



Commemorating the 311th Anniversary of the Family's Arrival in America

NINETY-FIRST ANNUAL REUNION
Kolb-Kulp-Culp Family Assoc., Inc.

311th ANNIVERSARY: SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018
Lower Skippack Mennonite Church, 12:30 P.M.
Evansburg and Meeting House Roads
Skippack, PA 19474



John Ruth and Kolb Descendants beside the Wolfs-Head Fountain at Wolfsheim on August 23, 2017

Our Speaker: John L. Ruth

Topic: "The 1709 Immigrant Henrich Kolb -- The First Ordained Mennonite Bishop in America"

Historians of the original Mennonite community in Germantown generally refer to the Lower Rhenish lathe-operator Jacob Gottschalck as the first Mennonite bishop in America. It would be more accurate to say that he was the first Mennonite to perform in America what were usually the acts of a bishop. In strictly chronological terms, another man, Henrich Kolb of the Palatinate, should be considered the first duly ordained man for that position. A closer look at his twenty-year experience in Pennsylvania will throw light on the unusual set of five Kolb brothers who came there from 1707 to 1717.

John L. Ruth is a leading historian, author and speaker who has contributed significantly to the understanding of Mennonite history, faith and culture over several decades.

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**2018 Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Reunion
Lower Skippack Mennonite Church**

PROGRAM

12:30 PM Meet & Greet

Doxology Carol Wenger

1:00 p.m. Lunch (“Groaning Board”)

2:00 p.m. Program Introduction. Lin Kulp

Remembrance of our Religious Heritage Doug Moyer

Tribute to Deceased Members *(with moment of silence)*

Report of Secretary. Jack Oberholtzer

Report of Treasurer Mark Moyer

Offering Mark Moyer

Song: There Shall Be Showers of BlessingCarol Wenger

Recognition of Youngest, Oldest

& Longest Distance to attend Lin Kulp

Report of Nominating Committee. Lin Kulp

Program:

“The 1709 Immigrant Heinrich Kolb –

The First Ordained Mennonite Bishop in America”

*Members of the Reunion Committee will lead by sharing their thoughts
with members of the audience also sharing theirs*

Benediction Blest Be The Tie That Binds. Carol Wenger

3:30 p.m. Adjournment



WEBSITE CREATED BY GLENN H. LANDIS

WILL NOW BE MAINTAINED BY DONNA GERBER

Home Page is: <http://kolb-kulp-culp.org>

Reunion Page is: http://kolb-kulp-culp.org/annual_reunion

Dear Kolb-Kulp-Culp Family & Friends:

We invite you to join us on Sunday, June 10, 2018 starting at 12:30 PM at the Lower Skippack Mennonite Church for another opportunity to meet with other Kolb descendants. This will be the 91st celebration of our family heritage and of the 311th anniversary of the arrival of the Kolb brothers in America. We've enjoyed, through the years, getting together and remembering our shared heritage. We can also appreciate the diversity of the descendents of our Kolb immigrant ancestors and sharing in the experiences of the lives of our current "family" members.

A catered lunch will be provided starting at 1 PM and we encourage everyone to bring a favorite family side dish or dessert to maintain our tradition of the "groaning board" of shared food. The opportunity to enjoy some excellent recipes, which exist within our family, is always a highlight of our reunion.

Please contact Jack Oberholtzer at 215-534-0194 or jeoberho@comcast.net or Donna Gerber djgerber88@aol.com by June 4 and let us know how many will be coming. An accurate count for the caterers is important.

Our Family Association counts on support from its members to cover the expenses associated with putting on the reunion each year and having a caterer for lunch. You may include a check made out to Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association and include it with your reunion attendance response you mail in or drop it in the offering basket at the reunion.

Donna Gerber will have a table to help people with questions they may have about researching their family genealogy. She has also agreed to continue to maintain the web site which is <http://kolb-kulp-culp.org/>. The web site has a "Contact" page where you can send questions to or share information to Donna.

Jack Oberholtzer will have some of the past reunion programs available for your taking. PLEASE CHECK YOUR BINDERS! Contact him if you might be interested in assembling a complete set. He will also display some of the research materials, newspaper articles and photographs about family members and the reunion. If your mailing address has changed or you have an email address you would like to share, please send it to him at jeoberho@comcast.net.

Mark Moyer has a few blue Kolb Crest tiles and T-shirts left and is looking into getting more made. Please contact him at vampyre46@verizon.net if you are interested.

Carol Wenger will again lead our traditional singing which has always been so much a part of our heritage.

Our speaker, Mr. John Ruth, last joined us for our 300th Anniversary Program in 2007! He also gave talks in 1996 about Fracktur Artist David Kulp of Bucks County, in 2000 about the resettlement of the Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family from Palatinate to Pennsylvania, and in 2002 to speak about the Kolb Family History.

