



# APGAR

## Family Association Newsletter

Issue 23

June 2002

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## 27th Annual Reunion, September 15-16, 2001

Our 27th reunion was held at a new location - the Whitehouse United Methodist Church, on September 15-16, 2001. Despite the fact that it was held just four days after the terrible tragedy in nearby New York City, more than 75 members attended the 27th reunion of the Apgar Family Association. All enjoyed the catered lunch and the genealogy workshops.

Keeping with tradition, we honored those attending with special awards, as shown on the following page.

At our business meeting, President John Apgar presented the following officer nominees to the membership, asking confirmation for one-year terms as officers of the Apgar Family Association; all were approved:

President - John Apgar  
Vice President - Mike Apgar  
Treasurer - Wayne Dilts  
Secretary - Judy Beck

In addition, two new trustees, Judy Beck and Lois Dege (sisters) were presented to the membership. (See the related story in this newsletter.)



## Reunion 2001 Award Recipients:

The following Reunion 2001 awards were presented:

Oldest Female - Reba Bloom, 88 years young;  
Frederick Line

Oldest Male - William F. Apgar of High Bridge,  
87 years

Newest Mom - Annette Hoffman of Tewksbury

Youngest - Danielle Hoffman, 5 months

Longest Married - William and Hazel Apgar  
(photo below), 53 years (married in Stewartville in  
1948)



## Preview: Reunion 2002 Sunday Tour

By Judy Hankinson

Because of the events of September 11th, programs planned for our 2001 reunion were altered. The tour planned for last September will be given this year on Sunday, September 22, 2002.

After the Sunday morning worship service at the Cokesbury United Methodist Church, we will begin our tour with a stop at the homestead just outside of Cokesbury to pay tribute to our patriarch.

To remember our ancestors who moved to the northwestern part of Hunterdon County, we will proceed to the Mt. Pleasant/Little York area where Heinrich and Frederick settled. Even though Heinrich, as a young man, moved to Philadelphia, he returned to New Jersey where he bought a farm in Palmyra, Hunterdon County.

We will drive through that area which is near the present location of Delaware Valley Regional High School.

Alexandria First Presbyterian Church will be the next stop on our tour. We will be able to look at the bell, given in memory of young Ethel Apgar (9.5.6.6.1.) which is now located in the courtyard of the church.

Shortest Time Married - Ken and Joyce Apgar;  
married in High Bridge six weeks ago

Newest Member - Daniel Hoffmann, Lebanon

Largest Family

Line Present - Howard

Apgar Family (4  
generations)

Traveled Farthest -

(1) Bob and Emmy  
Hartkemeier (Ohio)  
and (2) Bill and Shirley  
Sutton (Maryland)

50/50 Winner -

David Rich (\$48);  
ticket drawn by Ozzie  
Apgar.



Reba Bloom won the  
award for Oldest Female.

George Apgar Jr. and Mike Apgar announced that there are bricks and hemlock boards from the Apgar homestead available for purchase. They sell for \$5 and there will be a contest at the 2002 Reunion for the best presentation using these materials.

The cemetery is located directly across the street from the church. Generations of Frederick and Heinrich Apgar are buried there, including William H. Queen, his wife, and daughter. The story of their murders appears in this edition of the newsletter.

The homestead of Frederick Apgar is still inhabited and is located on Little York/Mt. Pleasant Road. Known locally as "Ram's Horn Farm," it is located on Ram's Horn Hill and is owned by Curtis Schick. Curtis' son also lives in another old farmhouse owned at one time by a descendant of Frederick. We can stop in front of his house on our way out of Little York and take pictures.

If time allows, we can drive to Frenchtown to see the former home of William Conover Apgar and his family. A large Victorian house, it was converted to a bed and breakfast several years ago. The bedrooms have been named after members of the family. William was the proprietor of the National Hotel in Frenchtown.

Please plan to spend Sunday with us. There will be handouts which will include the history of Alexandria Church, a list of Apgar family members buried in the church cemetery and a detailed map of the area.

## Dear Association Members, Family and Friends,

This issue of our Family Association Newsletter brings some important information to the membership. You have already seen the cover article on last year's two-day reunion, where Saturday's activities were held at the new location - the Whitehouse United Methodist Church. As I explained in our last newsletter, our purpose for moving the venue was to enjoy a larger meeting place, a safer location for our children to play, and easier access to parking.

From your comments after the reunion, I think we succeeded on all counts. Based on your positive reaction, and the good attendance as shown in the cover photo, the trustees have unanimously voted to hold the Saturday portion of the 2002 reunion here also. The Sunday tour of the Mount Pleasant and Little York areas will depart from the Cokesbury United Methodist Church, venue for all reunions prior to 2001. The dates for this year's two-day reunion are September 21-22, 2002.

This newsletter brings several informative and historical articles submitted by members Judy Hankinson, Mike Apgar, Bill Roberts, and Louanna Heath-Hammond. There is also a genealogy update on Apgar family members.

See the article describing our Reunion 2002 Planning Workshop. Great plans are underway for all family members and guests. There are still some openings on the 2002 Reunion Committee (see article below).

