

Schmucker • Smoker • Smucker



John Schmucker Homestead

Family Association Newsletter

Summer 2016

2016 40th Anniversary Family Gathering

Dear SSS Family Member,

The SSS Lancaster Family Gathering Planning Committee are pleased to share with you information and the registration form for the upcoming Lancaster Gathering. Our plans are based largely on feedback we received from the Lancaster 2006 and Kidron, Ohio 2011 Gatherings. Please note that some offerings may change based upon pre-registration results.

Included in this mailing you will find:

- 2016 Lancaster, PA Gathering Schedule of Events
- Registration Form

Our Gathering will be held at the Lancaster County Christian School, 2390 New Holland Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 with the exception of the optional bus trip.

We are offering a General Registration Fee which covers: Continental Breakfasts, some workshops & activities, a complementary fraktur (one per family) commemorating our 40th Anniversary Gathering and honoraria for non-family speakers or workshop leaders, along with school facility fees and event Liability Insurance.

Additional fees are “ala cart” based on your choice among bus trips, specific meals and workshops. Some workshops and activities are covered in the General Registration Fee.

I extend my appreciation for the efforts of Marie Smoker Breneman, Emily Smucker Beidler, Suzanne Smoker, Joanne Good Smoker, Jerry Smoker, and John Smoker for their planning efforts and work on the Planning Committee.

I am looking forward to seeing many “Cousins” at our 40th Anniversary Family Gathering.

Warmest regards,

Jim Smoker, SSS Family Association President

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Your SSS Family Association Officers, Board Members, and Volunteers

- ~ Jim (James M.) Smoker, President and Newsletter Editor
- ~ Eber Rice-Smucker, Vice President
- ~ Marie Breneman, Secretary
- ~ Darrell Smucker, Treasurer
- ~ Helen Ault, Board Member
- ~ Sue Kindt, Board Member
- ~ Alvin Smucker, Board Member
- ~ D. Richard Miller, Genealogy Database Administrator
- ~ Jerry Smoker, Registrar

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.

General Registration Information

Please note your 2016 SSS Family Gathering Planning Committee has worked diligently to provide another unique experience for attendees. We have kept with some past traditions and created some new opportunities for participants. The “General Registration” fee covers: facility rental fees, liability insurance fees, speaker fees (non-family members), a complementary Fraktur (one per family) commemorating our 40th anniversary gathering, Continental Breakfasts, Beverages and “light fare”. Several workshops are offered on Saturday afternoon. Some workshops are free of charge while others have modest fees to cover materials. Should you have any questions regarding registration, please contact: Marie Smoker Breneman at rerehugs@aol.com or by phone at 717-464-2418 or Jerry Smoker at jsmoker@msn.com or 717-397-8052 All activities will be held at the Lancaster County Christian School, 2390 New Holland Pike (Rt. 23), Lancaster, PA 17601. Bus trips will also begin at the LCCS. Check the www.SSSFamil.org website for lodging suggestions.

Reunion Meals

Thursday evening’s gathering will be a time of light refreshments. Friday Noon you will be on your own, unless you are on one of the all day bus tours with box lunches included. Friday evening is a catered meal, which requires a reservation and payment. Friday evening’s “Coffee House” will include light refreshments. A Continental Breakfast will be offered Saturday morning and is included in the registration fee. Saturday’s noontime meal is a catered event. Registration and payment is required. Saturday’s evening meal is also a catered event. Registration and payment is required. Light refreshments are offered during Saturday evening’s activities. A Continental Breakfast is offered Sunday morning and is included in the general registration fee. Vegetarian options will be available. Please state any special dietary requirements. We will try to accommodate.

Bus Tours

Please note that due to liability insurance restrictions personal vehicles are NOT permitted to follow the tour buses

Tour of Lancaster and Berks Counties

Friday, July 15, 2016- 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM SSS Heritage Tour

Cost: \$52 per person (includes box lunch)

An all day guided bus tour of the rural landscapes in Lancaster and Berks Counties. Experience the setting of Christian Schmucker’s plantation plus his Ellmaker and Diller neighbors from the middle 18th century. Explore the vestiges from his children’s lives at the Leacock Presbyterian cemetery, the Trinity Lutheran Church cemetery in New Holland and the Blank (Plank) plantation. The tour will include a visit to Mascot Mill, an historic site and likely a mill which received grains from our family member’s farms. The tour then travels northward into Berks County to see the homes of Christian’s son John’s Stone House and the Nicholas Stoltzfus House and Barn, in Wyomissing....the childhood home of John’s wife, Barbara. We close the day with a stop at Myers Cemetery where many of our ancestors are buried. The tour route may change based upon the number of buses needed. Learn about Old Peters Road and the warrants, surveys and land patents through the Penn Land Grants system

Amish and Mennonite Cultural Heritage

Friday, July 15, 2016- Full Day- 8:30:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Cost: \$52 per person (box lunch, admission to the Hans Herr facility)

An all day guided tour with stops at the Mennonite Historical Society to view the “Plain and Decorated” Exhibit. Then go next door to the Mennonite Information Center to view the brief films “Who Are the Amish” and “Postcards from a Heritage of Faith.” After a box lunch, the bus will take a back roads route to the Hans Herr House and Longhouse Exhibit, then travel to visit several businesses owned and operated by Amish and Mennonite craftspersons.

