



NEWSLETTER

Visit our ancestral Website: <www.altstatt.org> or to update any family information please E-mail Jerry Allstott at: <jandpallstott@yahoo.com> December 2005

Phyllis and I send Season's Greetings...we are still reeling from 3-months on the road...our usual outing back east - plus Alaska and Nigeria!

Phyllis had been trying to talk me into going to Alaska since we were married - and *this year we dunn it!!*

We flew into Anchorage from Seattle on August 11, and took the "bubble top" train up to Denali... and saw Mt. McKinley at its most beautiful along with all sorts of wildlife. Even encountered a moose close to our door as we approached our cabin at Denali. A tour bus at Fairbanks took us across to Chicken, Alaska, ...*what a wild place!* Over the Alaska border (to Canada) we rode a jet boat 110 miles down the Yukon River to Dawson City. From there we took another tour bus to Whitehorse...through beautiful Canadian countryside.

A little south of Whitehorse we enjoyed a narrow-gauge train ride to Skagway and our awaiting Holland America ship - the *Volendam*. The next day we sailed into Glacier Bay and watched blue glaciers "calf." Then a day in Ketchikan and into Vancouver on the inland passage. What a georgeous tour.

*But...*to backtrack... August 6, was actually the start date of our 3-month trek...we left Ventura, and motored up Interstate 5 to Portland, OR, to visit my cousin **Bill Langford** and his "new" bride, **Sally**, before RVing up to Seattle and flying to our Alaska "adventure."

We, again, picked up our RV in Seattle on August 24, and motored east to Buena Vista, CO, and a visit with Phyllis' brother. While we were in the area Hurricane *Katrina* struck New Orleans. From Colorado we headed southeast to Lake Jackson (60 miles south of Houston)...watching the gas pump prices go up every mile! There we visited with **Roger and Anne** and our three grandsons, **Geoffrey, Ben and Andrew**. Houston was outstanding in sheltering over 25,000 from N.O. Other Texas towns put up their share of evacuees too. The only bad thing about *Katrina*...in the Houston area...was that the tides from the hurricane had put so much water into the local swamps that the misquitoses multiplied! You weren't safe any time of the day! While in the Houston area, we visited my sister **Mary Ruth** and **Joe Cooper** at their new home in Columbia Lakes and my cousin **Marion** and **Jim Neel**.

Upon leaving the Houston area, we decided to go up US 59 to Interstate 20 and cross over to Georgia to visit our daughter's family, rather than taking "beatup" Interstate 10. I think Hurricane *Rita* had the same idea...as a couple of days later she trailed up US 59 (*where we had just traveled*) leaving plenty of rain in her path (*much needed for that dry area of Texas*).

The next couple of weeks were spent with our Georgia kids, **Tim** and **Cherilyn** and

Continued on page 7

A very fruitful 10-days in June and 3,000 kilometers of checking out Altstadt sites has finalized the 2007 European Tour route!

Hermann Altstadt's trusty Volkswagen Bus took us north to see ancient Altstadt sites and visit German cuzzins as well!

On June 13, Phyllis and I were picked up at the Nuremberg, Germany airport by Hermann and Gundi Altstadt and their three boys, Mattias, Tobi and Alex. This was the start of a whirlwind 10-day trek around northern Germany for Hermann and me to lay out the route for the 2007 Altstadt tour.

As per the 2004 newsletter, I thought that the 2007 trek would involve four countries... Germany, Holland, Switzerland and Belgium. But in Hermann's latest research, he could find **NO** Altstadt (*any spelling*) connections coming from Holland or Belgium, as originally thought.

His attention over the two years since the 2003 tour centered around Germany,

Switzerland and Austria.

Truly, there were early Alstede roots in northwest Germany, but none of these early roots crossed over into Holland, even though the Dutch border is within 20 kilometers of Alstätte, Germany. So, our emphasis for the 2005 excursion was solely Germany.

We kissed the girls good-bye in Erlangen and headed southwest to the Black Forest. There we stopped at the *Freilichtmuseum* in Hausach. What a



Phyllis poses with Gundi, Hermann, Mattias, Alex and Tobi Altstadt in their backyard in Erlangen

wonderful place, with around 20 farm buildings in 16th to 19th century style - actual working farm buildings, with plowed fields and animals - and world renowned "Bag" Museum...something not to be missed. From Hausach we traveled up to Michelfeld and a visit with **Heinz Weigel**, (*who fed us new wine and onion cake on the 2003 tour*). He had done further research on his

Altstadt line and we enjoyed the afternoon in his company.

Continued on page 3

Old Alstadt home viewed in Berks County

On our trip east this year, Phyllis and I stopped to view what Jim Lewars, curator of the Daniel Boone Homestead, says is the old Alstadt house.

Jim had given us an idea of where the house was located, but not a definite address.

Tropical Storm *Trina* was shedding rain, with all her might, while we were in Berks County, Pennsylvania. But that didn't stop us from scouting out the house location.

We found the house located at 4751 Boyertown Pike on Route 562. It is a beautiful old 2-story limestone house.

When Phyllis and I drove up the driveway, deer were crossing the front yard. I suspect that the property contains around 5 or more acres, beautifully wooded and with a tennis court.

Unfortunately, the owner, Dr. Lutz, was not at home, so all we could do was leave a note of our visit.

It took a while to find the house, but a stop at a small grocery nearby found a clerk who possessed a good knowledge of the 19th century history of the home. It seems that a Civil War naval hero named "Wilkes" lived in that home till around the turn of the 20th century. I will try to get more history on the home while we are up in Berks County next year.



Situated toward the back of the property is the Altstadt house. Without further checking, I am not sure which is the 18th century section of the house, although I suspect the part with the covered porch attached housed the Alstadts

The "A" Train Corner

Take 2: Gamble pays off for Bucs



Photo by Chris O'Meara/AP

After penalty erases blocked extra point, Tampa Bay beats Washington on Alstott's 1-yard, 2-point run

By Fred Goodall

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. - With the ball sitting on the 1-yard line, Jon Gruden couldn't resist.