Please contact any officer or trustee if you need more information about your Association or if you want to offer an idea for improving our service to you. I look forward to seeing all of you in September reunion. Details will be mailed to each of you later this Summer.

**John C. Apgar III, President**

## Reunion 2002 Planning Workshop

by George Apgar Jr.

An all-afternoon planning workshop for the September 21-22, 2002 reunion was held at the Whitehouse Methodist Church on November 3, 2001. Participants included:

George Apgar Jr., Judy Hankinson, Mike Apgar, Judy Beck, Lois Dege, Lynn Conley, Debbie Apgar, Louanna Heath-Hammond (2002 reunion speaker), and Elsie Wise (Tewksbury Historical Society). See them working hard in the photo above.



- Children's Activities - Need Volunteer
- Evening Program - Staff of Black River Journal

Committee Reports will be presented at the April 20 Trustee Meeting.

The 2002 reunion committee chairs were named:

- Show & Tell - Mike Apgar
- Workshops - Judy Hankinson, Hank Apgar, Lynn Conley
- Sunday Tour - Judy Hankinson, George Apgar Jr.
- Food - Judy Beck and Lois Dege
- Photography - Wayne Dilts
- Business Meeting - John Apgar III
- Sale Items - Cassie Apgar
- Publicity - Lynn Conley

Family members who want to be involved in planning for this reunion (and to chair those committees still in need of leadership) should call George Apgar Jr. at (723) 297-6686 or any other Trustee.

# Apgar Family Historical Times

Excerpted from the Hunterdon County Democrat, Flemington, NJ

Wednesday June 13 1917

## Whole Family Murdered on the Night of June 7, 1917

Never in the history of our county has it been necessary to record so brutal a crime as that which was perpetrated among the peaceful hills of Alexandria Township. Just outside the village of Mt. Pleasant, on Thursday night (June 7), some time before midnight, William H. Queen, his wife and only daughter, Eleanor, were killed by the hand of some madman, who at this writing, is still at large. [William Queen (9.11.2.3) was great-grandson of Frederick Apgar (9.).]

### THE CRIME

Thus begins this story of a crime that saddened this quiet homelike community, a story that tells of a family so well known, loved and respected by all who knew them.

Less than 4 weeks before, a young Lithuanian was sent out to help on the farm by ex-Judge John Wahl Queen of Jersey City, brother of William. This man was convicted of carrying a concealed weapon with the usual punishment a suspended sentence and finding steady employment. Judge Queen, hearing of the man's desire to work on a farm and knowing his brother, who had been ill for some time, badly needed help on his farm, sent him to the farm and spent time showing him how to plow and what to do.

This Lithuanian, who went by the name of Paul Maywoern, was the only person, outside of the family, who was known to be on this farm, and his disappearance from the scene of the crime cast suspicion entirely in his direction. At this writing not a trace of the Lithuanian can be found.

Neighbors were drawn to the farm by the burning of the barn. The first person to give alarm of the fire was Mr. Sharp, school teacher at Mt. Pleasant. About eleven he was awakened by his mother-in-law who had seen the fire from her bedroom window. Mr. Sharp, who heard several reports of a gun, at once dressed and hurried to the fire. He was the first to reach the Queen house where he found that not only the barn but the house was all ablaze. In the yard in front of the house, Sharp found the dead bodies of the Queen family, horribly butchered and mutilated. It seemed that Mr. and Mrs. Queen had not yet retired for the evening as they were fully clothed, but Eleanor had evidently re-tired and was clothed only in her night robe and a kimono.

The deed was evidently done with an axe in the hands of some powerful man. This axe was apparently thrown into the fire as it was not found nearby.

Much speculation as to why and how the act was committed has been indulged in by those who would find a motive for the Lithuanian committing the crime. The most simple indulgence was that the Lithuanian had called Mr. Queen that he was needed and when he responded, was attacked and felled with the axe as he neared the gate that led to the barn. Mrs. Queen, having heard the noise of the attack, rushed out and was met by the same fate. Her outcry brought the daughter from her bed to meet the maniac as she left the porch and was ruthlessly felled.

The shots heard by Mr. Sharp were fired by Dr. Creveling and his son who, when they saw the fire from their home, fired several shots to alarm and arouse the neighborhood. At the coroner's inquest, the jury returned a verdict that these three persons came to their death at the hands of some unknown person or persons, and made no attempt to fix the blame on any particular party because of the nature of testimony. Sitting on this jury was Sylvester Apgar.

William H. Queen was about 62, a native of Milford, and a son of the late John Wahl Queen, Sr. He had followed farming for many years. Mrs. Queen was 51 and was a daughter of the late Henry Beckman, Sr. of Milford. Eleanor was a graduate of Phillipsburg High School and the Trenton Normal School. She had been teaching in area schools for the past couple of years.

### THE FUNERAL

The last sad rites which closed the earthly career of William H. Queen, his wife, and daughter, were held in the Presbyterian Church at Mt. Pleasant and in the nearby cemetery on Monday morning, at 11 o'clock.

