	1938 – 1963
Mary Rank	1963 – 1964
Ora Mae Schaeffer	1964 – 1985
Barbara Pelton Ingrasia	1985 –

The Michael Schaeffer Family

- I. **Jacob Gambée Schaeffer (Susan Bird)**
m. 11-2-1862 (no children)
- II. **George Gambée Schaeffer (Rebecca J. Sayles)**
m. 10-25-1860 (3 children)
- III. **William Harrison Schaeffer (Mattie E. Grover)**
m. 11-1874 (no children)
- IV. **Mary Kathryn Schaeffer**
(Died in infancy)
- V. **Mary Elizabeth Schaeffer (Orlando Bassett)**
m. 9-23-1856 (5 Children)
- VI. **Rebecca Catherine Schaeffer (James McLane)**
m. 11-16-1869 (4 Children)
- VII. **Susanah Schaeffer**
(Never Married)
- VIII. **Benjamin Franklin Schaeffer**
(Never married)
- IX. **Sarah Ann Schaeffer (Peter Williams)**
m. 5-18-1865 (6 children)
- X. **John Jessie Schaeffer (Mary Elizabeth Snoderly)**
m. 11-15-1894 (2 children)
- XI. **Joseph G. Schaeffer**
(Never Married)
- XII. **Reuben Cooney Schaeffer (Nettie Bradley)**
m. 9-17-1881 (8 children)
- XIII. **Franklin Pierce Schaeffer (Sue Armstrong)**
m. 4-22-1884 (3 Children)

- XIV. Mandana Marion Schaeffer (Charles W. Mixer)
m. Date unknown (3 children)**

APPENDIX

The Schaeffer Family Genealogy

Poem composed by Barbara Shimer and read at the 75th Annual Reunion.

T'was the day of the reunion, when all through the house,
everyone was getting ready – fast as a mouse.

The pans and the dishes were being filled with great care,
in hopes they'd stay full till we arrive there.

Me in my apron and father in the care
the family is ready to travel a far.

The kids were all hungry and in a hurry, they said
while visions of eating and swimming danced in their heads.

When we arrived at the place, there arose such a clatter
I spring from my seat to see what was the matter.

Away to the yacht club I flew like a flash
pushed open the door and found the party at last.

When what to my wondering eyes should I see
but generations of people, all happy as can be.

There were cousins and uncles and aunts
some in dresses and suits and other in pants.

There are so many things to share and to say
cause were all related in some distant way.

The children play with their toys on the beach
and their parents are all there – well within reach.

Everyone is happy and enjoying the sun
There is no reason not to have fun.

Now it's time for dinner and they ring the bell
we get to eat the food that's been cooked so well.

Relatives get to visit and exchange good wishes
and all the while, they empty the dishes.

There are so many questions to ask and pictures to see
cause everyone here shares the same family tree.

The cousins all come almost every season
aunts and uncles too, for the same reason.

And when we all get together, we can be be loud
cause we're all Schaeffers and we're all proud!

Then the meeting is over, and it's time to go
everyone is getting ready but kinda slow.

Pick up the kids and clean the floor
gather your stuff and make for the door.

To some it may be a last good-bye
and not without a tear in their eye.

But next year when we return
there may be a new face and name to learn.

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Now I can hear them all exclaim as they drive out of sight
happy 75th Reunion to all and to all a good night.....

The written history of the Schaeffer Family has been prepared using Microsoft Word 2007 word-processing software and the Michael Schaeffer Decendant Outline has been prepared using a genealogy data base program called Family Tree Maker 2008. This is commercially available software that no doubt some family members are already using. Personal copies of this information for use on your personal computers or answers to questions regarding these programs can be obtained by contacting Jim McLane by mail at; 1682 Cedarcrest Cove, Germantown, TN 38138; by email at – jamclane@comcast.net; or by phone at; 901-870-8629. . Individual family Decendent Outlines or other family reports within the Michael Schaeffer Family can be furnished by requesting them from Jim McLane