



NEWSLETTER

December 1995

First of All... Phyllis and I wish you and yours a Joyous Christmas Season and a Wonderful New Year! The Lord's love was truly boundless this year!

Your Vote Counts!

Now that the 1994 Clan Reunion is history and the Clan History Book has been printed, I thought, "How do we keep contact between all the Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstadt lines open so that all our 'cuzzins' know about other get-togethers, happenings and upcoming events?" So I said to myself, "Someone should write a family newsletter at least once a year." I looked around and found only one "volunteer."

So I then said to myself, "Who may be interested in a yearly newsletter?" I thought, "Probably those who were interested enough to own a Clan Family History Book!" So I said, "Why not publish at least one newsletter and see if there was a family quorum that may enjoy finding what has happened in the clans once a year as a supplement to their History Book!" SO HERE IT IS!

NOW...I need your vote...as you read through the newsletter, if you would like to receive a copy each year around the end of the year, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

NOW...here is the kicker...due to costs of paper and postage, would you care to subscribe to a clan newsletter for \$2.00 a year (*cheap at half the price*). Thus said...I hope you enjoy the initial 1995 issue...it comes to you as our Christmas Gift!

...Jerry and Phyllis Allstott

What's Happ'nin'?...

Correspondence to the editor

"There is a Mike Alstott who plays on the Purdue football team. I watched him several times, he is very Big.

Is he by any chance related to our clan?"

Millie Aldstadt Larson
Lanse, Pennsylvania

Dear Millie, You will find a little writeup on

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In The Wake of America's Worst Bombing...A Comforter Was There Named Altstadt

From the Ashes

Exerpts from an article in the Church of the Nazarene Herald of Holiness Magazine, August 1995

The blast that shook the world on April 19, 1995, killed at least 167 persons and affected the lives of countless others. The global village focused its undivided attention on the heartland of America.

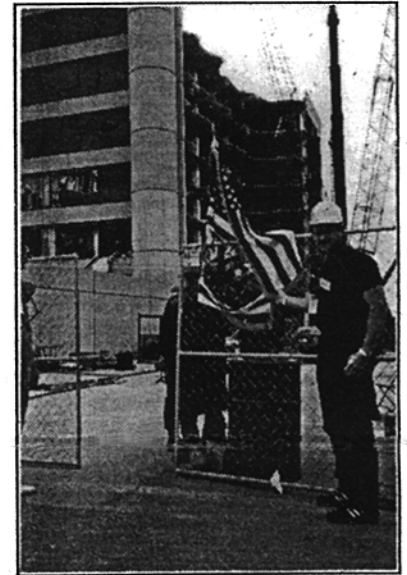
This is a first hand report of Bobby Altstadt, an auxiliary chaplain for the Oklahoma City Police Department, a chaplain for the Teamsters Union, and a member of Oklahoma City Trinity Church of the Nazarene. He was in a warehouse about a mile and a half from the Murrah building when the bomb exploded.

Bobby - My first thought was that an airplane must have crashed and struck the building I was in. I went outside and looked around and saw smoke coming from downtown, I had no idea what happened, but I certainly never thought anything about a bomb in Oklahoma City.

At 1:00 p.m. Chaplain Jack Poe of the OKC Police Department assigned me as an auxiliary chaplain. Six of us were sent into the federal building to minister to victims and the rescue personnel.

The scene was unbelievable; the destruction awesome. Members of the OKC Emergency Medical Service were there in force. These

The Murrah Federal building on the day of the blast



Bob Altstadt stands at the secured entrance to the rescue area at the Murrah Federal Building. The torn U.S. flag which had been in the 7th floor Marine Corp. office stands in place behind the gate.

seasoned medical technician veterans were exhausted and pale. No one could be prepared for the carnage before us.

I was indoctrinated into what chaplaincy is all about as a rescue worker walked from the rubble clutching a child's teddy bear and weeping uncontrollably. I hugged this brave man and cried with him. After a while, we prayed together. This was pretty much my routine for the first few days until I was assigned to "morgue duty."

This involved a Catholic priest and a Protestant minister going into the rubble with a medical examiner to recover bodies. We placed bodies on a gurney and took them back to a temporary morgue for examination and identification. While in the morgue, I prayed that the Lord would give the examiners wisdom to make positive identifications quickly, so that loved ones could begin the healing process. We worked from 6:00 a.m. until noon, seven-days-a-week.