Long before the hour of service, the church was filled and hundreds of people were congregated outside who were unable to get in the building. The services were in charge of three ministers from area churches. Friends sent the most beautiful flower offerings and gathered for miles around to do their loved ones this last respect. Hundreds of vehicles, automobiles and wagons brought the large gathering of people.

The bodies were interred, side-by-side, in the one grave in the cemetery. Their entire life had been spent in the one community and it may only be said that they were loved by the whole neighborhood in an unusual degree.

*This reporting will continue in the next issue of our newsletter. Told will be the story of the capture of the Lithuanian, his trial and the outcome of said trial.*

## William Apgar Carvatt, Bus Driver

by Judy Hankinson

Willard (Bill) Apgar Carvatt, Jr. (3.11.1.3.1.2.1.) was born on Sept. 27, 1925 in Morristown, NJ. He is related to the family that has operated Apgar Brothers (Trucking) Inc. of Bound Brook since 1941 and now in its third generation of management. Bill was a driver for the Millstone Bus Co. (of East Millstone, NJ) from 1949 to 1954.



From 1954 to 1982 Bill Carvatt drove for Somerset Bus Co. working from both their Mountainside and New Market garages. He frequently drove the route that would take him from Westfield, Elizabeth or Plainfield into New York City. He was given a 15 year Safe Driving Award in 1968.

After Somerset Bus Co. went out of business in 1982, Bill went to work for NJ Transit (NJT) Bus Operations at their Elizabeth garage. He retired in 1987 but came back to work as a NJT driver-instructor for one year in 1988.

Bill and Shirley Carvatt have donated souvenirs from his career to the Phillipsburg Bill Carvatt in NJT uniform Transportation Museum archives, including Somerset Bus Co. hat badge, drivers' money bags, pay stubs, time cards, and drivers' schedules.

*Adapted from an article in New Jersey Transport Heritage Vol. 10, No. 4 written by the publication's editor, Mr. McKelvey. McKelvey met Bill Carvatt on a Canal Society of NJ canal study tour in Ireland when the two coincidentally shared the same boat. We are grateful to Bill and his wife, Shirley, for sharing this story with us.*

## James H. Apgar, Civil War Veteran

by Bill Russell

One of Virginia Bunn's great-grandparents was James H. Apgar (6.11.11), grandson of Jacob J. Apgar, the 6th child of Johannes Peter Apgard. James was born on August 8, 1833 in Sycamore Twp., Hamilton County, Ohio. James's parents moved to Ohio in 1816 because their farm in New Jersey was too rocky to



Private James H. Apgar

## Reports and Announcements

### **Membership Committee Report**

by Debbie Apgar, Committee Chair

If you attended our last family reunion (September 2001), you may know me as the "Name Tag Person." This year, I have taken on the additional responsibility of Membership Chairperson.

I have given a new look to our Membership Form, which was sent to all current members in January 2002. If you have not received your renewal form or are not yet a member, please call me at (732) 968-3065.

As of March 1, 2002, we have 211 paid members. Our paid membership at the end of 2001 was 217.

### **Finance Committee Report**

by Wayne Dilts, Committee Chair and Treasurer

Our checking account had a balance of \$3,110 as of March 1, 2002. Some additional membership deposits were still coming in.

### **Newsletter Committee Report**

by Henry Apgar, Jr., Committee Chair

300 June 2001 newsletters were printed. Most were mailed to association members but a few extras are available for new members who may not have been on the mailing list in June 2001.

Your newsletter is the result of many contributors, including:

- Henry Apgar, Jr., Editor
- Judy Hankinson, Features Editor
- Amanda Smith, Layout Editor

Contributions are always welcome. Send your material at any time to the editor at [hapgar@mcri.com](mailto:hapgar@mcri.com)

support his family.

James died on May 20, 1863 in Douglas Hospital, Washington D.C. He served in the Civil War from Hunterdon County, New Jersey and was wounded in the Battle of Chancellorsville, which started on May 1, 1863. He was a private in Company A, NJ Infantry and was wounded on May 3 at Salem Church when a bullet broke his ankle. Unfortunately he was left lying in the dense foliage when his unit retreated and he was captured. He was released within a week, but by the time he was transported to a Union Army hospital, gangrene set in. They amputated his leg on May 16 but it was too late. He died 4 days later.

*This story is based on research by Helena Virginia Bunn.*

# Maria Sophia Apgar and a "Lost Tribe" of Apgars

by Michael A. Apgar

*Caution: This tale was, at the time of printing, based on information provided over several months of exchanges between the author and Ken Keebaugh, Amanda Daniels, Peggy Corrie, Ron Rose and Betty Ollar. The story of Maria Sophia Apgar is still a work-in-progress, due to considerable controversy concerning this interpretation of the information available. Any errors are the responsibility of the author. The historians named above are in no way at fault for any misinterpretations or mistakes in this account. They are due many more thanks than this disclaimer can manage!*

A baptismal entry dated July 11, 1763, in the records of the German Reformed Church of Mount Pleasant, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, for "Christ'n (or Christ'r) Wagner," born June 10, 1763, lists his parents as Ad'm (or Jo'n) Wagner and Maria Soph' Apgar (or Apper). This intriguing record came to the attention of Apgar genealogists in the early 1980s. They hypothesized that Maria Sophia Apgar must have been a member of the first American-born Apgar generation, an otherwise unmentioned and previously unknown daughter of Johannes Peter Apgard. She must have either died or moved with her family from Hunterdon County, perhaps to Pennsylvania. Now additional information suggests that the second guess may have been correct!