REGISTRATION FORM - DEADLINE June 1, 2016

General Registration fee: \$43.00 per person X _____ (number of attendees) =\$ _____

Names of attendees: (Please Print)

Meals:

- Thurs. Eve. Gathering _____ (number of people)
- Friday Noon—No meal provided except for box lunch on full-day bus tours
- Friday Eve Meal.....\$17.00 X _____ (number of people)\$ _____
Vegetarian Option Preferred? If yes, number: _____
- Saturday Continental Breakfast _____(number of people)
- Saturday Noon Meal\$11.50 X _____(number of people)\$ _____
Vegetarian Option Preferred? If yes, number: _____
- Saturday Evening Meal.....\$17.00 X _____(number of people)\$ _____
Vegetarian Option Preferred? If yes, number: _____
- Sunday Continental Breakfast _____(number of people)

CHILD CARE: If there are a significant number of children between the ages of four and twelve attending we will make accommodations and make arrangements for qualified child care providers. Please indicate child(ren) name(s) and age(s):

BUS TOURS: Preregistration is required

- Friday, July 15th 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM SSS Heritage Tour \$52.00 X _____ (number of people)\$ _____
(Includes box lunch)
- Friday, July 15th 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Amish & Mennonite Cultural Heritage Tour \$52.00 X _____(number of people)\$ _____
(Includes Admission fees and box lunch)

Workshops:

- Come Quilt With Me with Marie Smoker Breneman
Fee: \$20 X _____(number of persons)\$ _____
- Kannst Du Deutsch Spreche? Learn to Speak PA Dutch with Butch Reigart
Fee: \$5 X _____ (number of persons).\$ _____
- Writing Our Family Stories with Emily Smucker Beidler
No Fee X _____ (number of persons)
- Antique Comb Painting with Jim King – Create a wooden box with comb painting design
(A minimum of five participants are required for us to hold this workshop)
Fee: \$50 X _____ (number of persons).\$ _____
- Commemorative Mug – A limited edition commemorative mug is being designed for this event.
The cost per mug is \$6.00. Orders will be fulfilled and pick up at the “SSS Family Store”
Please indicate the number of commemorative mugs you wish to order.
Cost per mug \$6 X _____ x (number of mugs)\$ _____

Total Fee: \$ _____

PLEASE CONTINUE ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

Contact information of individual completing this form:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please send check payable to: SSS Family Association

To: SSS Family Reunion
P.O. Box 72
Willow Street, PA 17584

Need additional information? Please contact Jim Smoker at 717-292-4709 or via jjsmoker@verizon.net or Jerry Smoker at 717-397-8052 or via jsmoker@msn.com

Want additional information on the bus tours?

SSS Heritage Bus Tour – Contact Emily Smucker Beidler at 717-898-9258 or via emilysbart@gmail.com

Amish-Mennonite Cultural Heritage Bus Tour – Contact Marie Smoker Breneman via rerehugs@aol.com

Please note that we will be holding an auction and proceeds will be shared with the Nicholas Stoltzfus House (NHS) Preservation Fund, a 501(c 3) non-profit organization. This farmstead is of significance to our Family Association in that John Schmucker, son of Christian “the immigrant”, married Barbara, the daughter of Nicholas and Katerina Stoltzfus. The NHS organization has worked diligently to preserve this farmstead and many family members serve on the Board of the organization. Efforts are underway to complete work required on the bank barn which was reconstructed and is designed to serve as an education and events center to provide funds to continue the maintenance of the property.

Please indicate below the item or items you wish to donate to the auction. Note that items donated for the auction will not carry any minimum bid or reserve and all items will be sold “as is”. Only cash or checks will complete transactions.

I wish to donate the following item(s) for the fund raising auction:

2016 SSS Family Gathering Proposed Schedule of Events

July 14th – Thursday

- 12 Noon - 3 PM 2015 SSS Heritage European Tour Alumni Gathering
- 6 PM – 9 PM - Registration at Lancaster County Christian School
- 6 PM – 9 PM – Finger Foods and “Meet and Greet” with family members

July 15th – Friday

Please note that due to liability insurance regulations, private vehicles are NOT permitted to follow buses on tours. Pre-Registration is required for all bus trips and meals.