The temptation to give it to **Mike Alstott** on a gutsy 2-point conversion call - even if it meant going home without a victory -- was too strong.

At least that way, the Tampa Bay coach said, he would have gone to sleep Sunday night knowing the Buccaneers gave it their best shot.

"It would have been tough not knowing what would have happened," Gruden said after Alstott somehow found a way across the goal line to give the Bucs a stunning 36-35 victory over the Washington Redskins.

The run, with 58 seconds remaining, came after the Redskins blocked a potential game-tying extra point -- but had jumped offsidelines in the process.

Continued on page 8



A big deal over 2 points? But it was the two points that won the game in the last minute of play

Evansville is still on the map!



After tornado watches and warnings and some touchdowns in the immediate area...literally ALL DAY yesterday, Evansville is still on the map. We had a lot of flooding, too. Our 25 year old daughter called crying last night... she

Darrell Monger (II)...an new officer in the Corps.

The trip to OCS Marine Officer graduation was awesome. We learned a few things that may be handy to those of you who have never been on a military base. When entering a base, avoid taking pictures of the beautiful entry gates with all the military statuary, and (*did I mention*) "armed guards."

They didn't appreciate Big Darrell (*hubby*) in a rented convertible capturing all this beauty on film. We met **Mr. M-16** and they were kind enough to check our car in every detail. Afterwards, they were very friendly and fun to be around.

Early the next morning, as told, we arrived on the base. When the Marines tell you they live by a "*need to know basis*," they mean it. There were 400 families who were totally lost around a base the size of Texas, and no one, including the marines, knew when and where we were to all to assemble.

Big Darrell and I happened on to a place called *Leugene Hall*. The marines there were full of sniper stories, and had lots of things to show us. They introduced us to their color guard and took us to the raising of the flag. They too had difficulty finding information about the graduation. We had a blast with these guys. Big Darrell and I, manning with camera, continued to learn a few more lessons about a marine base.

We came across an airport with some really exciting aircraft. The most exciting were the President's and Vice President's planes. Big Darrell, began taking more camera shots from the convertible. Lets just say, it is nice if you read the little red signs that say **DEADLY FORCE AUTHORIZED** if you take pictures.

After several hours, we were told where graduation orientation would be. Unlike Texas, you don't turn right on red at the Marine base. We got to meet some more nice people. They are called MP's.

There were so many tourists on base, that

got stranded in high water just 1/2-block from work and sustained \$9,000 worth of water damage to her car she had bought new a couple years ago and had just this month paid off. But as far as I know, all Altstadts are survivors and the Vanderburgh County Fair Grounds still exist. Our bad tornado was November 8, 2005, a Sunday morning, at 2:00 AM. It came out of nowhere, killing 22 or so people (*including one of our church parishioners*) and sent 100 to hospitals.

I truly believe God is trying to reach his/her people through these world-wide natural catastrophes. If we respond as brothers/sisters/family in time of tragedy, why can't we do the same on a day-to-day basis?

Love to Phyllis -
Diane Altstadt (pg. 83)

all of our encounters with the MP's couldn't have been friendlier.

Orientation was touching, but we were all anxious to see the candidates. We didn't get to go to the officer club dinner, because Darrell (II) wanted to take us around the base.

We bought some really neat souvenirs and novelty items while on base. (*File that away for in a minute*).

The next morning we attended the graduation exercise. The performance of the band, military formations, parade, cannon fire was also touching. From the podium, they told us that few people had applied to be officer candidates and that few made it. The poor guys had to stand for hours in the hot sun prior to marching and hours of parade rest and attention.

After graduation, we couldn't get off the base quick enough. We rushed to Washington DC where we had a private tour waiting for us at the Capitol by one of Texas Rep. Hall's office staff. It was great!

While dining we met a large number of retired marines who had been on a tour bus. We told them that Darrell (II) had just graduated, and they gave us special tickets to a performance they booked months in advance and drove hours to see - The President's Marine Band, The Marines that carry Presidents to rest, and The *Silent* Marine Corp. Senator John Glenn, the Astronaut, was also there. That too was great.

Saturday and Sunday, we toured beautiful Washington DC, until it was time

Continued on page 5

Dear Jerry,
FYI: The story regarding our family's tragedy and court case is being featured in "People" this week.

Toby, Grace, and Lily are in the *People Magazine* that is dated November 21! Kenney Chesney is on the cover of it.

Thought you might be interested.
Dee Talor, (pg. 399)

2007 tour - continued from page 1

From Michelfeld, we traveled up again to Dreieichenhain. There we met the famous genealogist, Hans Hang. Hans wrote the book, "Wo sind sie geblieben?" about Dreieichenhain, and other local, immigrants to America and other

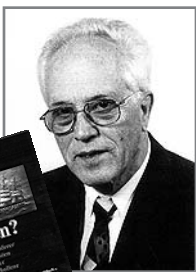
parts of the world. **Martin Altstadt** (1699) was not in his book, because Martin had moved to Freinsheim, Germany, before coming to America. Heinz had no reference of Martin's move to Freinsheim, but felt there may have been a family rift in Martin's move away from Dreieichenhain.

Heinz found out that **Caspar Altstadt** (1673) had moved to Dreieichenhain from Ravolzhausen (just northeast of Hanau) and that Caspar was an "miniburgermeister" in Dreieichenhain as well as having a profession of tailor in that town. Since our meeting Heinz has done further research on the children of Caspar Altstadt, and found another family from a daughter's line. We stay in e-mail touch with each other.

