



NEWSLETTER



December 2019



Christmas Cheer and a Happy 2020 to all!... Frohe Weihnachten und einen guten Rutsch ins Jahr 2020!

Ho, ho, ho...Phyllis and I hope Santa has filled your stocking to the brim with joy, good friends, and peace over this holiday season.

2019 has been a very full and eventful year for us. **Hermann Altstadt** has kept us updated on what has been happening in Germany, and we wish to congratulate **Alex Altstadt** of Fraurombach-Schlitz for winning his mayoral election this year!

We had two big trips away from home this year. First, we flew to Houston/Lake Jackson, TX, for our second grandson's, **Ben Allstott**, graduation from high school and observing his application to



Grandson Ben Allstott graduated from Brazosport Christian High School in May. Now it's on to college..

Brazosport Junior College. He is planning to be an auto mechanic and Brazosport has a fine trade school in the auto repair field...and Ben has already been approached to apprentice at a repair shop in the area. We had a great visit with all of our son's, Roger and Anne's, family including Geoffrey, Andrew and Zachary

besides Ben. Geoffrey was accompanied by his bride to be, Emma Rice...the date is set for May 25, 2020. We also spent time with my sister, Mary Cooper in Columbia Lakes, TX. From Houston, we



Phyllis Allstott with three of the great grandkids, Conner and Bella Tucker, and Kinley Hendley with their Nani Cherilyn Vaughan at the Chatanooga Zoo. Great grandpa Jerry Allstott is the photographer

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Alexander Altstadt wins the mayoral runoff in Schlitz, Hesse with 55 percent of the vote...Congratulations Alex!

Alexander Altstadt received his appointment certificate as mayor during the town council meeting. Altstadt replaces Hans-Jürgen Schäfer, who retires after 24 years at the end of April.

In fact, all the speakers at the inauguration of **Alexander Altstadt** spoke favorably of the new incumbent, even if one or the other differences were still emphasized. City Councilor Walter Ritz (CDU) affirmed confidence that many have in the new incumbent Altstadt: "Most of us know how you



Left: Alex Altstadt with Andrea Michel-Herbert and Hans-Helmut Dickert, right: Alex Altstadt celebrates with Hans-Jürgen Schäfer

tick, and hope that this continues in your new office." The challenge to a mayor made Ritz give Altstadt the affirmation: "A city does not take place. A city has to be lived."

Former mayor Hans-Jürgen Schäfer (CDU) pointed out that there have been five mayors in the castle town since the war, while the state of Hesse in the same time nine prime ministers and the Vogelsbergkreis eight district administrators have served. Work is waiting for Altstadt: "I promised that my desk will be cleaned up, but it will not be empty." And Schäfer was convinced that Altstadt would find his own style.

"You've left a lot of footsteps for me to follow," Altstadt said in his speech to Schäfer, "in some I'll step into, others I will pass." He emphasized his desire for closeness to the citizens. "The city hall should be even more a house of open doors," he promised. He also called on the citizens to become more involved in the discussions. It was better to talk to each other than to talk about each other.

After Altstadt had been sworn in as mayor, the former city council Hans-Helmut Dickert



(CDU) as first city council and thus deputy mayor and the former city council Andrea Michel-Herbert (CDU) as councilor, congratulated 13 other public figures the newly sworn mayor, with many a witty dispute about the role of the castle town in the region relaxing.

Among other speakers were District Administrator Manfred Görig (SPD), the Bundestag MP Michael Brand (CDU) and the Member of Parliament Michael Ruhl and the mayor Lothar Bott (Gemünden) and Heiko Stolz (Neuhof). / Folder Zeitung, Fula, Germany.

Alexander Altstadt gewinnt mit 55 Prozent die Bürgermeister-Stichwahl in Schlitz

Alexander Altstadt erhielt während der Stadtverordnetenversammlung seine Ernennungsurkunde als Bürgermeister.

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The 7th National AAA Reunion was held in Lanse, PA, on Labor Day Weekend...August 30 - September 1...with light response on Saturday but a large crew at Sunday's Potluck!

As General McArthur once said, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." I guess it goes the same way with the National AAA Reunions. AAA Reunions have been held every 5 years since 1989 across the USA. But over the years, attendance has been shrinking.

The 2019 reunion's Saturday session only drew 13 participants...**Harry and Sue Altstadt**, **Art and Mimi Altstadt**, **Steve and Marti K. Altstadt**, **Jean Williams**, **Mary and Wiford Homan**, **Jerry and Phyllis Allstott**

Continued on page 5

Sports Update...Alstott Football

September 7, 2019

Western Michigan football: 5 takeaways... blowout win over Bowling Green...49-10!



Griffin Alstott #10 of the Western Michigan Broncos warms up before the game against the Syracuse Orange at the Carrier Dome on September 21, 2019 in Syracuse, New York. (Photo by Brett Carlsen/Getty Images)

overall and 3-2 in Mid-American Conference play. Bowling Green fell to 2-6 overall, 1-3 in conference.

Quarterback Jon Wassink was an efficient 15 of 23 for 175 yards and a touchdown before sitting out the final quarter of play in favor of redshirt freshman **Griffin Alstott**. By that time, the Broncos had built a comfortable lead behind a potent rushing attack. Bellamy finished with 17 carries for 178 yards.

Another win would make them bowl-eligible for the third time in head coach Tim Lester's three-year tenure. With three and possibly four games left on the schedule, the Broncos can also think about planning for the future by allowing true freshman to play without burning a redshirt under. That permits players to appear in up to four games without spending a year of eligibility.

KALAMAZOO - Western Michigan's LeVante Bellamy ran for four touchdowns against Bowling Green on Saturday. They all came between the second and third quarters. It was that kind of day for the Broncos, who rolled to a 49-10 victory over the Falcons in front of 16,778 fans who braved rain and temperatures in the 40s at Waldo Stadium. With the win, Western Michigan improved to 5-4

Spartans clinch NACC title in 62-7 win at Wisconsin Lutheran

The Aurora University Spartan football team clinched the Northern Athletic Collegiate Conference Championship with a 62-7 victory at Wisconsin Lutheran College. The game was played at Raabe Stadium in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Aurora University holds a 8-1 overall record and 6-0 in the NACC Conference. With the win, the Spartans clinched at least a share of the 2019 Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference

The Spartans opened the scoring with a two-yard touchdown catch by Jacolby Maxwell from Gavin Zumbelman. The offense orchestrated a 79 yard drive that ended with a Tyran Bailey touchdown run to put the Spartans ahead 14-0 in the first quarter. Spartan junior Casey Dycus forced a fumble which resulted in a turnover on the last play of the first quarter. On the first play of the second quarter, Gavin Zumbelman connected with Jacolby Maxwell for a 36-yard touchdown pass. A 32-yard Matthew Evert reception set-up a Brock Harner seven-yard

touchdown catch with 3:36 left in the second quarter. Frankie Gordey recovered a Warrior fumble and scampered 18 yards for touchdown. Sean Kerr made the PAT to extend the Spartan lead to 35-0. Keion Adams intercepted a pass on the first play of the third quarter, which helped set up a Zumbelman touchdown pass to Evert to open the second-half scoring for the Spartans.



