

Again...Merry Christmas und fröhliche Weihnachtenein 2010 ...zu alles!

Isn't she cute! Yes! That's **Isabella "Bella" Tucker**, our great-grand daughter born on August 1st, on grandpa's tummy. That was one of the highlights of our family visits this year... but I'm getting ahead of myself.

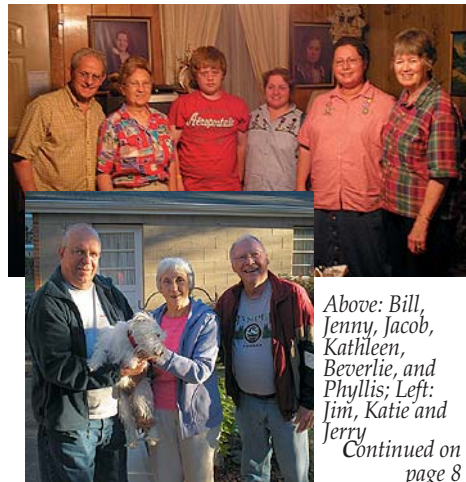


Grandpa Allstott and Bella

We kept ourselves down to three trips this year. First to our National Chrysler/DeSoto Annual Meet in Lexington, KY. We took a break to visit with **Bill, Jenny, and Beverlie Alstott** and **Kathleen** and **Jacob McDonald** in New Albany, IN, about a 2-hour drive to the north. We got caught up on events since the '09 reunion for a couple of days.

Mid-July found us flying "across the pond" again to do more work with Greater Europe Mission in Poland along with more Altstadt genealogy research in the Fulda area as well as attending the **Oberammagau Passion Play**. The Passion Play is reenacted every 10 years and we have been looking forward to attending for a long while. **Hermann** and **Gundi Altstadt** ordered the tickets last fall and we had the pleasure of attending the play together... along with doing a

continued on page 7



Above: **Bill, Jenny, Jacob, Kathleen, Beverlie, and Phyllis**; Left: **Jim, Katie and Jerry**

Continued on page 8

Altstadt/Altstatt/Allstadt/Alstott Clans are now on FACEBOOK due to the work of Ewald Altstadt



It's the Ewald Altstadt family enjoying their family tree (pun intended), **Trista, Adrienne, Diane and Ewald**

Ewald Altstadt doesn't let any grass grow under his shoes and has opened a forum for all our clans on **FACEBOOK!**

Here's a clan member's response:

"I found a site on **Facebook** that was for Altstadt Kin. I watched it a few days then realized that they are looking for you or some kind of family connection and didn't know how to go about it so tonight I posted the www.altstatt.org link on there so don't be surprised if you get more activity than usual on the web site. I suggested that they might want to update their family tree and I also told them that the name had been "Americanized" to let them know that there are many different spellings.

Enjoying my life and hope you are too. By the way I have a blast on **Facebook**. It's a great way to keep in touch plus you can do it personally and or have it as a group. It might be beneficial for the Altstadt website.

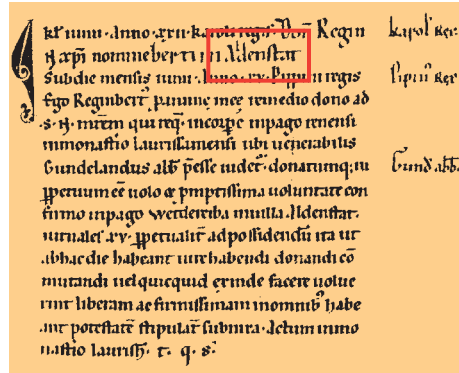
Take care, **Suzy Altstadt Aita**

What!!!! Not another spelling!

1200 Jahre



Altenstadt



Another year's research- another spelling. It's beginning to sound like a stuck record.

Hermann Altstadt's research over the past few years has brought us to the place that most of the current Altstadt family histories, that can trace their roots to the Hessen area of Germany, revert to the spelling of **Altenstadt** the closer back to 1600 that the families can be traced.

When Hermann and I were researching in Fulda, Germany, earlier this year on the Grossenbach, Grossenlüder, Fulda and Burghaun area Altstadt/Altstatt families it became apparent that if we were going to be able to research pre-30-Years War documents that we needed to start looking into the **Altenstadt** (Olden town) spelling.

Our next German research will be at the Darmstadt Library in 2013, which is the best reference for the Protestant side of the German lines. We are looking forward to seeing if the **Altenstadt** name holds true for these lines too.

Europe... Spring 2012...it's a GO! And we hope you have this trip lined up on your calendar. In 2003, we visited the hometowns of our immigrant ancestors. In 2012 we will visit the ancestral places of origin for all of our various Altstadt/Altstatt/Allstadt clans in three countries!

TRAVEL Day - Thursday - May 17, 2012

Day 1 - Friday - May 18, 2012

Arrival in Frankfurt (from May 17 departure via Dulles/Washington D.C.) Continue to Dreieichenhain for a walking tour of the walled village. Motor onto Götzenhain for dinner. We will overnight at Hotel Krone in Götzenhain.

Day 2 - Saturday - May 19

Breakfast at Hotel Krone. Drive to Ravolzhausen and see the town of Caspar Altstadt (1673). After a brief stop, we will drive to Frauorbach for morning coffee at **Hans and Karen Altstadt's** home (in their back yard). We will then see the town's 13th century church, enjoy organ music by **Phyllis Allstott** (mein frau) and look for Altstadt graves in the cemetery. We drive next to Schlitz for a city tour by **Alex Altstadt** and finish up with a tour and tasting at the Schlitzlerland Schnapps Distillery. Then it's onto Burghaun for a tour of its 16th century Catholic and Evangelical Churches and Rathaus led by **Manfred and Uwe Altstadt**, before joining our German Altstadt/Allstadt cousins at a sumptuous Banquet at the Burghaunerhof. That evening we will stay at the Konrad Zuse Hotel (Best Western) in Hünfeld. (Sounds like a lot of zipping around - but the towns are very close together).

Day 3 - Sunday - May 20

Breakfast at Konrad Zuse Hotel in Hunfeld. Then motor through Bad Hersfeld and Giessen to Herborn 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 and writing the first German Encyclopedia. Lunch on-your-own in Herborn. Then it is on to Munster and a look at **Alstede Castle** near Billerbeck before returning to Munster for our dinner and overnight at Hotel Movenpick.