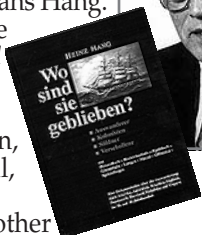
Because of the good news of the finding of Caspar Altstadt's former town of Ravolzhausen...Hermann and I turned our attention to checking out the church books in Ravolzhausen. We found the quaint little town and church, but discovered that all the church books had been sent to an archives in Hanau. We had no time to visit Hanau, so we got back on track with the agenda we drew up before leaving Erlangen.

Our next stop was Herborn, the birthplace of **Heinricus Alstedius**, the famous author and professor at the Marburg University. There we saw the *Hohe Schule*, where Heinricus taught secondary school as a young teacher. It was here at Herborn that he wrote the first German encyclopedia.

From Herborn, we drove into the Ruhr area and a visit with **Burkhardt Altstadt** at the Schloss hotel in Castrop-Rauxell. In the 17th century this hotel was an Alstede Schloss (Castle). But Hermann



Heinz Hang



and I were looking for a historically old original Alstede Castle - and the older the better. It was here that Burkhardt invited the 2007 tour to his *Shoe Museum* in Tiefenort - and that will be a real treat.

There are six Alstede castles in northwest Germany - and we had to check them out. One old moated castle is now called the Alst Castle. We walked around a quarter-mile to get to the entrance and all the signs at the gate let us know that we were *not* welcomed. A second Alstede Castle stop turned out to be a 30-year old hotel with a grocery store next door. Another Alstede castle location turned out to only be the remnants of walls in a little pile. Then...

PAY DIRT! Between Munster and Coesfeld is Alstede Strasse, and on Alstede Strasse is Alstede Schloss. We stopped and made inquiries. The owner of the castle is an Earl, who works in Munich and comes home on weekends. His wife said she would ask if it would be OK for us to stop there in 2007, and Hermann is following up on that conversation.

After leaving Alstede Schloss, we motored onto Borken and a lunch engagement with **Hermann and Edelgard Pütz** and their family. The Pütz's had also invited her cousins, **Arthur and Gabe Altstadt**, to dine with us. What a grand visit with German cuzzins and authentic German cuisine. All the Germans were practicing their English and I was "trying" to practice my Deutsch.

Edelgard's son speaks perfect English - he should, he teaches it in school. So, I settled for most conversations in English.

You couldn't believe the great taste of Edelgard's strawberry/whipped cream roll! Fantastic!

Later that afternoon, we were off to Bremen and a dinner date with **Jörg Allstädt**. We arrived

in Bremen around dusk. Bremen is a very large college/port town and we missed our exit, which would have taken us

directly to his place - *chalk it up to a poor navigation job by yours truly* - but we finally made it! Bremen will be one of our stops on the 2007 tour, so Jörg took us downtown for a brief tour around the riverfront/Altstadt. In exchange, we treated him to the first Mexican dinner that I had had in almost three weeks. (And granted...Bremen "Mexican" food is not California "Mexican" food...but it was still muy bueno!)

The next morning, we said good-bye to Jörg and headed to Lübeck. The central section of Lübeck is very beautiful and clean. Although the old city walls were torn down ages ago, the moat still surrounds the "Altstadt." The town is very big on tourism, so this should be a great place for those who love to shop. And, as with every German town, there is plenty of Italian Eis for all!

From Lübeck we drove down toward Burghaun and spent the night at Hildesheim. At Burghaun, we enjoyed a sumptuous bar-b-que in the backyard of **Karl and Maggie Altstadt**, who also had all their children and their families over for the get-together. While in the area we drove over to Fraurombach and enjoyed coffee with **Hans and Karen Altstadt** and their sons, **Marco and Alexander**. After coffee we went

up the hill behind the Altstadt home and visited the 12th century church. The interior of the church has been renovated to show off the early medieval artwork and will be a real plus for the 2007 tour. We returned to Burghaun for late evening chatting with Karl and his family and our pension rooms for the night.

The next morning, we decided to do

Jerry stands with Hermann and Edelgard Pütz, Hermann Altstadt and Gabe and Arthur Altstadt in Borken, Germany



Top: Burkhardt and Hermann Altstadt, middle: the Alstede Schloss, bottom: Jerry Allstott with Joerg Allstädt in Bremen



Top: The church at Ravolzhausen, middle: the Herborn Altstadt, bottom: the Hohe Schule - now a restaurant

2007 is just around the corner...send your \$200 tour deposit to Jerry Allstott today!



Top: Manfred, Hermann, Uwe, and Karl Altstadt at Karl's home in Burghaun, bottom: Tobi Allstadt with Hermann and Jerry by the Bamberg river front.

a little genealogy snooping at Grossenlöder. We had attempted that in 2001 and 2003. We had found that in the last couple of years the church records at Grossenlöder had been removed to Fulda - so we were off to Fulda. At Fulda, we found that the Grossenlöder records were incomplete and they suggested that we go back to Grossenlöder for information that was not on file in Fulda. Anyway, it turned into a catch-22, so the incomplete records at Fulda were all we were able to find and copy. But they did fill in a few cracks in the Altstadt line at Grossenlöder.

After the last trek to Fulda, we were ready to head back to Erlangen. And the gals were even happy to see us!