The old baptismal record indicates that Christian Wagner was two years younger than the eldest child of Catherine Apgar, the only other known daughter—and fourth child—of Johannes Peter Apgard. Catherine was born about 1743. Thus, Maria Sophia may have been next in order of birth after Catherine, or about 1745, when her brother Heinrich was born. Maria Sophia may have been a twin of either Catherine or Heinrich.

Christian Waggoner (possible variant spelling of Wagner) did live most of his life in Pennsylvania. His tomb-stone, in his family cemetery near the present town of Knobsville, records his lifespan as 1763-1856. Knobsville is in south-central Pennsylvania on a rise that marks the drainage divide between the Susquehanna and Potomac River basins. Knobsville lies north of the present town of McConnellsburg and south of Fort Lyttleton and Burnt Cabins. This area, previously part of Bedford County, became part of Fulton County in the mid-19th century.

Evidence suggests that Christian Waggoner of Pennsylvania and the infant Christian/Cristopher Wagner of New Jersey was the same person. If this is so, the young Wagner family probably travelled from Hunterdon County, through Philadelphia, and out the Forbes Road to York, Pennsylvania during the 1760s.

After a short stay there, they moved down the "Monocacy Trail" to Thurmont, Frederick County, Maryland, where they settled and became members of the congregation of the German Reformed "Appel Church."

In the years between the French and Indian War (1763) and the Revolutionary War (1775), other German settlers heading westward followed and lived along this route. They stuck together with other relatives and friends for protection against Indians and others of alien language, religion and culture. Thus, John Adam and Maria Sophia (Apgar) Wagner/Waggoner, and their children, including young Christian, probably were in the company of other Hunterdon County Germans during their migration to this area. Other old Hunterdon County names in the Alexandria Church records, include Aller (Oller/Ollar), Nagel (Nawgel/Naugle/Noggel), and Matthews (Mathews/Matthias). These families were neighbors, whose members intermarried with the Waggoners.

During the Revolutionary War, Christian Waggoner and other able-bodied young pioneers around Thurmont served with the American forces. However, family obligations and circumstances often prevented these men from continuing in the military throughout the conflict. Adam Waggoner's life may have been shortened by the war.

The record of Adam Waggoner's will in the Adm. Act's Rec. in Frederick County Courthouse (Maryland) indicates that it was written in October 27, 1779 and marked with an "X." (Apparently Adam was illiterate, so the spelling of his name and his children were at the whim of the scribe.) Adam's will names as beneficiaries: wife Sophia and sons Christopher and William, born in 1765! This will was recorded in the courthouse on December 4, 1779, apparently after Adam's death. Sophia acted as the administrator of the estate, which was finally settled on December 9, 1790.

Sophia Wagner (possibly Adam Wagner's widow) was married in Frederick County, Maryland on February 6, 1781 to Christopher Nead. Christian Waggoner probably left Thurmont, Maryland after his father's estate was settled in 1781. He may have traveled with neighbors and fellow church members Mathias DiShong and Philip Mathews. Singly or together, they moved up the old Braddock Trail (built from Baltimore to Fort Pitt during the French & Indian War) into southern Pennsylvania. There they left the trail and went through "The Narrows" to Knobsville. Philip Mathews (1778-1849) later married Christian Waggoner's daughter Sophia Wagoner. Mathias DeShong (1785-1874) was buried in the Waggoner family cemetery near Knobsville.

Probably after his military experience Christian Waggoner married Anna Catherine Valentine. They raised at least three children: Margaret (1783-1853), George Wagoner (1785-1855) and Sophia (1790- ?).

Younger brother William settled further north in Springfield Township, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania (near the Park and Lane families who intermarried with descendants of Herbert Apgar). Later, some of these offspring inter-married with descendants of Christian Waggoner in what is now Fulton County! William had at least one child, Christian Wagoner, born in 1796. Christian married Mary Jefferies and had at least one child, Mary, born in 1821, who married Henry Mathias (Mathews). William died in about 1832.

It is uncertain whether Christian's mother moved to Pennsylvania when he did. However, in the 1810 Pennsylvania Census, Christopher Nead and one female (both over 45 years old) reportedly lived two doors from Christian Waggoner, next to his son George, in Dublin Township, Fulton County. Christopher's unnamed

housemate must have been his wife Sophia (Maria Sophia Apgar Wagner Nead)! Neither Christopher nor Sophia Nead appear in the 1820 Census, by which time Sophia would have been well into her 70s. It is likely that they had both died by that time.

Christian's oldest daughter Margaret married Peter Aller/Oiler (1744-1839). Peter Aller was probably also from Hunterdon County New Jersey. He may have been the oldest son of Peter Aller (Sr) of Amwell Township or, possibly, of Peter Aller of Lebanon. In 1850 Christian Waggoner (90) and Margaret Oiler (67) were living in Todd Township with Philip Oiler (37), a farmer. Philip Oiler was a son of Margaret and a grandson of Christian Waggoner.