Day 4 - Monday - May 21

Breakfast at Hotel Movenpick. We will drive toward Hamburg with a lunch stop, on-our-own at a rest stop on the Autobahn on the way through Bremen. We continue driving northeastward to Hamburg for our dinner and overnight at a Kuoni hotel.

Day 5 - Tuesday - May 22

Breakfast at the hotel in Hamburg. Motor to Lübeck for an escorted city tour with lunch at the Restaurant Ratskeller. After time for shopping, we will continue to the Hotel Courtyard in Braunschweig for dinner and our overnight stay.

Day 6 - Wednesday - May 23

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

Day 7 - Thursday - May 24

Breakfast at Hotel Kaiserin Augusta. Drive a short distance southwestward to Tiefenort and see the **Altstadt Shoe Museum** (am alten Amtshaus) with an escorted tour by retired schuhmeister **Burkhardt Altstadt**. This is his shoe collection from around the world - very unique - and the museum holds more than shoes! **Ja!** We then drive through Coburg to Erlangen and, after freshening up, to our dinner in Neunkirchen at **Gundi Altstadt's** brother's new restaurant - "The Polster's Klosterhof" - **Norbert Polster** is a fantastic cook! - his pork loin roast is something to die for - or maybe you prefer the roast duck! - if you're lucky, maybe he will give you a ride on the back of his BMW bike! Overnight at Kuoni hotel in Erlangen.

Day 8 - Friday - May 25

Breakfast at hotel in Erlangen. Drive southwest to Ulm to see the Cathedral and stroll this historic town with lunch on-your-own. We then proceed to Füssen and our night dinner and overnight stay at a Kuoni hotel.

Day 9 - Saturday - May 26

Breakfast at the hotel in Füssen, Drive to Schwangau for an included tour of **Neuschwanstein Castle**. Lunch at the Restaurant Schwanstein in Schwangau. Drive to the **Church in the Meadow** at Wies, then it's over the border and onto Innsbruck, Austria. Dinner and overnight at the Hotel Bierwirt in Innsbruck.

Day 10 - Sunday - May 27

Breakfast at Hotel Bierwirt. 1/2 day tour by city guide - View Maria Theresien Strasse 34 - former home of **Friedrich I von Altstätter**, Archduke in the court of Maximilian III. The rest of the day is free for shopping sight seeing and lunch on-your-own. Be sure and visit Maximilian's Palace. Dinner and Overnight at Hotel Bierwirt.

Day 11 - Monday - May 28

Early breakfast in Innsbruck. Drive to Altstätten, Switzerland bei St. Gallen. We will visit the **Altstätten Museum** and enjoy the shops in this easy-to-walk historic town of **Konrad Von Altstätten**. In the afternoon we will drive to Altstetten bei Zurich for a brief tour and shopping - then back to Zurich for our dinner and overnight at the Hotel St. Gottard, Zurich.

Day 12 - Tuesday - May 29

Breakfast at Hotel St. Gotthard. Drive into Germany and visit the **Freilichtmuseum** in the Black Forest - home of the world famous "Bag Museum." Lunch on-your-own at the museum cafe. Continue to Offenburg for our dinner and overnight stay at a Kuoni hotel.

Day 13 - Wednesday - May 30

Breakfast at Kuoni hotel. Visit **Heidelberg Castle** and see the palatial rooms. Lunch at the Kulturbrauerei, Heidelberg. Drive to Darmstadt, via Heppenheim and the earliest known Allstätter region around Wersau/Messbach uncovered by Hermann Altstadt's research and tour the **Prinz Georg Palace Gardens**. We then proceed to our Kuoni hotel in Darmstadt, our "Finis" Banquet and overnight.

Day 14 - Thursday - May 31

Breakfast at the Hotel in Darmstadt. Coach and transfers to Frankfurt Airport and in most cases...home the same day.

Thanks for the information on the trip...I am most definitely interested in going, and with it being 2 years away, I am very much able to plan my schedule and attend...Yvonne Murray, Vincennes, IL

While the dollar can still buy something...plan to take the Spring 2012 AAA Tour to Germany, Austria and Switzerland

If you want to join us in this Special Tour, I would like to know NOW! Please fill out the enclosed commitment card or e-mail me today!

I will keep you and the 17 who have already signed up informed and up to date throughout this year...if you wait till the next newsletter is out, you could miss out on some really good discounts!

Thanks, cuzin Jerry

2012 European Tour Costs:

The approximate cost of this 16-day tour (including first day in air travel), includes airfare, personalized motorcoach, most meals (except for lunches that you need to provide for yourself on certain days), entrance fees for palaces, castles and museums, along with lodging/dinners will cost approximately \$1450* for economy airfare (plus airfare from your hometown to DC Dulles) and \$3,555* for the landtour. Bookings for all items will be handled through me.

Tips to our tour director and motor coach driver are not included in these prices. We are fortunate to have our 2003 tour director, Elisabeth Lutz of Kuoni Travel, to be with us once again...and...as in 2003, Elisabeth continues to search for the best value our dollars can buy!

In addition to the American/German "Cousins" Banquet in Burghaun, Germany, we will have sumptuous feasts at the Polster Klosterhof in Neunkirchen, The Restaurant Kulturbrauerei in Heidelberg, The Ratskeller in Lübeck, The Elefantenkeller in Weimar and the Restaurant Schwanstein in Schwangau in the included dining.

First Class Hotels that Elisabeth has made contact with and where we will have accommodations in 2012 include: The Hotel St. Gotthard in Zurich, the Hotel Kaiserin, Weimar and the Hotel Bierwirt in Innsbruck.



Hotel St. Gotthard



Hotel Kaiserin



Hotel Bierwirt

*Approximate US dollars to Swiss Francs, not compared to the Euro.

Our 2010 Visit to Europe checked out the Austrian and Swiss destinations on the 2012 Tour

I enjoy surprises, but I don't like to be surprised! I am sure you are in the same boat. So this year, Phyllis and I accompanied Hermann and Gundi Altstadt on a tour route that we will follow in 2012.

In driving south from Nuremberg, we found the roadways into Munich to be very crowded...almost all the way down to our turnoff into Garmish, so I've decided to take the Autobahn through Ulm into Fussen. Rather than spend an evening in Munich, we will spend the night in the quaint town of Fussen before seeing Neu Schwanstein Castle.