The next day we all headed up to Bamberg to meet **Tobi Allstadt**. He gave us a mini tour of the town and said he would be glad to do the same for all the group in 2007. I know most of the Altstadts who come on the 2007 tour will enjoy something from at least one of the seven breweries in Bamberg. And the biergarten sits on top of the hill that overlooks the town. *Ja!*



Projected 2007 Tour Costs:

So, how much is gasoline today...next year? *That is an honest question!*

The projected cost of this 16-day tour, which includes airfare, personalized motorcoach, most meals (*outside of lunches that you need to provide for yourself on most days*), entrance fees for palaces, castles and museums, along with lodging/dinner costs should run around \$1,200* for the airfare and around \$2,200* for the landtour. *Tips to our tour director and motor coach driver are not included in these prices.*

As in 2003, Kuoni Travel will give us the best exchange for our travel dollars! In 2003, our individual tour cost was \$400 under the original estimate. Is this possible in 2007? All who sign up for the tour will be informed of our total costs as soon as we know what they will be. And right now...*the dollar is currently stronger against the Euro than it was in 2003.*



In addition to the Americal/Germany Cousins Banquet in Burghaun, we will have sumptuous dining at the Brave Bavarian in Erlangen, The Restaurant Kulturbrauerei, Heidelberg, The Ratskeller, Lübeck, The Elefantenkeller, Weimar and the Restaurant Schwanstein in Schwangau

First Class Hotels that Elisabeth has made contact with and where we will stay in 2007 include: The Hotel St. Gotthard, Zurich, Ramada Treff, Bremen; Hotel Quality, Weimar; Hotel Feringapark, Munich and the Radisson SAS Hotel in St. Gallen

**Projected figures*

The Zum Spezial-Keller Bier Garten sits on top of a hill that overlooks Bamberg



This tour compliments the 2003 Germany Tour...but is so much more! It will be the last tour that I will organize to go to the "fatherland," so be sure to sign up soon!



Dorothy H. Allstot

Tonasket, Wash. Dorothy Allstot, (pg.217) passed away peacefully Thursday afternoon, July 21, 2005, at the age of 83, with the same grace and dignity with which she lived her life.

Born in Waterville, Wash. on November 4, 1921, to Harry and Elsa (Hinderer) Eberly. Dorothy, her parents and sister, baby Katherine, moved to Methow and lived there for one year, where they managed and lived at the Bolinger Hotel. The Hotel was close to the school and at age five, Dorothy would spend all the time she could at the school watching and wishing. There was a crack in the school room door through which she watched the other kids. The teacher finally said that she might as well come inside and so she began a very accomplished academic career.

In 1937, the family moved to Oroville, Wash. Dorothy graduated at the age of 16. During her sophomore year, she was the May Day Princess. Dorothy started piano lessons at grade two and continued playing throughout high school. Although she never enjoyed playing for a crowd, she became a very accomplished pianist. As an adult, she also played the organ.

Dorothy and Bill Allstot were married on July 25, 1938, in Tonasket.

Their first home was provided by Bill's employer, the Forest Service. They lived in a lookout tower located on Mt. Hull. Later, they built a home in Tonasket. In 1946, they moved to the orchard area.

Bill and Dorothy started and operated a variety of businesses including a trucking/freight service, an apple orchard, a packing shed/warehouse, an ambulance service and others. Bill enjoyed a good road trip. He and Dorothy traveled to a multitude of places with friends and family. When Bill got his first airplane, he coerced Dorothy into many airplane trips. She flew with him for years. Her flying days ended several planes later, after the third, very scary - near miss flight incident.

Dorothy was a beloved member of the Brethren Church and a devoted member of the Ladies Aid Society. Dorothy and Bill sponsored two German exchange students through the Brethren Church in 1950, and in 1963. They also sponsored a refugee family from Austria in the early 1950's and a Japanese exchange student in the 1980's. Dorothy maintained correspondence with these families over the years and some have even come back to visit. With a warm heart and a generous soul, Dorothy was a mother of four, grandmother of sixteen; and great-grandmother of thirteen. She loved nothing more than spending time with her family and friends and enjoyed all the countless family gatherings with feasts spread out for all.

Dorothy enjoyed flowers and gardening and making quilts for family members. She loved spending time with her grand kids, either for just an evening or sometimes even weeks at a time.



She kept them entertained with trips or in the orchards/warehouse learning the ins and outs of having a job. Dorothy displayed strength, spiritual wisdom and patience in the face of life's many challenges.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Elsa; in-laws, John and Bertha; husband, Bill; sisters, Eileen and Katy; daughter, Janice; grandson, Jeremiah; and great-granddaughter, Ashley. She is survived by daughter, Loretta Watson of Wenatchee; sons, Ed Allstot and Billy Allstot, both of Tonasket; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ellen Allstädt

of Hoyerswerda, Germany
Ellen Penkalla Allstädt, 52, died Saturday, May 7, 2005.

Her husband, Hartmut, wrote these tender words to Phyllis and me: Für uns alle war sie ein Mensch unschätzbaren Wertes, der immer für andere da war, Fröhlichkeit in den Tag brachte, stets ein offenes Or und offenes Herz besass, und der die Hoffnung bis zuletzt nicht aufgab.

Ellen was a good friend. I met her and Hartmut in 2001 at Allstedt Schloss while Hermann Altstadt and I were going over the route of the 2003 Tour. At the time, she and Hartmut were camping with their family in the area. A lover of the outdoors, and in the prime of life, she was a very effervescent person.

She and Hartmut were hosts for us at the Allstedt Schloss banquet in 2003 and she was very outgoing to all her American cuzzins even though she spoke no English.

All of the tour members who met her in 2003 will miss her greatly.

She leaves her husband, Hartmut; and son, Steffen.



Marie Altstadt

of Stigler, Okla.
Marie Altstadt, (pg. 274) 75, passed away Friday, April 24, 2004, at Ft. Smith, Ark.

She was born on August 10, 1928, at Tulsa, Okla. to DeForest and Viola Gravitt McDougle.

She is survived by her husband, Dale Allen Powell; son, Johnny Altstadt and wife Danita of Stigler; three sisters, Tina Kennedy of Palm Desert, Calif., Kay Foster of Oceanside, Calif., and Grace Hoffman of Downey, Calif.; two grandchildren, Cliff Altstadt and Kent Altstadt of Stigler.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Harles Ray Altstadt and two brothers, Troy and J. L. McDougle.

Marie loved to garden and loved her family dearly.



