

Schmucker • Smoker • Smucker



John Schmucker Homestead

Family Association Newsletter

Summer 2017

President's Reflections

by Jim Smoker

jjsmoker@verizon.net

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Newsletter Expense

These Newsletters are our largest expense, second to our family gathering. To help defray the cost, please send an email to Jerrold Smoker, our mailing list registrar at jsmoker@msn.com. When emailing Jerrold, please include your full name and address to assure that the mailing list database is up-to-date.

On the SSS Family Genealogy Database Project – In this issue you will find an article and information on the status of our working relationship with the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society (LMHS). Your Board approved entering into a relationship with LMHS to complete the work began by Rev. John R. Smucker, former President of the SSS Family Association, Art Smucker, and D. Richard Miller. Emily Smucker Beidler, SSS Family Association board member, served as our key liaison with LMHS staff and volunteers to complete this massive project which was completed over the course of a year and at a significant cost to our association. The SSS Genealogy Database is now accessible to all SSS Family Association members!

On the Next Generation – It was gratifying to see some younger members of our SSS Family Association present at the 2016 SSS Family Gathering that was held in Lancaster County, PA last year. Of concern to me and to others is how do we continue and expand the engagement of our 8th and 9th generation descendants? This is an age of digital communication and social media. Our SSS Family Association website and Facebook page provides a toehold in the 21st Century. Emily Smucker Beidler's presentation at the 2016 Family Gathering on "Telling Our Stories" reminded me of the need for me to share our immediate family stories with my adult children and grandchildren. The 2016 Zug-Zaug-Zook first family gathering drew over 600 people to Lancaster County, PA with a variety of presentations and activities which attracted young and older family members alike. I passed the 70 year mark this year and am concerned with the future of our SSS Family Association. Please share your thoughts with me or any member of the SSS Family Association Board so that we may continue to be a valuable resource to our SSS Family Community and hopefully expand same.

On Our Family Connections: My spouse of nearly 50 years received a wonderful Christmas present from our youngest daughter a few years back. Joanne was very interested in her family tree and Jessica developed a "fan chart" for Joanne. It was a wonderful endeavor on the part of our daughter, Jessica. Joanne scrutinized the chart and learned that she was a distant relative of Hans Herr, the first Mennonite to migrate to Lancaster County. The Hans Herr House has been restored and is a prime tourist attraction in Lancaster, County, PA. She had known that Henry Munson served in the Civil War with a unit of the Pennsylvania Volunteers. Joanne began to count the number of grandparents, great grandparents, great-great grandparents, etc on her line going back ten generations. The number she came

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“A Life in Pursuit of Peace”

(Excerpted with permission from
“Mennonite World Review”, April 10, 2017 issue)

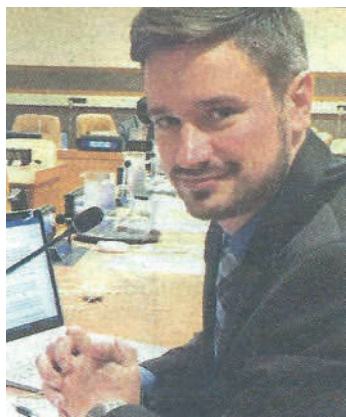
by: Jim Smoker

(with information provided by D. Richard Miller)

Christian the Immigrant came to the shores of America in search of religious freedom. Our SSS family heritage contains many elements that persist to this day. Our desire to bring about peaceful solutions to conflict is but one of many traits which are embodied by many SSS Family members. Michael J. Sharp, age 34, a Mennonite, whose SSS Family line is likely through Michael Jesse Sharpe, a descendant of #15 Veronika “Frany” Schmucker), carried that trait forward in his life.

‘Michael died in the Republic of Congo while serving with the United Nations. Michael’s life was dedicated to “A Life in Pursuit of Peace”. Helping people lay down their weapons was a thread running through Michael’s life. From work with U.S. military personnel in Germany and seeking conscientious objector discharges for U.S military personnel during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, to developing trust with Rwandan refugees and Congolese rebel militias, Michael sought peace and justice through building relationships.

U.N Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a statement that the bodies of Michael and fellow U.N. worker, Zaida Catalan, a Swedish national peace worker, were found outside Kananga on March 28th. Secretary General Guterres stated that Michael and Zaida died seeking to understand the causes of insecurity in the Republic of Congo in order to bring peace to its people. The two had been missing since March 12th after being abducted with four Congolese people while investigating an arms embargo and possible human rights violations near Katanga. Their four Congolese companions have not been located.