Maxwell scored on a 16-yard touchdown pass to extend the Spartan lead to 49-0.

The score would remain 49-0 at the end of the third quarter. **Jonathan Alstott** scored on a one-yard touchdown run to put the Spartans up 55-0. Jhequay Chretien capped off the Spartan scoring with a 2-yard touchdown run.

SPARTAN STAT LEADERS Rushing: Tyran Bailey and **Jonathan Alstott** (8) Touchdowns: Tyran Bailey, Jhequay Chretien, and **Jonathan Alstott** (1).



Jonathan Alstott wears #40



Jonathan Alstott
High School: Attended Kaneland High School where he played football and baseball

Family: Parents **Becky** and **Jim Alstott**, Marisue and John Nagy, brothers **Nick** and **Brady Alstott**

Hobbies: Coaching football with his father and playing ping pong with his brothers
Honors/Awards: 2019 Daily Chronicles Offensive Player of the Year

GOOD DECISION



Allstott happy with choice to play basketball

By **NATHAN WRIGHT**
Lake Jackson, TX

When Brazosport Christian barely had enough players to put a team on the court for the 2017-18 season then-junior **Ben Allstott** answered the call.

And when his senior year came to an end last week as the Eagles played their final regular-season game and missed the playoffs, he is glad he made the decision to spend the time on the court.

"Last year, we didn't have many people there so I said, 'well, I can join and help out a little bit,'" Allstott said. "I had a lot of fun last year. I enjoyed it, so I just wanted to play again this year. I am going to miss it a lot, but I am glad I got to play for at least a couple of years."

Allstott said the camaraderie with friends outside of school was one of the things he loved so much about basketball, as well as practicing, going to games, and staying healthy and getting strong.

A baseball player as well, basketball was a good way for him to stay in shape once that time of year rolled around.

"I am a lot faster than I was before and not as tired when I am running," Allstott said. "And I have gotten a lot stronger so I can throw the ball and hit a lot farther."

On the court, Allstott preferred defense over offense play, but his presence was felt on both ends of the gym. "I like to block people and just keep them from being able to score."

As a senior, Allstott also provided some leadership on the court. "I helped the younger kids on the team that didn't get as much playing time. I said, 'Hey, you have a lot more years to play.' I just helped them with anything they needed help with—like shooting."

Once baseball season and high school are over, he plans on getting his basics done at Brazosport College.

This year marks the 24th printing of the Alstott/Altstadt/Altstatt family newsletter...thanks to all my cuzzins for their input to make this yearly newsletter possible!

Cuzzin Contact...

Hi Jerry,
Since My line of the Altstatt family is closed (*Morris Edward Altstatt, my brother*) never had a son. I guess **Edward Houston Altstatt's** line dies out. I have a copy of the first AAA History of the Clans book and have made notations on the pages for my daughter. She is an only child and carries her father's last name which is Degenkolb... Another long and wonderful German surname. I am very proud of my family and my husband's family. He is the Genealogist for his family. Its on a disk, and a book his father wrote. Keep up the work.
Your cousin Mary Denise Degenkolb, pg. 269

Hi Jerry,
My son loves this cheesy dessert...
Velveeta Fudge 1/2 pound
Velveeta cheese
2 sticks butter
1 teaspoon vanilla
3/4 cup cocoa
2 pounds powdered sugar
Melt Velveeta cheese and 2 stick butter in saucepan. Add vanilla, cocoa and powdered sugar. Mix all ingredients. Add chopped pecans, if desired. Pour into buttered jelly roll style pan. Makes a lot!
J Kathleen Alstott, pg. 204

Howdy Brother Jerry and Sister Phyllis,
Winter time is hunting time!!! Jerry I know, you remember the guy we met in Schlitz a few years ago!! Artur Fehr, a historian who is still working on the Schlitz Altstadt family book - translating the old church books in a readable version.

During the holidays I talked to **Manfred Altstadt** from Burghaun ...he has still teeth problems!! He told me that Frank Bolz now has an official appointment as pastor in a district in Kassel. And he moved to another rectory.

I talked to **Hans and Alex Altstadt** from Fraurombach. I congratulated Alex as the future Bürgermeister of Schlitz. He told me that the ceremony will be on April 28th and will take place in the Schlitzer town hall. I'll keep an eye on that date and maybe can find some pics from the ceremonial in the local Schlitzer newspaper. That's it for today!
Brother Hermann and Sister Gundi

NEW YEAR'S SMOKER

Burgoyne's Store, Lexington
Saturday, Jan. 1, 1927

7:30 sharp

Main Event, Boxing

6 2-Minute Rounds

Harold Ahalt, 145 lbs., Ione

versus

'Unc' McMillan, 165 lbs., Lexington

Semi-Final--4 2-Min. Rds.
Billy Logan, 137 lbs., Ione

vs. **SPECIAL--4 2-Min. Rds.**
Charley Marshall, 142, Heppner

Rh Moore, 137, Heppner

Top Preliminary, 4 2-Minute Rounds
rigg, 140, Hermiston vs. "Hap" Hayes, 140, Heppner

WRESTLING, 10 Minutes

Ottis Allstott, 140, Eight Mile vs. John Haddox, 145, Hermiston

Several other preliminaries will be staged

Admission: Ringside \$1.25; General 35c and 65c

Dance Right After the Smoker

We will surely miss...

Ruth Ellen Altstatt, pg. 262



Ruth Altstatt

Ruth Ellen (Brown) Altstatt, 84, of Heavener, OK, was born Jan. 12, 1934 in Heavener to Lewie R. and Dessie (Williams) Brown and went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 31, 2018 in Heavener.

Ruth married **George Altstatt** on March 22, 1952. She grew up in the Heavener area and was a resident of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, from 1959 to 1998 before moving back to this area. She was a housewife and later on worked in fabric stores. Ruth loved spending time with her family and crocheting. She made hats for other cancer patients and lap quilts for the nursing home. Ruth was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She will be missed by all who loved and knew her.