I was later assigned in the afternoons as a police representative at First Christian Church where families were notified of the deaths of

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What's Happ'nin'?..., contd. from page 1

Mike Alstott on page 441 of the Family History Book. Mike is a descendant of Nicholas Alstott (1727) where your line is descended through Nicholas' brother Peter Alstadt (1734). Both were sons of Martin Altstatt, our common ancestor immigrant. Doc Alstadt, a descendant of Adam Alstadt (1740) another brother to Peter Alstadt, sent me an article on Mike from his *Purdue Alumnus Magazine*.

Mike Alstott, who hails from Joliet, Illinois, is a Purdue fullback. Mike rushed for 1,188 yards in his junior year in 1994. "Moose" as he is referred to by his teammates will probably be an All-America candidate in 1995, and although he lacks "swivel hips" (retorted Billy Joe Altstatt, scout for the San Francisco 49ers, at a family get-together last June) he will be drafted by one of the NFL teams.

Mike's cousin, Bill Alstott of Joliet, Illinois, hopes that Mike will have the opportunity to play for the Chicago Bears. Look for Mike Alstott to be the first of the Clans to bear the Alstott surname in the NFL.

What other descendants with Altstatt blood have played professional football? -

Maybe next year's newsletter will have some answers supplied by YOU!

"Jerry, In doing research in Rockingham county, Virginia I came across a letter written over 10 years ago to the Historical Society from Ray Morris, 5335 Remington Road, San Diego, CA 92115. He had bought a Bible (published in 1855) which belonged to John H. and Rachael Ann Alstadt (page 512) and was interested in the family and if the persons had been involved in the Civil War. Maybe someone in the San Diego area can find Mr. Morris and see if he still has the Alstadt Bible."

Judy Stubbs
Nashville, TN

Dear Judy: I have contacted Mike Gray, g-g-grand nephew and Grace Buckland, great grand daughter of John and Rachael, who both live in Southern California, to follow up on this.

"Jerry, I am interested in how many members of the Allstott family died of the various kinds of cancer. Would others interested in this disease how it runs in the families please write to me"...

Billye Jean Langford, 14652 S.E. 130th Dr.,
Clackamas, OR 97015-8294

Mike and Anita Gray Host A Potluck In Honor Of A Visit Of Father Damian To Southern California

On April 29, 1995, Mike and Anita Gray graciously opened up their home to descendants of Martin Altstatt (1699) and Jacob Altstatt (1730) for a get-together centered around a sabbatical visit to Los Angeles by Father Damian Dietlein. Father Dietlein was in Southern California taking classes on the women's place in the New Testament.

In attendance were Martin Altstatt descendants and spouses: Nadine Dennin, Laura

Plans Initiated For the 1999 Reunion in Pendleton, Oregon

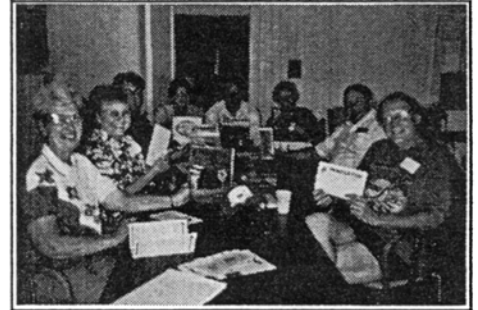
Go West Young Man For The Next Clan Reunion!

1999 WILL BE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! Our hosts, the Allstott Oregon Clan, started preparation at their July 15th Family Picnic at McKenzie Park in Hermiston, Oregon.

Archie Padberg, organizer of the annual Allstott picnics, and his lovely wife, Jeanette, called for a volunteer committee to meet after the July 15th picnic to toss around ideas.

The committee recommended that the 3rd National Altstatt/Alstott Reunion be held in Pendleton, Oregon, home of the famous Pendleton Woolen Mills and World famous Pendleton Round-up, on the third weekend of June 1999.

Guided tours will be set up for the Pendleton Woolens Factory and the Pendleton Underground. A full course "Wild West" Bar-B-Que will be the main menu and Bob Allstott is planning to arrange a Powwow for us on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. All this plus much more to come...so check your newsletter this



The 1999 Reunion Committee holds up pamphlets touting the rich history of Northeastern Oregon.

time next year for an update and start saving your travel and motel money now for your Great Northwest U.S.A. getaway...this should be our best reunion ever!