Ruth Lucille Pettit

of Cloquet, Minn.
Ruth Lucille Pettit, (pg. 405) 86, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2005, at Inter-Faith Care Center in Carlton where she was a resident for five years.

Ruth was born Nov. 11, 1918, in Bellingham, Minn., to Clarence and Margaret (Williams) Schake. She later married Arthur Henry Pettit.

During her life Ruth enjoyed her grandchildren, gardening, and many campers. Ruth is preceded in death by her husband, Arthur; son-in-law, Willard Leppi; one brother and six sisters.

She is survived by her daughters, Margaret (Ron Hillstrom) Leppi of Moose Lake, Hilda (Darold) Powers of Carlton and Katha (Alvin) Aho of George; sisters, Angeline Parks, Dixie Wood and Merna (Robert Grimm) Johnson, all of Cloquet, and DeEtta (Duane) Halvorson of Kentucky; brothers, Roger Schake of Wisconsin and Armond (Jean) Schake of Montana; sisters-in-law, Ida Pettit of Cloquet and Irene Pettit of Superior, Wis.; brother-in-law, Harold Crotteau of Cloquet; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



John Wayne Wood

of Madisonville, Ken.,
John Wayne Wood, 54, (pg.405) died Sunday, July 3, 2005, at Regional Medical Center.

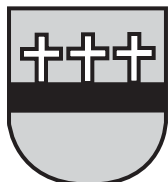
He was born April 14, 1951, in Mahtowa, the son of the late Wayne Harlen Wood. He was a Flex II operator for G.E. and a member of the Madisonville Church of Christ. He was also a United States Navy Corpsman, Vietnam War veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Beth Berry Wood of Madisonville; his mother, Jean Wood of Cloquet; two sons, Ian Wood and Tristan Wood, both of Madisonville; two sisters, Beverly Mangan of Cloquet and Darlis Hauer of Circle Pines, Minn.; two brothers, Glen Wood and Allen Wood, both of Cloquet; and three grandchildren, Alexis Wood, Ian Wood II and Christopher Wood.

Two More Clan Crests Unearthed



Altstetten
(Similar to the crest of Altstätte, Germany)



Alstede
Three nails above a black bar on a yellow background
Howe/Altstadt research

In the year 1173, Altstetten (Switzerland) was under the Habsburg rule and was governed in Tyrol (Austria). In the year 1287, the noble family of "von Altstetten" was first mentioned. The family crest had a single tower.

First mentioned in 1381, this was the crest of Adolf and Richard von Alstede. Adolf owned a goldsmithy in *Castrop bei Dortmund* in 1386. This crest can be seen along roads in the northwest Germany, showing the extent of the Alstede landholdings.

Continued from page 2

to go to the airport for our flight home.

Now, remember the souvenirs I told you we bought and packed several days before leaving? They had been long forgotten.

When we arrived at Reagan Airport we got to meet some more very nice, very interesting people. They are called the TBS. Let me say again, they are truly friendly people, even when you are surrounded and searched. You should feel very safe on the airplanes, regardless of news reports. The TBS could not have been nicer to us.

Our early arrival at the airport was a very smart idea. One of our bags remained with security a little too long. We became concerned, and, as the TBS arrived around us (*in number*) and detained us, in front of everyone – it became a little scary. They called in higher and higher supervisors.

We have rarely traveled, and very few times by air over the years. We thought we had taken out all of the items that could cause any problems from my purse. Then we remembered what it was that they might be looking for.

Several days prior to our leaving we bought a "novelty" item at the base. It was a little "Complaint Department Wooden Display" - that said, "take a number" - and it was mounted on a little fake "HAND GRENADE."

Because of all our other purchases and receipts, they assured us that it was easy to overlook this item, as it was clearly a "novelty" item.

They were even nicer, when I told them there was another one, in one of our other suitcases. Then the search began. Finally they let us go and we thought the nightmare was over. At least they said it was.

They removed all our luggage from the plane and couldn't find the other "novelty." Then, the nice TBS man informed us that although he intended to do everything in his power, the TBS would probably send us a little bill for \$1,700.00 per "novelty."

He kept apologizing and said he felt we clearly had no idea that we had committed a civil offense, he then mentioned that they were having a hard time finding our other "novelty." We assured him we had bought two. He said there would be no further delay.

Finally, the plane taxied out to the runway AND STOPPED. After a very long time, the pilot announced a problem with some luggage. *We about died.* They took all the luggage off the entire plane while we sat and listened to all the other nice passengers say what they are going to do to the person causing the delay.

They had us wait so long, they actually had to return to refuel the plane before leaving.

If we ever go on another trip, hats and "T" shirts will probably be the only thing we buy - *ever*.

LeAnn Monger, (pg. 361)

Address change? Please let me know when you move.....thanks!

Europe Spring 2007...YES! We had a great time in 2003 visiting our immigrant ancestors home towns - - now we go back further into the past to the origins of our clans in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, while enjoying beautiful castles and countryside along the way!

Day 1 - April 26

Arrival in Zurich from April 25 departure in U.S. - Short stop at Altstetten bei Zurich, to see the original site of the Altstätter ancient clan, before going to the St. Gotthard Hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 2 - April 27

Breakfast at Hotel St. Gotthard. Drive into Germany and visit the *Freilichtmuseum* in the Black Forest. Lunch on your own at the museum cafe. Continue to Michelfeld and see Schloss and Heinrich Altstadt Bakery. Then to Hotel Ratsstube in Sinsheim. *Heinz Wiegel* joins us for dinner and brings another batch of his "new" wine for our after dinner pleasure.

Day 3 - April 28

Breakfast at Hotel Ratsstube. Visit *Heidelberg Castle* and see the Royal Apartments. Lunch at the *Kulturbrauerei*, Heidelberg. Drive to Darmstadt and tour the *Prinz Georg Palace Garten*. Continue to Dreieichenhain for a walking tour of the village. Motor onto Götzenhain for dinner with *Heinz Hang* and overnight at Hotel Krone.

