

Colonial City of Brotherly Love

Hi KKC Extended Family,

In keeping with a “Valentine’s Day theme” (sorta), some facts about early colonial Philadelphia that our first Kolb ancestors would have discovered after their arrival in 1707 (except for Penn’s statue). Taken from *Philadelphia: A 300 Year History*, Edited by Russell F. Weigley, W. W. Norton and Co, New York, 1982:

- William Penn only spent about 2 years, 8 months in Philadelphia, from Nov 1682 - Aug 12, 1684 and 2 Dec 1700 - 1 Nov 1701. His statue over city hall is over 36 feet tall.
- In 1693, the biggest taxpayers in Philadelphia were merchants and brewers.
- Samuel Carpenter was one of the city’s influential men in Penn’s time. In 1693, was Phila largest property holder, invested in the West Indies trade that erected Carpenter’s wharf, at least 10 warehouses, a lime kiln for mortar and a crane. He also served in public office as deputy governor, councilor, assemblyman and provincial treasurer. (Think of Carpenters Hall, home of first Continental Congress 1774).
- Penn’s belief that freedom of religion was a fundamental right, combined with the rapid commercial growth of the city, attracted other religious groups so that by 1700, the Quakers only accounted for about 40% of the population.
- Population of Philadelphia in 1701 was around 2500, with about 500 brick houses by 1702 and by 1725 Christopher Saur estimated there were over 800 shopkeepers and merchants.

The **website** has all of the reunion programs in the library. Newsletter postings and KKC Family Record Book next on the agenda to work on.

A reminder for those of you living near Skippack:

The Skippack Historical Society (<https://www.skippack.org/shs.htm>) is planning a program on the Seven one-room schoolhouses in Skippack Township on Thursday, April 25th at 7:30 p.m. The program will be held at the school house next to Lower Skippack Mennonite Church. The first house was Christopher Dock’s school in 1718 at the Lower Skippack Mennonite church location. The program will include a variety of stories and events involving one-room schools and their teachers.

Remember, Spring is just around the corner, says Mr. Groundhog!

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P.S. Save the Date: next Kolb reunion 9 June 2024 at 12:00