Our drive over the German Alps into Innsbruck was "twisty" and finding our way to the hotel in Innsbruck was a breeze! We found the inner city building that Friedrich von Altstetten lived in and it was only a few minutes walk to the Innsbruck Altstadt (old town).

Rain welcomed us on our drive westward to Altstetten, Switzerland, but dried out by the time we reached town. Altstetten is a small village and is easy to maneuver...we will tell you in next year's newsletter of all the sights we were able to see there. On to St. Gallen, what a great place to shop! Then it was back to Ol' Germany for a few days of needed rest at a small family owned hotel on the north side of Lake Constance.

I think all who can make it for the 2012 Tour are really in for a treat!



Above: Altstetten residence in Innsbruck, Altstetten Castle; below, Altstetten street, St. Gallen street



This old newspaper article submitted by Judy Stubbs - it's a killer!

Omaha Bee, Saturday, February 15, 1890

PAID HIM WITH BIRD SHOT

A Bullying Creditor Near Dunning Meets His Fate

Dunning, Neb., Feb 14. - (Special to The Bee)

Six miles below this place in Blaine county there is a quiet neighborhood of about a dozen families living close enough together to form a school district. It has always been a quiet neighborhood, but the tragedy that happened this afternoon upon at 1-o'clock shows there has been some contention.

Mr. Sam Insko drove to the house of Mr. Sam Alstott and in a very threatening manner demanded that he pay a certain small sum of money. Mr. Alstott told him he would pay it just as soon as he could raise the money, and that he was making every effort in his power to raise it. Mr. Insko then drew his revolver, telling him if he did not pay it he would have his hearts blood. Immediately, Mr. Alstott retreated to the house, at the same time warning Insko not to follow him. Insko followed with his revolver, declaring that he would kill him now or at some future time. Mr. Alstott reached the house, got his gun, which was loaded with bird shot, stepped to the door and again warned him not to come any farther.

Insko was then within thirty feet of him still advancing. Alstott then took deliberate aim at his breast and fired. He then closed the door, locked it, reloaded his gun and waited for developments. Insko got into his wagon and drove off, Alstott not knowing whether he was badly hurt or not. Insko went about half a mile and fell out of his wagon, dead; his horses ran home. Mr. Alstott came to town and gave himself up. There being no officer there, he was sent to the county seat in the charge of one of the neighbors. The inquest will be held tomorrow and there will probably be new developments. This is the account as given by Mr. Alstott himself. He is a man that stands very high in this community; he is a member of the School Board in his district and no one would think of doubting his word in any ordinary matter. There are no witnesses except Mr. Alstott and his wife. Mr. Insko had a bad reputation in this community.

Cuzzin Contact...

Dear Jerry,

I had some surgery on my knee a couple of weeks ago and am back to work...just a little shaving of the bone and fixing a tear...

OUCH!!!! It still hurt like crazy when it tore the 2nd time! WHEW! I think I might be a wimp!

Have a GREAT winter, stay warm, and be careful!

hugs,

Beverlie Alstott, pg. 204

Howdy Jerry,

By the way... I found another Caspar Alst, citizen of Fulda in the 1605; born ca. 1580!!! (Source: Das Türkensteuerregister der Fürstabtei Fulda von 1605)

Love,

Brother **Hermann (Altstadt)**, Erlangen, Gemany

Dear Jerry,

As I am writing you, I realize nobody ever told you that last year my dad, **Fritz Allstädt**, passed away in February of 2009.

I am awfully sorry, that we did not send a short message about that earlier, but we were struggling with his loss so very much.

My sister and I did everything we could to help mom, Gisela, but what can you do... 2009 was for all of us the saddest Christmas ever.

Sorry that I do not have better news.

Please be so kind to continue sending the newsletter to my mom. My father and I always appreciated very much to hear about all your activities in the US. Some day I hope to visit one of the Reunions with my family. Looking forward to that very much.

Kind regards,

Hansjörg Allstädt, Bad Homburg, Germany

Yes, Jerry....

Daniel Stutzman Altstadt's homestead is still visible only by the flooring of the smoke house. The old well is still standing. The Army uses artillery in that area now, and we are not allowed any longer to visit the old homestead, which makes me sad.

(Editor's note: Daniel Stutzman Altstadt sold his property near Ft. Smith, Arkansas to the US government and Ft. Chaffee, AR was built before WWII on that property. My second eight weeks of basic training in the Army Artillery, back in 1956, was conducted at Ft. Chaffee! Old WWII German prisoners-of-war barracks are still located on the property.) I would love to just go out and sit awhile and pretend to be back in the old days.

My other great grandparents, the Joneses lived just down the road from **Daniel Stutzman Altstadt**. He married their daughter, **Mary Elizabeth Jones**.

I couldn't find their homeplace, but there are wild flowers growing about where it was. I would like to think maybe great grandmother planted them.

I love going back in time. Not much to look forward to that interests me except my grandkids.

Later, Cuz **Judy Altstadt-Stephens-Ferguson**, pg. 285

Dear Jerry,

I am not keeping the Altstadt records as no one seems to keep in touch with me. My cousin, Lorna was doing it quite well. I will e-mail you her address as I don't know it off hand.

Hope you and Phyllis are doing well I enjoyed the newsletter but I am still looking for the old stuff. I have a suspicion that the Johann Jacob on one of your other charts is ours but I don't know who to contact in that line to find out. Their birthdate is very close and ours is a guess. Sooo...if you can help in that regard I would be very happy.

Take care will send that e-mail to you ASAP.

Elvira Wuschke Howe, pg. 541

Hi Jerry,

Yes I will work on filling in the blanks for you and return them to you. Thanks for the chance to help out.

Your cuz, **Edra Zook**, pg. 267

Editor's note: Yes! I still want to update any and all family charts. You may notice that many of the charts on the <www.altstatt.org> website have not been updated in over 10 years! That's just too long! Please take a look at your charts, by visiting the website and send me your latest data...THANKS!

Dear Jerry,

Purle Alstat celebrated his 90th birthday in February he had a nice birthday party with several friends, neighbors, and relatives in attendance...he had a dessert party (everyone brought a homemade dessert.)

... that was a great idea !