- 7 AM – 5 PM Registration Desk Open
- 8 AM – 4 PM – SSS Heritage Bus Tour ** (Additional fee required): Stops will include:
 - Christian Smucker Farmstead
 - Nicholas Stolzfus Homestead
 - John Smucker Farmstead (The Stone House in Wyomissing)
 - Mascot Mills
 - Leacock Presbyterian Cemetery
 - Trinity Lutheran Cemetery
 - Myers Cemetery

A Box lunch will be served at the Nicholas Stolzfus Homestead and is included in the bus trip registration fee

- 8 AM – 4 PM – Amish and Mennonite Businesses and Hans Herr House Bus Tour ** (additional fee required - box luncheon is included and admission to the Hans Herr House) An all day guided tour including the 1719 Hans Herr House (the oldest Mennonite meetinghouse and home in the US) and the Longhouse (a replica of the Eastern Indian home). A stop will be made at the Mennonite Information Center to view “We Believe” and “Who Are the Amish?”, the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society to view the “Plain and Decorated” Exhibit. After a box lunch, the bus will take a back roads route to visit several businesses owned and operated by Amish and Mennonite craftsmen. Our tour will include a relative or two.

12 PM – 4 PM SSS Genealogy Center Open

12 PM – 8 PM SSS family Store and Museum Open

Masthof Press will also provide selections to purchase of interest to Family members

Note: If you are not participating on a tour, you must provide your own lunch.

5 PM – 6 PM SSS Family Store and Museum Open (/)

5 PM – 6:30 PM – Dinner served at the Lancaster County Christian School

Main Entree – Pulled Pork BBQ & Seasoned chicken drumsticks and thighs.

Vegetarian option- Tortellini & marinara sauce

(Additional fee per person – please indicate on the registration form any special dietary needs. We will make every attempt to meet same.

6:30 PM - SSS “Coffee House” – Coffee, tea, and snacks provided

Musical guests include:

- Chestnut Street Men’s Quartet – Spirituals and religious selections
- Instrumental and vocal performance by Francis Crowhill Miller

July 16th – Saturday

8 AM- 9 AM Continental Breakfast

8 AM – 12 Registration Desk Open

9 – 9:45 SSS 101: An Introduction to our Family History by Emily Smucker Beidler

10 – 10:45 Our Anabaptist Roots & Immigration Pathways

Jeffrey Bach, Director, Elizabethtown College Young Center for Anabaptist Studies

11 – 11:45 The Diverse DNA of Swiss Amish and Mennonite Families

With Special Emphasis on the SSS Family Line

Darvin L. Martin, Chairman of the Lancaster Family History Conference and

Originator of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society DNA Pilot Project

12 – 1:00 PM Luncheon

Chicken Corn Soup & Make your own sandwich

Vegetarian option: Salads

1:00 – 1:30 PM SSS Family Business Meeting

- President's Report

- Volunteer Opportunities in the SSS Family Association

- Treasurer's Report

- Election of Officers

- Q&A and Adjourn

Optional Afternoon Activities and Workshops

(Please Pre-register for selected sessions to allow us to plan for your participation)

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM Amish and Mennonite Quilts – Presenter: Marie Smoker Breneman

1:45 PM – 4:00 PM Genealogy Research Center

1:45 PM – 4:30 PM SSS Family Store and Museum

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM Writing Your Family Stories – Presenter: Emily Smucker Beidler

1:45 PM – 4:00 PM Oral History Recording - Share brief stories of your family in the “Green Room”

These recordings will be added to the SSS Family Website.

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Antique Comb Painting with Jim King – Learn How to Add the Rich Look of Wood

Graining Technique to a Box (Materials fee: \$50 Please Pre-register, a minimum of five people required)

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM Kannst du Deutsch Spreche? Learn to Speak PA Dutch I: Presenter: Butch Reigart

(Please Pre-register – Fee: \$5.00)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Come Quilt with Me – Create an Amish-style quilted square with Marie Smoker

Breneman (Please Pre-register Material Fee: \$20)

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Writing Your Family Stories – Presenter: Emily Smucker Beidler

3:00 PM – 3:45 PM Learn to Speak PA Dutch II: Presenter: Butch Reigart (Please Pre-register – Fee: \$5.00)

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Dinner at the Lancaster County Christian School

Main Entree: Stuffed Chicken Breast

Vegetarian option: Vegetable Lasagna

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Benefit Auction – Proceeds from our auction will be shared with the Nicholas Stolfus

Homestead Preservation Fund (a 501 (c 3) organization).

7:45 PM – 9 PM Amish Youth Sing

July 17th Sunday

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Continental Breakfast

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Family Worship Service and Hymn Sing “The Sacredness of Family”

Reverends: Nathan Greiser and Stan Smucker

Song Leader: Beth Smucker Greiser



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

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