We are in need of volunteers to help with the Reunion! The executive committee meets a couple of times a year to determine programs and direction of the association, and we need new people with their suggestions and ideas. We could use volunteers to help update our website and scan the old programs for inclusion on it. Glenn Landis ran the Kolb DNA project which has 60+ members and we need someone to oversee that. We can always use more help with searching genealogy questions. If you are interested in contributing some of your time to these projects or have future program suggestions, please contact Jack Oberholtzer.

Your presence and that of the next generation at our reunions shows the joys and success of the past and hope for the future.

Cordially,

The Kolb-Kulp-Culp Family Association Reunion Committee

Our Speaker Continued...

John was born in 1930 to parents from the Line Lexington and Salford Mennonite congregations of the Franconia Conference, north of Philadelphia. He grew up on a farm on the Northeast Branch of the Perkiomen Creek.

At the age of eight Ruth was baptized on confession of faith at the rural Finland Mennonite mission congregation. He graduated from the Lower Salford Township Consolidated Elementary School in 1944 and Lancaster Mennonite (High) School in 1948. At the age of twenty he was ordained minister by the casting of lots for a mission in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

In 1951 Ruth married Roma Jeanette Jacobs of Johnstown, PA, who later, having worked in nursing, took up the art of fraktur in the local tradition, producing over 600 examples.

After graduating from nearby Eastern (Baptist) College in 1956, Ruth completed doctoral studies in English at Harvard University in 1968. From 1962 to 1976 he taught literature at Eastern College, with a 1968-9 sabbatical in Germany as Gastprofessor für Amerikanisches Literatur at the University of Hamburg in Germany.

In 1972 Ruth became an associate minister at the Salford Mennonite congregation. A few years later, he accepted an invitation by leaders of the Franconia Mennonite Conference to work primarily on themes of Mennonite heritage and faith. This resulted in films such as *The Amish: A People of Preservation* and *The Hutterites: To Care and Not to Care*, produced by Ruth with Burton Buller and John A. Hostetler, as well as many historically related videos in cooperation with his son Jay Ruth.

Since 1973 Ruth has served as commentator on historical tours in Europe for the Tourmagination organization, and on the trustee boards of the Christopher Dock Mennonite High School, Goshen College, and the Mennonite Historians of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Ruth's books include *Conrad Grebel, Son of Zurich* (1975); *'Twas Seeding Time: A Mennonite View of the American Revolution* (1976); *Maintaining the Right Fellowship: A Narrative Account of Life in the Oldest Mennonite Community in North America* (1984); *The Earth is the Lord's: A Narrative History of the Lancaster Mennonite Conference* (2001); *Forgiveness: A Legacy of the West Nickel Mines Amish School* (2006); and *Branch: A Memoir with Pictures* (2013).

In 1987 John Ruth and his family moved to his ancestral homestead in Lower Salford Township, a mile from the Salford meetinghouse. From that location, he draws on historical research to write nonfictional narratives of Mennonite life in the Salford and Franconia region.

The Historical Library at the Mennonite Heritage Center is named in his honor.

-Taken from the Mennonite Heritage Center Website

In Memoriam 2018

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Age</i>
Robert V. Culp, Pearl City, HI	May 7, 2001	76
M. Joyce Proud, Monrovia, CA	May 10, 2010	76
Mary Grace (Metford) Platt, New Smyrna Beach, FL	Feb 3, 2013	82
Bea Landes, Oley, PA	May 9, 2013	95
Karl C. Landes, Oley, PA	July 21, 2013	86
Eva V. (Smith) Walker, Quakertown, PA	Nov 22, 2013	97
Eva Jean Kolp Hines, West Salem, OH	Nov 22, 2013	80
Herbert C. Kulp, Limerick, PA	Jan 20, 2014	74
Stephen Dolla, Jr., Boyertown, PA	April 28, 2014	81
Charlotte Freels Duvall, Miami, FL	April 2, 2016	95
Pamela Kulp Reimer, Nazareth, PA	Jan 23, 2017	61
Gregory Culp, Biloxi, MS	Jan 28, 2017	44
Helen Mae Culp, Rock Hill, SC	Jan 28, 2017	89
Gayle Trechsel Culp, Chattanooga, TN	Feb 1, 2017	85
Babette "Betty" (Stettner) Kulp, East Greenville, PA	Feb 13, 2017	88
Shirley (Kulp) Wenhold, Sellersville, PA	Feb 25, 2017	80
Florence H. Kulp, Souderton, PA	March 2, 2017	94
Martha Louise (Culp) Stills, Evergreen, CO	March 4, 2017	83
Wilmer W. Kulp, East Greenville, PA	March 10, 2017	91
Gregory G. Kolb, Lancaster, PA	March 10, 2017	97
Dennis P. Kolb, Boyertown, PA	March 13, 2017	81
John J. Oswald, Richlandtown, PA	April 6, 2017	80
Lois Eby Kolb, Lancaster, PA	April 17, 2017	84
Chester G. Kulp, Jr., Binghamton, NY	April 17, 2017	85
James A. Carotenuto, Sellersville, PA	April 18, 2017	57
Harold W. Kulp, Jr., Moore Township, PA	May 6, 2017	85
Gary Kulp, Ephrata, PA	May 12, 2017	54
Marjorie M. Kulp, Fleetwood, PA	May 13, 2017	84
Aubrie M. Kulp, Chalfont, PA	May 18, 2017	28
Arlene R (Kolb) Yoder, Spring City, PA	May 23, 2017	87
Floyd S. Miller, Spring City, PA	May 25, 2017	85
Gene R. Kulp, Quakertown, PA	May 27, 2017	49
Virginia R. (Kulp) Bieber, Exeter Township, PA	May 30, 2017	94
Rickey J. Kolb, South Heidelberg Township, PA	June 11, 2017	69
Rev. R. David Koch, New Holland, PA	June 29, 2017	89
Robert K. Kulp, Richmond, VA	July 1, 2017	56
Jacob Kulp, Phoenixville, PA	July 4, 2017	34
Edward Kulp, Trout Run, PA	July 13, 2017	67
Vernon L. "Sappy" Kulp, Jr., Birdsboro, PA	July 15, 2017	94
Elwood Kolb, Hatfield, PA	July 16, 2017	88
Erma L. (Weaver) Kulp, Goshen, PA	July 18, 2017	99
Edna (Lerchenmiller) Kulp, Mertztown, PA	July 22, 2017	91
Heidi Charlene Kolb, Sellersville, PA	August 2, 2017	51
Rhoda J. Nolt, Stevens, PA	August 14, 2017	70
Ronald L. Kulp, Telford, PA	August 16, 2017	73

