



NEWSLETTER



December 2012



Merry Christmas 2012 and Happy New Year 2013 to all!

What a year...2012!!! I'm ready to slow down! Two church mission trips to an orphanage in Ensenada, Mexico, (I was the flooring guru for two buildings); our pastor's organized tour to Israel and Jordan in April (14 wonderful days of spring weather - no missiles); driving our old '37 Chrysler Airflow (fondly referred to as Betsy) up to San Jose, CA, for the 49th Chrysler/DeSoto Airflow National Meet (She took third place); our usual 6-week pilgrimage back east to visit the kids, grandkids and great grandkids (This year our oldest grandson, **Eric Tucker**, tied the knot on November 10 with **Reanna Reynoso** on Tybee Island Beach, GA); charge of setting up the "Live Nativity" sets on the front grounds of our church here in Ventura (12 helpers for me to keep busy); and, of course my favorite...THE ANNUAL NEWSLETTER! (That's the fun part - organizing and editing the correspondence you guys have sent throughout the year).

Other highlights were: Having Betsy take first place in her class at the Huntington Beach, CA, Concours and a visit in September by **Manfred Altstadt**, Burghaun, Ger., and his cousins (on his Altstadt aunt's side) **Gerald Bolz**, Berlin, Ger., and **Frank Bolz**, Kassel, Ger. We had a great time planning a 2015 German Tour (hopefully)...done the German way, over a huge banquet furnished by "HomeTown Buffet."

Our cuzzin visits included stops at **Fred and Shirley Altstadt**, San Jose, CA; **Bill Alstott**, Joliet, IL; **Mary Cooper** (my sister), West Columbia, TX; **Jim and Marion Neel**, Houston, TX; **Charles and Alice Janz**, Pittsburgh, PA; **Mary Homman**, Jean, Jeff and Julie Williams, Morrisdale, PA...plus visits with our kid's families... Halloween in Cartersville, GA and Thanksgiving in Lake Jackson, TX. WHEW!!!!

It was the German's time to cross "The Pond!"

Manfred Altstadt along with his cousins, Frank and Gerald Bolz made the grand USA tour!



Manfred Altstadt along with cousins Gerald and Frank Bolz at the home of Jerry and Phyllis Allstott by Frank Bolz, Kassel, Germany

First of all...for me, the tour was a dream became true: Visiting the USA with the cities of New York, and especially San Francisco...and seeing the great National Parks in the American Southwest. It was surely one of the most intensive tours I ever

made.

I want to give you some impressions of our tour and some experiences I encountered over our three weeks in the USA. I hope I find the right words to do so, because there's so much that impressed me, and there were so many different experiences that I just can't sum them up in a few sentences.

Let me start with the two cities we visited at the beginning and at the end of our tour:

New York was a "kind of" another planet to visit. A comparable city in Germany (because of the water, the harbor and wide space) might be Hamburg. But Hamburg is just a little town compared to New York City. The feeling of walking through the streets of New York was that everything "is" great and gigantic. Naturally, it was fascinating to look at the skyline of Manhattan and also to see it from different directions...from Brooklyn's Esplanade after having just arrived in

USA Tour...continued on page 3

2014 AAA National Reunion Planning Session coincided with the 2012 Altstadt Annual Reunion in Pennsylvania

The Annual Altstadt Family Reunion took place on Labor Day weekend, September 8-9, 2012, with over 100 family members in attendance.

On Monday, September 10, the AAA National Meet committee met at **Jeff and Julie Williams** farm just outside Morrisdale, PA, for an initial location and schedule session for the meet.

Those present were meet hosts, **Jean Williams** and **Mary Homman** along with **Stephen** and **Martie Kay**

Altstadt, **Jeff and Julie Williams**, and **Jerry and Phyllis Allstott**.

More on the 2014 Reunion is found later in this newsletter.



Left to right: Stephen Altstadt, Jerry and Phyllis Allstott, M. Kay Altstadt, Julie, Jeff and Jean Williams

Cuzzin Contact...

Jerry,
Thanks so much for your e-mails and the fantastic info. The e-mails went to my spam folder, so it took me awhile to find them (stupid AOL).

Late November is when we are taking our Philly trip - and we are DEFINITELY going to Reading and all the Altstatt points you described. I can't wait!

I will update the website for my husband's line. My husband is descended from **Mary Apple**, first wife of James Harvey Riley.

Lori Domel (Cameron White's wife)
Editor's note: Highlights of Cameron and Lori's trip come later in this NL.

Dear Jerry,
Attached please find the June 2012 Saint Meinrad Newsletter.