She is survived by her husband of 66 years, **George Altstatt**, three daughters Georgia (Doddie) Dean and husband Mike of Heavener, Carrie (Candy) Irvin and husband Terry of White Hall, Arkansas, and Nancy McClain and husband David of Heavener; one son **Jeffrey (Jeff) Altstatt** and wife Shelley (Wiles) of Heavener; one brother Lewie R. Brown II and wife Donna of Pine Bluff, Arkansas; 13 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of friends whom loved her very much.

Pallbearers will be: Chris Dean, Patrick Dean, Scott Irvin, **Bryan Altstatt, Andy Altstatt** and Greg McClain. Honorary pallbearers are her great grandsons and great-great-grandsons.

Ruth Fraser, pg. 201

BRUNSWICK, MAINE: On Tuesday, June 18, 2019, Ruth Fraser, devoted wife and mother of two children, passed away at the age of 87.



Ruth Fraser

Ruth was born on August 18, 1931 in Bloomington, IN to CC Engleman and Dessie (Alstott) Englman. She graduated Bloomington High School and married Gordon Fraser of Brunswick April 15, 1949. They raised two children, Debra and Scott.

Ruth was a devoted wife and mother, had a passion for excellent food, and was known to be a great hostess. She was a savvy farm business partner. Ruth loved to plan memorable trips or spontaneous local adventures. She loved Bible study and music. Ruth worked at L.L. Bean and was a Town Councilwoman.

Ruth was predeceased by her husband, Gordon, one brother and two sisters. She is survived by her two children, Debra and Scott along with their spouses, her brother, Paul and his wife, 4 grandchildren, Megan, Ethan, Heather and Cody, 4 great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

James C. Alstott, pg. 440



James C. Alstott, age 78, a life-long resident of Plainfield, IL, peacefully passed away on Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at Season's Hospice Home in Naperville, IL. He was born February 18, 1941, in Joliet to his loving parents, the late **Archie and Ada Alstott**.

Cherished husband of the late **Sharon Alstott**, nee Rinehart, wedded on November 30, 1963. Beloved dad of **Jim (Becky) Alstott** of Aurora, IL. Adored grandpa of **Jonathan, Nicholas, and Brady Alstott**. Dearest brother of **William (Shirley) Alstott**, Mary Jane (Warren) Rolando, Betty (Rick) Rechter, Ada (Randy) Kujawski, and the late **David (Jean) Alstott**. Dear uncle of Mary Kay (Dolph) Young.

Jim graduated from Plainfield High School, and spent his career working for NICOR Gas Company. Jim was a member of Plainfield Order of the Eastern Star (Pansy Chapter) and Masonic Lodge. He was an avid bowler and golfer, enjoyed watching sports, loved John Deere Tractors and most of all bragging about his grandsons!

K. Elene Raak Alstott, pg. 391



Elene Alstott

Elene Alstott was born June 29, 1919, died Jan 6, 2019, in Orange City, Iowa. She was the daughter of Gerrit and Katie (Wassenaar) Raak. Elene was the older sister to two brothers, Kenneth and Glenn.

She graduated from high school at Orange City and held degrees from the University of South Dakota (Brookings) and Iowa State (Ames). Elene was an educator, who taught at three Iowa schools: Ware, Swaledale and Laurens-Marathon.

On 25 November 1942, Elene married **Francis Alstott** at Ft. Dodge, Iowa. They were the parents of three daughters: Judy, Mary, and Gail; and a son, David. Francis and Elene farmed on the Alstott home place near Ware and the Maple Grove Farm west of Laurens.

Elene was active as a 4-H leader and served on the Pocahontas County Council. She and Francis were members of the neighborhood clubs called the Farmers Excelsior near Ware, and Elene belonged to the Stitch-and-Chat Club of Laurens. She was a 50-year member of the Order of Eastern Star and a long-time member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for key women educators.

Activities and hobbies that Elene enjoyed included reading, traveling, knitting, gardening, collecting antiques, working puzzles and word puzzles. She especially loved the time she spent with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Francis and Elene were faithful members of the Eastside Church of Christ. Elene was a Sunday school and Bible school teacher; played the organ and piano; and wrote and supervised many special church programs.

Elene was preceded in death by her husband Francis, her daughter Mary, her parents, and brothers. She is survived by Judy and Craig Brent of St. Francis, KS; Mary's husband John Carlson of Lake Mills, IA; Gail and Allen Hartman of Sioux Falls, SD; **David and Carolyn Alstott** of

Laurens; 11 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great granddaughter. Elene will also be remembered by nieces and nephews,

Betty Lou Alstott, pg. 432



Betty Lou Alstott

She was born on October 21, 1930 to Kelly and Daisy Beldon in Indianapolis, Indiana. She passed away on March 29, 2019 in Indianapolis.

When she was three, her family moved back to Bucks Branch, Casey County, Kentucky where she lived until she married **Wilford Alstott** on June 29, 1948. She worked in various positions until leaving the workforce to be a full time mother.

She is survived by her daughter Betty (Bill) Harrington; granddaughters Alicia (Andrew) Hettlinger, Laura Kirkham (Brad Riley), and Katie Kirkham; and, great grandson Carson Hettlinger. She was preceded in death by her husband and her infant son **Wilford Stanley Alstott Jr.**

Maryanne Jessica Holiday, pg. 345

November 16, 1987 ~ September 27, 2019
Maryanne Jessica Holiday, age 31, of French Lick, Indiana, entered into eternal rest on Friday, September 27th, 2019 at IU Health Paoli Hospital in Paoli, Indiana. She was born in Paoli, Indiana on November 16th, 1987 to Tom Holiday and **Rita Allstott**.

Maryanne was preceded in death by her baby girl Isabella Rose Horath. She was a graduate of Paoli High School class of 2006.

Maryanne was a great cook who loved reading, shopping, and going hiking. She loved kids and treated her nieces and nephews like they were her own.

Barbara June Alstot, pg. 369



Barbara Alstot

Ventura...**Barbara June Alstot** was born in Santa Paula, California on October 14, 1928 to Lloyd and Olive Young. She passed on to heaven at home in her own bed attended by family at 90 years of age on April 15, 2019. After graduating from Santa Paula H.S. Barbara was introduced on a blind date to **Marvin Alstot**. She married

"Marv", the love her life, in 1949. After moving back to the Ventura area in 1968, Barbara became an active member of the Ventura Church of Christ. A woman of God her door was always open to those in need. She loved traveling with Marv in their motorhome, water skiing trips to the Colorado River and Bass Lake, cooking and most of all, family. She loved nothing more than getting together with her sisters, nieces and nephews, where talk and laughter carried on for hours.

