

WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

The Smyser/Scheiser family is an old one. It most likely originated in the dim past before the dark ages and is associated with the governments of the nations which emerged from them. The coats of arms on the back are related to old and modern lines of the family. Whether related by blood is not known to date but their contributions to civilization and the building of new nations there is no dispute. It is the goal of this reunion to bring together the descendants of Knights, Diplomats, Tradesmen, Professionals, Artisans and Farmers.

In the 18th century William Penn recruited the farmers and craftsmen of Wurttemberg to bring their skills and families to the Pennsylvania Colony to provide the expertise for the development of farm lands and industries for the new world. The Smyser/Schmeiser families were ready to answer the call and arrived early in the development of a new nation not yet emerged from the Old Worlds influence. We are proud to be among their descendants.

The Schmeisers of Europe have excelled in Diversity and Accomplishment; from herdsmen, farmers to Diplomats. The Coats of Arms awarded to family members appear on the front of this Brochure and date from medieval times to the present. Paul Schmeiser published a five volume work on the genealogy of the Smyser/Schmeiser families in Europe and the Americas. In addition there are several publications available of the information provided in each of the subsequent reunions held alternately in Germany and The United States.

The bearers of the Arms shown to the right were:

1. Augustin SchmeiBer, 1530.
2. Andreas and Hans SchmaiBer, 1568.
3. Ambros SchmeiBer, 1570.
4. Andreas and Hans SchmaiBer, 1573.
5. Erhart SchmaiBer, 1585.
6. Johann and Christian SchmeiBer von EhrenpreiBer, 1645.
7. Johann Christoph SchmeiBer, 1695 - 1769.
8. Paul Schmeiser, 1945.

SMYSERS IN THE WEST

The American West has seen significant contributions by members of our family. Butler Stonestreet Smiser served in Indian Territory as Commissioner to the Choctaw Nation, owned and published an Indian language news paper and was a member of the Choctaw tribe by marriage. Gottfried and George Schmeiser founded a machine shop in California which served the Southern Pacific Railroad and a thriving business in farm machinery, T. G. Schmeiser, Inc., which is still operating today. All three lines from Martin Schmeisser as well a related line of a later German emigrant, are represented in California today. We Californians look forward with anticipation to host the rest of the family in San Clemente next year. Lets have a great celebration of the Smyser/Schmeiser family in its diversity and accomplishment.

The 9th Smyser / Schmeiser Family Reunion

DIVERSITY & ACCOMPLISHMENT



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2



3



4



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GET READY FOR THE 9TH SMYSER/SCHMEISER FAMILY REUNION

Make plans now to attend the 9th reunion of the Smyser/Schmeiser family. Don't hesitate because you spell the name differently. Come to San Clemente and join your cousins in celebrating the Diversity and Accomplishments of your family members. Contribute to the family history and genealogy by sending in your family story or stories.

Here is a brief history of the contribution of my great grandfather, James Samuel Smiser of Monroe County, MO and Samuel Holten Smiser of Bates County, Missouri. Both men survived well into the 20th century. Their contribution to the development of this country is summarized here. You are encouraged to contribute to the family history archive with your family stories whether you plan to attend or not. The collected contributions will be compiled for publication at the reunion.

In 1860 James Samuel Smiser started a freight line between Salt Lake City, Utah and Sacramento, California. His second year was eventful beginning with taking on a partner and switching from oxen to mules for pulling the freight wagons. Midway through the year he contracted mountain fever and remained with the Winnemucca Indians in Nevada until he recovered. The business continued in the capable hands of his partner and survived in Southern California as the Smiser Freight Transfer Company until he recovered. The business continued in the capable hands of his partner and survived in Southern California as the Smiser Freight Transfer Company until 1984 when it was sold.

During this study of the family history I found that the partner was most likely James



Twenty Mule Team Hauling Freight Wagons

Samuel's first cousin who raised mules in southern Missouri, Samuel Holten Smiser. His grandson, Samuel Lee Smiser, was the last family member to own and operate the Smiser Freight Transfer Company of South Gate, CA. His wife and children still live in California.

WHERE AND WHEN?

The reunion will be held in San Clemente, California the fourth weekend of July 23-25, 2004 at the city's new Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens. Newly renovated, it has been restored to its original condition and surrounded by a three acre gardens containing 200 varieties of native plants. We will probably be the first family reunion held in the renovated facility.



Ole Hanson's home, "The Casa Romantica"

San Clemente is a Southern California beach town 60 miles south of LA founded in 1926 by The Ole Hanson Company. The original theme for the town was "The Spanish Village by the Sea" with buildings and house of white stucco with red tile roofs. Many of the original homes and buildings remain and the local Historical Society is working hard to preserve this heritage. Ole Hansons home will be the site of the reunion celebrations.

Many attractions are near at hand including, great beaches, Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, Lego Land, Seaworld, San Diego Oldtown, the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, Mt. Palomar Observatory, and Mexico. Hawaii is only a five hour flight from Los Angeles' International Airport..

Information on the reunion schedule, where to stay, dining, and area attractions will be sent to those who respond to this invitation.

**Make reservations
now**

By Mail to:

The 9th Smyser/Schmeiser Reunion
612 calle del Cerrito
San Clemente, CA 92672

By Phone:

(949) 498-7238

Or by e-mail:

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