Your cousin, **Yvonne Murray**, pg. 49

Hi Jerry,

My names is James D. Witt. My name and family is on the Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstatt Clans web site. How i found the Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstatt Clans web site...I typed in my Grandpa's name in Google "Gordon R. Witt." In Google Search I click on Page 2.21a Altstadt Fam link, which had my grandpa's name, birthday date and grandma's name. It brought to the *The Generations of Johann Jakob Altstädt (1740)* web page of Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstatt Clans web site. <<http://www.altstatt.org/Pg2.21a.html>>. I found my Witt family members on *The Generations of Johann Jakob Altstädt (1740)* web page of Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstatt Clans web site.

Can you make my changes on the website? Me and my dad live in Surrey, British Columbia, Canada. I'm a master fifth degree black belt in Taekwondo and first degree black belt in Hapkido. My Taekwondo instructor is my dad Grandmaster Witt. Grandmaster Witt is a seventh degree black

belt in Taekwondo and fifth degree black belt in Hapkido. My dad's Taekwondo school located in the township of Langley, British Columbia, Canada.

My Grandparents, **Gordon and Dorla Witt**, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on April 29, 2010. I made a DVD picture slide show for my grandparent's 60th wedding anniversary. Showing sixty years of my grandparents.

James Witt, pg. 539

Dear Jerry and Phyllis,

You will want to know that Thelma has experienced two bouts of pneumonia lately. The second one put her in the hospital, where she conquered the pneumonia but didn't have enough strength in her lungs to continue. She passed away at about 5:35 this morning (March 31). Here is the letter I sent to nearby family and friends, and I want to share with you....

Dear Family and Friends,

I want to thank you all for praying for Thelma. She perked up over the weekend and experienced the best day she has had for some time. But she just didn't have the strength to continue, and went to her eternal home on Wednesday, March 31, 2010. During her last few hours she saw her Dad, her Mom, and "the baby," whom we assume to be Brittany.

Visitation was at Otterbein St. Marys, OH. The service was held at St.Paul's United Methodist Church, 119 E. Fulton St., Celina.

It would not be possible to survive the pain of such loss were it not for the support of people like you and the hope that our Savior, Jesus Christ gives us. Many thanks from....

Everett H. Altstadt, pg.459

Hi Jerry,

My gosh, you two never slow down, but blessings to you for doing all of this while you can. We both wish we had escaped more from the baby-sittin' and garden work, and did more travel. Oh well! You only get one chance at what you want to do and I guess at the time, we were pretty happy doing what we did!!

Marv had his big 80th birthday, yesterday, April 2, and we went out for a very nice dinner with the three daughters and the one and only son-in-law.

On another note...**Archie Padburg** wrote me that this was the second time a opossum had set up housekeeping under the hood of their car. (I suppose they don't drive the car any where too often and so there is plenty of time.) Also, everyone now thinks this is what took place with the neighbors car, as the hood of her car caught fire and burned up.

Spring weather here in Medford and nice at last.

Cuz **Pat Kennedy**, pg. 295

Dear Jerry,
I can only say "wow!" When I found your website, I started to cry. Let me start by introducing myself. My name is **Carrie May Myers** and I am the daughter of **Jean Alstott May** from Kentucky. Back in the 80's, my mother and I did some family research for a **Jerry Allstott** from California and I'm really going to assume that you are that person. Mom has a book I think you published in maybe 1986? Mom and I took pictures of the Alstott farm in Casey County KY, that are in that book.

Sadly, Mom passed away in January 1998 and my father followed shortly thereafter. When I found the book among her possessions, I figured that any chance to regain contact with some of her relatives was just not going to happen since it had been a while since the book had been published and any correspondence would be go back to the sender. I have gotten married since the book was written and of course my name changed, etc.

It looks like from the website, the Alstott clan has been busy. I love tracing my family history and am currently working on my dad's side. It's so exciting to finally re-connect with Mom's family! Thanks for writing me back!!!
Sincerely, **Carrie Myers**, pg. 427

Hey to you cuzzin Jerry,

I am so glad that **Dorothy Alstadt** kept up on all of the family information, and I have finally met up with the FAMILY!!

Thank you so much for contacting me. Hopefully Bill and I will be able to go to the family reunion in PA in 2014, and if Dorothy were here, she would be thrilled.

My husband has four more years of work and then it's off to retirement. He has a 55 Chevy that was his Dad's and he is wanting to fix it up. Our daughter, Cristina, just received her Phd in Psychology and our youngest son will be graduating from college this spring. Our middle son is getting married next June to a wonderful lady.

Thanks ahead of time for sending me the news letter. Can't wait.

LaDonna Alstadt, pg. 75

Editor's note: It was FACEBOOK that brought a renewed connection between this Arkansas clan family and your's truly.

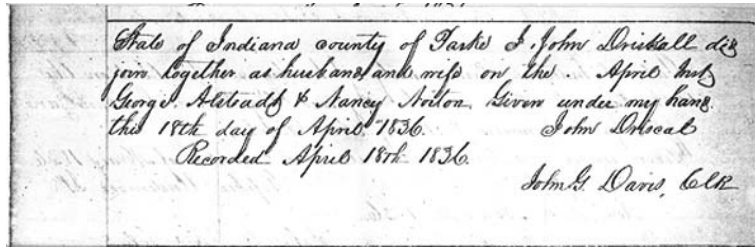
Greetings,

I'm from the line of *The Generations of Johann Heinrich Altstadt (1638)*

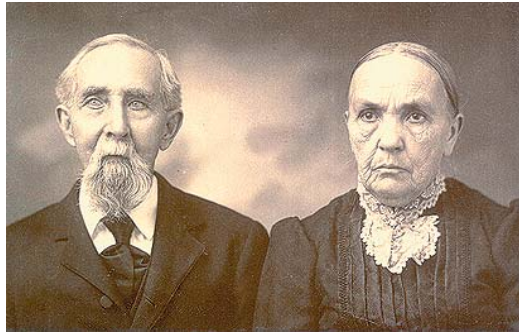
My father was **Eugen Allstadt**. My uncle, **Heinrich Allstadt II**, had an Dr. title, and was a university professor. His wife, **Karilona Murmann Allstadt** is still alive. **Adolf** and **Josef Allstadt** died a few years ago. Uncle Ferdinand died on July 14, 2010.