An avid reader and enthusiastic fan of the Lakers, her roots in California were deep as she relocated several times throughout the state while raising her family and being a supportive spouse to Marv as he moved up in the Edison Company world. Barbara was preceded in death by Marv in 2008, as well as her sisters, Thelma, Virginia, Helen and her brother John Lloyd.

Barbara is survived by her sister Margaret Larrabee, her children; **Joan Alstot**, **Jeff** and his

wife **Suzanne Alstot**, **Paul** and wife **Julie Alstot**, and her nephew **Vernon Alstot** and wife **Denette**. Her grandchildren; Laurel, Ben, Danielle, Parker, Thomas and Kelly, along with three great grandchildren will miss their beloved grandma.

Charles R. Alstatt, pg. 566



Charlie Alstatt

Charles Ray Alstatt, 77, of Siren, WI, passed away on July 16, 2019 in St. Paul, MN.

Charlie was born in St. Paul, MN to Frances (Sho) and **Raymond Alstatt** on November 12, 1941. He attended St. Jude of the Lake in Mahtomedi and St. Thomas Academy in St.

Paul, as well as St. John's University, graduating from the University of Minnesota with a baccalaureate in mechanical engineering. He then worked for Boeing in Seattle where he met Margaret Hurley, the love of his life and wife of 50 years. They soon returned to family in St. Paul where he worked for Torit Donaldson Company.

Charlie's entrepreneurial spirit led him to cofound and lead the manufacturing company CK Engineering for 15 years where he made machine parts, tanning beds, and dreamed up new products such as board game pieces. He later let his creativity flow into a retirement business, where he enjoyed designing and selling outdoor furniture.

Moving to the small Wisconsin community spurred his sense of civic engagement and he became known as an "ideas man." He cofounded the Lake Country Pedalers bicycle club to get locals and tourists outside biking the trails and he actively engaged in improving the trail system for cyclists. Not every idea could be put into action...most regrettably live turtle races...but his enthusiasm and good nature encouraged all to think of fun possibilities and join in every endeavor.

Charlie was heavily involved with the charitable efforts of the Knights of Columbus, serving for a time as Grand Knight for the local chapter.

Charlie is preceded in death by his father and mother. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, his five loving children, **Rosanne** (Burkhard) **Alstatt**, **Aimee** (Paul) **Maravigli**, **Jim** (Lily) **Alstatt**, **Dan** (Dawn) **Alstatt**, and **Anne** (Nick) **Alstatt**. Beloved brother of Mary Alstatt Abraham, **Arthur Alstatt**, **Joe Alstatt**, **Gene Alstatt**, **Jan Alstatt** Gregg, and **Elizabeth Alstatt**. Proud grandfather of Madeleine, Luke, Lieselotte, Patrick, Alexander, Nicholas, Charlie, Claire, and Celia.

Danny Alstatt, pg. 285

March 17, 1952 – August 21, 2019

Danny Alstatt, 67, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019. He was born March 17, 1952, in Fort Smith to the late **Billie Don** and **Lawrence Alstatt**. He was a retired heavy equipment operator for Brown & Root Engineering. He is survived by two brothers, **Jessie Alstatt** of Van Buren, AR, and **Bill Alstatt** of Cedarville, AR.

Nathan P. Allstott

June 20, 1983 - Nov. 12, 2018

Thomas Alstatt, pg. 240



Thomas Alstatt

Thomas Alstatt, 72, died March 22, 2019 of heart failure in his home. He was born June 22, 1946 in Phoenix, AZ, the son of **Harold** and **Kathlene Alstatt**.

Thomas graduated from North High in Phoenix, the class of 1964. Following graduation Thomas joined the Air Force and served from 1965-1967 in the Vietnam war. After serving in the Air Force, in October of 1967, Thomas wed his sweetheart Judy Smalley, in Yuma. They celebrated over 50 years of wedded bliss. Thomas was a loyal member of the American Legion Post 86. He was promoted to Post Commander in 2008 and served as such for all of 2008 and 2009.

Thomas is survived by his loving wife Judy; three daughters: Brenda Clayton, Donna Colley and Sabrina Baldwin and son **Jared Alstatt**. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Phyllis Lorena Alstatt, pg. 87



Phyllis Alstatt

Phyllis Alstatt was born on April 14, 1930, in Topeka, KS. William and Lena (Pedersen) Gray later adopted and raised Phyllis with much love.

Phyllis and Kenneth Alstatt were married on July 28, 1951, in Fort Worth, Texas. Phyllis was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Norfolk. She enjoyed taking care of her friends and family and they were very important to her.

Survivors include husband **Kenneth Alstatt** of Norfolk; sons **Gary Alstatt** (Denise Reikofski) of Norfolk, **Allen** (Bonnie) **Alstatt** of Norfolk, **Darold Alstatt** of Yankton; grandson **Dustin Alstatt** of Yankton; granddaughter **Gina Alstatt** of Sioux Falls, S.D.; great-granddaughter Arianna; four stepgrandchildren, Sheila (Jeff) Craven of Norfolk, Renee (Brandon) Klug of Norfolk, Shawn Barrett of Norfolk, Kathie (Josh) Downie of Valley Mills, Texas; seven great-step-grandchildren; brothers Fred (Joyce) Gray of Norfolk and Raymond (Ruth) Gray of Tilden.

Robert Despain, pg. 293



Bob Despain

Robert Despain was a sixth generation Oregonian, born in Pendleton, OR in 1947 and died in 2018.

In 1965 he began at O.S.U. with dreams of becoming an electrical engineer, before embracing a love of music. He became Marching Band Assistant Director, Student Union Activities Coordinator, and Composer with a B.S. in Music Composition and Theory. He received a Master's in electronic music composition and held a teaching position.

He also worked for Worker's Trust and Organically Grown Co-op. Much of Robert's life

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Sunday Potluck a huge success!



and hosts Jeff and Julia Williams to the festivities. Through the day we enjoyed a lot of good family "gabbing," checking out the Altstätt lineages in America, a good hotdog lunch and pizza dinner.