These people and their numerous descendants may represent a "lost tribe" of Apgars, many members of whom still live in the area Christian settled. Attempts to "prove" whether this tribe—including Civil War vets and other notables—can be linked into the Apgar family is still in progress. What an exciting development for our family history! If you have any information on this matter, please share it with us!

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## "A New World"

adapted from Louanna Rachel Heath-Hammond

The Philadelphia Presbyterian minister, Jediah Andrews, described the Rhineland emigrants of 1730 as "diligent, sober, frugal, rarely charged with any misdemeanor...many of them yet live in the country and have farms. By their industry and frugal way of living, grow rich, for they can under live the Briton."

Having endured emigration from the Palatinate (Pfaltz) in 1734, Johannes Epgert (Apgar) began a new life, based upon the freedom to pursue the chance of economic/political stability unhampered by prohibitive provincial legal strictures. In the New World, economic success for future generations was dependent upon agriculture skill, trade/craft expertise and self-reliance. The German homestead carved from the thick New Jersey forests would become the foundation of an energetic contribution to the future of the United States of America.

Years of insecurity of the first German settlers who emigrated from the Palatinate were compounded by centuries of European hardship and forced migration. Ownership of land became a tenacious dream. Most emigrants, despite their age, ability, and skill, began their labors as indentured workers. The process of emigration drastically reduced financial status. After a short stay in William Penn's Germantown, skilled workers found themselves traveling northward and westward on dangerous roads. English investors

required experienced labor to clear, farm, and turn a profit from the lands of the "Jerseys."

The first German homesteads reflected the need to survive amid diversity. Preservation of tools, grain, foodstuffs, and livestock became the first priority. In 1684, W. Streypers stated, "I have been busy...have made a log dwelling and under it, a cellar fit to live in. I shall be better off than I was last year." The Streypers family, like most new settlers, shared a log cabin with livestock and farm equipment - a rudimentary barn. Within a few years, the Streypers would build a house.

Pastor Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, in 1742, noted many German settlers lived in one-room log houses. Almost a century later, in 1822, Jonas Heinrich Gudehus complained about a one-room dwelling occupied by a German farmer, his spouse, and nine children. With only two beds in the one-room house, Mr. Gudehus had no place to sleep. He had to find overnight lodging elsewhere. The farmhouse of Heinrich Spang, where Mr. Gudehus might have stayed the night, was the epitome of economic achievement. The prosperous German homestead was distinguished by its one center chimney and use of cast iron stoves within the house. Anglo-American houses in the 1700s had at least two chimneys, one at each gable end. The multiple fireplaces had not been replaced by the innovative German cast iron stove.

Religious belief, Palatine custom, practical philosophy, and humor were an integral part of the 18th century German-American culture. The plain wooden door lintel of a simple one-room log dwelling would boast a carved house motto. The "haussegen"

(house blessing), a Palatine custom, would be painted on the mantle place.

*Louanna Rachel Heath-Hammond will be the keynote speaker at the 2002 Reunion.*

## HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

The following report comes from various sources. If there have been changes in your family, inform us, including your line, name, address, and full information on the birth, death, or marriage. For clippings, identify newspaper and date of notice. To ensure accuracy of family history and book information, send copies to both Judy AND Dorothy. Questions about information appearing here? Contact historian. By mail, enclose a SASE.

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### **DEATHS:**

HARVEY, Letha Sutton (6.2.3.1.3.4.1.), 89, of Manchester, VT, died 21 March 2001. Int. Cokesbury, NJ.

STASYSHYN, Peter (h/o 6.4.3.4.8.2.3.), 77, of Glen Gardner, NJ, died 22 July 2001. Int. Lower Valley Cemetery, Califon, NJ.

TRIMMER, Elnora (3.7.7.2.3.2.5.), 87, of High Bridge, NJ, died 26 July 2001. Memorial services, burial private.

HOFFMAN, Levi W., 81, of Easton, PA, died 27 July 2001 while on a trip to Alaska. Int. Musconetcong Valley Cemetery, Hampton, NJ. Levi was married to Geraldine Geist. Geraldine and her first husband, Preston Geist, were the hosts of the early Apgar reunions back in the 1970s.

DUNSTER, Elsie (w/o 1.2.3.3.6.1.3.1.), died 7 June 2001 in Hamilton, NJ. Int. Cloverleaf Cemetery, Woodbridge, NJ.

PFEIFFER, Robin (s/o 3.6.1.1.1.2.4.), 48, of Dallas, PA, died 10 Aug 2001. Int. Lower Valley Union Cemetery, Califon, NJ.

CONNOR, Dale R. (6.4.3.4.2.1.2.6.2.), 41, of Solebury Twp., PA, died 30 Sept. 2001. Int. New Germantown Cemetery, Oldwick, NJ.

APGAR, Clifford O. (6.5.7.4.1.1.), 88, of Annandale, NJ, died 24 Oct 2001. Int. Union Cemetery, Lebanon, NJ.