Reunions Around the Country

I hope that in 1996 this column will take up at least half of the Newsletter, so let me hear from you this next year, where the reunion happened, who was in attendance and photos if possible.

The Nebraska Heinrich Altstadt (1800) Clan had a large reunion on June 18-19 with 74 registered attendees at the home of Loren and Doris Teutsch. Many enjoyed fishing at the lake in their big backyard and visiting with Aunt Louise Altstadt Lowell, matriarch of the family.

Charles and Barbara Alstot, Ventura, California, report having a great time in visiting apple growers Bill and Dorothy Allstot of

Tonasket, Washington, this last summer. Bill threw one of his great Bar-B-Ques and invited all the family to meet the Alstots.

Phyllis and I had a great visit on June 13th in the home of Bill and Georgia Altstatt and their family in Oklahoma City, while enroute to Houston for my mom's 80th birthday. We were royally treated with a giant reception cake!

Phyllis and I also attended the annual Allstott Picnic in Hermiston, Oregon last July 15th. and although the attendance was low (in the 40s) for this family, spirits were high with a visit from R.T. and Aneta Saling coming up from Henrietta, Texas. It was their first ever reunion with all their cousins from Oregon.

Alstott, John and Dee Alstott Talor, Jerry and Phyllis Allstott and Anita and Mike Gray. Descendants of Jacob Altstadt (1730) and spouses in attendance were: Bill and Dorothy Littleton, Leo and Margaret Deterding and the honored guest Reverend Damian Dietlein (or as his Indiana license plates state "DAMO").

His cousins Dorothy and Margaret, although granddaughters of Louis Altstadt (1861) had not visited with each other in over 30 years.

Potluck attendees, left to right: Nadine Dennin (with her ever-present accordian), Leo Deterding, Father Damian, GBill and Dorothy Littleton, Laura Alstott, Margaret Deterding, John and Dee Talor with Phyllis and Jerry Allstott - Mike and Anita Gray were still hard at work readying dessert.



Anita Gray places out the sumptuous California fresh strawberries as Leo Deterding looks on.



Mike Gray and Jerry Allstott at work in their favorite place in the house...the kitchen!



Book Published in 1994 Locates The Original Land Site Settled By The Altstadt's In 1734

Charlie Otstot Finds The Needle In The Haystack!

When I last wrote you I mentioned a new book: *Oley Valley Heritage: The Colonial Years: 1700-1775*, by Philip Pendleton and published by The Pennsylvania German Society in 1994. There are several maps in the appendix which show early property owners. Johann Martin Altstadt is shown on the 1750 map for Exeter and Adam Altstadt is shown on the 1775 map for Exeter. I photocopied these maps from the book and

adjusted the scale to be the same as a USGS map; overlaid them and drew the property boundaries onto the topographic map.

To help orient you, the road at the bottom of the page is US422. I expect that you will recall where the Schwarzwald Church is located. I can now appreciate more the gift (sale) of land Martin gave to the church which sits right in the middle of the Altstadt farm. I would imagine

that the "original" farm house was likely up the draw north of the church.

Charlie Otstot

Note: Those present at the 1989 Reunion drove over the Altstadt property in the convoy going to lunch at the Reading Inn from the cemetery.

From the Ashes, cont'd. from page 1

Elusive to Berks County Researchers who searched land records in the early 1980s, the actual land holdings of Martin and Judith Altstadt, purchased in 1734, were not located and reported until 1994. See Family History Book page 149 for 1980s information.



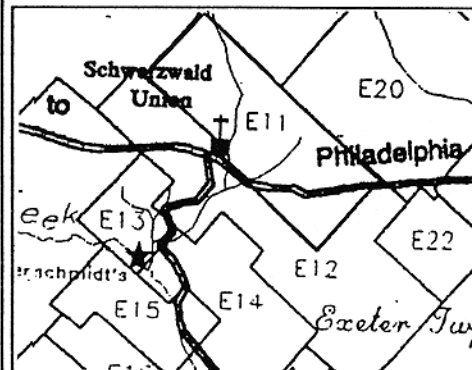
Bob Altstadt with his mother, Georgia, wife, Karen, and daughters, Kristi and Brooke

loved ones. During this time, I became acquainted with many family members. We would talk, pray, and cry. To occupy themselves, some families spent time making special ribbons for rescue workers.