Please join me in wishing **Fr. Damian Dietlein** a very happy 80th birthday tomorrow!

Here is the link for slide show about Fr. Damian:

<http://youtu.be/0ov8T6qRItg>

Many blessings,
Agnes M. Kovacs,
Associate Director of Lay Degree Programs, Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology

Hi Jerry,

Thanks for your birthday wishes. I've no idea if or how one creates a "Link" in a PDF file. Agnes thought maybe one can only copy and paste into the URL window to get it to work. Agnes was the one who put together the slide show and put it on **YouTube**. Summer school still going well. Very dry here and the temperature is supposed to get above 100° in a day or two so that won't help the crops around here. Florida would probably love to send some of their excess rain this way. Hope all is going well for you both.

Regards, **Damian Dietlein**, pg. 113
Editor's note: For those of you who are e-mail users...please go to the YouTube celebration of Fr. Damos birthday at <http://youtu.be/0ov8T6qRItg>...it's neat.

Hi Cuz,
I just spoke today with Christine Wisniewski, who along with her

husband John are the current owners of the private property where this Knabb Cemetery is located. Their address is 97 Reifsnnyder Road, Oley PA 19547 Lori Domel

Editor's note: For those who wish to visit the cemetery where Judith Altstatt was buried in Berks Co., PA, in 1766, just contact John and Christine Wisniewski. They are great folks.

Jerry,
I just wanted to let you know that we are back from our three week trip to Germany.

We had a wonderful time. Thanks for all of your information on getting around Germany in the Altstatt family towns. We flew into Frankfurt and took a train to Cologne and rented a car there and we found the driving in Germany pretty easy.

We stayed in **Freinsheim** at the **Hotel Luther** and it was really so lovely. We did not get to see the museum in Dreieichenhain as it was closed. But it was so interesting to see the town. I really want to go back, but we still have Ireland where both my husband and I have family from there. My dad's family is from Ireland and Scotland, and my husband's mother's family is from Ireland.

Thanks for all of your help. I did get to look at the book that you sold to my Aunt **Jimmy (Melton)** and it was autographed by you, before we went on the trip. Her oldest son, **Steve Melton**, still has the book and he brought it over for me to look at before the trip.

I have attached a few pictures. Thanks again Jerry,
Love cousin, **Cathy Coleman**, pg.282 (OK line Altstatt)



Cathy Coleman at the walls that surround Freinsheim, Germany. The town Martin and Judith Altstatt immigrated from in 1729

Hi Jerry - -

Enjoyed The Visit - - Had a Great Time - - Hope You Had A Good Trip Home - - By the Way - - the Playboy Model Spells Her Name - - **Mia Alstadt**, Age 23, Born Columbus, Ohio 1988. - - Next Time You Come Up - - Let's Plan Dinner In Advance - - I Have a Neat Place To go in Alviso, CA - - My Mom Calls It a Living Old West Ghost Town - - Enjoyed Your Visit in Our Home - **Fred and Shirley Alstadt**, pg.548

Editor's note: Our old car club meet in 2012 was in San Jose, CA, and gave Phyllis and me an opportunity to visit with Fred and Shirley in their beautiful home and go out for dinner. It's the first time we had gotten together since the 2003 Germany tour.

Dear Jerry,

I have no idea if you might want to use a bit of the story, that the **Hermiston Herald** asked me to write about my parents starting the first Wilcox Store in the 1950s. About ten years later dad sold the store to his brother and then years later his sons (Lester's three sons) took over ownership. At one time I think they had 12 stores in OR and WA. So the last five stores were closed down and sold this year, after 62 years of being the Wilcox Stores. I had fun writing the story and bringing back memories.

(Editor's note: The Wilcox article is found later in this NL.)

I am not in contact with many of the cousins these days, everyone busy or traveling. A few posted photos and family things on **FACEBOOK**, which is nice. I do have **Aunt Dorris (Allstott) Spencer's**, daughter and husband have moved to a retirement condo. I'll look that up and send. I keep in touch with **Bob and Jan (Meek) Benson** and Aunt **June Meek** is doing great. She is waiting for me to finish up the **WARDWELL** family history book, which I have been working on for five years. Kind of slow, this old gal!

We added two new gr-gr-sons, **Kaimana Brown**, born in Hawaii, in August and **Sebastian Jackson**, born in Medford, in October. We now have a total of eight gr-gr-children, four girls and four boys. So the whole family is back into car seats,

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Frank, Manfred and Gerald with "Lady Liberty" the city...from the tour boat sailing to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island...and then from these places looking toward the city, and finally from the Empire State Building at noon and from the "Top of the Rock" at night. Gerald and I took time to visit the MoMA, too, and it was absolutely impressive. Central Park is an island in the cityworld. As I said...everything's great and fascinating. But NY is a loud and restless city on the other hand. On top of the Empire State Building, or the top of Rockefeller Center, the never ending noise of the streets came up to us. I can say this frankly...it's not a city I could live in! But I was happy to have visited the "Big Apple."