ISAK, Eleanor M. (5.7.7.2.1.1.), 85, of Union Twp., NJ, died 31 Oct 2001. Int. Bloomsbury Cemetery. Greenwich Twp., NJ.

MASSER, Beatrice Amanda (1.8.9.4.7.1.), 90, of Lebanon Twp., NJ died 5 Nov 2001. Int. Mountain View Cemetery, Cokesbury, NJ.

BELL, Joseph J., (h/o unknown line), of Clinton Twp., NJ, died 7 Nov 2001. Int. Mountain View Cemetery, Cokesbury, NJ.

APGAR, Alice P. (w/o 6.10.3.3.4.3.3.), of Whitehouse Station, NJ, died 18 Dec 2001. Int. Fairmount Rural Cemetery, Fairmount, NJ.

PINKERTON, Alice E. (3.5.3.1.4.1.1.), 90, of Little York, NJ, died 19 Dec 2001. Int. Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant, NJ.

ELLIS, Donald L. (3.5.3.1.4.1.4.1.) of Phillipsburg, NJ died 27 Dec 2001. Int. Greenwich Cemetery, Greenwich Twp., NJ.

SCHUBIGER, Mary Josephine (d/o 6.5.7.3.5.), 88, of Lebanon, died 29 Dec 2001. Int. Mountain View Cemetery, Cokesbury, NJ.

### **BIRTHS:**

CARR, Madison Elizabeth was born 21 Oct 2000 to Eric John Carr (3.5.5.2.3.2.1.1.2.) and Alina Jolikko of Aberdeen, NJ.

CURBISHLEY, Triston David was born 9 Mar 2001 to Cheryl Leaver (6.12.10.2.3.1.1.) and Tom Curbishley of Lawrenceville, NJ.

KELLY, Elizabeth Ann was born 16 Mar 2001 to Jann Kristen Kiely (9.5.9.2.1.2.2.5.3.) and Mark Kelly.

HOFFMAN, Danielle Ann was born 18 Apr 2001 to Kevin Kyle Hoffman (6.4.3.6.6.1.2.2.) and Annette Patricia DiPasquale of Tewksbury Township, NJ.

MACAULAY, Jensen Ida was born 21 Apr 2001 to Cindy Van Doren (4.1.3.1.2.4.2.2.1.) and Angus Macauley of Bridgewater Township, NJ.

DEGE, Matthew Spencer was born 8 May 2001 to Robert A. Dege (6.4.7.5.6.2.1.2.)(6.12.4.2.3.2.1.2.) and Wenona Dege of Charlotte, NC.

NOVACEK, Hutch Ethan Andrew was born 10 Aug 2001 to Melanie Snare (6.10.2.2.2.2.4.1.) and Hutch Novacek of Phillipsburg, NJ.

BECK, Kenneth Michael Beck, Jr. was born 31 Aug 2001 in Summit, NJ to Kenneth Michael Beck, Sr



(6.4.7.5.6.2.2.1.)(6.12.4.2.3.2.2.1.) and Kelly Ann Colaluca.

HERRON, Jennifer Irene was born 29 Sep 2001 to Ray Herron (1.2.1.2.5.1.9.1.1.) (6.2.5.6.6.9.1.1.) and Tanya Herron of Easton, PA.

## Historian's Report

by Judy Hankinson

This year I got a new job in High Bridge, NJ at Custom Alloy Corporation. I was excited at the prospects of working in the very office building where my mom had worked when it was Taylor Wharton. In exchanging memories about the plant's history, someone talked about a book written about Taylor Wharton for one of its anniversaries. It sounded so familiar - doesn't Dad have a book like that?

This book, written for the commemoration of their 175th anniversary, contains

many pictures of their employees. In 1917, Conrad Apgar's picture appears under the heading, "Faithful Fulfillment." He had worked there for 57 years. During a celebration for this anniversary, the following was said: "And now we come to the fifty year men; and I could take up a whole afternoon telling you about them: James Kiernan; Elias Struble; David L. Apgar; Patrick J. Meany - and the last -Conrad C. Apgar, the patriarch of them all. What would this town be without the name of Apgar? And think of the fact too that we have four groups of three generations each working for us." Included in these groups was: Andrew Apgar, Grant Apgar, and Wilbur Apgar - father, son and grandson.

Taylor Wharton started as an iron and steel manufacturing plant in 1742, using iron ores found in the High Bridge area. They even made cannonballs for the Revolutionary. War. It also provided jobs for many, many Apgar family members over the years. Other Apgars honored in this commemorative book were Hezekiah Apgar (49 years); William Fritts (43 years); Simon Philhower (31 years); Ellis Apgar (51 years); Bloomfield Apgar (33 years), David L. Apgar (51 years); Zenas Apgar (30 years); and Oscar W. Apgar (34 years).

Taylor Wharton put together another book commemorating its 210th anniversary. Listed in the book were many Apgar family members. A list of the half century club included Bloomfield Apgar, George W. Apgar and Nevie Apgar. Bloomfield Apgar was the ranking employee which made him the recipient of the cane which symbolized his position as Taylor Wharton's senior ranking employee. He joined the company in 1884 at the age of 12 and retired in early 1950 after 66 years of continuous service.

Some might remember the cane mentioned in our June 1999 newsletter. It was fashioned from a foundry timber taken from the old water-powered forge hammer at the time of its dismantling in 1881. This cane was made by Marshall F. Apgar (6.12.10.5.) for the company's owner, Lewis Taylor. Taylor kept the

cane until his death in 1908. His grandson then put a golden head on it and named it the mace of honor. The cane was passed to the oldest employee or retiree, which Apgar himself became

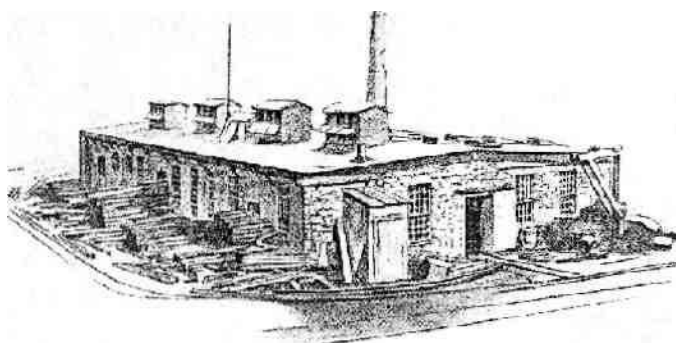
in 1939, having worked in the ironworks from 1873 to 1926. The Apgars have a

reputation of being people of their word, hard-working, and dedicated to their jobs. The new owner of Apgar Bros. Trucking in Bound Brook told me that they still serve the first company they ever did business with. He told me that the late Irv Apgar (former owner of Apgar Bros. Trucking) was the kind of person with whom a deal would be made and kept on a handshake. The bills of lading for Clinton, NJ's Fox Lumber, which, according to their sign is "an Apgar family business," declare aptly, "you can count on us."

The Apgars played a vital part in settling the Cokesbury area early in our country's history - first as pioneers farming and developing the land and to help our country's economy grow and prosper and then in helping High Bridge to become a prosperous steel town.

## New Trustees

Sisters Judy Beck and Lois Dege were elected to fill two board vacancies. The sisters were raised in Dunellen, NJ. Judy has one son and a grandson. Judy is Human Resources Manager at Cordis Corporation in Warren, NJ. She earned her MBA from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Judy is a Board Member of the



A building of the original Taylor Wharton facility

Somerset County Chapter of the American Red Cross and she is a fitness enthusiast. Lois now lives in Toms River with her husband, Robert. She has two children, plus two grandchildren. Lois is an EEG Technician at Monmouth Medical Center in Eatontown, NJ. She is active in the Women's Society of the United Methodist Church in Toms River and enjoys cross-stitch and needlepoint projects, as well as gardening.

I have heard from the recent recipient of the Virginia Apgar Prize. In information I have here, this prize was originally a national (USA) award. Ola has asked me if this award he was given is the same as the one here. Has it been taken to the world-wide level? ... I would be interested in learning more about this prize. Greetings from the Apgars!

Judy Hankinson"

## The Virginia Apgar Prize

*Judy Hankinson, Historian, decided to find out more about this year's award of the international "Virginia Apgar Prize 2001." Her edited correspondence with recipient Dr. Ola Saugstad and President of the World Perinatal Congress, Dr. Josi Carrera, is presented here.*

"Congratulations Dr. Saugstad. We would be interested in knowing more about you and the award. How were you selected for this?

Judy Hankinson, Historian"

"Thanks for your nice letter Judy Hankinson.

The Virginia Apgar Prize 2001 was issued by the World Association of Perinatal Medicine and given during the opening ceremony of the World Congress of Perinatal Medicine in Barcelona last week [November 2001].... I know the prize has been awarded before but I really do not know the exact history except another Scandinavian received it some 20-30 years ago....

I received the award for my research on resuscitation of newborn infants and also the basic mechanisms leading to injury in premature infants. Approximately 5% of all newborn infants need to be resuscitated or stimulated after birth. Traditionally, this has been performed giving the newborn 100% oxygen. We have shown that it is possible -and perhaps even advantageous - to use ambient air instead. In developing countries, this might be a great advantage since... oxygen is expensive. The American Heart Association and American Academy of Pediatrics have also become interested in this concept. So, I guess my research indeed is in the spirit of Virginia Apgar.

Ola Didrik Saugstad, MD, PhD, FRCPE  
Professor in Pediatrics  
Dept. of Pediatric Research,  
The National Hospital Oslo, Norway"

Next, Judy contacted Dr. Josi Carrera, President of the World Perinatal Congress in Barcelona, about the award.

"Dear Dr. Carrera,

Dr Carrera responded:

"Dear Judy,

The Virginia Apgar Prize, which was awarded in Barcelona at the Opening Ceremony of the 5th World Congress of Perinatal Medicine was established by the Organising Committee of the Congress, under the auspices of the World Association of Perinatal Medicine.

The Award consisted of a diploma, a statuette and a cheque of 10,000 euros (approximately 9,000 US dollars).