I was born in 1962. My wife is **Brigitte Lau Allstadt**, and was born in 1966. I have 2 children, Anja Marie and Julian Leonard Eugen. My brother was born in 1958 and my sister in 1955. My wife and

Joel Tapley bring back memories for the George Washington Allstot side of the clan



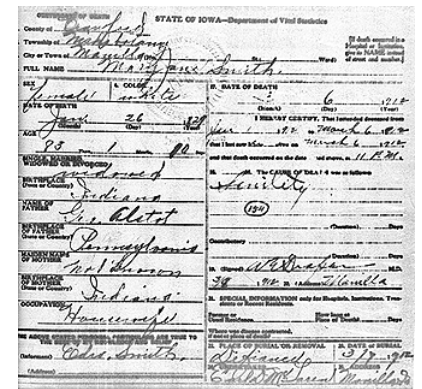
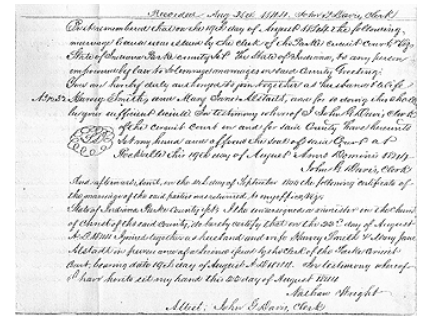
Left: the marriage license of George Allstot and Nancy Norton; below the marriage license of James Smith and Nancy Jane Allstot along with the death certificate of Nancy Jane Smith



James Harvey and Nancy Jane Allstot Smith in a photo that hangs in the Tapley home

George Washington Allstot and **Nancy Norton's** marriage record is found on page 36, Book A, Parke County, Indiana marriage records. I know many of my cousins who descend from George Washington Allstot would be interested in seeing a copy of the item and I am glad to share my findings. It was interesting to me that the marriage license used the spelling of "Alsteadt" rather than Allstot. It appears be that the recorder spelled his name phonetically on the document.

I include a photograph (copy of an original) of Nancy Jane Allstot and James Harvey Smith (*my great-great grandparents*). Nancy is the daughter of G. W. Allstot and his first wife, Margaret Coombs. The photo is at our Michigan home.



On her attached death certificate, her father's home state is listed as Pennsylvania.
Cousin Joel Tapley, Editor's note: G. W. Allstot was born in Virginia in 1801. His father had moved from Pennsylvania after the Revolutionary War. So a Pennsylvania birth location on Nancy's death certificate was erroneous.

I live in Erkrath, thats near Düsseldorf, about 30 km to the north of Cologne.

An aunt, **Karolina Allstadt**, lives in Erlangen. A lot of my line are living between Hof and Erlangen. Most live in Ebensfeld and Zapfendorf. Thats not so far from Erlangen.

In Ebensfeld is the "Autohaus Hillmann" which sells Mitzubishi cars. My aunt, **Walburga (Burgel)**. is the wife of the senior owner.

I've started to compile my side of the Allstadt line. I'll send you the list when I've finished it.

Salutations, **Harald Allstadt**, Erkrath, Germany

Hello Jerry,
How goes the planning for the trip to Germany? It looks like you may have a good size group. Feel free to post information on the Alstott/Altstadt group on Facebook.

Thanks for all the work you have done on behalf of all the clans and their history. You have the heart, the passion and one hell of a great attitude. Thanks again from our family"
Ewald Altstadt, pg. 545

Dear Jerry,
Thank you again for publishing my dad's, **John Sherman Mills**, 100th birthday . Attached is a picture taken at the Mills Family

Continued on page 6

Cuzzin Contact...

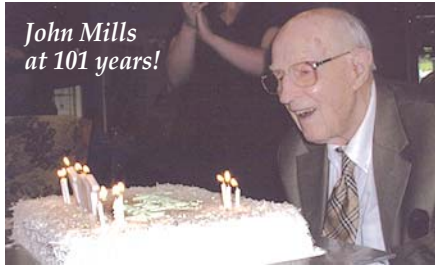
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Reunion Father's Day weekend 2010 in Norman, Oklahoma. I flew with Dad from Seattle! This picture is of him, now over 101, with the youngest member of the clan, **Naaman Niehus**, great grandson of Dad's sister (Sarah) **Lorraine Mills Niehus** (1919). Also attached for a smile is Sarah Lorraine with her two grandsons, Nathaniel and Aaron (father is Joseph 1955). These are really big guys!

Ron and I are still working in a tax business. We are headed to Frankfurt this November.

Thanks for all you do.

Jan Hansen, pg. 423



Dear Jerry,
I'm sorry to bring you all such sad news.

Aunt **Jane Allstott** has passed away. I fell so bad for Aunt Jane's family. All in our family have memories of her and Uncle Otis, they both worked so hard on the farm and loved ever minute of all the farm work. I will always remember, those wonderful cakes that Aunt Jane would bring to any of the families birthday, reunions, get-togethers at Mom's house. The cake was covered with the best caramel frosting. I think I have the recipe in my mothers things. Aunt Jane and her smile is in my mind today. Keep all the family in your prayers. There has been a number of family deaths and I will list these below:

Robert 'Kyle' Burnside, died in a car accident August 2, 2010, near Moro, OR. He was born on December 1, 1988. He was one of Rob and Ann Burnside's children. Such a nice boy and too young to die.

Harvel Wardwell passed away on August 11, 2010. They lived near Phoenix, AZ. He and Maxine were married 63-1/2 years (she wrote in her e-mail of his passing.)

Our granddaughter and her boyfriend, Krista and Jesse, became parents to a baby girl named "River."

Our Aunt **June (Allstott) Meek** is our last Auntie. Bless her little heart, she remembers us all.

Cuz **Pat Kennedy**, pg. 295

Hello Jerry,
I received your e-mail address from John Allstott today. I had stumbled on your website and found my great grandfather, **Nicolaus Allstott** listed. The birthday, death year, wife and children mostly match up with a few discrepancies. Would love to

share what I know and also get info on what you know about Nicolaus and his family, (siblings, especially parents), etc.

Listed on my grandmother's, **Marie Antoinette Allstadt's**, application for a social security card, (of which I have a copy), her father's name was written as **Nicolaus Allstadt**. Her mother's name was written, **Otilia Hemline**. I would assume she filled out the application and thus this would be the correct spelling of her parents names. The copy is very legible and is printed.

I can not tell you how excited I was to have found this website info today. I have tried in the past to find some link on this family line with no success.

Thanks again, **Debbie Farlow**, pg. 24

Hi Jerry,
My maiden name is Alstott. My father was **Archie Lee Alstott**. I have not been able to make a reunion, but since I live in Pennsylvania and am hoping to make the next one.