San Francisco was a contrast to New York, because it seemed a bit more relaxed to me. It was, by the way, the only city where we found cafés like we have in Europe, where you sit down, have a good cup of cappuccino...a piece of cake and where time can stand still for a half an hour or so. Of course, one may say, it was in the Italian part of town near the Coit Tower, where this kind of way of life is popular and welcome. Amazing was the fog that rolled over San Francisco Bay, hiding the city and the Golden Gate Bridge, so that we couldn't see it in its full length at any one time. When we arrived in San Francisco and crossed the bridge in our car, the upper part was hidden by fog and the fog increased when we were looking at the bridge from the vista point on the Sausalito side. On the tour boat, the fog was so heavy that just the lowest and the highest parts of the bridge's towers could be seen. The fog did open for a short period of time just as we passed underneath for a, let's say, mystical moment. In the city itself, fog depleted at about 10 to 11 am, and returned after 3...4 or 6 pm, in the late

afternoon...a great game of light and shadow every day.

A very good experience was that while we were traveling through the countryside, people were remarkable and sensitive to us, asking if everything with us was OK and if we needed help or they just asked how we were and where we came from, etc. I remember a situation when we stopped on a highway in...let's say...the middle of nowhere, because there was a transmitter nearby which meant there was the possibility of making a phone call with our cellphone. The first car that came by stopped and this young lady asked if everything was OK. I think, that's something we should learn in Germany, where many people are much more careful in a sense of fear or even caught in objections.

And to sum up all the experiences visiting the National Parks: I am still fascinated about...let's say...the beauty of the deserts. Because, all in all, most of the western parks are deserts of stone with rock formations one more beautiful than the other. Some of the most breathtaking things we did were to hike through the Arches, the trail down into Grand Canyon, or the hoodoos of Bryce Canyon for one, two or even three hours and get a feeling of the riches of these landscapes by having something you could directly touch. A special experience was to visit Zion National Park, where the Virgin River provides an oasis in the middle of giant rocks. We had a good time hiking along the river in the upper part of the Grand Canyon. Death Valley was striking with its heat and the colors of the rocks especially at sunset and sunrise (I got up early to drive up to Zabriskie Point and be there at sunrise, and it was wonderful!)

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Just how many Americans would hike to the bottom of the Grand Canyon?



Checking out the 2014 AAA site: Jean Williams, Jerry Allstott and Jeff and Julie Williams

2014 AAA National Reunion Site Checked Out and OKd, Just Look...

The Clearfield Fair Grounds has a variety of buildings we can use for the Reunion activities. The Open Pavilion is near the camping area.

The Grove stage and bleacher area includes a sound system.

The Expo 1 Building has tables and seating for about 400 people and also has large men's and women's bathroom facilities.

The camp ground at the Clearfield Fair Grounds has 32 sites with electric, water, sewer and cable for \$17 per night and unlimited dry camping at \$10 per night.

Camping is available beside the Expo 1 and would be considered Dry camping for \$10 per day.

The Aldstadt yearly reunions usually run around 160 folks, so if we add another 150-200 for all the other Altdstadt / Alstott clans, the Expo 1 Building looks to be the best place for our site.

We want to have and schedule for the catered meal. Overall I think it would be the ideal location for the meet.

In the next newsletter we will have info on the local hotels and restaurants and directions to fair grounds from the hotels.

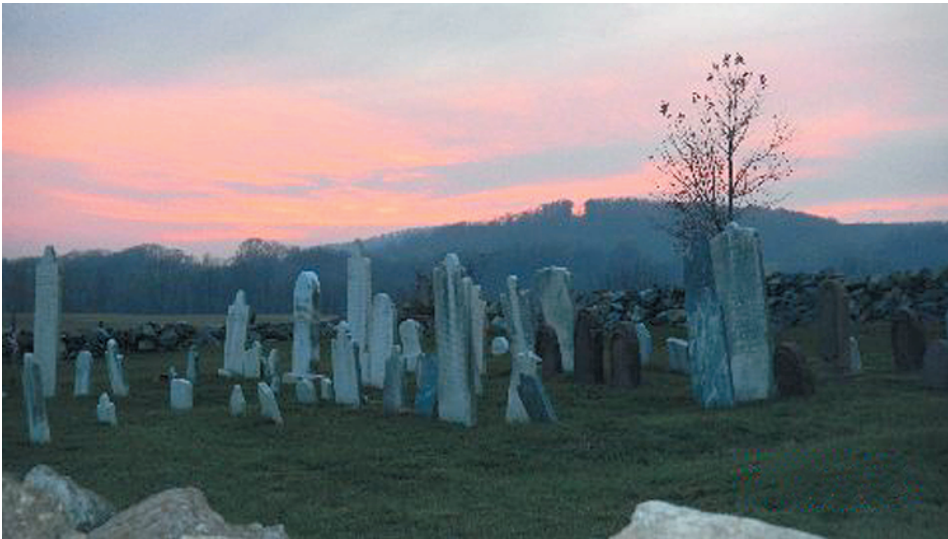
September 5-6-7, 2014, Here we come!



