

A Publication of the Nicholas Stoltzfus House Preservation Committee

The Purpose is clear!

A large busload from the White Horse Machine Shop had already arrived at the House Thursday morning, August 6, 2009 when I pulled in at 7:20am.

Although a bit rainy, they began the day with doughnuts and coffee spread on the nearby picnic table. **The House was open, they came in to see and to ask questions.**

By 10:00 they were across the Red Bridge to the Gruber Wagon and Canal museums. It was almost 1:00 when they returned to the Berks Leisure Area pavilion for the chicken barbecue dinner. Soon the volley ball game was going on a nearby grassy area. The old folks gathered on their chairs in the shade along a stone wall. The scooters and bicycles were on the trails across the Tulpehocken Creek by way of the foot bridge. Then soon after 5:00 came



the call for supper. Henry King had barbecued the hamburgers, with lots of tasty dishes spread.

The day was hallowed by the silent prayers as the soul was nourished before the Lord.

I wish you would have heard Henry's words at the close of the day. He marveled at what the area had to offer. Here they connected with Nicholas who had joined the Amish in Zwiebrucken, Germany and came here with Bible, Ausbund, Martyrs' Book, and prayer book. Nearby they saw the museums, followed the trails, and played volley ball on the grassy spaces.

Then the next week as I drove in to the House Friday, August 14, about 2:30, I saw a young man walking between the House and the trailer home. I called him an intruder! Actually he was Levi M Fisher's son Ephraim. A son-in-law Joseph Miller, Jr., had reserved for the stay.



They were already setting up for a camp fire and an overnight stay. To my surprise they had kayaked from Leesport on the Schuylkill and came

across to the Tulpehocken. Soon the volley ball game was going on the flat between the House and the Creek.

They set up an open pit fire for supper and breakfast Saturday morning.

They retired in their tents on the lawn .

Saturday morning after the families arrived **they all went into the House where I tried to answer questions.** They were especially surprised to learn of what it meant for Nicholas to join the Amish. Scooters, bicycles, and volley ball filled the morning, with some dipping in the creek.

As we were separating one of them said they would be back next year!

Barn Building Progress

The Advancement Committee has received many generous offers of donated labor and materials to complete the barn. David Esh, our builder, is anxious to begin construction when we have an additional \$60,000 of cash.

There are an estimated 1 million living descendants of Nicolas Stoltzfus. Help us spread the word so all our extended family are privileged to join this unique opportunity. *Help fill the barn!*

Between now and March 24 we need \$60,000 so David Esh will begin building



In the Barn . . .

- Living Quarters for Caretakers
- Room for Storage (climate controlled)
- Restrooms to Accommodate Guests
- Pictures and stories telling:

- *How Stoltzfus became an Amish name in Europe*
- *Facts about the House and the Berks community where Nicholas lived*
- *His influence through descendants*
- *Helpers and leaders in the preservation*

**The Nicholas Stoltzfus House
Preservation Committee**
1700 Tulpehocken Road
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Elverson, PA
Permit No. 113

The Stoltzfus House and other artifacts of the Stoltzfus family are being restored and preserved as an example of the humble attitude of obedience, forgiveness and their willingness to share and help others in need.

Find us online at:
www.NicholasStoltzfus.com



Join the Cause

**Call now to schedule
a gathering, or a visit:**

610-363-6206
717-367-3906



Mark your 2010 Calendar!

Nicholas Stoltzfus House
Annual Benefit Auction
May 8, 2010

The Stoltzfus "Spread"

Friday evening, January 8, 2010

Kinzers Fire Hall,
3517 Lincoln Hwy E, Route 30

Send in reservations to (\$18 per person):

Paul Kurtz, 709 S. Locust Street,
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

5:30 pm Buffet open

(self serve on arrival)

**6:15 pm Meeting begins: Introduction
to the Heritage Room and why the Barn
is necessary**

**6:30 pm Zach Stoltzfus: Nicholas'
European Home**

Zach adds to his earlier Paper Point

**7:00 pm Jack Parmer:
The Berks Home**

Jack's excellent DVD

7:30 pm Sam Stoltzfus:

Home in the Mill Creek
*Sam summarizes the move to the Mill
Creek*

**8:00 pm Don Carpenter: The Union
County Home, and beyond**

*Christian (great-grandson of Nicholas) joined
the Buffalo Valley settlement. Don
presents his slide show of that settlement,
emphasizing the role of this Christian
and his family. The settlement dispersed
with many descendants in Lancaster
County, and Stoltzfus descendants in
Kansas and the Midwest.*