Hosts Jeff and Julia Williams had done a great job of securing Martha's Park dining facilities, arranging for the Saturday continental breakfast, hot dog (with all the fixings) lunch and pizza dinner as well as refreshments for the day. "We didn't know who would turn out as not too many folks responded to the registration flyer in the 2018 newsletter, but we thought it would be a lot more than the handful of folks who came." Jeff responded. "Julia and I wanted to continue the reunions after Jerry passed the baton to me at the 2014 meet in Clearfield, PA, but the older generations just can't travel anymore and the younguns don't have a good feel for getting together like our families used to."

This Altstätt/Altstott reunion had its serendipity also in comparison with the first AAA reunion. At the first reunion in Harper's Ferry, WVA, John Altstätt, of the line of Valentine Altstätt (1795), along with his wife, Susan, and their two daughters were in attendance along with descendants of Martin Altstätt (1699). At this last reunion, Art Altstätt, of the line of Valentine Altstätt, and his wife, Mimi were in attendance, with descendants of Martin Altstätt. Descendants of other Altstätt/Alstott lines were not in attendance at this reunion as in the past.

Sunday's potluck lunch was another story,

Below: Aldstadt Sunday potluck group, Right: Harry & Sue Aldstadt with Jean Williams and the model of Dreieichenhein, Germany, Martin Alstätt's birthplace



Sue & Harry Aldstadt with Art & Mimi Altstätt

for at that lunch we had a big turnout of the Aldstadt descendant families. Over 60 folks converged on Martha's Park and the sound of folks gabbing was almost deafening. Most of the group hadn't seen each other since the annual

Aldstadt reunion on Labor Day weekend 2018.

And...talk about food...the serving tables were loaded with everything from eight different types of salads - to all kinds of roasted/fried chicken servings...to pulled pork and buns.

Watermelon, fruit plates, and then there were dessert...wow... something for everyone's tastebuds plus!

Art Altstätt was wowed by the turnout on Sunday - "Where were all these folks on Saturday?" Art and Mimi had a grand time on Sunday visiting with new friends and that made up for the small group on Saturday.

Putting the two days together, the reunion was a great time of food and fellowship...and that's what reunions are all about.

Maybe at a future date, the younger generations will say, "Wouldn't it be great to all get together and share memories?"

Julia Williams and Art Altstätt enjoyed gabbing in front of the warm fireplace



Far left above: Front porch gathering, Aldstadt cousins, Harry and Steve Aldstadt with Jerry Allstott, above: bringing in the victuals, left: below: the tables were packed with goodies!, below: Firsts were good, anyone for seconds?



All the AAA REUNIONS Revisited...



1989...Harper's Ferry WVA and Reading, PA, Hosts: Florence Moore, Forrest Hoffmaster & Natilie Hill



1994...Corydon, IN, Host: Marvin Alstott



1999...Pendleton, OR, Host: Archie Padberg



2004...DuQuoin, IL, Host: Wayne Alstätt



2009...Evansville, IN, Hosts: Jim, Katie, Wayne & Diane Altstätt



2014...Clearfield, PA, Hosts: Jean Williams, Mary Homman, Jeff & Julia Williams



2019...Lanse, PA, Hosts: Jeff & Julia Williams
Each reunion was unique and special!

Alexander Altstadt, continued from page 1

Altstadt löst Hans-Jürgen Schäfer ab, der nach 24 Jahren Ende April in den Ruhestand geht. Tatsächlich sprachen alle Redner bei der Amtseinführung von Alexander Altstadt mit Wohlwollen von dem neuen Amtsinhaber, auch wenn der eine oder andere Unterschied doch noch betont wurde.

Stadtverordnetenvorsteher Walter Ritz (CDU) bekräftigte das Vertrauen, dass viele in den neuen Amtsinhaber Altstadt haben: „Die Meisten von uns wissen, wie Sie ticken, und hoffen, dass sich dies auch in Ihrem neuen Amt fortsetzt“. Die Herausforderung an einen Bürgermeister machte

We will miss...continued from page 4

was devoted to the Oregon Country Fair. At the Fair he met his best friend and future wife, Laura, and for 18 years enjoyed their fun-loving adventurous partnership.

Authentic, kind, loving, present, available, real, safe, a great listener, giver of the best hugs, preparer of the finest steak and garlic mashed potatoes known throughout the galaxy, an unhesitating helper of those in need. He was all of these things. He was a Buddhist, his religion was kindness tempered with a repertoire of cheesy one-liners. He loved experiencing the awe and wonders of nature. He will be fondly remembered and deeply missed.

Robert is survived by his wife, Laura Stuart, brother, Chris DeSpain, sister, Merry Chandler, children: Arwen Maas-DeSpain, Luke Warden, April Warden, Kenin Warden and thousands of others who considered him family.

Wayne Gene Alstat, pg. 49



Wayne Alstat

VERGENNES – **Wayne Gene Alstat**, 85, of Vergennes, IL, passed away on Saturday, November 16, 2019.

Wayne was born on February 22, 1934, in Ora Township, Jackson County to **William and Verena (Shermann) Alstat**. Wayne attended Vergennes Community High School. Wayne was a U.S. Army Veteran from the Korean Conflict. Wayne married Barbara H. Shields, on July 22, 1960 in Belleville, IL, and they shared 59 years of marriage.

Wayne was Township Highway Commissioner of Ora Township from 1959 to 1981.

In 1980 Wayne was elected to the 82nd session of the House of Representatives. Wayne was a write-in candidate, and the second write-in in this position in the history of Illinois to win this office. Wayne worked for the Illinois Department of Agriculture after his time in the General Assembly, and as Agricultural manager for Illinois Department of Corrections until his retirement at the end of 1996. Wayne then returned to the family farm where he worked with his sons Bill and Alan.

Wayne was a member of the Jackson County Farm Bureau since 1952, American Legion, Eagles, and the Elks, and he was of the Lutheran Faith.

Wayne is survived by his wife; **Barbara H. Alstat**, of Vergennes, children; Yvonne Murray of Ava, **Alan Alstat**, of Vergennes, Laurie Rendleman of Vergennes, 7 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, and 1 sister; Carolyn Liss, of Vernon, New Jersey. Mr. Alstat was preceded in death by his parents, 1 son; William, 2 brothers and 1 sister.

6

New Pendleton Round-Up board hits milestones

Allstott cousin Rob Bournside shows how to cowboy!



Bill Levy, Rob Bournside, Tiah DeGrofft, and Tim Bennett were named to the Pendleton Round-up board

Slowly but surely, the Pendleton Round-Up Board of Directors is starting to diversify. The Round-Up announced the addition of four new board members Friday. And for the first time in Round-Up history, two women will serve on the board simultaneously. Additionally, the board will welcome its only American Indian member, Rob Bournside.