Thanks, **Ada Kujawski**, pg. 440

Hello Jerry,
My name is **Marc Alstatt** and was trying to obtain some info as to my family roots. I know that the Alstatt name has many different spellings and that adds to the confusion.

My grandfather, **James Lee Alstatt**, was born in Louisville Kentucky and that his father was named **Jacob Alstatt** and died during prohibition in Kentucky. That is about it. My grandfather passed away in 1999, and was the only one who had any ledger about the family.

I came to the family reunion in Corydon in 1994. I am now married to **Julie Oliver Alstatt** we live in Georgia (ROME) I am a State Probation Officer and my wife is a Forensic Psychologist working with the state. I have a son, Taylor, who is at Eastern Kentucky University and a daughter Mckae, who is a high school sophomore. My grandmother, **Helen Alstatt**, is still living and doing well as being expected at 80+ years. It was a big loss to our family when grandpa died (Bud), he never really talked that much about the Alstatt side.

Thanks for the website, **Marc Alstatt**, pg. 235

Dear Jerry and Phyllis,
We enjoyed being with you at the Reunion in Evansville and am enclosing photos taken at that time. My two nieces also enjoyed the trip very much.

This past summer we enjoyed attending a picnic at the Allstadt property near Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. As a member of the *Jefferson County Historical Society* I receive their pamphlet called "The Guardian." At the end of the year, they send out alae pamphlet about the history in the county over the years. I found the article on the picnic and am sending you a copy.

In January I turned 92 years old. My wife, Mildred, is 87 years old and we are in fairly

good health, visiting doctors and dentists regularly and taking lots of pills.

Stay healthy and keep well.

Your cuzzins, **Forrest and Mildred Hoffmaster**, pg. 499

The Maryland Gazette, Saturday, September 26, 2009



Doris Blackman of Cleveland, Ohio, Mildred and Forrest Hoffmaster of Linthicum Heights and Gloria Hoffmaster of Silver Springs, Maryland, gathered for the Alstott-Allstadt Reunion in Evansville, IN., over the Fourth of July weekend in 2009.

Good morning Jerry -
Lana Weiss gave me your information. I too, am an Alstatt cousin. My Grandfather Wray (Guy Gustavus Wray) was **Mary Elizabeth Alstatt's** son.

I have just recently become interested in the Wray family tree - probably after seeing the *Who Do You Think You Are* program on TV. I went to <ancestry.com> and, with a small amount of information, I have opened many doors. I have heard about the Alstatt Reunion for years from Lana's Mom Wanda - but guess the curiosity just finally got to me.

I would also like to go on the 2012 Germany trip. Please put me on the list.

Elaine Wray Cleghorn, pg. 240

Hi, Jerry!
So good to make contact with a cousin I don't know but feel that I do!!! I am so excited about making connections with the entire family. The trip to Germany and the Reunion in PA is on my calendar. Hopefully, we can stay in touch and get to know each other more.

I haven't been on your *Facebook* to check it out. Hope you have mine. We live in the Nashville TN area but born and raised in southern Indiana.

Our daughter, **Shannon Carter**, is just as interested as I. The 2014 reunion is on her agenda as their oldest (son) graduates from HS and that will be a delightful trip for their family.

Cuz, **Janice Smith**, pg. 206

Editor's Note: What does pg. mean? IF you have a copy of the "Red" family history book... it tells you where the writer can be found.

I am still contacted many times each year by cuzzins seeking a "Red" book. As that information is 15 years old, the best info on the clans is on the Alstatt website.

Were Certain Early Altstadt Ancestors Ship Carpenters in the Distant Past? That Tradition Is Kept Alive by the Altstadt Lines We Will Visit in 2012 in the Burghaun Area

The Fulda Diocese-Archive seems to be where my uncle **Josef Altstadt** visited and wrote down our Altstadt/Altstadt data several years ago. I have seen these notes in his files.

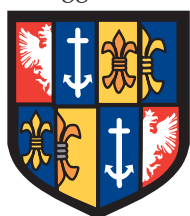
The family tradition is that two Altstadt brothers, from the north, came to the Fulda area to settle. One remained Catholic while the other became Lutheran.

The tradition surrounding these brothers is that they were in the carpenter's guild. The main rule for carpenters in medieval times and possibly into tradition was that if you were born a son of a carpenter, you almost always became a carpenter.

Lübeck, Germany, and Bruegge, Belgium, Altstadts would fit into that category.

If you look into the history of the merchants of the "Hanse," everything hinges along the lines of shipping goods. Lübeck still is named as Hansestadt Lübeck. Around 1500, nearly 150 cities in Europe belonged to that union.

My theory is that the Lübeck and Bruegge Altstadts were ship-carpenters.



(Note anchors on this Altstadt crest.)

And the faith: Cuius region, eius religio. (Wess Brot ich ess, des Lied ich sing).

Germany in the 16th century was a patchwork-carpet in

regards to area rulers... Catholic or Evangelical.

I have once tried to get the link between Burghaun and Heidelberg area where Hermann's ancestors came from. I think it has to be searched in the archives at Hessen-Darmstadt. We need to go to the maps of 1650 and have a look. Sometimes the districts had land separated from the main territorium by another district.

I remember a speech by the "Kreisheimatpfleger" (county historian) in the little village that I came from. We have a neighbor village now belonging to it. It was divided into three Court districts having 500 inhabitants. The clerical district from Klosterlangheim (Monastery) in the north, the political district in eastern part...the Vogt of Schesslitz. And in southern part...the clerical district of the Bamberg Diocese.

The county historian said, when a murder occurred, the clerics discussed, "Whose body is it." And just imagine, these districts were only a few square-miles large.

Cuzz **Tobi Altstadt**, Bremen, Germany

The Jefferson County, West Virginia Historical Society held its Summer Picnic at the Altstadt House and Ordinary



Pictured above: the back of the Altstadt house; below left, the Altstadt Ordinary (Tavern); below right, members and guests enjoying the picnic.



It was a beautiful day at the annual picnic, weather-wise and deviled egg-wise. There were between 150 and 200 members and guests in the yard of the Altstadt House and Ordinary.

In 1811, **Jacob Altstadt** bought a story and a half house which has been expanded to its present configuration. The house was a hostage-taking stopping point for the John Brown raiders in 1859.

