

Weber-Kuhn Tribune

News and Stories of the family of Harry and Tillie (Kuhn) Weber of Indianapolis, Indiana

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Kuhn Family Connections

We are all Kuhns. How's that?

Tillie Kuhn Weber, mother of Bob, Rose, Gin, Peg, Dolly and Harry, and grandmother and great grandmother to many, is our direct Kuhn connection. Tillie's father, Charles Kuhn, was born in 1850 in Neustadt, Kurhessen (also known as Hesse-Kassel, later a part of Germany) to Martin and Katherine (Biergenstock) Kuhn. More research will find more ancestors in Germany...later.

In 1862, looking for a more promising future away from the conflict and discouraging outlook in Europe, Martin and Katherine decided to leave their home in Neustadt, Kurhessen with five of their children, including Charles, to make the arduous journey across the ocean to America. Three of their children, Gottfried, Barney and Minnie, had already made this trip in the 1850s. Usually, families would save their money for these earlier immigrants' passage in order that they could find work and send funds to help the rest of the family follow. It appears this family had a plan.

During the 1860s most of Martin Kuhn's family came to Indiana. One of the Kuhn children, Gottfried, settled in Cincinnati. Perhaps his parents and siblings spent a little time in Ohio. But, as our story moves along, we find that all but Gottfried became Hoosiers. The first hint is that in 1860, fourteen-year-old Barney is a farm laborer in Connersville, Indiana. Also in that small town, his sister, Minnie, marries in St. Gabriel Catholic Church, in 1864. Based on these facts and the 1870 census record of Martin and Katherine's family residing in Connersville, Fayette County, it's clear that they made Indiana their home not long after arriving in America. The family grows considerably in this locale, including several marriages. Martin dies in 1873 and is buried in the Connersville City Cemetery.

Then, in the mid 1870s, although a few siblings stayed settled in Connersville, others looked for opportunities in Indianapolis; and we suspect one took up farming in

neighboring Shelby County. Charles Kuhn, our direct ancestor, made his move to Indianapolis for employment at the C. F. Schmidt Brewery, where his brother-in-law worked. Upon taking up residence in Indianapolis, Charles lived for a few years with his sister Minnie's family and his mother on High Street, a few blocks from the brewery.

At this point many of you have an idea what's next. In 1879 Charles married Mary Anna Risch in Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Indianapolis. They had eight children, seven of them growing to maturity at the family home on High Street, including Otilia "Tillie" Kuhn, born 1891. She marries Harry Weber; and we follow.

The Kuhn family story is getting clearer every year as we discover more details. It's complicated, but also intriguing...getting inside their lives, making our connections. Do you feel like a Kuhn?

Martin & Katherine (Birkenstock) Kuhn's Children:

Gottfried, 1836-1898; Wilhelmina, 1842-1912;
Barney, 1845-1880; Marianne, 1846-?;
Jacob, 1849-?; Charles, 1850-1916;
Richard, 1854-1907; Adam, 1856-1931

New Arrivals

The family continues to grow!

Welcome to three more great great grandchildren of Harry and Tillie (Kuhn)Weber :

2011:
Piper Jackson, daughter of Brandon and Jennifer Jackson.

Julius Aiden Holzer, son of Tina Holzer and Josawa Burge

2012:
Sydney Danielle Holzer, daughter of Danny & Christy Holzer

Memorials

Since the reunion in 2011, we are sorry to report that there were three deaths in the family. We are thankful to have had these beloved family members in our lives.

May they rest in peace.

Christopher Holzer, 1981-2011
Son of Steve and Janet Holzer

Emma Richie Weber, 1923-2011
Wife of Robert Weber

Melvin Holzer, 1925-2012
Husband of Dolores Weber Holzer

2011 Reunion Recap

I think everyone would agree that the 2011 Weber-Kuhn Reunion was a memorable occasion. Smiles and sunshine, good food and laughs, photo-sharing and photo-snapping... were just a few of the ingredients. But, most importantly, we made new memories. Approximately 60-70 kin from the Harry Lawrence and Otilia Catherine (Kuhn) Weber family gathered at the Sarah Bolton Park in Beech Grove, Indiana, on August 27, 2011.

Some of the popular activities, aside from vigorous visiting, were the intense bidding for the silent auction of family donations and sifting through old family photos. Of course, the conversation was the best part. It was so nice to have another of those family get-togethers that we recall and to spread that feeling further through the generations.

We also began a tradition by creating our own family quilt squares for the Family Memories Quilt that is so generously constructed by Peg Stull. What a fabulous piece carrying more family history.

The reunion was memorable due to participation by so many. Good job!

New Family Website

Have you browsed www.indianaties.net? The site is a family history home, a place for stories, news, photos, etc. New content happens often, so keep checking back or subscribe to the blog. Your comments and remembrances are encouraged.

Hoosier Humor

A man in Topeka, Kansas decided to write a book about churches around the country. He started by flying to San Francisco and started working east from there. Going to a very large church, he began taking photographs and making notes. He spotted a golden telephone on the vestibule wall and was intrigued with a sign, which read "Calls: \$10,000 a minute." Seeking out the pastor he asked about the phone and the sign. The pastor answered that this golden phone is, in fact, a direct line to heaven and if he pays the price he can talk directly to GOD.

The man thanked the pastor and continued on his way. As he continued to visit churches in Seattle, Houston, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Chicago, and many cities and towns all around the United States, he found more phones same sign, and the same answer from each pastor.

Finally, he arrived in Wabash, Indiana. Upon entering a church in the beautiful state of Indiana behold, he saw the usual golden telephone. But THIS time, the sign read "Calls: 35 cents".

Fascinated, he asked to talk to the pastor, "Reverend, I have been in cities all across the country and in each church I have found this golden telephone and have been told it is a direct line to Heaven and that I could talk to GOD, but in the other churches the cost was \$10,000 a minute. Your sign reads only 35 cents a call. Why?"

The pastor, smiling broadly, replied, "Son, you're in Indiana now - you're in God's Country. It's a local call."

And why do Hoosiers go barefoot?
'CAUSE, When you're in INDIANA, you're on Holy ground!

The above frivolity courtesy of www.indygenealogy.blogspot.com

Notes from Nancy

Thanks to those who provided news for our 2012 *Weber-Kuhn Tribune*. I welcome your comments on making the newsletter better. How about news of graduations, new homes or travel?

Youth Reporter Needed: Where's that young member of our family who likes to write and has some stories to tell? Your contribution to this newsletter could add so much. The content is your choice, current or past, funny or serious. Let me know if you would like to be a part of the next issue.

Family Recipes: Have you got some old recipes, your own favorites or passed down? Where's Miss Wintz' yeast roll recipe? We're looking. If you are in the mood to share, send them to me. I will share online, by email, or here in the Tribune.

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