Jeff Williams took me on a tour of the Clearfield Fairgrounds facilities. Top: Expo 1 building where most events will take place. Below: The Open Pavillion near the wooded RV sites.



Berks County, Pennsylvania Revisited by Lori Domel



The Knabb Cemetery...burial ground of immigrant Judith Altstadt, who died in 1766 as the sun sets.

Visiting Altstadt sites in Pennsylvania was not the intent of this awesome experience. My husband, Cameron, and I flew from Houston to Philly for my husband's business conference. We had exactly one day free, where we arranged to rent a car and take a day trip to see *Valley Forge* and then drive on to see the cemetery and church and **Adam Alstadt** home near Reading. We had an extensively and carefully planned full itinerary, with those stops plus winding up with Amish country near Lancaster and then get back to Philly for 7:30 pm tickets to an art museum. A perfect plan! *Which should have been the first warning bell that things were going to go haywire...*

A friend from the other side of Pennsylvania joined us in Philly, and convinced us, at the last minute, to cancel our rental car reservation and use her rental car instead.

Unbeknownst to us she had left her wallet and ID at home, and therefore showed up in an old car borrowed from her cousin, which had a blowout in the middle of the day, right after *Valley Forge* and lunch, and naturally her cousins' car did not have a good spare (Note to genealogists on a cemetery crawl: Do NOT rely on a friend's cousin's car, ever).

But before the flat tire, we loved touring *Valley Forge*, and thinking about Cameron's Altstadt ancestors who camped there with George Washington. Easy to imagine what it must have been like in 1777, since we had snow on the



ground too.

But shortly after we got back on the freeway towards Reading, the tire trouble occurred. After limping on a shredded tire off the freeway, and finally finding a tire store, and lending our friend \$250 to buy two tires, we debated bailing on the rest of the trip. Who knew if we could trust the car or should just turn around and go back to Philly with was only about an hour of daylight left. But it's not like we'd ever have the chance to be in Pennsylvania again. And it was maybe 30 miles further. We decided we'd come this far, we couldn't give up now.

We revised the itinerary to jettison the Amish country entirely, skip the **Adam Alstadt** house, skip the church, and just race to try to get to the old Knabb cemetery before dark.

We drove frantically through the rolling hills, past beautiful old farm houses, arguing and screeching at every intersection about which way to turn. The sun was setting as we found Reifsnyder Lane and started looking at the street numbers. Then we spotted a little cemetery on a hill behind a house and our jaws dropped. We parked and ran over,

just as there was the most spectacular sunset.

To walk in that cemetery, and see Judith's gravestone and the Altstadt plaque, and look at all the beautiful countryside from that peaceful hill, after all that stress and trauma to get there! And to think of how easy our journey was, coming from Philly by car, compared to the Altstadt's immigrating from Germany! My husband described the feeling as other-worldly. I said as far as I was concerned, I could die right then and there and still be happy for eternity, just watching those sunsets from that hill next to Judith.

We took several photos at the cemetery, then figured we might be able to make the church before it got too dark to take pictures, so we raced a little farther through more lovely sunset views and we just made it.

We didn't try to make the Adam Altstadt house though, as it was dark and we had pre-paid 7:30 pm tickets to the *Barnes Foundation* (art museum) in Philly. We start the return trip.

The cemetery alone was worth the trip to Pennsylvania. I would love to go back, and allow extra time for the drive and to see that other property as well as return to *Valley Forge* and the Knabb cemetery. Although we hadn't planned it, the timing of getting to the cemetery right as the sun was setting over those hills and the sky was so colorful - **PRICELESS!**



Judith Altstadt's grave and 1989 AAA Reunion brass plate marker at the Knabb Cemetery in Berks, Co. PA.