The prize awarded in Barcelona has nothing to do with the existing US award and was only given on the occasion of the Congress. The award winners (the awards were given ex equo) were Professors O.D. Saugstad (Norway) and E. Cosmi (Italy). The Jury that awarded the Prize was chaired by Prof. A. Ballabriga (Spain) and the other members of the Jury were: M. Carrapato (Portugal), F. Battaglia (USA), J.C. Martinez (Argentina), E. Bancalari (USA)...

Dr. Josi M. Carrera"

*Note: the 1992 US prize winner was Dr. L. Joseph Butterfield, Chairman of the Apgar Stamp Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Butterfield hosted members of the Apgar Family Association who attended the Post Office Stamp Dedication Program in Dallas (October 24, 1994). Dr. Butterfield died in 1999.*

## The Apgar Score is Still Relevant, Research Shows

By Henry Apgar Jr.

The February 2001 issue of the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine reported on tests of 151,891 infants at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (Dallas) to determine if the Apgar Score could be replaced by measurement of umbilical-artery blood pH values.

The 10-point Apgar score has been used to assess the condition and prognosis of newborn infants throughout the world for almost 50 years. Some investigators have proposed the blood test as a more objective method of assessing newborn infants.

The investigators concluded "...the Apgar scoring system remains as relevant for the prediction of neonatal survival today as it was almost 50 years ago." The full report can be read on their web page at [www.nejm.org](http://www.nejm.org).

## Helena Virginia Bunn Remembers

### Dr. Virginia Apgar

by Bill Roberts (with Helena Virginia Bunn)

This is the story of Helena Virginia Bunn, who did not know that she was a descendant in the Apgar family line until later in life. As a matter of fact, she is descended from three sons of Johannes Peter Apgard, the family patriarch.

Bunn was born 24 June 1921 in Jersey City, New Jersey. She attended grade and high school in Bayonne, N.J. She then entered the Presbyterian School of Nursing in New York City. She graduated with a degree in nursing in 1943 and did graduate work at Teacher's College, Columbia University while working at the Presbyterian Hospital. She started to work with Dr. Virginia Apgar around 1945. She currently is doing research on James H. Apgar, Civil War Veteran (see story on page 5).

### This is Helena Virginia Bunn's first-person account:

Dr. Virginia Apgar and I both spent a large part of our professional lives at the Presbyterian Hospital in the City of New York - The Columbia University Presbyterian Hospital Medical Center - both of us holding appointments on the Faculty of Medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

I first met Dr. Apgar in the Doctor-Patient-Nurse setting, and then, in the Hospital Administration setting, Virginia as Head of the Anesthesiology Division of the Department of Surgery, and I, as an Assistant Administrator.

Virginia was a warm and caring Doctor - always smiling and intensely interested in her patients and their welfare. Our rapport was established at the patients' bedsides when she would examine the patients and reassure them about the next day's surgery.

She was a constant support to the Head Nurse of the Anesthesiology program that taught graduate nurses the art of administering anesthesia. In those early days, Virginia recognized the importance of the Nurse in the area and encouraged it. It was, indeed, a departure, as



*Helena Virginia Bunn attends to her genealogical research.*

nurses in the mid 1940's had only recently been given the responsibility of taking blood pressure, a here-to-fore responsibility of the doctor.

In the next decade, Virginia started to devote herself to obstetrical and perinatalolgy anesthesiology with the resultant "Apgar Score" acronym.

We often found ourselves with a minute to chat about the nurses' role and during this time developing a relaxed exchange of ideas.

Dr. Apgar lived in suburban NJ, in a garden apartment complex where friends of mine also lived, and I would often see her roller-skating in the quad - a wonderful way to relax. Among her other talents she was a musician, not only playing, but making, violins. I learned she crafted violins after she appropriated a piece of "perfect" wood from an in-house telephone booth at the hospital. When I was apprised that the ledge had been removed, it was difficult to understand who would want it until Virginia confessed that she had taken it as an excellent specimen of wood, perfect for a violin.

At that time I was not "into" genealogy research and did not associate the Apgar surname with my paternal family. Later it was, indeed, exciting to learn that we both had that same great-great-great grandfather, Conrad Apgar. Virginia was my 4th cousin, once removed.

Virginia left the Presbyterian Hospital circa 1959 and joined the National Foundation, ending our professional association.

Dr. Virginia Apgar was an innovator in the field of anesthesiology. She made a lasting contribution to medicine with the creation of a scoring system for newborn infants that became known as the Apgar Score.

Apgar graduated from Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1935. Some years later she became the first woman to head a department at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center when she was appointed Director of Anesthesiology, of the Department of Surgery.

She published her scoring system in 1953, and today it is used by virtually every hospital in the world. The Apgar Score efficiently assesses the health of new-born infants, alerting doctors to any internal problems that might otherwise be overlooked.

## Announcement:

A discussion and slide presentation "Fashion and Fraktur: the Folklife of our 18th century Ancestors," about the 18th century lifestyle of New Jersey German families, will be given by Louanna R. Heath-Hammond during the 2002 Apgar Family Reunion.

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