Tiah DeGrofft was named the sponsors director, utilizing her experience with both the Round-Up and marketing. In her youth, DeGrofft volunteered to paint, clean stock pens, saddle horses and drive a shuttle at the Round-Up. She was also a Round-Up princess in 1999 and the Round-Up queen in 2001. DeGrofft is only the third female board member in the rodeo's 105-year history.

Bill Levy was voted the Round-Up president. Incoming Ushers and Programs



Director Rob Bournside, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation fire chief and former Board of Trustees vice chairman, is also a new face to the board. Bournside has been enmeshed in the Round-Up for practically his whole life, his first exposure to the event having come as a five-month old in full regalia for the tribal dance. He continued to stay involved in the event by moving cattle, feeding livestock, untying steers for slack, leading tours and installing signs around the arena. Bournside also served eight years on the Happy Canyon Board of Directors and is currently the vice president of the Happy Canyon Foundation. "I believe in honoring the history and culture of the old west," he said. "Round-Up honors both the Indian and cowboy way of life. It brings thousands of people to our town and is both a portrayal of our regional history and source of revenue for our community."

Tim Bennett is new to the board but is no stranger to Round-Up security. His Round-Up jobs include 35 years on the arena fence crew.

Continued from page 1

flew up to Charlottesville, VA, for the 56th Annual Chrysler/ DeSoto Airflow Club of America Meet. Our old '37 Airflow (Betsy) stayed in the garage back in California, but we did take our Airflow toys along and won first place in toys...and memorabilia! Around 20 of the old Airflows were either driven or trailered to the meet. It was good seeing Airflow friends...and start to finish up our presidential "bucket list" (see below). We have made most of the ACA Meets since retiring in 1998.

Then...it was back home to prepare for our long distance car trip which started in late July.

On July 24th, we started eastward staying with friends in Phoenix, AZ, then eastward toward the Dallas, TX area. Our first big stop on this trek was to see "junior" Bush's Presidential Library on the SMU campus. That brings me to one of the reasons for this (possibly last) car touring trip.

Years ago, Phyllis and I made up a "bucket list" of things to see before we croak. One of them was to visit ALL of the US president birth places, homes or libraries. Up to 2019, we had visited all but 13. It was our goal in 2019 to finish up that "bucket list"...and that we did. We started out on this while at the Airflow meet in Virginia with a stop at the #10 John Tyler home in Charles City, VA, then the #12 Zachary



I assumed chief photographer duties at the Airflow Meet, what a great time with these old classics.

Taylor home in Barboursville, VA. From the #43: Bush Library... we drove to Phyllis' sister's home in Florida and joined a cruise coordinated by Phyllis' niece to the Caribbean (more on that later, but now...back to the "bucket list") then we drove onto the #11: James Polk birthplace in Pineville, NC, #22: & #24: Grover Cleveland's birthplace in Caldwell, NJ, #8: Martin Van Buren's home in Kinderhook, NY, #30: Calvin Coolidge's home in Plymouth, VT, #24: Franklin Pierce's home in Hillsborough, NH, #21: Chester A. Arthur's

home in Fairfield, VT, #13: Millard Fillmore's home in Aurora, NY, #23: Benjamin Harrison's home in Indianapolis, IN and his grandfather's, #9: William Henry Harrison's, home in Vincennes, IN before finishing up the list with #18: U.S. Grant's

plantation/farm in St. Louis, MO, which is next to where Budweiser Brewing stables their famous Clydesdale horses.

Back to the Caribbean Cruise...Phyllis' niece, Karlene Kiminyo, coordinated a celebration of family milestones...births, anniversaries, and graduations. "Dutch treat" invitations were sent to her USA, Canadian and UK relatives and over 60 folks joined in on a 7-day experience to Ochos

Continued on page 7

If you missed out on purchasing the Allstadt/Altstadt/Altstatt History Book...I now have 8 reprints available for sale...see article!

Thanks to the many of you who helped defer costs on this years "snail-mail" newsletter... Your response has been so GREAT over the last few years that we are NOT having to ask for contributions again this year for either printing or postage! Hurrah and Season's Cheer!

Continued from page 6

Rios, Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, Cozumel, Mexico...and view a lot of water. We really enjoyed Ochos Rios and the Jamaican bobsled ride...wow! Such fun! In Grand Cayman, we got to hold a 16" long tarpin at the Turtle Farm and were driven to Hell. Yes, there is such a place as Hell. They even have a post office, and really neat natural rugged volcanic formations...behind the Hell gift shop.

At Cozumel, we enjoyed seeing a Mayan ball game, in which they copied the ancient ball court playing field with players performing lots of quick action...and although one of the teams put the ball through the hoop...the winners were not sacrificed to the gods...oh darn...but Phyllis was relieved!

As usual the Carnival cruise food was great and the ice cream/yogurt machines worked non stop 24-7. Anyone need the extra 10 lbs. that I picked up?

After the cruise we visited our daughter's family...Cherilyn, Tim and Emma Vaughan in Georgia. We found that our grandson, Nicholas Vaughan, and his girlfriend, Kodi Hendley, were going to wed on December 12th (and yes...we're flying back to Georgia for this wedding too). Lastly, we visited our niece's (Alice and Charles Janz) family in Pittsburgh before traveling to Lanse, PA, on Labor Day Weekend, to attend the the AAA Family Reunion. Jeff and Julia Williams along with Phyllis and I put quite a lot of time in getting ready for this reunion...and I really THANK Jeff and Julia for all the calls they made...getting food items and facilities booked for this event. **Art and Mimi Altstatt** had been looking forward to their first reunion and **Harry and Susan Aldstadt** had made it to the first reunion in Harper's Ferry, WVA. There was a small turnout on Saturday but Sunday's Aldstadt potluck was a high point, with more than 60 folks in attendance and...plenty of great tasting food.

Lastly, this year saw the home going of quite a few of our close cuzzins, such as **Ruth Altstatt**, **Ruth Fraser**, **Jim Altstatt** and **Wayne Alstat**...Phyllis and I knew these folks well and had visited their families on our travels around this great nation.

That's it for another year. Whew!!!

Cuzzin Jerry

YES! It is Important!!

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

Each year around 5 cuzzins forget to inform me of a change and are taken off the mailing rolls. So...*please don't let that happen to YOU!*

Interest in the 1994 Altstatt/Altstadt Book Revived in 2018-19!