Day 4 - April 29

Breakfast at Hotel Krone. Drive to Ravalzhausen and visit the town of *Caspar Altstadt* (1673). Motor through Gambach and onto Heborn to see the Altstadt and *Hohen Schule* where *Henricus Alstedius* taught high school in the 17th century before becoming a professor at the University in Marburg. Continue to Fraurombach for coffee at *Hans and Karen Altstadt's* home, then tour the town's 13th century church and cemetery. Drive next to Burghaun, for tour of its 16th century Catholic and Protestant Churches and Rathaus led by *Manfred Altstadt*, before joining our German Altstadt/Allstadt cousins at a *Sumptuous Banquet* at the *Burghaunerhof*. That evening we will stay at a Kuoni choice hotel in Hunfeld, near Burghaun.

Day 5 - April 30

Breakfast at hotel in Hunfeld. Drive northward to Paderborn for a walking tour with our tour director. Lunch is on your own. Continue to Munster for some shopping time, our dinner at overnight at our Kuoni choice hotel.



Elisabeth and Roel are ready to "run" us around this expanded trail of our ancestors



Day 6 - May 1

Breakfast at hotel in Munster. Drive eastward to *Alstede Schloss* - just 24 km west of Munster. After a brief stop, we drive to Bremen for

our dinner and overnight at the *Ramada Treff Uebersee Hotel*. *Joerg Allstädt* and other Allstäds in the area, will join us during the dinner hour.

Day 7 - May 2

Breakfast at *Ramada Treff* in Bremen. Motor to Lübeck for an escorted city tour with lunch at the *Restaurant Ratskeller*. After shopping we will continue to

Braunschweig for dinner and our overnight stay.

Day 8 - May 3

Breakfast at hotel in Braunschweig. Visit Eisleben and tour *Martin Luther's houses*. Lunch on your own. We then visit *Allstedt Schloss* for a tour of the castle grounds and buildings. Later that afternoon we drive via Dornburg to Weimar where we have dinner and overnight at the *Hotel Quality*.

Day 9 - May 4

Breakfast at *Hotel Quality*. Drive to Tiefenort and see the *Altstadt Shoe Museum* (am alten Amtshaus). Onward through Coburg, we meet *Tobi Allstadt* in Bamberg for a late lunch, on your own, at the *Zum Spezial-Keller Bier Garten*,

which overlooks the town. This is followed by an "unofficial" tour of the Bamberg Dom, a "bier" brewery tour, and a walk to the river area by *Tobi*. At the river, we will return to our motor coach and drive to Erlangen for our dinner at the "*Brave Bavarian*" with the family of *Hermann and Gundi Altstadt*. Overnight at *Nh Erlangen* or *Kuoni choice hotel*.

Day 10 - May 5

Breakfast at *Hotel Nh Erlangen* in Erlangen. Visit the *Nürnberg Kaiserburg* in the Altstadt area. Lunch at the *Bratwurst Roeslein*. Drive to Munich where we have an orientation drive upon arrival. Dinner and overnight at the *Hotel Feringapark*.

Day 11 - May 6

Breakfast at *Hotel Feringapark*, Munich. Drive to Fuessen and Schwangau for a tour of *Neuschwanstein Schloss*, including a carriage ride from the hotel *Mueller* to the *Schloss*. Lunch at the *Restaurant Schwanstein* in Schwangau. Drive over the border and to Innsbruck, Austria. Dinner and overnight at a *Kuoni hotel*.

Day 12 - May 7

Breakfast - *Kuoni choice hotel*, Innsbruck. Visit *Maria Theresien Strasse 34* - former home of *Friedrich I von Altstätter*, Archduke in the

court of *Maximillian III* - City tour by local guide - shopping and lunch on your own. Dinner and overnight at *Kuoni choice hotel*.

Day 13 - May 8

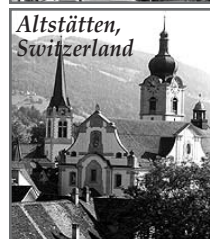
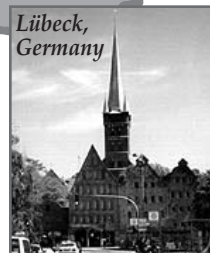
Early breakfast in Innsbruck. Drive to Altstetten, Switzerland bei St. Gallen. Arrive in time for "*Röllelibutzen*" and see the city museum. The rest of the day is open for shopping. In the late afternoon we will drive to St. Gallen for dinner and overnight at the *Radisson SAS St. Gallen*.

Day 14 - May 9

Breakfast at *Radisson SAS St. Gallen*. Day free in St. Gallen. Later we drive to Zurich for our *Finis Banquet* at *Restaurant Se DeZaley* in Zurich and have our overnight at *Hotel St. Gottard*, Zurich.

Day 15 - May 10

Breakfast at the *Hotel St. Gottard*, Zurich. Coach and transfers to Zurich Airport and in most cases...home the same day.



Cuzzin Contact

Dear Jerry,
My grand daughter, Megan Brackley (pg. 209) got married Oct. 23rd in San Francisco, and I flew out for her wedding. She married Marcus Hall from Saratoga, CA. They had a beautiful wedding in Shakespeare Garden in the Golden Gate Park.

Love from Maine, Ruth Fraser (pg.201)



My daughter, Debra, and Paul, parents of the Groom, and Megan and Marcus in center, their son and wife on left end, Ethan and Caroline Brackley.

Hi Jerry,
Not much happening at the moment in Canada, but I am working on one thing. The relationship between Allsted and Alstat/Alterstädt. They were intermarried and although spelled different could be the same people. Will send the link a bit later and you can give it to Hermann. It is all in German and I may interpret the stuff wrong.