Michael J. Sharp as he prepares to speak at the United Nations August 24, 2016

Michael’s father, Hesston College Bible and history faculty member, John Sharp said his son picked up the theology and practice of peacemaking from home, church and school. “Creative peace building and nonviolent conflict

resolution became his passion and his calling, he said.” “He dedicated his life to living Jesus’ call to love even enemies discovering, too, that they were members of the human family and loved by God.” Michael was intrigued with the complexity of conflict and culture, finding ways to work gently and compassionately.’

In these troubled times we can take heart that individuals such as Michael J. Sharp and Zaida Catalan are still at work to bring about peaceful resolution to conflict. Furthermore, we can find these qualities in ourselves to affect change in these troublesome times.



Michael Sharp with Congolese people.

(Continued from page 1)

up with was astounding to me....can you figure out how many grandparents you have across ten generations back? The number Joanne came up with is 1022!! At twelve generations you have over 4000 grand/great grand/great-great grandparents.....WOW!

What’s New on Our SSS Family Association Website? Special thanks to Sam Smucker and his father, Ralph Smucker, and to Alvin Smucker (interviewer) who were the first family members to participate in our first attempt to collect family stories to add to our website. The idea originated on our bus trip to Switzerland, France and Germany and was brought forward by Maria Smucker. Please visit our website: (www.SSSFamil.org) for past issues of the “SSS Family Association Newsletter”, Davin Martin’s presentation on SSS DNA and our ancestors migration paths from the 2016 SSS Family Gathering. Also, look us up on Facebook for member postings. Recall that this is a members only site and Jennafer (Smoker) Seeley should be contacted via: jenna.seeley@gmail.com to gain access if you have not logged onto Facebook or if you have difficulty accessing the site.

A Story About Christian Schmucker III

By Emily Smucker Beidler
emilysbart@gmail.com

Since 1976, my father, along with many, many others, worked on a genealogy that is a credit to this organization. They started with Christian the first, but soon found it too big and too difficult to verify which Christian was which. So they concentrated on the Christian the third line – Christian, son of John, son of Christian our immigrant ancestor. And while I respect genealogy as the skeleton on which all of our family history is built, it's the stories that hang off this skeleton, the very simple stories of human experience that have always pulled me towards family history.

Here's one of my favorites:

It was the late 1700s and Christian Schmucker was no stranger to grief. He had moved his family from Lancaster County (Berks County really) to Mifflin County in search of a better life, more land, a dream of farms for his children...at a time where moving meant following the wagon by foot over uncertain roads, memories of Native American conflicts fresh on his mind. He moved his family from eastern to western Pennsylvania along with a fellowship of Amish friends. Little did he know that he would soon bury his wife in this new land, holding her infant, both lives lost in childbirth. Suddenly he was left, a widower with 10 children – I imagine support from his Amish neighbors was immediate and heartfelt but he was a pioneer in a land of pioneers. How much help can you ask for?

So he chose to make a daring journey - to ride horseback by himself over a hundred miles into an entirely different Amish settlement with the express purpose in finding a wife... and what kind of a woman would be willing to marry him and raise his 10 children? I wonder how many times he stopped. I wonder how much grieving he did on the way. Was he crazy to believe that such a thing could happen? The story goes that in his silent desperation, he prayed for guidance and the Lord's blessing and as he came to a fork in the road, he let go of the horses reins and said aloud, "In the name of God, go to the right or to the left."

And so it was that he came to the farmhouse where another young woman was living her own world of grief.

Veronica Levengood Peachey was living with her sister's family after her young husband died of yellow fever. He died

even before she gave birth to their first child, Abraham. Tears nearly consumed her until she resolutely decided that it was more important to be strong for her son. So the new widow and new mother moved in with her older sister and family. She was the younger sister, and had grown up working the fields with her brothers rather than learning to run a house so this must have felt more comfortable for Veronica. Following her older sister's lead gave her time to grieve but also contribute to the never ending workload of farming that is every farmer's life.

But the strangest thing happened one morning – she got up before dawn to help the men get an early start to drive cattle to the market in Philadelphia. During a lull in the morning's work, she lay down on the bench behind the stove to rest. As she drifted off to sleep, she had the strangest dream. She saw a ruddy-bearded man come riding onto their property – through the creek bed and up the hill. He was mounted on a bay horse, with a white blaze on its forehead. She awoke half-way, enough to recognize how strange the dream was, then drifted back into sleep again, only to have the exact same dream. There was too much work to be done to linger on them, so she pushed herself on. (If I were Veronica, I think I'd pour myself a strong cup of coffee.)

But some time later, we don't know if it was days or weeks, a stranger did come riding through the creek bed and up the hill. When he came to the door, she recognized him as the man she had seen in her dream – or was it a nightmare? Was she just imagining the coincidence? Would anyone believe her if she told them? She kept her thoughts to herself.

As was the custom, the man was welcomed in, an Amish man among fellow Amish people and he stayed for dinner. While the men were eating, Veronica slipped out and ran as fast as she could to the barn. And that's when she saw it – the same bay horse with the same white blaze on its forehead. If you're getting a little weirded out, can you imagine how Veronica felt? Who was this man? Where did he come from? What is going on?

She learned soon enough – it was Christian Schmucker (my five times great grandfather) who came in hope, in good faith, and maybe in desperation, to find a wife. He shared with his new friends both his story and his intent and his eyes caught Veronica's. He asked if he might return to visit her. And so the whirlwind courtship began and ended – because on his next visit back to see Veronica, he asked if she would be willing to marry him.

Now it was the custom in the Amish church to an-

nounce to the congregation three weeks before a wedding the intention of two people to marry and Christian hoped to take Veronica home to do just that. But as he consulted with the preachers, they had a different idea. They granted special permission to wed immediately, right there and then in her sister's kitchen. You see, it was Christian's turn to host the church meeting at his house in a few weeks and he really needed Veronica's help to prepare the house.

So overnight, Veronica's life completely changed. She went from being the younger sister, mourning widow, mother of a newborn, to wife and mother of 11. On top of cooking and washing clothes for 13 people, learning to know a new husband in the midst of the work, she also had the responsibility to clean up a whole house – a house that she was suddenly responsible for in order to invite the entire Amish community for church and meet them all for the very first time. The cards must have seemed stacked against her to make a good impression and in a moment of feeling overwhelmed, she slipped back behind the house, her new house, and wept. I can imagine her, pulling her apron up to hide her face and wipe her tears. The story goes that it was here, behind that house, that her new step children found her crying. They said immediately, "We will help you," so eager they were to please their new young step mother. And they did.

To Christian and Veronica's union, came 8 more children. Sometimes when we tell family stories, we hear what we want to hear, and if that's the case, I unapologetically like to believe that this was a happy marriage that was lived out through two individuals who had already carried more than their share of heartache.

We know this story because it's been handed down from generation to generation. It's said that Veronica loved telling this story to her grandchildren who passed it on through the generations like a beautiful priceless quilt.

I wonder what they'd say if they knew that we'd be here today telling their story. I wonder what they'd say if they only knew how many people would pull together to collect a genealogy encompassing over 50,000 names – all beginning with them. I wonder what they would say.

Presented by Emily Smucker-Beidler, 2016 SSS Family Gathering Lancaster, Pa.

References:

The Story of my Great Great Great Grandmother, by Christina Neff

Jonas Smucker, Ancestors and Descendants, by John R. Smucker

SSS Database is Here!

By Emily Beidler
emilysbart@gmail.com

The board is pleased to announce that the database project is ready to be accessed by all members of our SSS family organization! It's important to emphasize that this is a limited access database that is only for SSS Family members and for Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society members. It is accessible only by as password and is not available to the general public. Therefore, this is not a password that should be shared unless the viewer is willing to become a member. Check it out at:

<http://www.lmhs.org/memberdb/SSSFA/index.html>

The username is sssfa_member

The password is sssfa2017

While a genealogy is never truly finished, the original family sheets from all 57 binders has been entered into this database.

Where did these binders come from? This project got its start at the very first Schmucker-Smoker-Smucker Family Gathering in 1976. After some initial gathering of descendants of Christian Schmucker I, it proved to be a much bigger task than seemed possible without sacrificing accuracy. (While it may be good to have lots of Christians in the world, it's not such a great thing to have so many Christian Schmuckers in one's genealogy! So the decision was made to focus on the Christian III line, meaning Christian of the third generation from Christian I.

Who entered all of the data? D. Richard Miller and Art Smoker were instrumental in spearheading the data entry process over 15 years ago. Between the two of them, over a third of the 54,000 names were entered. Every person that took time over the last 30 years to fill out a form contributed to this database. Thank you to each and every one of you! In a 2004 newsletter, persons listed who were designated data gatherers were John Rohrer, Marvin Frey, Kathryn Aschliman, S. Glenn Yoder, Mary Lou Bowers, Earlene Nafziger and John R. Smucker. Truly, it takes a village!

Then in 2016, Emily Smucker-Beidler proposed that our family organization hire Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society to convert the data from Family Tree Maker to Roots Magic, finish entering the data, make the database accessible online, and continue with the maintenance of both the database and the original binders.



Meet the team at Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society that made this happen: Steve Ness, Head Librarian, oversaw the entire project. Mary Ellen Ness and Barbara Witwer, both seasoned volunteers at the Historical Society in entering genealogical data, took on the task of entering the remaining 24,000 names from binders 26-57. Together, they logged over 613 hours, often going the extra mile to double-check names and dates against obituaries off the clock. After this picture was taken, Mary Ellen and Barbara headed to Bird-in-Hand Restaurant to celebrate with some good Smucker food!

So what comes next?

No genealogy is perfect. As you start moving around the database, you may see some missing pieces of information or places where two dates are listed. Mary Ellen and Barbara said that sometimes it was a challenge to read the handwritten documents. Also, some dates were unclear. For example, on one form, a date listed as 1/3/65 was listed later on the same form as 3/1/65. In those cases, they recorded both dates. All of the data entered by LMHS is referenced to the binders so that individuals who wish to look at the originals, may go to the archives at Lancaster to get more clarification.

Should you wish to add your family updates, please contact D. Richard Miller (d.r.miller@maplenet.net) or Emily Smucker Beidler (emilysbart@gmail.com).

Relief Work Builds More Than Just Buildings

By Jennifer Steiner, MCC East Coast

Editor's Comment: Art Smucker was a mainstay in the creation of the SSS Family Database. His interest in computer science enabled us to begin the journey of entering our genealogical data into a searchable database. He along with D. Richard Miller were key people in starting the development of the searchable database. The following article is reprinted with permission of the Mennonite Central Committee "MCC East Coast" editor.

Art Smucker of Goshen, Ind., served with MCC in Europe for two years following World War II.

For Art Smucker, his time serving with MCC in Europe following World War II focused on rebuilding the infrastructure



Photo courtesy of Art Smucker

decimated by the war. But he soon found that relationships were also being built in the process.

Smucker, a member of College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Ind., served with MCC in Europe from 1946 to 1948. He spent his first year in Alsace, France, where he was part of a group of 18 young men working together on repairing buildings damaged by the war, including a lot of roof repair.

Smucker was the local director of the group, since he was the most fluent in French. This meant he handled the paperwork and permits, but it also included a lot of physical labor alongside the other volunteers.

"We grew very close together and cared for one another," remembers Smucker. In fact, after the group returned to the United States, Smucker would collect letters from each person, combine them all together and send a newsletter to each member of the group. They also got together for reunions every couple of years.

And their work in France was much-appreciated by the local people. "Forty years after we left, we were all invited to come back," said Smucker. "And of the 18 men, 17 of us and our spouses did make that trip. We were welcomed and had a great time."

His second year of service, Smucker was transferred to Amsterdam where he was the first full-time representative for

Menno Travel Service when it was an arm of MCC. He arranged the coming and going of relief workers and planned and directed Mennonite and other religious-affiliated colleges who sent American students.

When asked why he volunteered to serve with MCC Smucker said, "A number of us just thought it was the thing to do. People needed help."

Prior to his two years in Europe, Smucker was part of a three-year program for conscientious objectors with MCC through Civilian Public Service in mental hospitals. Participants received training in relief work, took college-level courses and studied language in preparation for their overseas assignments.

Following his service in Europe, Smucker went on to teach chemistry at Goshen College for 35 years. After retirement, he spent a year with Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) in Akron, Pa., helping to re-work the computer database. He has also volunteered with MDS at sites across the country.

"I think MCC is doing very much-needed work," said Smucker. "There are many needs, and they are fulfilling some of those needs. My personal feeling is that MCC and MDS are the most effective outreach that our church has."

SSS Genealogy History

By Art Smucker with comment by D.Richard Miller
d.r.miller@maplenet.net

This is being done from a very faulty memory.

The dbase was started by a group of 4 persons meeting in Pennsylvania, I think perhaps on the occasion of one of the 5 year general SSS reunions. One of the persons was Jane Smoker Davidson, and I think David Rempel Smucker was also there. The initial goal was to produce a book of the SSS genealogy, and this was especially the wish and perhaps the driving force for John R. Smucker. This has never come to fruition; perhaps just as well, for once published, a book becomes fixed, whereas a dbase can continue to be updated and grow.

It was decided that John R. Smucker would gather data and I would bring a recommendation as to what software to use, and do the data entry. I don't recall the name of the software package I recommended, but it was universally acclaimed at that time as the "Cadillac" of genealogy software; and my recommendation was accepted. The software was purchased, I think paid for from SSS funds. This was the only time SSS funds were used for software I used, while I carried the primary responsibility. All subsequent purchases and updates were made and paid for from my personal funds.

Initially I had thought we would start with Christian Schmucker, one of the two major immigrants, so I started entering data from several printed genealogy sources, primarily from Harvey Hostetler's "Descendants of Barbara Hochstedler and Christian Stutzman", Gospel Book Store, Berlin, Ohio, 1965; and "Amish and Amish Mennonite Genealogies" by Hugh F.

Gingerich and Rachel W. Kreider, Pequea Publishers, Gordonville, PA, 1986. (Again, these and other printed references were purchased by me, SSS funds were not used). I would have to add that as of 2017 there are still data in these two references alone which have not been entered into the dbase. (I'm not sure about the ethics of such extensive use of printed materials - Art Smucker).

John R. Smucker gathered data on individual sheets of paper, one sheet per person. In order to regularize these, I devised a computer printed form, still one sheet per person, which was revised several times. The most recent form was created by D. Richard Miller. Several problems arose with the early forms. On the form, dates were indicated to be entered as "day, month, year" which was standard genealogical practice. However, some persons paid no attention to the form and used the common practice of "month,day,year". In some cases it was not clear which format was used, so there may be some erroneous dates in the dbase. Additionally, it was intended that wives be entered with maiden names; but in some cases only the married name was provided.

John R. gave these to me and I entered the data into the dbase. Over the years we made a number of efforts to get help in entering data; a few persons (e.g. Paul Bowers) did enter a little, but it never worked well. The one exception was Kathryn Aschliman, who entered all the data pertaining to her line. (Kathryn's great-grandfather, Joel Schmucker, moved to Fulton County, Ohio, and she has gathered much information about those relatives.)

Adopted children were entered with an * in front of the first name. (Recently, the * was moved to the end of the first name, to not interfere with alphabetizing names.) These are considered true members of the SSS line, but it was thought that researchers might want to trace only blood lines. In general, step and foster children were not entered, though this was not always rigidly followed. If entered, their lines were not followed further.

John R. decided that starting with the original Christian was too much, so he concentrated on descendants of so-called "Christian III", grandson of immigrant Christian.

I became concerned that the software we were using would be limited to 64,000 entries, due to limitations of the memory available in computers of that era. So, after perhaps a couple of years the dbase was migrated to "Roots", which went through several update versions and was used for several years. There may have been another software before "Roots", memory fails me.

We joined OMII fairly early. This was a consortium of persons in the Midwest who were working on Anabaptist genealogy data bases. The letters stood for "Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana". Various software programs were used. Contributors sent copies of their dbases to Robert Geiser in Ohio. Yearly meetings were held in which contributors came together to share information and interests, and be updated on who was working on what. In time it became clear that members came from more than the four states, and OMII morphed into SAGA, "Swiss

Anabaptist Genealogy Association”.

SAGA holds annual meetings, and members may choose to share their genealogy information on the SAGA website. Membership requires payment of dues and a signed agreement regarding ethical standards. In recent years the SSS Family Association was included on the SAGA website, but no updates have been posted since moving the SSS materials to Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society in August 2016. For more information about SAGA, see <http://www.saga-omii.org/>.

After a substantial growth of the dbase, Roots was coming to an end. So “The Master Genealogist” software was chosen, and the dbase migrated to it. I should add all migrations were done by the parent company (after much pleading), so that GEDCOM was never used, and I am convinced that no data were lost.