In Memoriam 2018

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Age</i>
Yvonne Kulp, Lansdale, PA	August 21, 2017	59
Randy S. Kulp. Pottstown, PA	August 26, 2017	64
Ernest Ray Gehman, Hatfield, PA	September 5, 2017	58
Helen B. Culp, Newportville, PA	September 5, 2017	91
Elizabeth (Leatherman) Kulp, Harleysville, PA	September 10, 2017	91
S. Eugene Kulp, Mount Joy, PA	September 10, 2017	82
Glenna L. Lahr, Green Lane, PA	September 11, 2017	88
Pearl F. (Kulp) Schaffer, Muhlenberg Twp., PA	September 13, 2017	85
Forrest H. Kolb, Boyertown, PA	September 16, 2017	89
Fern Arlin (Kulp) Schanley, Boyertown, PA	September 17, 2017	87
Dr. Deborah Kulp-Hugues, Oxford, PA	September 25, 2017	65
Mark William Kolb, Reading, PA	November 17, 2017	58
Luther R. "Sonny" Kulp, Jr., Newville, PA	November 29, 2017	88
Carl R. Kulp, Gilbertsville, PA	October 2, 2017	86
Charles (Chuck) Culp. Coatesville, PA	October 3, 2017	36
S. Eugene Kulp, Mount Joy, PA	October 12, 2017	82
Shirley K. (Kulp) Hanzarik, Walnutport, PA	October 13, 2017	78
Marlyn K. (Gilbert) Christman, Pennsburg, PA	October 13, 2017	79
Lenore M. (Lauback) Kulp, Perkasio, PA	October 22, 2017	95
Nancy L. Sellers, North Wales, PA	December 16, 2017	64
Edward E. Hoffman, Sr., Exeter Twp, PA	December 18, 2017	73
Cora Lee (Springer) Kolb, Lancaster, PA	December 18, 2017	94
Elizabeth K. Ahn, Lansdale, PA	December 21, 2017	100
William Edwin Kulp, Kinterville, PA	December 21, 2017	66
Patricia E (Kulp) Breyer, East Greenville, PA	December 22, 2017	77
James Kulp, Williamsport, PA	December 28, 2017	76
Doris J. Kolp-Ensminger, Mount Joy, PA	December 30, 2017	79
Shirley Ruth (Fick) Kolb, Shillington, PA	January 4, 2018	96
Daniel B. Kulp, Kimberton, PA	January 16, 2017	94
Roy S. Kolb, Souderton, PA	January 19, 2018	86
Edith V. (Kolb) Frank, Pennsburg, PA	January 27, 2018	82
Carol Ann (Culp) Gajewski, Norristown, PA	February 3, 2018	75
Catherine T. Clemmer, Harleysville, PA	February 5, 2018	86
Margaret Rose Leister, East Greenville, PA	February 5, 2018	81
Margaret (Clinton) Kulp, Sellersville, PA	February 15, 2018	92
Richard Kolb, East Greenville, PA	February 10, 2018	75



We appreciate receiving the names sent to us for the "Memoriam List". Since we do not have access to all the newspapers that our mailing list covers, we would like you to help keep the memorial list current. Please send the information to our secretary, Jack Oberholtzer, 2377 Magnolia Way, Jamison, PA 18929 or jeoberho@comcast.net. We also thank Jennie Spearling, Robert Hunsicker and Ross Gordon Gerhart III for sending us names for our "In Memoriam".