USA Tour...continued from page 3

Finally, it was amazing to visit Las Vegas, too...but I don't have to go there for a second time. I found it disgracing to see old people sitting in front of the slot machines in Beatty, NV, assuming that they're gambling away their pensions in doing so.

What made me think about the social situation in the USA was the great number of "pan handlers" and people with no home, living on the streets. It was a striking thing to see them lying in the entrances of the houses...each person laying 70 or 80 yards apart. I think it's time American society takes responsibility not just for themselves but for each other. I don't mean to touch on anything political...it's just that I can't help but think about people living on the streets.

Looking at the final days of our tour, we had a good time driving up the Pacific Coast Highway to San Francisco. We passed very beautiful places and, of course, we stopped and saw the elephant seals on the beach near San Simeon. It was the first time in my life, that I could watch them in their natural habitat, and at such a close distance.

Manfred was in a mix of feelings on the tour due to his broken dentures... good one day and then having problems with his teeth the next day. He appreciated the tour anyway and was happy to have made it, because he wouldn't have made it on his own.

Now, after having come back to Germany again, Manfred's new dentist has begun to work on his teeth and says that a lot has to be done. It'll probably take almost two years to get his mouth in an ideal condition. But Manfred's happy...getting his teeth fixed as well as taking the tour together with Gerald and me.

Frank Bolz, Kassel, Germany

Have you updated your family charts on www.Altstatt.org? Do it today!

Continued from last column on page 5

Wilcox store from his brother in about 1960. Lester and Charles Wilcox are buried in the Hermiston Cemetery.

Charles and Lester loved to hunt deer and elk and most of all Charles loved fishing in the river and streams in the Hermiston and Heppner area. Both of the brothers were hard-working, honest men and great businessmen to their many customers in both Umatilla and Morrow counties.

From the Hermiston (Oregon) Herald, July 25, 2012

Wilcox Furniture closes after more than 60 years in Business



Pat Wilcox Kennedy writes a nostalgic piece about her folks and life in the 50s and 60s in this article for the Hermiston Herald

Remembering the first Wilcox Furniture Store...

My father, Charles Bennett Wilcox, was born near Oakland, OR, in 1909, in the same farmhouse in the very same bed as his father, Robert Bennett Wilcox, who was born in 1879.

Charles met and married **Tressie V. Allstott** of Eightmile, Morrow County, in October 1929, two weeks before "Black Tuesday" and the start of the Great Depression. During their first year of marriage, months were spent at Tamarack Mountain, with only two tents for their living quarters close to a 93-foot tall pine tree. A platform was built around the top part of the tree, which was Charles' Forest Service "lookout tower."

Charles attended college at Oregon State, and also a radio school in Portland, before starting his home radio repair shop in Heppner, OR.

In 1935, Charles, Tressie and their three children, Pat, Robert and Otis, moved to Hermiston along with parents and siblings. Charles worked for L. A. Moore's Mor-Tone Sound Service. It was mainly an electronics and radio repair shop; but they also sold oil home heating stoves and radios, and rented out refrigerators.

During World War II, radios were impossible to buy and everyone wanted to listen to the daily war news and the *Amos 'n' Andy* programs in the evenings. Charles was a very handy person in the radio and electronics field and could repair any broken-down radio. Also during WWII, Charles became manager of the Moore Furniture of Home Store and was making a good salary. Tressie worked as a nurse at the old local hospital and the sons delivered morning newspapers while I worked at the Oasis Theatre. The wages and savings later helped us start the first Wilcox Appliance Store in Hermiston.

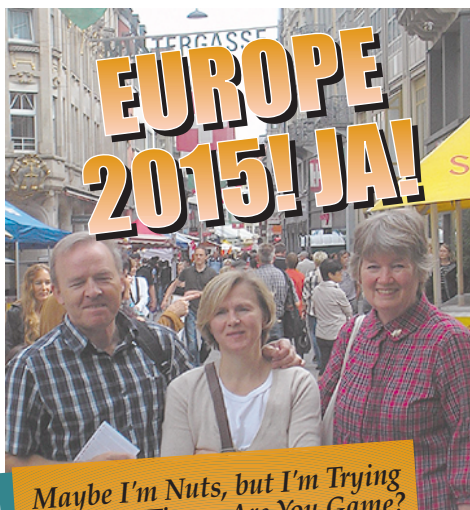
Charles did much of the construction work himself and then operated the store. The 25 by 60 foot structure was modern in appearance and the articles on sale would be of the latest design, he said. A building permit issued to him by the city recorder's office listed the estimated cost at \$7,500. He worked with companies, such as G.E. and Philco, to decide which appliances to sell in

his store. Then the ordering began. He did not have the cash to buy the appliances, as all his money had gone into the building. The banks in Pendleton would not give him a loan. So he asked his uncle, Lawrence Palmer in Heppner, if he would loan him some money. "Why sure Charlie," he said, and the deal was made. One year later the Pendleton Banks were begging to handle all of Charles' sale contracts. No deal, he did business with the Hermiston banks only.

The *Hermiston Herald* of August 14, 1952, reported that a TV set was on display in the front window of Wilcox Appliance Store. Though TV programs had trouble scooting over the mountains to Hermiston, Charlie put up a 50-foot antenna in our home's side yard. If I remember right, there were only programs shown at night, so we all sat around the TV set in our front room, watching snowflakes turning into a slight pictures. A tall antenna was installed at the store, so crowds of people would stand and watch the TV reception.

The Wilcox store added wings to the building, a 30x25 foot wing, for storage space and a warehouse, in August 1953. Charles needed help in the Wilcox store and his brother, Lester "Spike" Wilcox, who was teaching in Gold Hill, OR, moved with his family to Hermiston in September 1952, to teach eighth grade in Echo. Lester worked part time at the Wilcox store for a year and a half and went to full time work at the store in January 1955. I believe Lester Wilcox bought the

Continued on bottom of first column on page 5



Maybe I'm Nuts, but I'm Trying One Last Time...Are You Game?

Springtime in Germany in 2015? A Unique Travel Offering!

With the aid of Hermann and Manfred Altstadt alongside Frank and Gerald Bolz we are planning to "do Europe" the way the Germans tour it! During the recent Altstadt/Bolz visit a prospective tour of Germany, Austria and Switzerland was discussed.

For 2015, I am researching the lowest price tour anyone can find for our destinations.

Frank Bolz has connections to rent two 9-passenger vans, and along with finding quality pensions for our night's stays, we will offer a tour that most of our cuzzins can finally afford...BUT this tour is limited to 16 persons. Will you be the first to sign up?

I will be setting up this tour with our German Cuzzins when Hermann Altstadt and I do genealogy research in Germany this coming August. Let me know if you are interested!!! (Card attached)



Our grandson ties the knot on Tybee Beach, Georgia, as the sun goes down



November 10, 2012, found us on Tybee Beach, GA, for grandson Eric Tucker's marriage to Reanna Reynoso. The weather, sunset and service were all perfect!

April 15, 2012

Defending champion Klimek registers at last minute, then repeats as women's winner

By Tim Trower, Mail Tribune



Photo by Andy Atkinson

Former Phoenix runner **Marci Klimek**, pg. 300, gets into the race at the eleventh hour and successfully defends her title.

Klimek has run the 10-mile event twice and won both, this time in 59 minutes, 23 seconds.

Klimek fought off a challenge from former University of Oregon runner Bria Wetsch to triumph in 59 minutes, 23 seconds, more than a minute faster than her mark last year of 1:00.36. Wetsch, who lives in Portland, came in at 59:49 in the field of 791 female participants.

"I saw Bria was in it," said Klimek, who also starred at Linfield College in McMinnville. "She's a stud runner, so I knew I was definitely going to have to work for it."

Klimek opened with a fast pace and led for the first seven miles.

"I know I'm a grinder," said Klimek, 24. "I don't have a lot of speed, so I went out as hard as I

Lois M. Larson, Active Senior, Fisher-Price Retiree



Lois Larson

Feb. 26, 1920 - Aug. 2, 2012

Lois M. Larson, pg. 466, of East Aurora, an active senior with many interests, died Thursday, Aug. 2, 2012. She was 92.

Born **Lois M. Aldstadt** in the small coal mining town of Morrisville, PA, she was one of 11 children. She moved to the Western New York area in the early 1940s, following a sister who had settled in Holland. She moved with her husband, Robert Larson, to East Aurora in 1943, and also lived for many years in Holland. They raised six children, the youngest of whom was only 12 when Mr. Larson died in 1964.

Mrs. Larson worked for 30 years at Fisher-Price, starting as a second-shift production worker and retiring in 1983 as a personnel representative.

She served as a deacon and an elder at the South Wales Presbyterian Church.

A member of the Red Hat Society and the Town of Aurora Senior Center, Mrs. Larson enjoyed line dancing, bowling, traveling, ceramics, reading, and being with friends and family.

She is survived by six children, **Roberta (Donald) Koehler** of Fort Worth, Texas, **Kathleen Arkey** of Dallas, **Lois (L.B.) Lyon** of Texas, **William R. (Sandra) Larson** of West Falls, **Dale Larson** of Alvin, Texas, and **Donna Aughenbaugh** of Morrisdale, Pa.; a sister, **Betty J. Hazeltine** of Holland; 18 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Burial was at Holland Cemetery.

could."

After Wetsch caught her, the two ran together for a mile or so before Klimek, having gathered herself from the early pace, came up with another surge, and Wetsch was unable to hang with her.

Cuzzin Contact...

Continued from page 2

toys all over, naps, not feeling well babies, and diaper changes.

Neil and Karen Ziese moved to The Christian Retirement Community, Turner, OR, in August 2012.

Cuz Pat Kennedy, pg. 295

Hi Jerry;

Hope all is going well for you two. I know you are busy this time of year.

This note is to just let you know what we've been up to.

Alison, our second daughter, now has a position at the Univ. of Northern Iowa, in Cedar Falls. She is now Dr. Alison Altstatt, Assistant Professor of Musicology & Music History at the University of Northern Iowa School of Music.

She just returned from Germany where she spent the night at the Altstadt Hotel in Wurzburg.

Susan and I hauled the Airstream over to Iowa in August for a visit, just missing the hot weather. We've been to the *Mojave Desert* in the fall, followed by the *Death Valley* trip in November. We'll be going back to the Mojave after New Year's 2013.

I bet you're doing the pageant sets again.

John Altstatt, pg. 564



"Alison stayed at the Altstadt Hotel in Wurzburg, Germany"

Jerry,

Thank you so much for all of this Altstatt info, it really helps me.

I live in Mission Viejo Calif. and have been here for 35 years. I married my husband in Missouri but I was born in Calif. My gr-gr-grandmother

was **Mary Francis Alstott**, her daughter, **Alice Henthorn**, was my gr-grandmother. She had ELLA my grandmother who married a Hegwein in St. Louis, Mo. Alice died at 35 years old after childbirth of my grandmother. I was so very happy to find more of my Alstott family history.

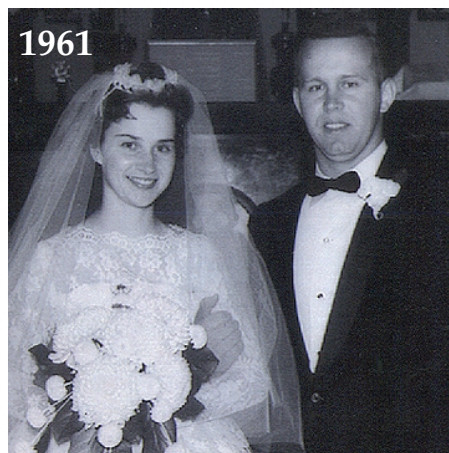
Sally Melton, pg. 181

Dear Jerry,

I am sorry to let you know that my husband, Charles Marvin Alstot died on September 3, 2010. He was born on April 12, 1925 to Charles Benson and Lura M. Alstott. he was 85 years old and we had been married 63 years. It's hard to believe he is not with us anymore.

Sincerely, Barbara Alstot, pg. 369

William and Shirley Alstott Celebrate 50 Years



On November 4, 2011, William and Shirley Alstott, of Lockport, IL, pg. 440, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Their children threw a party for them on November 26. Congratulations to this wonderful couple.

Lola Marie Springer pg. 295



Lola Marie Springer was born on May 1, 1935, in Heppner, OR, to John Archie Padberg and Susie (Allstott) Padberg (Whitman). She passed away April 18, 2012, at Hood River Care Center,

age 76 years, with family at her side.

Lola was born and attended school in Heppner, OR. There she met the love of her life, Allen E. Springer. They were married in Heppner on November 2, 1953. They lived in Heppner for two years and their oldest son Donald was born there. A short while later they moved to Hood River, OR, and their family was completed with the births of their daughter Georgia and their son Jeffery.

Lola loved her family, traveling, the beach, family get togethers, bingo, camping, and telling jokes.

Lola is survived and will be dearly missed by her loving husband **Allen Springer**, her children **Don Springer** (Chris), **Jeff Springer** (Jennifer) of Hood River, OR, and **Georgia Marshall** (Bob) of Pendleton, OR. Her eight grandchildren, **Katie Smiley** (Karl), **Tom Springer** (Canela), **Ashley Murphy** (John) of Hood River, **Robert Marshal** (Tracy), **Jeremy Marshall** (Jackie) of Pendleton, **Ivamay Tallman** (Wibur) of Condon, **Michelle King** (Shayln) of Yakima, WA, **Josh Marshall** of Valdez, AK. She was also blessed with fifteen great-grandchildren, **Brandon and Kyle Smiley**, **Emily Murphy**, **Devin**, **Megan**, **Ava Ann**, **Andrea**, and **Collin Marshall**, **Tallin**, **Spencer**, **Caleb**, **Ethan** and **Kyle King**, **Wesley** and **TJ Tallman** and numerous nieces and nephews.