It was never clear who “owned” the dbase, although the SSS Family Association (SSSFA) was clearly a sponsor. In 2015 discussion began between the SSSFA and the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society (LMHS) whereby the two organizations would work together to oversee and sponsor the dbase. August 2016, the paper materials and database were transferred to LMHS. Under this agreement, SSSFA currently owns the database.

About 2004, after moving to Goshen, Indiana the previous year, D. Richard Miller became involved with adding information to the database. Before John R. Smucker died in 2006, he asked Richard to continue working with the data sheets for Christian III and his descendants. Richard and Emily Smucker Beidler, John’s daughter, confirmed arrangements John had made to have these placed in the Mennonite Church USA Archives in Goshen, Indiana. (These plans were later superseded by an MC USA Archives policy change.) Materials which John had collected about descendants other than those of Christian III were moved by Emily to Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, per John’s request.

Richard gathered the data sheets which John R. Smucker had gathered and which were in large loose-leaf binders. They were pretty well organized but hard to work with due to their size.. Richard sorted them into their family lines and placed them into one inch loose leaf binders, which made them much easier to work with. Each binder has a listing of the persons listed therein. And Richard and I (Art Smucker) started on the task of taking each binder and going through it in detail, checking the entries with the dbase, and adding information

In 1996, due mostly to health issues, I pretty well stepped out, and Richard was basically left in sole charge. Also during that year, The Master Genealogist notified users that the program would no longer be supported, so it was time for another migration to a different software.

Comments from Richard: With The Master Genealogist software being phased out, plans were being made to convert to Roots Magic. When plans were made to move the database and paper materials to LMHS, I learned that they were already using Roots Magic. Before entering new data, they handled conversion

of our database to Roots Magic, for which I am grateful.

In addition to adding data to the dbase, since John is no longer living, as it becomes available to me, I also gather information as changes happen in families: births, marriages, deaths, and so on. But no one person can do it all. If the dbase is serve its potential, a team of people is needed from many communities who gather information and forward it to a coordinating team.

40th Anniversary SSS Family Reunion Pens Available

We ordered more three-way pens (Stylus for smart phones and tablets, Pen, LED Penlight) than we needed for the 2016 SSS Family Gathering. These pens are chrome plated and are engraved to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the SSS Family Association. We are offering them for sale until the supply is exhausted. We are offering 2 pens (postage paid) for \$7.00 and 5 pens for \$14.00 (postage paid). Please mail your request and a check for the appropriate amount to Jim Smoker, 3435 Bull Road, York, PA, 17408-9755.

Binder Sponsorship Opportunity and Continuing the Work

The SSS Family Association Board authorized the engagement of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society (LMHS) in entering the genealogic data from the 57 binders which contained the family data of the Christian III descendants. This was a monumental project that SSS family volunteers (John R. Smucker, D.Richard Miller, John Rohrer, Marvin Frey, Kathryn Aschliman, S. Glenn Yoder, Mary Lou Bowers and Earlene Nafziger). The cost of this project came in at \$8,000. We learned that there are earlier binders that have been held in a repository at the LMHS since the 1970s. We would like to undertake the entry of these genealogic data in the future. We are asking that members consider sponsorship of each of the existing binders with a donation of \$100 per binder. Your name and date of donation will be placed on a special label on the binder of your choice and maintained at LMHS. Interested family members should contact Jim Smoker (jjsmoker@verizon.net) or Emily S. Beider (emilysbart@gmail.com) to obtain a listing of each of the 57 binders. The binder listing contains information to enable you to choose the binder(s) you prefer to sponsor. On behalf of the Board, thank you for your consideration.

SSS Family Association

c/o James Smoker
3435 Bull Road
York, PA 17408-9755

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Acknowledging Our 2016-2017 SSS Family Association Donors - THANK YOU to:

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FF and Anna Mae Hostetter
David P. and Flora Burkholder
John R. Smucker III

MEMBERSHIP IN THE SSS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Our SSS Family Association was duly constituted with the creation of our constitution in March of 1985. Article IV (Membership) states that, "Membership is granted at one of the five year meetings, making a contribution, or paying for a subscription to the Newsletter. One of these acts must be continued every five years to be a member.

If you did not attend the 2016 SSS Family Gathering in Lancaster, PA, or have not made a contribution in the past five years, please make adonation of at least \$10.00 payable to the SSS Family Association. Mail your donation to:Darrell Smucker, Treasurer, SSS Family Association, 1497 Morgan Street, Wooster, Ohio, 44691-1541.