The present owners, Jim and Barb Gibson, both officers on the historical society board, have restored the buildings and have done a beautiful job. Jim mounted pictures in and outside to show the before-and-after restoration of the buildings.

Merry Christmas...continued from page 1

reconnoiter of the southern part of what the 2012 tour will cover in Austria and Switzerland. I'll cover that in more in detail in next year's newsletter. After checking out Switzerland, we enjoyed spending three days touring around Lake Constance and especially enjoyed the Pfahlbauten historical reproduction of a prehistoric lakeside village.

Upon returning to the Altstadt's home in Erlangen, Hermann and I departed for points north - for visits with Altstadts at Fraurombach and Burghaun along with doing genealogy work at the Fulda Diocese Library and the church at Grossenlüder.

Even though rain greeted us in Fraurombach, we were treated to a great time of food and drink by **Hans and Karen Altstadt** in the local beer fest pavilion. The next day, **Alex and Marco Altstadt** drove us over to Schlitz for a tour of the town and a tour and "tasting" at the Schlitzlerland Schnapps Distillery. That was different!

All the Fraurombach Altstadts are looking forward to our coming in 2012. From Fraurombach, we drove around 20 minutes to Burghaun and a visit with the Altstadt families in that area.

I was pleasantly surprised to see that **Burkhardt Altstadt** had driven over from Tiefnort to see us and treated us to big pieces of plum cake and coffee before we met **Karl Altstadt** and were given a tour of the Catholic and Lutheran churches in town. It was novel to me, during the tour, to hear that **Johannes Altstadt** was the organist in the Catholic Church although he was a

Lutheran! That was back in the 18th century!

Manfred and Uwe Altstadt joined us for the city museum tour and invited us out to for an evening meal with Burkhardt. After returning to Manfred's home. We met his wife, Bernadette, and enjoyed chocolate dessert. Manfred has Google Earth on his computer and asked me to zero in on my home in Ventura. It was neat showing him the front of our home from the street view. I was surprised to see our RV in the driveway - it's usually NOT at home!



Top: Alex, Hans, Karen & Marco Altstadt; above: Burkhardt and Karl Altstadt; left: Uwe and Manfred Altstadt with us.

Continued on page 8



Above: Gladys & Katie; left: Wayne & Barbara; below: Barbara & Alan and us



When Hermann and I left, they all wished us well and look forward to seeing their American cousins in 2012.

Our research in Fulda and Grossenlüder brought more family connections to light. This was the first time we looked into the town of Hünfeld records and now we are sure that the Altstadts of Grossenbach and the Altstadts of Grossenlüder are in the same line...through the records at Hünfeld in the Fulda Library. We will need to spend more time in the Fulda Library, but that will have to wait until we survey the Hessen/Darmstadt Library on our next visit. We did note that the immigrants **George** and **Francis Altstadt** from Grossenlüder were the only sons of **Valentine** and **Margaret Altstadt**, so when they left Grossenlüder, there were no other son's line left in that town to carry on the family name. In the area between Fulda and Burghaun, the male Altstadt lines now are found only in the Protestant line. You have to go into other areas of Germany in the Allstadt line descended from the Hünfeld Altstadts for any Catholic descendants.

Our next stop was in Tiefnort at the **Altstadt Shoe Museum** - that was superb!

After spending a couple of weeks with **Hermann, Gundi** and **Alex Altstadt**, we spent another two weeks on a Central Europe tour of Poland, Hungary, Austria and the Czech Republic before returning to California. *Communist era kaput!*

Another 12 days and we were off to points east in our RV visiting family, friends, kids/grandkids and g-grandkids.

Our first cuzzin stop was in Caseyville, IL at the home of **Katie Bauers**. The next morning her sister, **Gladys Schumert** dropped by from O'Fallon.

Off to southern Illinois, we drove to Vincennes, IL, where we visited **Wayne** and **Barbara Alstat**. It was harvest season and we got to ride "up top" in a combine harvesting feed corn and soybeans. What a blast for two city slickers. It was neat riding with **Alan Alstat**, Wayne and Barbara's son.

Next we were off to Evansville, IN, where we visited **Jim, Katie, Wayne** and **Diane Altstadt**. Phyllis again got her thrill of splitting a "brain" sandwich with Katie. Not my choice. There we picked up items from the 2009 reunion to take east for the 2014 Pennsylvania Reunion.

Traveling east we stopped by to see **Marvin Alstott** at his Ace Hardware Store in Corydon, IN, before heading on to visit my sister's daughter's family, **Charles, Alice, Bailey, Riley** and **Everett Janz**, in Pittsburgh, PA. There we enjoyed Bailey's soccer game.

Then it was on to Morrisdale, PA to visit with **Wilford** and **Mary Homman** and **Jean Williams**. Sisters, Mary and Jean volunteered to sponsor the 2014 reunion, so we dropped by to give them some items that they could use for the reunion and helped map out strategies their Altstadt cousins in the area could use for a smooth flowing reunion. We all had a great time and are looking forward to 2014.

From Pennsylvania, we traveled south to Georgia for a visit with our daughter's family, **Cherilyn, Tim, Nicholas** and **Emma Vaughan** and our grandson's **Eric, Michelle, Conner** and **Bella Tucker's** expanding family. Two great-grandkids now - count 'em two! What a neat time we had with tour guide **Emma Vaughan** through the corn maize during the Halloween season.

After a couple of very fast weeks, we motored off to Lake Jackson, TX, to visit our son's family, **Roger, Anne, Geoffrey, Ben, Andrew** and **Zachary Allstott**. We celebrated Ben's 10th birthday and went to the Houston Zoo to check out all our "cousins" swinging away on ropes and old tires.

Lastly, we visited with my sister, **Mary Cooper**, and her daughter's family, **Mike, Lorie, William** and **Sam Mason**.

The weather was great the whole trip in the USA, with rain only on days that didn't matter and it sure was good getting home in mid-November! *Hurrah for home!*



Cherilyn, Emma, Tim and Conner with Great Grandpa and Grangrace

Ben, Andrew, Roger, Anne, Zachary, and Geoffrey with friends and Grandpa and Grangrace



The descendants of Martin Altstadt (1699), led by Mary Homman and Jean Williams of the Royal Feaster Altstadt (1878) line, invite all the AAA Clans members to...