In 2018, I received e-mails from three of our AAA cuzzins wishing to have a "hardcover" copy of the 1994 Family History Book. Because of that, I sent a letter to Erik Anundsen of Anundsen Publishing seeking pricing for reprinting the original AAA history book.

To my amazement...AAA cuzzins who I have been sending e-mail newsletters to over the years **ordered 77 books!!** Because of this, I ordered 85 reprinted books from Anundsen Publishing. I now want to see if any of my "snail-mail" newsletter receiving cuzzins are interested in the 8 remaining books...or for that matter if any e-mail cuzzins may be interested purchasing any extra books. These books are priced at \$76.00 each, which includes the printed book, book box, handling and postage.

Something about the book...it has 598 pages filled with the lives of American and Canadian Altstatt/Altstadt associated families, over 800 family photos originally submitted by most of the immigrants and/or their descendants, maps, photos of area settlements in the USA and Europe and many personal family stories from the 19th and 20th centuries.

View the 1763 legal document on file in Berks County, PA, when **Martin Altstatt** became a British citizen and had his surname changed to Altstott. See the acreage

documents of the land he bought in 1734 in Berks County. See the trial documents showing the testimony of **John Hall Allstadt** at John Brown's trial in Harper's Ferry, WVA in 1859.

Read letters that **George Alstadt** wrote home from the front lines of Petersburg, VA during the American Civil War -- and more...



The books arrived and 77 books were shipped in October 2019.

If you are interested in your own copy of the AAA Family History Book reprint, just write to me at: **Jerry Allstott**, 6537 Hummingbird St. Ventura, CA 93003, or return this e-mail...and I'll get back with you.



Our Nation's Desegregated History First Clashed on Allstadt Hill!

The Shenandoah Valley was notably lacking in permanent aboriginal villages at the time of contact with European settlers. Algonquian linguistic stock lived in and adjacent to this region in the Late Woodland Period in the Susquehanna Valley between 1550 and 1575.

Settlement of the Shenandoah Valley by people of European ancestry began in earnest in the 1730s. Virginia's Lieutenant Governor, Sir William Gooch, offered his own incentives to these land hungry settlers, with the intent that they would act as a buffer between the French and Indians to the west and the Virginia settlements east of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The Pennsylvanians arrived in the Shenandoah Valley mainly by way of the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road, which began in Philadelphia and ran southwestward through Maryland, Virginia, and into the Carolinas. The majority of the settlers in the Valley were German-speaking people and people of Scotch-Irish descent.

The property on which the Allstadt Farm was established was part of at least five, possibly six, separate land grants awarded by Lord Fairfax's Land Office, the earliest of which dates from 1751. Of this acreage, the property that would later become the Allstadt Farm originated from the 1,675 acres John Semple had acquired from Gersham Keyes in 1763. Philip Ludwell Lee had purchased lands from Semple. In 1788, these lands were purchased by the elder Philip Ludwell Lee's daughters and their husbands, Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee and Ludwell Lee.

Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee was a noteworthy commander of a partisan unit during the Revolutionary War, and father of the even more famous Confederate General Robert E.



The Jacob Allstadt farm/plantation was bought in 1811 and was site of the John Brown raid in 1859 that historians say initiated the American Civil War

Lee. Henry Lee leased 201 acres to Robert Boggess, who in turn subleased it to William Blue in 1793. Blue probably constructed the first dwelling on the property that would later become the Allstadt Farm. In 1804, Ludwell and Elizabeth Lee and Richard Bland conveyed 371 3/4 acres of the property to Jesse Moore. Moore sold 114 acres to **Jacob Allstadt** in 1811, and Allstadt appears to be the first documented owner/occupant of the property.

Jacob Allstadt was one of three brothers who migrated to Jefferson County from Berks County, Pennsylvania by the early nineteenth century. Jacob's grandfather, **Johann Martin Altstatt**, had emigrated from Dreieichenhain, Hessen, in what is now Germany, arriving in the Port of Philadelphia in 1729 aboard the ship Mortonhouse, and settled Berks County. Jacob and his brothers John and Daniel purchased 296 acres in Jefferson County in 1805. The property that the Allstadt brothers purchased was located just west of the Allstadt Farm. **Daniel Allstadt** apparently purchased his brother John's shares in the property, since it passed down to his children at the time of his death.

Jacob Allstadt operated a successful agricultural operation and in fact owned a considerable number of slaves--14--at the time of

his death. In addition to his agricultural operation, Allstadt operated a tavern in his dwelling located at the crossroads of the Harpers Ferry and Keyes Ferry roads, a prime location at the intersection of two well-traveled thoroughfares. His farming operation consisted of small grains, but his focus seemed to be on livestock; he owned 26 sheep, 55 hogs, 22 cattle, and 15 horses.

Jacob Allstadt's property passed to his wife and surviving children after his death in 1821. Likewise, upon **Elizabeth Allstadt's** death in 1851, her holdings passed to her surviving children and grandson, **John H. Allstadt**. **John Hall Allstadt** was proprietor of a successful agricultural operation. The agricultural censuses of 1850 and 1860 show that the Allstadts had a diversified agricultural operation that continued to specialize in livestock production as well as produce small grains such as wheat and corn. In addition to a large number of horses, probably kept for breeding and racing purposes as well as for working, Allstadt had substantial numbers of milk cows, beef cattle, sheep, and swine. The proximity of the adjacent Winchester & Potomac Railroad helped bolster agricultural production because of its connections to urban markets. **John H. Allstadt** owned quite a few slaves. His mother owned a substantial number of slaves, several of which John inherited after his mother's passing. A number of slaves in Jefferson County would find themselves involved in a momentous event in American history when John Brown and his raiders launched their attack on Harpers Ferry on October 16, 1859.

Logistically, the presence of slaves in the area and the federal arsenal—figured prominently in Brown's plan to carry out the raid. Although the raid took place primarily in Harpers Ferry, the raiding party struck out on the evening of October 16, 1859, with the intent of taking some prominent local citizens prisoner and enlisting their slaves to join the uprising. Among the prisoners was Colonel Lewis Washington, great-grandnephew of George Washington. After stopping at Washington's house, the raiders made their way to the Allstadt Farm, conveniently located along the Harpers Ferry Turnpike. A newspaper account referred to **John H. Allstadt** as "another large farmer" taken prisoner during the raid. This description of Allstadt implies a social status equivalent to that of Washington. Both **John Hall Allstadt** and his son, **John Thomas Allstadt**, were taken prisoner and confined in the armory in Harpers Ferry until they were freed by U.S. Marines commanded by Colonel Robert E. Lee. Brown and several of his raiders were captured, tried, convicted, and executed for treason.