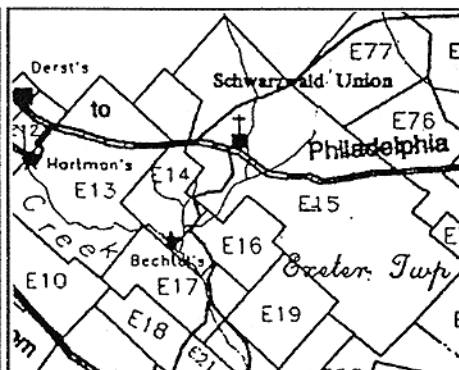
I was present for 12 notifications. I will never forget one of them. We had the responsibility of informing a family that their four-year-old daughter had been killed. I did not know that it was possible for a person to mourn so strongly. From the depths of her soul this young mother grieved. I have never experienced such sadness and sorrow, nor have I ever hurt or cried for someone as I did in that encounter.

I was proud of the way members of the clergy pulled together during this tragedy. Men and women of every denomination and from non-denominational groups joined together to minister to rescue workers, doctors, nurses, family members, medical examiners and technicians, and sightseers as well. These chaplains prayed together under difficult circumstances to paint the love of God all over Oklahoma City.

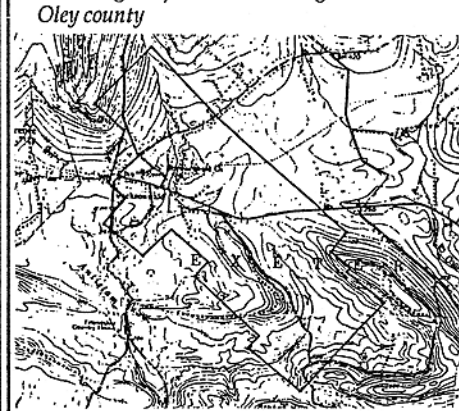
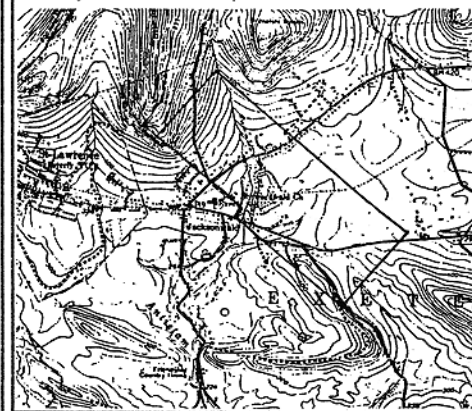
That bomb blast did not knock God off His throne. He still reigns. He proved it through many of His people involved with the rescue operation. The bombing was the ultimate cowardly act of a crazy person, but out of this horrible disaster, people have been drawn more closely together and to God than anyone could have imagined. The Lord can take something awful like this bombing and do a great thing in the life of America.



The Farm of Martin and Judith in this 1750 plan looks to be twice the size of plots 25 and 26 found in older maps



This 1775 mapped area only shows the Exeter acreage owned by Adam Altstadt that he added to the original farm. Other acreage was in Oley county



In Remembrance...

Katie Bauers, Frances Paul and Gladys Schumert lost their mother, Mrs. Sylvia Talhelm this last January.

Phyllis and I want to thank all of you for your prayers and support on the passing of my parents,

John D. and Tommie Allstott this last summer. Dad retired in 1977 with over 34 years of service with the City of West University Place, Texas, and mom taught Sunday School for over 50 years.

We miss them very much but know that they are really enjoying heavens rewards now.

Step Right Up...Good Supply of Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstadt History Of The Clans Ready For New Owners!

If any in your families have asked, "Are there any more Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstadt Family History books available?" Be assured that you can tell them...YES!

Although over 280 books are out in the hands of clan members or in genealogy libraries, we

have around 220 books that still need a home. If you have not seen this professionally printed and bound 610 page book, there should be a copy close to you...check the back page for a "cuzzin" in your area. The price is still a low \$45.00, and includes postage.



10 boxes of Family Books delivered to our home at the same time that the initial purchasers got their books have been sent out from Ventura, but...YES...we still have a good supply of Family History books!