Sarah Lorraine Mills Niehus

Funeral services for Sarah Lorraine Mills Niehus, 92, (pg. 423) were at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 27, 2011 at St.

Andrew's Episcopal Church, Grove, Okla., with burial in the Zena Cemetery.

Mrs. Niehus was the ninth of ten children, born May 14, 1919, in the Union Community near Colcord, Okla., to **Oscar Henderson** and **Dora Belle Apple Mills**.

She was a 1937 graduate of Jay High School and served 28 years as bookkeeper and assistant tag agent at the Ford dealership in Grove and was

active in church and community affairs.

A member of the Lutheran Church, in recent years she regularly attended St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. She served on various civic and cultural boards and organizations, including the Delaware County Historical Society, Grand Lake O' the Cherokees Quilt Guild, Sweet Annie Herb Club, and Dennis Friendship Club.

A textile artist, sewing came so natural for Lorraine. During her retirement years she turned her love for sewing into a cottage industry in which her original dolls were sold in specialty shops under the label, "Dolls by Sara Lorin." In addition to producing hundreds of textile heirlooms and original works of art, she made over fifty award winning quilts. Her hand-stitched Oklahoma Sampler quilt was displayed in the office of Senator James Inhofe in Washington, DC.

Coming from a musical family, Lorraine had a beautiful alto voice and a natural ear for harmony. She was also a gifted writer, creating a number of poems and stories.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Glenn Harold Orville Niehus, and a son, Donald Glenn Niehus. She is survived by two daughters, **Carol (Darrell) Nesbitt**, Siloam Springs, AR, **Glenda (Baxter) Bryant**, Cullman, AL, a son, **Joe (Beverly) Niehus**, Zena, OK, seven grandchildren, **David (Michael Ross) Nesbitt**, East Point, GA, **Donald (Patricia) Nesbitt**, Centerton, AR, **Nathaniel (Susan) Niehus**, Zena, OK, **Meredith (Brent) Panell**, Alabaster, AL, **Nicole Niehus**, Rustin, LA, **Caroline (Jason) Moody**, Cullman, AL, **Aaron Niehus**, Zena, OK, four great-grandchildren, and a sister, **Dorothy Ray**, Riverside, CA.

Howdy my brother,
I wanted you to know that my mom, **Luise (Recher) Altstadt**, passed away the end of October - on Reformation Day. - She was 90 years old.

One hour before she passed away, I visited her at 6 pm - she was happy when I came into the bed room, she was sitting on her bed, reading a book like she used to do it every day over the last years.

We talked for a while about important things like her meals in the hospital, the weather and politics - she was always hungry and everyday she asked the nurse... "What about my meal, do not forget it?!!!" She was always a very good eater - even her last supper.

We all keep her still alive in our heart.
Hermann Altstadt, Erlangen, Ger.

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Hello Cousin,

My Father, **Herschell Altstadt**, died suddenly yesterday, January 8, 2012, in Oklahoma City, OK. It was very unexpected. He was born on September 7, 1935, in Oklahoma Co., OK. Chaplain **Bobby Altstadt** officiated at the service.

He really loved the family reunions and visiting with each and everyone of you.

*Do not stand by my grave and cry;
I am not there, I did not die.*

Suzy Altstadt Aita, pg. 251



Herschell and Jerry on a visit with Bill Altstadt in Oklahoma City a few years ago.

Dear Jerry,

My mother, **Dorothy Alstot** passed away on October 8, 2011. She was 91 years old. She broke her hip and then had a heart attack in the hospital. She was also in final stage lung disease (COPD). We really do miss her.

David J. Alstot, pg. 368

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 for all our different clans senior citizens who pass on that new fangled gadget called a computer... and your annual (\$2.00) monetary support... and have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Please remember to send me your new address when you move, or your E-mail when you switch suppliers or E-mail addresses, so that you can continue to receive your yearly AAA "All Clans" Newsletter!

Sitting around a favorite spot... a dinner table... were Wilford and Mary Homman and Jean Williams, along with myself last year, planning out the 2014 AAA Meet last year... and the Meet will be a great one!



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 5-6-7, 2014 in Clearfield, Pennsylvania

Begin making your plans now to attend!

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

The 2014 AAA Reunion Hosts met after the Altstadt Annual Reunion last September and have started making plans for the fall of 2014...all they need to know now is that YOU are planning to join them for this event!