

Hi KKC Extended Family,

I had two email responses to my last newsletter about the Kulp Coat of Arms that I wanted to share with everyone. Since I am not an expert on the subject, I welcome any input that might get us closer to what is correct, or a reasonable idea of what has transpired in the past.

The first email was from Daryl Culp, in Canada, who has done a lot of genealogy research and has his own website:

I'm not sure how this is connected to Dielman Kolb born in 1648 (this information pertains to the Palatinate about 100 years earlier). Has any progress been made on figuring out who Dielman's ancestors were? Do you speculate that the Kolb family was resident in Germany and converted to Anabaptism?

There is an alternative prompted by some information in GAMEO ([https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Palatinate_\(Rheinland-Pfalz,_Germany\)](https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Palatinate_(Rheinland-Pfalz,_Germany))) as follows: "One of the first groups to settle in the Palatinate after the Thirty Years' War came from Transylvania. After severe oppression several of these families emigrated and in 1655 settled in Kriegsheim, Osthofen, Harxheim, Heppenheim an der Wiese, and Wolfsheim near Worms. Among them were such family names as Schuhmacher, Kolb, Rohr, and Bonn. Some had become Quakers by 1665; e.g., the Schuhmacher family in Kriegsheim."

I'm not sure what to think about this information because I am not sure which source it comes from. The connection to the Shuhmacher family is especially interesting since Dielman's wife came from that family. Perhaps the Kolbs in Germany had been stirred up by Anabaptists already in the Palatinate (who were also viewed with suspicion by the church authorities and some may have fled eastwards during the Thirty Years War).

Daryl

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The second email was from Doug Moyer, a German teacher in North Penn School District:

Dear Jack,

I just spent six weeks in Switzerland and Germany visiting family heritage sites and speaking with historians. I'm concerned that your Kulp Family Crest description is revisionist history. Family Crests were saved for royal families. The Moyer and Kulp were Anabaptist Swiss/German Farmers who were persecuted in Germany and Switzerland for being Anabaptist. In Switzerland Anabaptists faced the death penalty by Zwingli Protestants for worshipping in public and sharing their adult baptism and pacifist world views with others. Anabaptists were also persecuted in Germany. Anabaptists unable to own land. In Munster, Germany Anabaptists

were beheaded with their corpses placed in cages that hung from the church steeples. It's extremely unlikely/ revisionist history that our Kulp & Moyer Anabaptists forefathers who were persecuted, tortured and murdered by both Catholics and Protestants during the 1500's ever received a Coat of Arms as a gift from Elector Ludwig of the Palatinate in 1578. I traced my Moyer Family Roots back to Hans Meyer 1530 from Schleithem, Switzerland. Approximately a 30 mile bus ride from Schaffhausen, Switzerland and the German border. Hans Meyer and his fellow Anabaptist had to meet in secret huts and caves in the forest to hold Anabaptist worship services to avoid being killed. Michael Sattler and his wife Margaretha Sattler were just one example of Anabaptists who were tortured/murdered for being Anabaptists. They definitely were not receiving Family Crests from royal families. Just to give you an idea of how Anabaptists were treated in Switzerland and Germany, Michael Sattler had his four limbs shattered by four horses pulling in different directions, he then had his tongue cut out and was burnt at the stake. His wife got off a little easier by being drowned in the Neckar River. I fully understand that people take pride in their family history, but it does need to be accurate. Both the Kulp and the Moyers owe a big debt of gratitude to William Penn who offered our families religious freedom and land to farm. I would be glad to share photos and videos of my Moyer / Kulp family Anabaptist research at a future Kulp Reunion.

Both raise interesting points. Other comments and research are welcome.

Today, it is so much easier to do genealogical research, most of it accessible at the stroke of a couple of keys and a click. When Cassel published his *Kulp Family History* in 1895 and the Kulp Reunion History Committee their Genealogical Reference Record in 1936, all they had to go by was the 'limited' written records available to them and sometimes, just family stories and recollections. More on that next post.

Be sure to follow the website (<http://kolb-kulp-culp.org>) as we get that developed and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Kolb-Kulp-Culp-Family-Reunion-111440337655136>).

Thanks,

JackOberholtzer
Secretary, Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association