Also found this again, the Alstede, (Altstadt?) family owned a Goldsmithing house/Business in Castrop-Rauxell just after the year 1275. Will send link soon, forgot to save it again. So when I find it I will send both.

We had more snow(*&^(%(*)) but they finally got the streets plowed so can get out now. It was 29 below this morning. BRRRR

Talk to you later. Elvira Howe, (pg.541)

It's neat to know all the genealogy that can be checked out when bad weather keeps you from getting out in the great north country.

Dear Jerry,
I know it has been quite a while since we last met and many things have happened to our family-as a whole and individually over the years. We are well, the old folks are all getting older and the Grand-kids are growing like weeds. We have had a few deaths and few births--listed in order they happened --Marie McDougale Altstadt (04-22-04), wife of Harles Ray Altstadt, son of Hiram Benjamin Altstadt. Nellie Wilson Merritt (09-09-03). wife Charles "Buggs" Merritt, Daughter of Dorothy Altstadt Wilson.

Hope to see you again!

Melbourn and Alpha Altstadt, (pg.274)

Continued from page 1

grandkids, **Nick** and **Emma**. At least there the mosquitoes didn't follow us!

Our next stop was Lake Worth, Florida and Phyllis' nephew's home. Phyllis' sister, Alberta, had come from Kenya for the birth of her next granddaughter. As Phyllis doesn't see her sister that often, we had to stop and say, "Hi!" To our surprise...our newest grand niece had been born six days before our arrival! What a grand time we had indoors...outdoors was southern Florida heat and humidity (*yes, it was cooler in the Houston area*).

The next leg of the trip saw us on Interstate 95 headed toward Hershey, Pennsylvania! One of the biggest car swap meets in the country is located at Hershey. Just north of Jacksonville, FL, we ran into tropical storm *Trina* and she accompanied us all the way up the coast. That's when we found that, under heavy wind/rain conditions, we have a leak somewhere in the top of the RV. So, wet carpet greeted us every morning from there on until we hit Oklahoma...*but that's jumping too far ahead.*

You do not know what "thrilling" can mean until you actually walk the rows of a swapmeet for a whole day...in drenching rain. But I was not going to let a little moisture keep me from enjoying what I had waited a year to see. And it paid off in finding some car parts that I needed for ol' Betsy (*our '37 Chrysler Airflow*). From Hershey, we ran up to Berks County, PA, for some Altstadt research. The curator of the Daniel Boone Home/Museum had told me last year of an early Altstadt home in the area near Jacksonwald. This year we found the house. A beautiful two story limestone house (*with later additions, I am sure*) situated on 5+ acres of land, a tennis court and lots of trees. We saw deer in the yard while driving up to the house.

Unfortunately, the current owner was not home (*only their yappy dog*) - so I left a note and took some photos...(*page 1 in this newsletter*). The house is on the "pike" out of Reading toward Philadelphia. And just north of the house, less than a quarter mile away, is the Schwarzwald Church (*located on known Martin Altstadt property...so, undoubtedly, this house is on part of the original 1734 tract also*). Altogether a good find, even in torrential rain.

Now for the high point of our east trip this year. *East doesn't stop at the Atlantic Ocean, you know*. Earlier this year (*May*), Phyllis and I enjoyed a missions trip to help do construction work at a children's camp in the Romanian mountains for two weeks with *Greater Europe Mission*. After that we spent another 10 days in Germany with **Hermann Altstadt's** family going over the 2007 tour route. (*That's just background, keep reading*).

When we returned from our Romania/Germany trip, we were greeted with a letter from Phyllis' niece's husband's sister's family in Nigeria. (*Are you still with me???*) Phyllis' niece (from Kenya) married a Nigerian fellow (*they met at the University of Iowa as students*) in 1999. We attended their wedding in Nairobi and there we met his Nigerian siblings. The letter from our nephew-in-law's sister was an invitation to her daughter's wedding in Nigeria and a celebration of their father's 80th birthday in mid-October.

It just so happened that our eastern trip plans already involved being at our nieces' home in New Jersey for a visit in October. (*Oh how the*

Good Lord works things out!!)

Next...we headed out in our "sopping wet" RV, to Columbia, NJ, and prepared for our trip to Nigeria with our niece, nephew-in-law and their one year old son, *who was cutting teeth*. Arriving in Legos, Nigeria, we stepped into high humidity and temperatures in the 90s. Thank goodness, our earlier time in Texas and Florida had prepared us to "be sticky."

But - we had a great time!! Twelve day of "well seasoned" Nigerian food, rolling green jungle, hoards of people - selling everything from phone cards to plantain (*bananas you fry before eating*). The vendors just walk right up to your car, whether traffic is moving or not. AND...we found where the Hispanics go for their driver's training: to Nigeria. Very "creative," but necessary, driving techniques. In Ibadan, a town of 8-million folks...there are NO traffic lights or stop signs! If you can imagine that!

The wedding was gorgeous. Nigerian traditional costumes are elegant and colorful for both women and men. The birthday celebration was quite unique, Phyllis and I both got to shake hands with a *REAL* king during the ceremony. Yep! A real tribal king -red carpet, chauffeured Mercedes, armed guard and all.

Upon our return from "across the pond" and after waiting another day for our luggage to catch up with us...we headed WEST. (*Yahoo!!!!*) Only 4,200 miles separated us from our front door!

Hurricane *Wilma* had sailed up from the Gulf of Mexico and across Florida, while we were in Nigeria, and hit the Atlantic at Lake Worth, Florida, (*yes...where Phyllis' sister was visiting*). They had no electricity for two days. We finally got through to Alberta on the phone before we left New Jersey.

The drive from New Jersey across Pennsylvania was stupendous. It had snowed the day before in the Appalachians and with the trees in color, all you could say was...WOW! You wouldn't believe the beauty of it all.

Our next stop was at **Everett** and **Thelma Altstadt's** in St. Mary's Ohio. Here we had an enjoyable visit and were treated to a delicious Chinese Buffet.

Onward to Evansville, Indiana, site of the 2009 Altstadt/Altstott Reunion. We spent time with **Wayne, Diane, Jim** and **Katie Altstadt** to see what they were cooking up for us in 2009. They drove us over to the 4-H Center at the County Fairgrounds where the 2009 Reunion will be held. A "Flea Market" was in progress there. So instead of spending an hour, we spent most of the day with the "fleas." As you can guess, Phyllis and I found "treasures" we couldn't resist.

Back in our damp RV, we headed west to Oklahoma City for a very good visit with **Bill** and **Georgia Altstadt**.

Interstate 40 took us toward Phoenix and a short visit with Phyllis' aunt and uncle in Fountain Hills, Arizona...our final leg! We saw, on TV that night, news of the terrible tornado that struck Evansville. We had been there only a few days before.

We finally sailed into Ventura and our usual "sunny" southern California climate...low humidity ...and no mosquitoes.

The Good Lord looked after all our needs in 2005, with a great time away from home and super cuzzins and family to visit!

Early German Genealogy Research by Hermann Altstadt

Johann Heinrich Alsted, (1588-1638)



Johann Heinrich Alsted, professor of philosophy and theology at the Calvinist academy of Heborn, Germany, was a man of many facets. A deputy to the famous Synod of Dort and greatest encyclopedist of his age, he

was also a pioneer of Calvinist millenarianism and a devoted student of astrology, alchemy Lullism, and the works of Giordano Bruno. From the mainstream Reformed tradition, Alsted and his circle inherited the zeal for further reformation of church, state, and

society; but with this they blended hermetic dreams of a general reformation and the restoration of primordial perfection to the fallen human nature through Lullist and alchemical panaceas. Alsted's intellectual biography opens up unexpected perspectives on the reforming movements of the seventeenth century, and provides an invaluable introduction to many of the central ideas, individuals and institutions of this neglected era of central European intellectual history.

Howard Hotson: Paradise postponed: Johann Heinrich Alsted and the birth of Calvinist millenarianism . Dordrecht among other things: Kluwer, 2000. ISBN 0-7923-6787-1



In Evansville, Indiana...the Vanderburgh County Fairgrounds will be the place reserved for our 2009 wingding!

Jim, Katie, Wayne and Diane Altstadt are looking forward to showing us a memorable time in 2009. They took Phyllis and me on a tour of the 4-H Center at the Vanderburgh Fairgrounds, in order to show us all the things available to our Clan Reunion. The 4-H Center at the Fairgrounds can easily support the 300+ cuzzins we are expecting to join us at this festive Germanfest time of the year.

The tree shaded RV area at the Fairgrounds is top notch. All RV sites have electricity and there is a pond nearby...and the sites are just across from the 4-H Center.

See next year's newsletter for all the activities planned by the Reunion Team...you'll be glad that you put Evansville and the AAA Clan Reunion on your calendar for the first weekend in August 2009!



Come for the fun, food and Washer Tossin Championships!



Above: Phyllis, Wayne, Diane, Jerry, Jim and Katie in front of the 4-H Center; above left: Katie, Diane and Phyllis inside the 4-H Center; above: the pond in front of the RV facilities at the fairgrounds



The descendants of Heinrich Altstadt (c.1792) led by Jim and Katie Altstadt and Wayne and Diane Altstadt invite all the AAA Clans members to

The 5th National Altstadt/Alstott Reunion
The reunion will be the first weekend of August 2009 during Germanfest in Evansville, Indiana. Follow future newsletters for all the updates and festivities!

Alstott Scores 2 continued from page 2

For a moment, Alstott didn't even realize Gruden had decided to try to break a two-game losing streak in dramatic fashion.

"People were hollering for me. I ran on the field, put on my helmet, heard the call and thought: 'Uh, oh, here we go,'" Alstott said.

"You have to put the trust in your team and the players and say: 'The heck with it.' You have to gamble once in a while."

Everybody in the stadium knew who would get the ball, but the Redskins (5-4) could not stop the 248-pound fullback, who scored earlier on touchdown runs of 2 and 1 yards. Alstott was hit at the line and looked like he might fall short before twisting and keeping his legs moving to barely get into the end zone.

The Redskins signaled the conversion failed, but the ruling stood after the replay official's review.

"Any time you lose, it's tough. There are always 50 plays where you could have won and 50 plays where you could have lost," Washington coach Joe Gibbs said.

"All of our guys thought he was on the ground. That's what everybody told me. I didn't see it, but that's what instant replay is for."

The Bucs (6-3) surpassed their victory total for 2004 with Simms winning for the first time as a pro in a game he started and finished. The third year pro struggled the previous two weeks after taking over for the injured Brian Griese, but played with much more poise Sunday than in losses to San Francisco and Carolina.

IMPORTANT: Write out a check and send in your \$200 reservation deposit for the 2007 Germany/Austria/Switzerland Tour right now! Don't delay...
Of the 45 seats available for this Tour, 20 seats are already spoken for.

All the AAA History Books now have homes!

2005 purchasers of the family history book:

Richard & Judy Severson	Powder Springs, GA
Dixie J. Wood	Cloquet, MN
Ira Altstadt	Plano, TX

If you waited too long to order a "History of the Clans" - please make copies of your pages from our website charts <www.altstadt.org>. I hope to make a CD of the original book with updates in the near future and I will let you know when that becomes available.

Thanks to the many of you who help defer costs on the newsletter

My sincere thanks to each of you for supporting the "All-Clans" Newsletter with your wonderful articles and your annual (\$2.00) monetary support.

...Again...**THANK YOU ALL** and have a *Very Happy New Year!*

Start Making Your Plans Now for August 2009 in Evansville, Indiana...We'll keep the light on for ya!