Many historians credit the John Brown Raid for being the catalyst that led the nation into Civil War. After Abraham Lincoln was elected as president in 1860, the states of the South, fearing that Lincoln would abolish slavery, passed ordinances of secession from the Union to form the Confederacy. Virginia was not so quick to secede, and even took the lead in calling together a convention of all the states to discuss the state of affairs of the nation. At a state convention in April of 1861, Virginians voted overwhelmingly against secession. However, when Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 volunteers after the South Carolinians' attack on Fort Sumter, Virginia promptly reversed its course and voted for secession.

The ordinance of secession adopted by Virginia did not sit well with its western counties, many of whose delegates walked out of the convention and called for a pro-Union convention that first met in Wheeling in May, and again in June. In October, western Virginians voted for statehood to establish the new state of West Virginia. There was too much at stake for these counties to remain in the Old Dominion, particularly since the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad ran through this region and the Federal Government wanted to insure that its tracks lay within states loyal to the Union. Strategically located on the border between North and South, Jefferson County would be the scene of numerous military engagements throughout the Civil War, including several that occurred on or near the Allstadt Farm. On October 16, 1861, the dashing Confederate horseman Lieutenant Colonel Turner Ashby led an attack against Union troops under Colonel John W. Geary, who were attempting to seize wheat stored in Harpers Ferry. On April 5, 1865, just south of the Allstadt Farm at Keyes' Switch, known now as Millville, Colonel John Singleton Mosby's Partisan Rangers attacked the Loudoun Rangers, who were federal cavalry recruited primarily from Loudoun County's pro-Union populace. While Mosby was not present, his men devastated their old adversaries, who would never again field a command. However, the most significant engagement to

involve the Allstadt Farm occurred in September 1862. As General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia was advancing on Maryland during their first invasion of the North, Union forces of more than 14,000 were defending Harpers Ferry. To deal with this, Lee dispatched Major General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's Corps to route the Federals under the command of Colonel Dixon S. Miles. Jackson commanded the third wing of the attack, positioning his men along School-House Hill, west of Bolivar Heights and extending across both sides of the Harpers Ferry Turnpike and on to the Allstadt Farm. The next afternoon, September 14, the Confederate artillery opened up on the Federals.

Before long, the white flag was produced by the Federals, and Miles was mortally wounded by an errant shell moments later. This stunning Confederate victory, which netted over 12,500 Union prisoners, the largest amount in the entire war, was evidence of Jackson's tactical genius. Unable to savor their victory, Jackson's Corps had to hurriedly make their way across the Potomac to support the rest of Lee's army, which was making a stand at Antietam, which would become the bloodiest single day of the war.

Although the post-Civil War period was a difficult one for the former slaveholding states both socially and economically, the Shenandoah Valley rebounded from the war more quickly than other regions of the Old Dominion due to its diversified agriculture and less reliance on slave labor in the antebellum period. Like other farms in the Shenandoah Valley, the Allstadts had a diversified and self-sufficient farming operation that produced a variety of items for home consumption. Beef cattle, sheep, and swine continued to be raised on the Allstadt Farm, although their numbers never again approached their pre-Civil War levels.

In 1888, **John Hall Allstadt** died at the age of 80 years old and was buried in the family cemetery on the property, where his mother and father were also buried. His will directed that all of his property pass to his wife, and upon her death, it be divided between his surviving children and grandchildren. In 1922, the executor of his daughter's, Susan Virginia Henkler estate sold all of her land to the Standard Lime and Stone Co. The only parcels excluded were the ones inherited by his son, **John Thomas Allstadt**.

The Standard Lime and Stone Co. was a Baltimore-based business that had acquired acreage in this area for the purposes of operating a limestone quarry. Dolomite limestone was shipped via the B & O Railroad to Pittsburgh for use in the steel manufacturing process. After World War II, production decreased at the Standard Lime and Stone Co.'s plant. The business was sold to the American-Marietta Corp. and was transferred in 1961 when American-Marietta merged with the Martin Corp. to form the Martin-Marietta Corp.

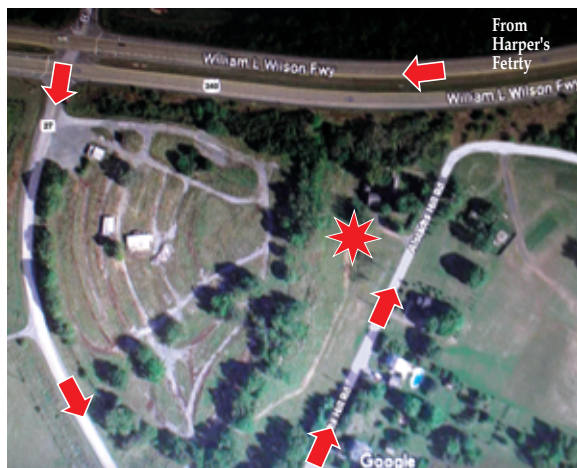
John Thomas Allstadt sold his share of the property to S. David Hardy, whose widow subsequently conveyed it to William E. Chambers, who in turn sold it to Newton M. Gibson. Mr. Gibson willed 72.22 acres of the property to his wife Urath C. Gibson as a life estate in 1980, whereas the 12.97 acres surrounded the house were conveyed in 1981 to his son, Dr. James G. Gibson. Dr. James Gibson rented the Allstadt House and Ordinary where we enjoyed the first **Allstadt/Altstadt National Reunion**.

Allstadts had owned approximately 1,150 1/2 acres, an estimated 719 1/2 acres was located around the original Allstadt House and Ordinary and is the acreage from which the majority of the Allstadt Farm cultural landscape originated. The original Allstadt House and Ordinary are now on lands managed by the US Park Service.

By 1991, 286 acre and 55 acre parcels, were conveyed to the U.S. Government for administration by the Fish and Wildlife Service as part of a proposed National Conservation Training Center (both bureaus within the Department of the Interior). Construction commenced on a firearms training facility, serving law enforcement officers in U.S. the Customs Service and the Border Patrol agencies within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Treasury and Department of Justice.

Despite the many conservation victories at Harpers Ferry, much more needs to be done to effectively protect the integrity of park resources. In the case of the Allstadt Farm cultural landscape, residential and commercial development could dramatically affect the visitor experience if built on the adjacent parcels to the north and east.

Many thanks to Harry Allstadt for furnishing this historical article.



This Google Map view shows how to find the farm which is southwest of Harpers Ferry WVA, just off Routes 340 and 27.