The 6th National Altstadt/Alstott Reunion

Labor Day Weekend
September 2014
Clearfield, Pennsylvania
Start making your plans
now to attend!

Clearfield...it's right in the heartland of the great state of Pennsylvania.



Yes, we're sitting around the Homman table in Morrisdale, Pennsylvania, planning out the 2014 Meet...and it will be great!

Many Thanks to all of you who said "YES...send the annual newsletter via e-mail!"

With rising mailing costs, around 2/3rds of our cuzzins said, "Send the newsletter via e-mail! That was a whopping lot of responses from all of you.

Of course, not everyone has access to e-mail. If you are receiving this newsletter electronically, you have already noticed the new color of most of the photos and artwork. Color printing is just out of the question for this low quantity published newsletter.

If you are still considering receiving your newsletter electronically, please let me know.

Thanks, Cuzzin Jerry

Thanks to the many of you who help defer costs on the "snail-mail" newsletter

My sincere thanks to each of you for supporting the "All-Clans" Snail-mail Newsletter...and your annual (\$2.00) monetary support. Again...THANK YOU ALL and have a wonderful Holiday Season!



Germany/Austria/Switzerland Tour

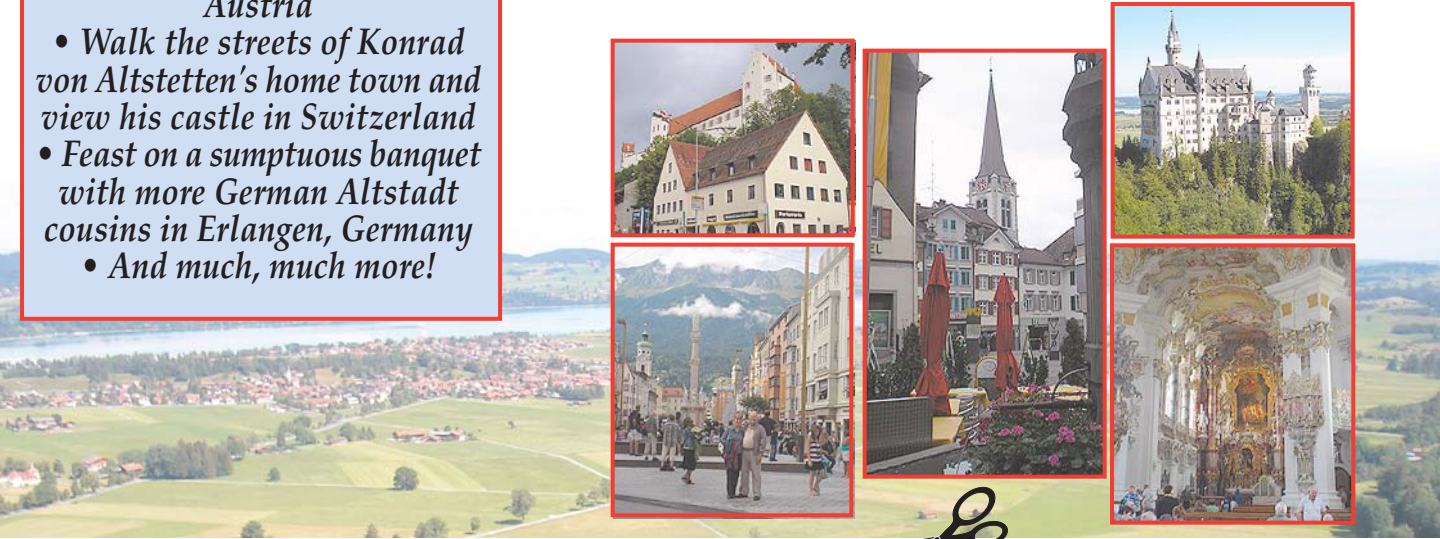
Join your cuzzins on this fantastic Spring 2012 AAA Tour to Germany, Austria and Switzerland...you won't be sorry...unless you miss it!

- Tour includes:*
- Banquet with German Altstadt cousins in Burghausen...with wild boar on the buffet menu
 - See Alstede Castle and tour Allstedt Castle
 - Experience Neu Schwanstein Castle, with horse drawn carriage ride
 - Two days in Innsbruck, Austria
 - Walk the streets of Konrad von Altstetten's home town and view his castle in Switzerland
 - Feast on a sumptuous banquet with more German Altstadt cousins in Erlangen, Germany
 - And much, much more!

If you have not committed, I would like your commitment and deposit NOW for the 2012 Tour. I have been advised to reserve our airfare by May 1, 2011, in order to get the best price for multiple passengers for the 2012 season (the next newsletter will not reach you until next November and asking for commitment at that time may be too late to get us the best air prices). Our Spring tour to Europe will happen just before the 2012 Summer air prices start to take effect, saving you lots of money.*

So don't miss out...Germany at tulip time is gorgeous, there will still be lots of snow in the Austrian Alps and Swiss chocolate is waiting for your tastebuds!

Pictured are the beautiful town of Fussen, Innsbruck's Altstadt, Altstetten, Neu Schwanstein Castle and the Church in the Meadow interior...these are only a few of the magnificent wonders you will view on this Altstadt family tour



YES!

I want to sign up for the 2012 Germany/Austria/Switzerland Altstadt Tour!

Name/s _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Phone No.(_____) _____

Number of people going _____ Total amount of deposit \$ enclosed at \$1,500.00 each _____ Check # _____

First names of persons going: #1 _____, #2 _____, #3 _____

T-shirt sizes: #1 _____ #2 _____ #3 _____

No menu problems (person #) _____ Prefer vegetarian menu _____ Passport expiration date: _____

**Please send your commitment card and deposit NOW but no later than April 1, 2011*

Trim out along line

Make your check payable to: **Jerry Allstott**

Mail left side of this card and your check to: **Jerry Allstott**
6537 Hummingbird St.
Ventura, CA 93003
(Phone: (805)650-3747)

I understand that by sending this form, I am committing myself (family) to be included in the 2012 Germany/Austria/Switzerland Tour.

I understand that it is my responsibility to pay the full tour price as soon as that figure can be determined. I will personally purchase my own travel insurance in case some unforeseen circumstances prevent me or my family from making the tour.

I also understand that monies sent to reserve my seat(s) on the tour **will not be refunded within the last 6-months before the tour starts**, as the total bookings will have been paid and no refund will be made to me after that date.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SIDE OF THE FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS!