



APGAR

Family Association Newsletter

www.apgarfamily.com

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Our 29th Reunion Focused on Genealogy

Seventy-nine members and guests attended our 29th annual reunion and business meeting at the Whitehouse United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 20, 2003.

Attendees on Saturday were treated to a wide spectrum of historical displays and kin-tracing demonstrations related to new discoveries of our family genealogy history. Ken Keebaugh, President of the Fulton County (Pennsylvania) Historical Society presented his illustrated research on "Sophia Apgar and the Lost Tribe of Apgars." (See related article on page 3.)

A smaller group, on Sunday, September 21, attended Worship Service at the Cokesbury United Methodist Church, which is the oldest church in the area where Apgar family members worshiped. After a tour of the gravestones, the group enjoyed brunch together at the church.

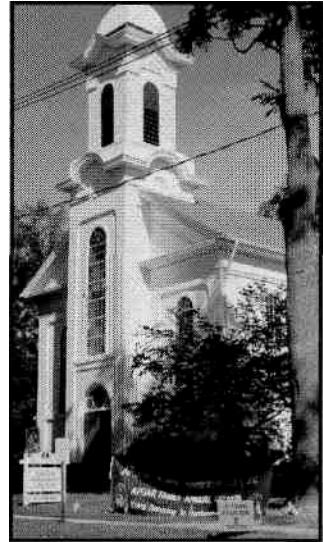
President Mike Apgar was re-elected for another one-year term.

Mike described recent research on the real Apgar family patriarch, Friedrich "Fritz" Egbert. His research is

based on microfilm records provided by the Church of Latter Day Saints. (See story on page 2.) Mike collaborated his findings with Hank Jones, author of "Westerwald to America." He also reported that Dorothy Apgar, Historian-Emeritus, has updated the book on the Herbert and John Peter lines and copies may be ordered from her. Membership Chair, Debbie Apgar reported that we have 238 members.

Trustee Howard Apgar was re-elected Treasurer. He reported our bank balance is \$2,240 and we have a \$6,201 CD.

(Continued on page 2)



Whitehouse Methodist Church



Photo by Ron Park

Annual Reunion - continued from page 1

James Herster presented to the association a set of digital photos of local cemeteries with family tombstones.

Debbie Apgar, Roger Flarley, and David Rich were elected as new trustees.

Trustee George Apgar Jr described his attendance at a three-day genealogy conference in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. George also led a tribute to family members who died during 2002-2003.

Judy Fury spoke of a book, "The Apgar Family," written by her grandmother, Fanny Bessy Gundersen. It was originally hand-typed.

Keeping with tradition, we honored those attending with the following special awards:

- Oldest Gentleman - Raymond Roberts, 83 years.

- Oldest Lady - Mary Apgar, 76 years.
- Youngest - Moira Apgar, 11 months, daughter of Mary Apgar
- Longest Married - Bill and Lois Roberts, married 56 years.
- Most Recently Married - Ken and Joyce Apgar, married 2 years.
- Largest Family Line Present - Robert and Dorothy Apgar and Wilma Novak families.
- Family with Most Children—Florence Flowers, with 7 children.
- Traveled Farthest - Kathleen and Richard Novak, Molokai, Hawaii.
- First to Respond to Reunion—Idalean Hosenauer.

(See photos from the reunion on pages 8 and 9)

Friedrich "Fritz" Ebgert ... Patriarch of Apgars in America by Mike Apgar

This story is extracted from a presentation by President Mike Apgar at the September 2003 Reunion and updated from his continuing research since then.

The research is supported by microfilm records from old German parish books, ship passenger lists, and court records.

This story builds on the historical legacy created by the many Apgar Family members who led the research into our past.

Background

History has been unkind to Fritz Ebgert, the immigrant patriarch of the Apgar family in America. For more than a century, his family forgot him. Near the close of the 19th century, Theodore Chambers, in his Early Germans of New Jersey, identified Johannes Adam Ebert, who arrived in Philadelphia in 1749, as the immigrant who fathered the first generation of 11 Apgar children in America. Circulating family legends suggested that he was from Lombardy, northern Italy, or that the family originated in Germany or Holland, or even in Transylvania or Armenia.

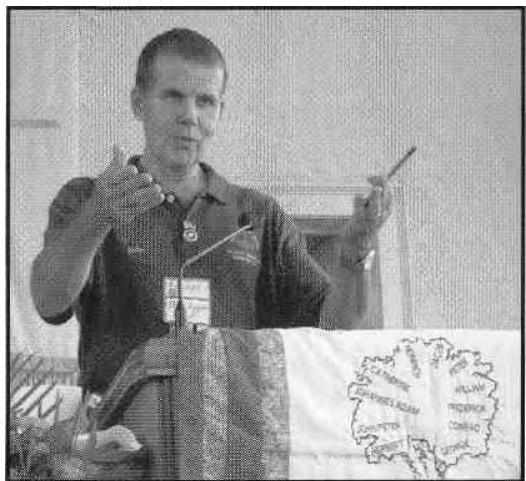
Four score and six years after Chambers' publication, the Apgar Family Association recognized that Johannes Adam Ebert couldn't have fathered the eldest of the first generation Apgars. Based upon the birth dates of children, Herbert and John Peter had to have been born in the mid-1730s. After scrutinizing immigrant ship passenger records, they conferred the distinction of family patriarchy on Johannes Peter Apgard (or Antger). Johannes landed in Philadelphia

in 1734, which would have enabled him to be the parent of these eldest sons in America. The assumption that Johannes was "the man" was expressed in Johannes Peter Apgard and His Descendants, Vol. I (1984) and in genealogies subsequently published by the Apgar Family Association.

Fortunately, in early 2003, Fritz Ebgert was rediscovered—individually and simultaneously—by several latter day Apgar researchers, including Lynn Conley and Louanna Rich, and Mike Apgar. These discoveries consisted of material found in Westerwald to America (1989) by Annette K. Burgert and Henry "Hank" Z. Jones and in transcripts of immigrant ship lists posted on the internet, respectively. As a result, Mike Apgar contacted Hank Jones and began to review old German church books, which had been microfilmed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. At the end of March, several Apgar researchers, including Lynn, Louanna and Mike, plus Debbie Apgar and George N. Apgar, Jr., attended a genealogical conference in Lancaster, PA. There they listened to presentations by, and spoke with, both Hank Jones and Annette Burgert. More information was obtained from both these noted authorities in follow-up correspondence. In April, Mike and Lynn discussed their new information with Apgar Family Association Historian-Emeritus Dorothy E. Apgar, confirming that there was no known evidence on Johannes in NJ, or anywhere else, after his arrival in Philadelphia.

(Continued on page 5)

Message From Our Association President, Mike Apgar



President Mike Apgar

What I find most marvelous about genealogy is its ability to connect us in a very personal way with great events of the past. While the details of descent from specific individuals at a distance of 10 generations may be fuzzy and difficult to prove, we are undeniably linked through our ancestors into the great tapestry of human history. Our individual family members are the threads in this tapestry. The sweep of history can be better appreciated when we place our ancestors, as individuals, in the events that give them context.

(continued on page 13)

Sophia Apgar ... and the Lost Tribe by Ken Keebaugh

This story was extracted from the featured talk at the 2003 Reunion by Ken Keebaugh, President of the Fulton County (Pennsylvania) Historical Society. For additional information, members may contact Ken at kkeebaugh@tiu11.org

Ken lives in the same Pennsylvania farm house in which Christian Waggoner lived. Ken brought many treasures with him, including a painting of the farm, which was established in 1773. Ken described the hand hewn beams in the farm house as having parallel, rather than circular, saw kerfs, characteristic of an 1870 lumber mill. The stone walls are believed circa 1850.

(continued on page 11)



Ken Keebaugh

John Apgar ... Civil War Veteran by Mike Apgar



John C. Apgar (7.1.1.3) was born in 1830, the only child of Jacob and Sarah Apgar. John had two half brothers, the product of his father's first marriage. John's half brothers, Joseph D. Apgar and Peter Apgar, were 15 and 20 years older, respectively, than he was.

John's father was born in New Jersey, but had moved to the Finger Lakes Region of New York. There he was the co-founder, with his friend Henry Teeter, of the Peruville Methodist Church. John's mother, Sarah, was born in Connecticut in 1796. She married John's father shortly after his first wife died in 1828.

(Continued on page 10)

John Apgar - Civil War Veteran

Plans for 30th Reunion

Saturday - September 18, 2004: Stanton Grange

- 10:00** Show & Tell; Genealogy Assistance
- 11:00** Speaker - Dennis Sutton
- 11:45** Group Photo
- 12:00** Family Style Lunch (\$10 adult; \$5 child under ten)
- 1:00** Business Meeting
- 2:00** Auction
- 3:00** Genealogy Assistance

Your trustees recommend staying at the Lebanon Courtyard Marriott, corner of Cokesbury Road and Interstate 78.

For more information, telephone one of the following trustees:

- George Apgar Jr. (732) 297-6686
- Judy Beck (908) 236-2413



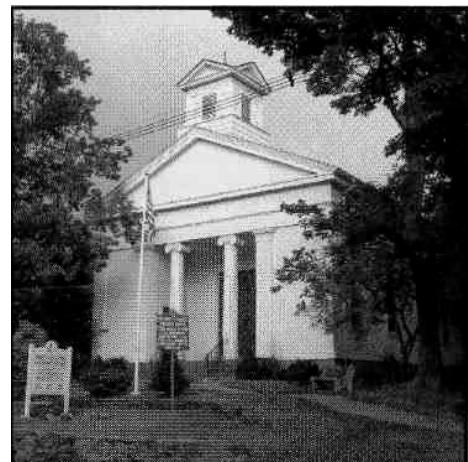
The Stanton Grange is on Route 618 in Lebanon (midway between Flemington and Clinton), about 1/2 mile East of the intersection with Route 31 (South of Interstate 78). This photo was taken during the Trustees' Reunion Planning Meeting in February 2004.

Sunday - September 19, 2004: Cokesbury United Methodist Church

- 9:00** Meet at Mountainville Post Cafe (Old Mountainville Post Office Building; Water Street in Mountainville; meet in private room upstairs)
- 11:00** Worship at Cokesbury United Methodist Church (Cokesbury Road; site of earlier reunions)
- 12:00** Lunch at Cokesbury Church
- 1:00** Group Driving Tour from Church (Map will be available)



The Mountainville Post Cafe is on Water Street, continuation of Cokesbury Road just 1 3/4 miles past Cokesbury Church



The Cokesbury United Methodist Church is on Cokesbury Road (Route 639) North of Interstate 78

New Patriarch - continued from page 2

A key principle in the search for ancestors is "Study the neighbors!" This principle, emphasized by Hank Jones and Annette Burgert and confirmed by experience in looking through family records of our Apgar ancestors in America, is that people (family, distant relatives, neighbors and friends) lived together and traveled together. Thus, the search for an individual or family is usually intertwined with other people. Recognizing this, means that clues relevant to solving family puzzles often can be found by examining records of the entire communities in which they lived. This approach has been helpful in developing the following story about Fritz Ebgert and the origins of the Apgar Family. Family names originating in the Westerwald, which turned up in northern Hunterdon or southern Morris Counties by the middle of the 18th century and became intertwined with the Apgars included Ahlbach (Alpaugh), Aller, Badenheimer, Boehm (Boehmer), Cramer (Kramer), Henn (Hann), Hoffman, Humrich (Emery), Jung (Young), Neitzert (Neitzer), Roerich, Schaefer, and Wagner.

Our Story

Friedrich Ebgert was born in 1708. He was probably the son of Johannes Adam Ebgert and his wife, Anna Sophia, who lived in Niederdreis, although no record of his birth or baptism has been found. Niederdreis was a hamlet in the Westerwald (literally "western forest"), an area of mainly forested, rolling hills, east of the Rhine River. It is in the northeastern portion of the former conglomeration of small Germanic states known as the Palatinate. Now a part of the German state of Rheinland-Pfalz, the Westerwald was, in the early 18th century, in that portion of the Rheinland (territory along the Rhine River), which was under the domination of the state of Prussia.

Friedrich or "Fritz", as he was called and signed his name, had other brothers and sisters. The church books at Puderbach, the local parish church, document the baptism of an unnamed child born to Anna Sophia & Joh. Adam Ebgard of Niederdreis on February 12, 1701. It appears that Anna Sophia died within about a year of Fritz's birth, and that Johannes Adam Ebgert had re-married, because the same church book includes an entry for Johannes Peter Ebgert born October 25, 1710, the son of Anna Veronica & Johan Adam Ebgardt of Dauffenbach. (Dauffenbach is another hamlet near Puderbach.) Johannes Peter would have been Fritz's half-brother.

Other children of Johan Adam Ebgert included Anna Veronica (who married Antonius Schiff of Dauffenbach on November 21, 1721), Anna Maria (who married Johan Peter Schaeffer of Muscheid on October 31, 1731), Johan Arndt Ebgert of Dauffenbach (who married Anna Maria Becher of Munscheidt, his first of four wives, on April 17, 1732), and Phillip Ebgart of Oberwambach (who was a sponsor at the baptism of Fritz' eldest child). The Puderbach church books record the burial of Johan Adam Ebgert on August 12, 1729, at the age of 60 years.

Fritz Ebgert of Dauffenbach married Anna Juliana Haag at Puderbach on June 8, 1731. Juliana was the daughter of the late Berhard Haag, who had been buried at Puderbach, at the age of 54 years, on May 6, 1728, and his widow Anna Elisabetha. Only about three months after

the wedding, on September 14, 1731, Johannes Herbertus was born. Anna Juliana did not appear at the baptism a week later. The sponsors included Herbert Bickel of Niederdreis and Johan Conrad Hoffman of Dauffenbach. Three years previously, Herbert Dickel had named his son Johannes Fredericus, with Fritz Ebgert the principal sponsor. It appears that Fritz returned the favor by naming his son after Herbert Bickel (Dickel), whose surname may have became Pickel in America).

Burgert & Jones (1989) report that a second Johannes Herbertus was born to Fritz and Juliana on December 28, 1732 and baptized at Puderbach on January 4, 1733. However, the LDS' microfilm record of the Puderbach church books contain no record of this event. For this to happen, it would be likely that the eldest son had died, but there is no recorded documentation of this either. Perhaps the later date was an attempt to doctor the records, providing a decent interval between the marriage and the birth of their first child.

Anna Juliana and Fritz Ebgert of Niederdreis had a second (or at least differently named) son, Johannes Petrus, on March 13, 1735. He was baptized at Puderbach a week later. Sponsors included Joh. Peter Caspar of Niederdreis, Johan Wilhelm Klein of Dauffenbach, and Fritz's Anna Margaretha Ebgartin. Again, it appears that Fritz named a child after a favored friend and neighbor.

On July 18, 1737, a daughter, Eva Elisabetha, was born to Anna Juliana & Fritz Ebgert of Niederdreis. She was baptized at Puderbach ten days later, apparently named after Anna Juliana's widowed mother, Anna Elisabetha. Unfortunately the infant girl died on November 1, 1737. Her grandmother, Anna Elisabetha, widow of Bernhard Haag, died only a week and a half later.

On January 18, 1739, Anna Veronica, widow of Johan Adam Ebgert of Dauffenbach (and stepmother of Fritz from early childhood), was buried at Puderbach. Fritz's wife, Anna Juliana Haag, was buried in Puderbach on March 8, 1739.

To make this tough time even worse, for a widower with two young sons, the climate turned unusually bad. Some of the earliest reliable temperature records indicate that a year of usu-ally cold weather set in by August 1739 and continued virtually unabated for more than a year.

Fritz re-married that fall, making Anna Eva Schaefer of Hanroth his bride on November 19, 1739. Anna may have been a younger sister (or even the daughter) of Antonius Schiff and Fritz's older sister Anna Veronica, who had married in 1721. With an arctic air mass backing up over Europe from Russia, January and February 1740 were significantly colder than normal, Fritz and Eva may have struggled to keep each other from freezing.

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(Completed on page 6)

New Patriarch - continued from page 5

The spring of 1740 was cool and dry. With the prospect of poor crop yields, Fritz and Anna Eva Ebgert abandoned their home that spring and traveled down the Rhine. They were accompanied by Fritz's cousins (or second cousins) Johan Wilhelm Kirbach and Johan Simon Kirbach, and by Peter Schiffer, who may have been Eva's brother. According to Burgert and Jones (1989), the churchbooks of Hochstenbach named Christian Peter Schiffer as the father-out-of-wedlock of Anna Maria Geyer's daughter, Maria Christina, born June 14, 1730. On June 1, 1740, after penitence, Peter Schiffer and Maria Geyer were married. They must have left town immediately afterwards.

In late June 1740, the Ebgerts, Kirbachs and Schiffers, along with other friends and neighbors from the Westerwald, all set sail from Rotterdam for America on the ship "Samuel & Elisabeth." They arrived in Philadelphia on September 30, 1740. Upon embarkation, Fritz was the first to sign the passenger list, while the signatures of Wilhelm and Christ Kirbach appeared opposite to his.

It appears that Fritz moved to New Jersey. Burgert & Jones (1989) reported that one "Friedrich Apkert" was named in a suit before the NJ Supreme Court in 1742. Despite, Lynn Conley's Herculean effort to track down this record, no trace could be found in the Court's files. Lynn hypothesized that this case, which was likely a dispute over money or land, must have been settled out of court. In 2000, Hank Apgar noted that the countryside in the Westerwald around Puderbach is very similar to that of northern Hunter-don County, NJ. Fritz must have felt at home in the sparsely settled rolling, forested hillside south of Cokesbury.

We can't be sure whether Fritz and Eva Ebgert/ Apkert were the parents of the other "first generation" Apgars or not. However, once removed from their childhood circle of friends, it appears that they reverted to the old German custom of naming the oldest son after the father's father and oldest girl after the father's mother. This custom was carried on by German emigrants in America and their descendants, for nearly a century. The next two children of 'the first generation of Apgars' were Johannes Adam and Maria Sophia. These were apparently named after Fritz's parents. The next two children, Catherine and Heinrich, may have been named after Eva's parents, although we haven't been able to identify who her parents were in the old church book records.

As no appreciable gap exists between the birth dates of the ten 'Apgar' children born in America—Johannes Adam (c. 1741), Maria Sophia (c. 1742), Catherine (c. 1743), Heinrich (1745), Jacob (1746), Peter (c. 1747), William (1752), Frederick (1753), Conrad (1755) and George (by 1760)—it is likely that they were all children of Fritz and Eva. Due to the close spacing of their estimated birth years, Sophia may have been a twin of either Adam or Catherine. Perhaps Eva was already pregnant with Adam when she and Fritz fled that chilly weather in Germany. The brief gap between Peter and William may have been due to Eva's death and Fritz' third marriage, it could be a time when another unrecorded daughter was

born, a child was stillborn or didn't survive to adulthood, or it could have a decent "breather" for Eva.

At any rate, with this evidence, and no other evidence of contenders, it is reasonable to amend the family records and recognize Friedrich "Fritz" Ebgert as the patriarch of the Apgar Family in America. Anna Juliana Haag was the mother of Herbert and John Peter in Germany, while Anna Eva Schaefer was likely the mother of Adam, Sophia, Catherine, Heinrich, Jacob, Peter, William, Frederick (Jr), Conrad and George. Additional relevant material may lie waiting to be found, which may confirm or somewhat alter this story. However, it seems that, finally, answers to the questions, "Where did the Apgars come from?" and "Who was the patriarch of (all or at least most of) the Apgars in America?", are known with certainty.

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Postnote

Besides identifying Fritz Ebgert as the Apgar family patriarch, the recent research on which this story is based also identifies his wives, and at least one of their sets of parents, and allows conjecture about the identity of Fritz's parents and cousins. This makes it possible to track our extended family, including Fritz's in-laws and cousins in America. It also clearly identifies the location from whence the Apgars came in a corner of present-day Germany. This raises the possibility of finding descendants of our ancestors (our distant cousins) who remained in the Old Country. After centuries of separation, including several world wars in which we were opponents, wouldn't it be intriguing to locate and correspond with our surviving cousins in Germany? What became of them and what sorts of lives did they lead through tumultuous events? Answers to family history always lead to more questions. We'll need the continued dedication of a family posse to pursue these matters.

Kinder Sprechen - Kid Talk

by Lynn Conley

A person's involvement in genealogy, or search for family, obviously had a starting point, but what was the catalyst that began the hunt for ancestors. The origin was not the day we went on the Internet or visited an archive as an adult, it probably started in childhood. We all know that things were different in the "olden days". TV, computers and electronics did not consume our time, our time was consumed by people. People sat and talked with us, showed us pictures of our relatives and told us stories about how they grew up. They told us stories about their parents and the events that shaped their lives.

Our relatives, with all this talk, unknowingly gave us a curiosity about our past. They were not telling us these things so we would become a family genealogist, they were sharing their lives with us, so we could understand them. Understanding how, where, when, and with whom they spent their time, gave us knowledge about the *why* of their lives.

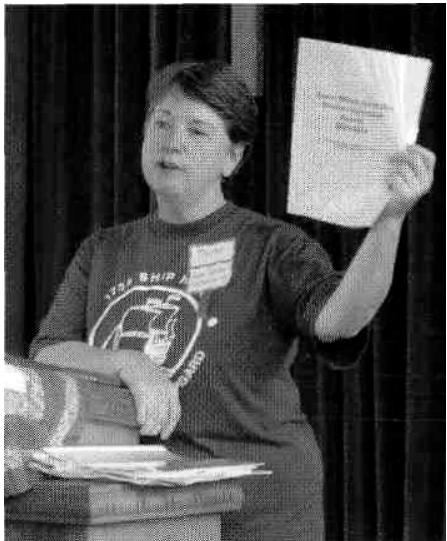
If we want the next generation to have an interest in their family we have to sit and talk now. Take out the old photo albums, slides or video's and sit with the teenagers, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins and characterize what has shaped your life. Share the funny things you did as kid, even if some of them got you in trouble. Share the special times, meeting your spouse, getting married, births, birthdays, graduations etc.

In contrast, also take the time to share your felling about Pearl Harbor or the day President Kennedy was shot or how you felt when you saw the events of 9/11.

Time together and talking are probably the most critical ways to learn about the family, but there are a few other things we can do to get next generation (NG) interested in their ancestry.

For school projects have the teenager, or child, select topics that relate to family members (Dead or Alive) and incorporate them in the project. Revolutionary War, Civil War, WW1, WWII, Rosie the Riveter, Pilgrims, Ellis Island Immigration, etc. (The Apgar Family has an ancestor for almost every event since 1734)

1. Incorporate a video or recording devise for a school project and make a historical biography of a family



Lynn Conley, Apgar Family Association Genealogist, speaking at 2003 Reunion

member. (This usually secures a great grade (A) and it is also vital for future archival history.)

2. Make a photograph album or scrapbook of anyone, for anyone.
3. Make a genealogical chart in a foreign language for a course project.
4. Bring a member of the Next Generation to the Apgar Family Reunion.
5. Give the Next Generation a place in the Apgar Newsletter for their thoughts and ideas. Kinder Sprechen -Kid Talk

This article is the first composition in the Kinder Sprechen Column, and I hope it is continued by members of the Next Generation. I encourage parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to get their next generation to participate. To start the process, I have attached a poem by a 17-year-old member of the next generation, Megan Krainski.

All submissions for the Apgar Newsletter- Kinder Sprechen -Kid Talk Column, can be mailed to Lynn Conley.

Apgars

by Megan Krainski

From Germany they did descend,
Only with family and their friends,
They came before the Freedom War,
With dreams and places to explore.

Some came over on a ship called Hope,
With so little they just had to cope,
The Apgars were farmers, part of the norm,
They never gave up, not even in a storm.

In Hunterdon County they decided to live,
With all their good deeds they did give,
Together as descendants we can show others,
And teach them about their fathers and

Update on Helen Apgar

Former Trustee (1986-1987), Helen Apgar, is living in Baltimore. She had originally come to the United States from Canada to study at Rutgers University. She met, and married, Raymond Apgar, then President of the Califon Bank.

Helen was quite involved in the original Apgar family genealogy research.



Helen Apgar (right), with niece Marybelle Apgar Hoffman

Memories from the 2003 Reunion



Fabulous catered lunch for all attendees



Largest Family Line Present - Robert and Dorothy Apgar (Brother and sister)



Youngest Attendee—Moira Apgar (11 months) with Mother Mary Apgar and Association President, Mike Apgar



Genealogy researchers sharing information during Reunion



"Cousins" meeting during lunch break



Raymond Roberts, Oldest Gentleman Attending (84 years old), receiving award from Judy Beck



Kathleen and Richard Novak, traveled the farthest to attend the reunion.



Mary Apgar, Oldest Lady Attending (76 years old), receiving award from Judy Beck.



Bill Roberts, Longest Married (56 years), receiving award from Judy



Sunday Tour Group on Steps of Cokesbury Church

John Apgar Story - cont from page 3

John married Mary Haskins at Dryden, New York, on September 1, 1850. They had no children.

On September 16, 1861, John enlisted at Peruville as a private in Company C of the 76th New York Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered into the service at Cortland, New York, on October 5. However, he was older than most of the other recruits and—according to a letter written several years later—quite articulate. On the day that he mustered into the service, John's fellow recruits elected him as the 1st Lieutenant of his company.

Unfortunately, John never received his commission. His term of service as an officer ended on November 25, after which time he became a private again. John's military record does not explain what happened. However, according to the regimental history, the 76th New York had a difficult early development. Insufficient men were available to form an entire regiment and considerable scheming and conniving occurred for the officer commissions. Things got so bad that the Colonel, who had some West Point experience, arrested and subsequently shot (and severely wounded) the officer who was supposed to become the major. Factionalism between the two rivals resulted in numerous resignations and eventual amalgamation of the men from the Cortland area with another partial regiment raised in the Cherry Valley.

The 76th New York was re-organized in Albany in January 1862. The regiment travelled to Washington, DC, where according to the regimental history, "two days were spent at the Soldier's Retreat, when we were ordered into camp on Meridian Hill" (north of the city). There, stated the regimental surgeon in a post-war deposition, "during a severe rain and snow storm, the entire command being without shelter of any kind... John G. Apgar contracted rheumatism from exposure and was treated by (the doctor)". Typhoid pneumonia also broke out in the camp at Meridian Hill and caused the first death in the regiment.

John had recurring problems with rheumatism and an inflammation of the legs termed "erysefelas". The surgeon continued to treat him for these problems...although the nature of these treatments was not specified.

In the summer of 1862, the 76th New York was assigned to General Pope's Army of Virginia. During August, while General McClellan's Army of the Potomac withdrew in defeat from its Peninsula Campaign, Confederate attention (and superior numbers) shifted to the Army between Richmond and Washington. During the last week of August, the two armies clashed several times, culminating in defeat of the Union forces at the Battle of Second Manassas (Second Bull Run).

John's regiment did a lot of forced marching during unusually hot weather. Many men dropped from exhaustion, some even died. During the series of encounters, about half of the men in the 76th New York became battle casualties. Nearly 40% of the regiment was lost in a sharp fight at Gainesville, Virginia, on August 26. Much bitterness was expressed later about McClellan's failure to reinforce the army of his rival Pope, contributing to the Union loss at Second Manassas.

The warmer weather must have eased John's rheumatism and leg inflammation. He was listed as "present" for duty on the company muster rolls. However, the surgeon later reported that "he continued to treat (John) until on or about September 11th 1862, when he became unable to perform military duty by reason of said disability and was sent to hospital with rheumatism and fever." Muster rolls for the Harewood U.S. Army General Hospital (in Washington, DC) indicate that John served there as a nurse from September 8 until at least November 14. He is listed as a patient at the hospital in January and February 1863.

Apparently, John never returned to service with his regiment. On November 28, 1863 he was formally transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps (also known as the "Invalid Corps"). The members of the VRC were former soldiers who were unable to perform normal duties in the field. However, they served in support roles, thereby freeing physically-unimpaired men for field service.

On July 24, 1864, John wrote a letter to Ezra B. Cornell, the wealthy benefactor of Cornell University, informing him of his nephew's death in the hospital from a wound suffered in battle. Apparently John went above and beyond the call of duty in response to an inquirer who lived near his own home. He wrote that the young man was "buried on Arlington Heights on the farm formerly owned by Gen. R.E. Lee, at present commanding the Rebel Army", and assured Mr. Cornell that "his and all other graves are properly marked and a record kept so that if the friends wish to they can remove the body". The letter was preserved in Cornell's archives, where, according to the archivist, it "is one of our favorites, due to its poignancy for Ezra".

The survivors of John's company mustered out of the army near Petersburg, Virginia, on November 8, 1864. Their three year enlistments had expired. John probably left the service at this time too and returned home.

Unfortunately, he continued to experience problems with—and be treated for—rheumatism and erysefelas. At times these conditions prevented him from working at all. He worked at times as a medical assistant, a career that must have opened to him in his days at the army hospital during the war. Despite his medical condition, John never applied for a veteran's disability pension. On February 11, 1879, John died. The cause of his death was recorded as "disease of kidneys, result of erysefelas".

Mary then applied for—and was subsequently granted—a widow's pension of \$8 per month, effective on the day of John's death. This pension continued until she remarried, to Stephen Hunt, on July 13, 1882.

References:

1. Military and Pension Files for John G. Apgar, U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. Smith, A.P. (1867) *History of the Seventy-Sixth Regiment New York Volunteers; What It Endured and Accomplished*, Cortland, New York, reprinted in 1988 by Ron R. Van Sickle Military Books, Gaithersburg, Maryland, 429p.

Sophia Apgar Story (cont from page 3)

According to a story by Mike Apgar in the June 2002 issue of the Apgar Family Association Newsletter, it is believed that the "missing" daughter of Johannes Peter Apgard, Maria Sophia Apgar, married Christian Waggoner and relocated to Pennsylvania.

It is believed that the Waggoner ancestors came originally from Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

Christian and Sophia had two sons,



President Mike Apgar assists Ken Keebaugh in telling the Sophia Story

Christopher and William.

Christopher eventually acquired one thousand acres of land in Fulton County, Pennsylvania, and developed a saw mill, stone quarry, and brickyard.

William eventually settled in Hunterdon County, New Jersey.



Malvena (right) is shown here with Mary Apgar (left) during the 2003 Reunion; Malvena was shy and not frequently photographed.

George M. Apgar (1921-2004)

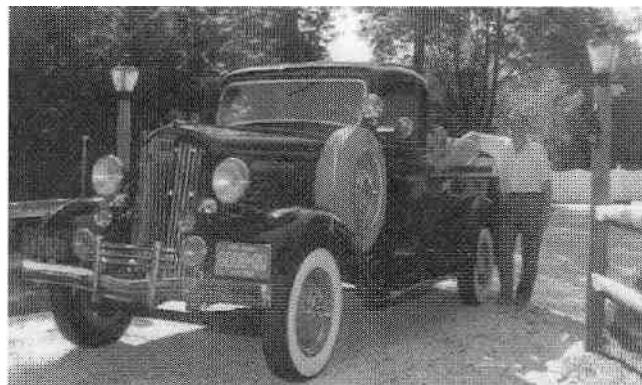
George Milton Apgar , of Chester, died on February 27, 2004, in his home. He is survived by his wife, Beryl; a daughter, Georgia Case; stepdaughters Lynn Adamson, Denise Davis, and Diane Hatherall; a stepson, Jamie Boyd; brothers, John and Willard; a sister, Jeanne Berger; and five grandchildren.

George was a self-employed automotive dealer. He owned Apgar's Garage in Chester for 40 years, before retiring in 1984. He enjoyed working on, and collecting, old cars. His 1936 pickup was typically parked in front of his garage.

He had been an automotive repairman in the Army Air Corps during World War II in Europe and attained the rank of Sergeant. He was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal with bronze stars and three overseas bars. He was a two-time American Legion Post 342 Commander.

George also loved rebuilding antique trucks. His favorite was a restored GMC truck which he found in Loveland, Colorado. He scoured New Jersey flea markets for missing parts. He fabricated a new grill from scratch. He kept the truck at home after selling his garage in Chester. Eventually, he won the National First Prize Trophy for his work.

George was a trustee and Apgar Family Association Treasurer from 1986 until 1996.



George M. Apgar with restored GMC Truck

Malvena Apgar (1916-2004)

Malvena Apgar, of Califon, died Friday, May 7, 2004, in her home. She was born April 10, 1916 in High Bridge, the daughter of William B. and Charity Schomp Apgar. Malvena is survived by her husband of 57 years, Harold "Spike" Apgar, a daughter Sylvia Brunt (and husband Richard Brunt) of Clinton Township, and a grandson Wayde Brunt of Hillsboro, New Hampshire. Her brother, William, died in 1997.

Malvena was a faithful member of the Cokesbury United Methodist Church where she served as Financial Secretary and a member of the Church Council. She was also the Church Greeter and organizer of all church dinners. For 21 years, Malvena was the organizer of our Apgar Family Reunion Luncheons.

Historical Happenings

by Judy Hankinson (judyghs@yahoo.com)

The following information is taken from various sources, including the internet.

Using the Social Security Records and obituaries on line, Apgars around the country are now listed (identified with an asterisk). Also, this list is being presented alphabetically rather than by date of death. Please remember to send new information to either **Lynn Conley, Genealogist, or Judy Beck, Historian**. Their addresses are listed on the back of this newsletter.

DEATHS:

APGAR, C. Warren, (unknown line), 80, died 18 Mar 2003. Res: Lansdale, PA.*
APGAR, Caroline E., (w/o 6.4.7.7.3.1.), 92, died 7 Aug 2003. Res: Warsaw, IN.
APGAR, George M., Jr., (3.7.9.12.2.1.1.), 82, died 27 Feb 2004. Res: Chester, NJ.
APGAR, Harry, (6.10.10.5.2.3.), 87, died 11 Oct 2003. Res: Whiting, NJ.
APGAR, Harold, (unknown line), 70, died 17 Apr 2003. Res: Newark, OH.*
APGAR, Hazel Emma, (1.2.3.3.10.2.2./w/o 7.9.2.3.4.4.), 83, died 25 Sep 2003. Res: Lebanon Twp., NJ.
APGAR, James G., Jr., (9.5.5.6.1.1.5.1.), 52, died 15 Feb 2004. Res: Nutley, NJ.
APGAR, James Steven, (8.6.7.2.3.2.4.), 47, died 2 Aug 2003. Res: Bethlehem Twp., PA.
APGAR, James W., (unknown line), 74, died 23 Jan 2003. Res: Bethlehem, PA.
APGAR, Janice, (6.10.3.3.4.11.), 82, died 21 Jan 2004. Res: Roseburg, OR.
APGAR, Kenneth J., (line unidentifiable), 63, died 23 Jan 2003. Res: Brick, NJ.
APGAR, Malvena, (2.3.1.7.6.1./w/o 2.3.1.11.6.1.), 88, died 7 May 2004. Res: Cokesbury, NJ.
APGAR, Margery L., (w/o 9.5.9.9.1.3.), 89, died 13 Dec 2003. Res: Atlanta, GA.
APGAR, Richard "Pete", (3.7.7.2.1.7.4.), 74, died 3 Nov 2003. Res: Ogunquit, ME.
APGAR, Russell K., (7.4.7.6.1.1.1.), 87, died 8 Feb 2003. Res: Whiting, NJ.
APGAR, Ruth, (6.10.3.3.4.4.), died 15 June 2004. Res: Whiting, NJ.
APGAR, Virginia E-, (w/o 6.10.3.3.4.14.), 79, died 6 June 2004. Res: Oldwick, NJ.
APGAR, Wilbur, Dr., (1.2.3.11.9.2.), 94, died 22 March 2004. Res: New Brunswick, NJ.
BLIGHT, Melissa, (2.3.1.7.1.3.1.1.), 41, died 6 Sep 2003. Res: Oxford, NJ.
BURD, Carl, (h/o 6.7.1.6.3.5.), 74, died 18 Dec 2002. Res: Lebanon Twp., NJ.
CARRIGG, Christina, (d/o 1.2.1.6.6.1.1.2.), 33, died 22 Feb 2003. Res: Holland Twp., NJ.
CENOVA, Pauline, (10.1.5.4.3.3.), died 21 March 2003.
CRAMER, Hazel N., (3.3.5.1.2.1.), 95, died 31 March 2003. Res: Flemington, NJ.
CREGAR, John M., Jr., (10.12.2.6.1.4.2.), 71, died 27 Dec 2003. Res: Stillwater, PA.

FRENCHKO, John M, (h/o 4.1.2.2.5.1.1.2.3.), 50, died 11 Mar 2004. Res: Easton, PA.

KICE, Hilton H., (1.2.11.14.5.2.1./h/o 3.3.2.8.3.), 80, died 10 April 2004. Res: Glen Gardner, NJ.

KUCHARSKI, John R., (h/o 10.14.6.3.7.3.), 75, died 13 Jan 2004. Res: Secaucus, NJ.

LOCANDRO, Thelma Apgar, (6.12.9.3.1.1.), 89, died 16 Jan 2004. Res: Stockton, NJ.

MASSEY, Jo-Ann, (w/o 1.8.9.4.7.1.1.), 59, died 27 Oct 2003. Res: Lebanon Twp., NJ.

MCCATHARN, Dorothy U., (w/o 6.4.3.4.2.1.12.), 80, died 12 Dec 2003. Res: Lebanon, NJ.

MELICK, Florence Rinehart, (6.4.3.5.1.1.1.), 93, died 6 Feb 2004. Res: Oldwick, NJ.

MURRAY, Ruth, (line unidentifiable), died 11 May 2003. Res: Glassboro, NJ.

PHILHOWER, Paul Kinzy, (6.4.3.4.5.1.1.), 87, died 30 Jan 2004. Res: Huntsville, AL.

SMITH, Henry Nelson, (9.5.9.6.1.1.2.), died 27 Dec 2003. Res: Phillipsburg, NJ.

SOLTYS, Lois J. (2.3.1.12.5.5.), died 7 Jul 2003. Res: Palmer Twp., PA.

TRIMMER, William N., (h/o 3.7.7.2.3.2.5.), 91, died 1 Feb 2004. He lived all but 10 years in High Bridge, NJ. He was believed to be the oldest man of that borough.

WISE, Elsie Elizabeth, (6.10.3.3.9.1.2.), 61, died 24 Aug 2003. Res: Tewksbury Twp., NJ.

BIRTHS:

BECK, Kevin Michael was born 6 Jan 2004 to Kenneth Michael Beck, Sr. (6.4.7.5.6.2.2.1.) and Kelly Ann Colaluca.

BLACK, Zachary James was born 23 April 2004 to Stacy L Kerr and Jim Black. He is the grandson of Kathy Alpaugh Phelan (1.2.11.9.7.4.1.4.).

CAPOZZOLO, Jaime Gayle was born 20 Dec. 2003 to Sara Freibergs and James Capozzolo. She is the great-granddaughter of Marilyn (3.5.3.2.6.1.1.) and Voldemar Freibergs.

DAVIS, Tandon Jack was born 6 Oct 2003 to Tanya Lee Eberstadt (10.14.6.2.11.2.3.) and Donal Davis.

MILLER, Kyla Lindley was born 30 Aug 2003 to Krista Lindley Eberstadt (10.14.6.2.11.2.4.) and Anthony Kevin Miller.

MORAN, Daniel Quinn was born 2 Feb 2004 to Susan Fox (1.8.7.1.2.5.1.1.) and Shaun Moran.

OLAH, Cailyn Christene was born 3 Aug 2003 to Charles Olah, Jr. (1.2.1.6.6.1.5.?) and Gwendolen Olah.

SANDT, Tanner Michael was born to Michael and Shana Sandt. Great-Grandmother is Catherine Apgar of Easton. (unknown line)

STRIKELEATHER, Kaitlyn Mackenzie was born 25 Nov 2003 to Laura Louise Eberstadt (10.14.6.2.11.2.1.) and Philip McKinley Strikeleather.

TAPP, Katie Marie was born 9 March 2003 to Laura Trimmer (3.7.7.2.3.2.5.2.3.) and Henry Tapp.

MARRIAGES:

Wendy Beavers (6.12.10.5.5.1.2.) and Douglas Boyce were married 25 Jan 2003 at the Cokesbury United Methodist Church, Cokesbury, NJ.

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS:

Inez and Charles Cavlier, Sr. of Clinton Township, NJ celebrated their 55th wedding Anniversary 6 Dec 2002. Inez is the daughter of the late Leslie Lindabury and Elsie McCatharn Lindabury (6.4.3.4.2.1.6.).

President's Message (Continued from page 3)

The story of the immigration and settlement of America is an interesting case. It is vast and complex and certainly one that can be appreciated and understood as a movement of people rather than a specific person. This is certainly true of our German ancestors who settled in northern Hunterdon and southern Morris Counties in New Jersey.

The landscape of this area of rolling, forested hills is similar to the region east of the central Rhine River known as the Westerwald. One could take the area of southern Morris and northern Hunterdon Counties, superimpose it on the same area of the central Westerwald, and find members of the same families living in each during the mid-18th century. Familiar - and perhaps today not so familiar - names included Alpaugh, Epgert (Apgar), Eich, Pickel, Huffman, Emerich (Emery), Kern, Neitzer, Schaefer, Flommerfelt, Badenheimer, Jung (Young) and Wagner. It is almost as if a magnet-like force picked up a sprinkling of these folks from the German countryside and dropped them in similarly random fashion in western New Jersey!

This area attracted other Germans families, including Swackhammer, Dufford and Schuyler, Sharpenstein (Sharp) and Kramer. Over time, members of some of these families either moved further westward into the new land, or intermarried with other non-Germans (Dutch, English, Scot-tish, and even Native Americans). New people, at first from Europe - Ireland, Italy and Eastern Europe - came to fill the gaps and widen the gene pool of those who stayed put. Ironically, and tragically, two centuries later the sons of these immigrants were mobilized to fight armies of their cousins, sons of the stay-at-homes, during two catastrophic world wars.

It is these broad trends in which our ancestors participated that helped determine who we are as a people today. They sought freedom of belief, independence of action, and opportunities for improvement. Over the past three centuries our family and nation have made great progress in tolerance, equality, knowledge and prosperity. We can take pride that our own ancestors were personally involved in these advances. It links us to them and on to the future of America. This awareness should make us all the more mindful that centuries from now our descendants will be thrilled to claim de-scent from people who kept that process rolling in the direction of continued improvement. Let's not forget this grand sweep of perspective as we gather together this fall to reunite and remember!

Genealogically Speaking

By Lynn Conley, Genealogist

The science of genealogy can be found in the "citing" or keeping track of the acquired information. As we conduct the searches for our families, as researchers, we gather reams of documents and data. It becomes our responsibility to cite where the information originated. Citing or writing down where the information came from is vital in verifying or proving that your data is valid. Citing information also allows you and other researchers to go back to the source when future data conflicts with previous assumptions. Any statement of fact, whether it is a birth date or an ancestor's surname, must carry its own individual source. Source citations serve to let others know on which records you based your facts. (Did the birth date you have for your great-grandmother come from a published family history, a tombstone or a birth certificate?) Citing also helps others in evaluating your research. (If you find a complete genealogy of your grandfather on the Internet, wouldn't you want to know where the information came from?)

When collecting our genealogy data, the goal is gather as much primary source material as possible. A primary source is a record that was created at the time of an event by a person who had reasonably close knowledge of the event, making the document most credible, since time has not eroded the facts. A secondary source is a record that was created a significant amount of time after an event occurred or by a person who was not present at the event, which makes the information less credible since human beings can forget or change facts due to our recall abilities. A marriage certificate would be a secondary source for a birth date because it is created long after the birth. It would, however, be a primary source for the date of marriage. Many sources in genealogy can serve as both primary and secondary sources.

The Internet has given us an expedient way to speak to thousands of amateur and professional genealogists. Many of these researchers are now providing us with primary source documents that were unavailable due to time and distance. An example of this, for the Apgar Family, is the original German church records from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS). These LDS documents have provided us with primary records for many of the original Apgar children. This data however, changes dates and events once thought to be an actuality. No matter what the source, we should always consider three questions: Who gave the information? Why did they give the information? When was the information given?

Genealogy is not an exact science; it is the combining of direct evidence with circumstantial evidence that allows us to draw conclusions about our family trees. In the study of Genealogy, we must therefore always be ready to change our family history as direct evidence comes to light, making prior conclusions less probable. History is, after all, the changing events of our lives.

2003-2004 Committee Chairs

The following officers and committee chairs were confirmed at the Trustees Meeting following the September 2003 Reunion:

President - Mike Apgar

First Vice President - George Apgar Jr (Acting)

Second Vice President - Lois Dege (resigned in mid-year to move to North Carolina)

Corresponding Secretary - Louanna Rich

Recording Secretary—Roger Flartey

Membership - Debbie Apgar

Website - Chris Apgar

Treasurer - Howard Apgar

Genealogy - Lynn Conley

Historian - Judy Beck

Newsletter - Hank Apgar

Book Editor - Dorothy Apgar

Public Relations - George Apgar Jr



From left to right: Lois Dege, Henry Apgar Jr, Debbie Apgar, Howard Apgar, Louanna Rich, Lynn Conley, Mike Apgar, Judy Beck, George Apgar Jr, Roger Flartey, David Rich

Meet our New Trustees

Debbie Apgar

Debbie describes herself as a "Jersey Girl" who enjoys vacationing at the "shore." She works for Rutgers University as a Librarian Assistant. Debbie enjoys genealogy research and has been attending Apgar reunions since 1974. Before becoming our Membership Committee Chair, Debbie was the person handing out nametags at the reunions.

Roger Flartey

Roger is a life-long resident of New Jersey. He is a great-grandchild of Emma Apgar, daughter of Conrad P. C. Apgar. He also has ancestors in the Pickel, Scharfenstine, Schuyler, Smith, Tharp, and Voorhees families. Roger is retired and lives in Denville with his wife, Kathleen. They have been attending Apgar reunions since the 1980s.

David Rich

David is an Auditor for the Brotherhood of Maintenance Way Employees and travels throughout the United States and Canada. He is descended from the Jacob Apgar line. David and Louanna (descended from the Herbert and John Peter lines) enjoy researching Apgar Family history in the Hunterdon County Court House.

Membership Committee Report

by Debbie Apgar, Committee Chair

As of June 6, 2004, we have 210 paid-up members for 2004.

Finance Committee Report

by Howard Apgar, Treasurer

As of September 2003, our checking account has a balance of \$2,240 and we have a \$6,201 certificate of deposit,

Newsletter Committee Report

by Henry Apgar Jr., Editor

300 "Spring 2003" newsletters were printed. Most were mailed to association members but a few extras were available for new members who joined after the last mailing.

Commemorative Crock

by George Apgar Jr.

Your trustees have arranged for another addition to your collection of history-inspired Apgar Family Commemorative Crocks. This year, the inscription reads: "30 Years of Agar Family Reunions, 1975-2004, Hunterdon County, New Jersey."

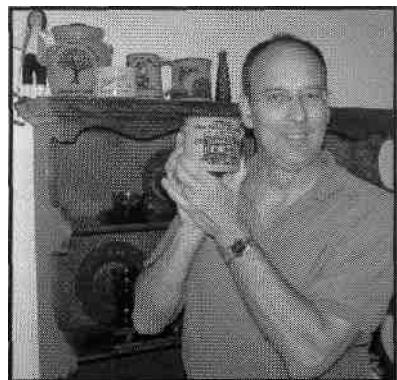
This limited edition one-pint crock can be purchased at the September 18 reunion for \$25, while supplies last.

You may also order directly, for \$30 each which includes packing and shipping to your home. Send a \$30 check, payable to "Apgar Family Association" to:

George Apgar Jr.
218 Kempsey Drive
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Also tell us to which address you want us to ship your crock and include your telephone number in case we need to get in touch with you.

For more information, call George at home at (732) 297-6686.



George with this year's souvenir commemorative crock; order now so you miss out.

Update on Apgar Village

by Henry Apgar Jr.

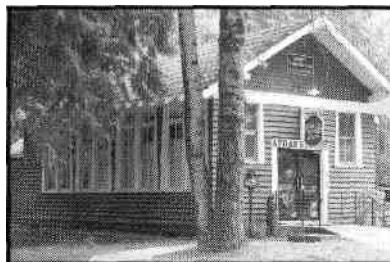
Your editor and his son visited Apgar Village, Montana, this year, following the initiative of many Apgar Family Association members in recent years.

Located on the shore of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park, Apgar Village has attracted visitors for many years due to its location in one of America's most beautiful and rustic national parks. Its history and attractions have been described in previous issues of this newsletter and displayed at previous reunions.



Milo's original home, now a rental cabin in Apgar Village

Milo Apgar settled on the shore of Lake McDonald in 1889, fifteen years before the establishment of the area as a national park when the land was open for homesteading. In 1893, Great Northern Railway began passenger service to the area and Milo realized the potential for tourism. He built his first tourist cabin in 1893 and completed the rest by 1910. There are now fifty cabins and motel



Apgar School, now a gift shop

units. The large hill behind the lake was named Apgar Mountain. Early tourists took the stagecoach from the train station at Belton (now West Glacier, Montana).

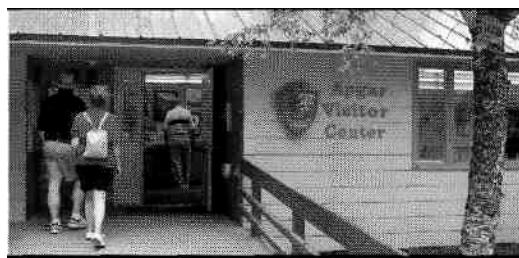
Forest fires were a key factor in Apgar Village history. The first recorded fire in August, 1910, burned many of the native cedar trees but spared the village. In 1925 and 1926, fires burned Apgar Mountain but again spared Milo's cabins. The worst fire occurred in 1929. A neighbor, Eddie Brewster, told how he tried to reach Apgar to help his neighbors but was turned back by the intensity of the

blaze. The following year, the Department of the Interior thought it had an opportunity to buy up private property along the lake for the national park since local residents were thought discouraged by the devastation. But, the Apgars refused to sell and actually started a development spurt.

In July 2003, high winds pushed the "Robert Fire" so close to Apgar that all residents, employees, and tourists were forced to flee. The entire Western side of

the Glacier Park was closed. One resident told me that if the wind had not shifted at the last minute, the entire village would have been lost, along with all its historic buildings.

Call (406) 888-5484 for more information on visiting the Village.



Apgar Visitor Center, Apgar Village, MT

Why Come to the Reunion?

by George Apgar Jr.

Reunite with family and friends—new and old - on Saturday at the Stanton Grange.

Experience one day of games, guests, genealogy, and great food plus a second day of church., lunch, and local car tour.

Unlock the past by sharing your family memorabilia at Show & Tell.

Navigate the local roads on the Sunday with a tour of Hunterdon County visiting family landmarks, after worship and lunch at Cokesbury Methodist Church.

Investigate your family history with the Genealogy Assistance Sessions.

Offer your family two full days of fun, folklore, and festivities (with on-site child care).

Nestle down in a front seat and bid on items at the Yankee Auction; also, bring an item to auction.

Apgar Family Association Trustees and Committees

Reminder: This year's reunion, our 30th, will be held September 18-19, 2004, at the Stanton Grange. (See page 4 for details.)

Current Officers and Trustees (years as trustee)

Mike Apgar (President)
114 S.Fairfield Dr.
Dover, DE 19901
(302)698-1865
maapgar@comcast.net
(1998-2004)

Judy Beck (Historian)
10 Fisher Ct
Lebanon, NJ 08833
Judith.beck@att.net
(2001 -2004)

Howard Apgar (Treasurer)
16012 Clark Court
Holland, PA 18966
(215)504-5489
hsapgar99@aol.com
(1999-2003)

George N. Apgar, Jr. (1st Vice President – Acting, Publicity)
218 Kempsey Dr.
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
(732) 297-6686
(1986-2004)

Henry Apgar Jr. (Newsletter)
776 Silver Cloud St.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805)492-1948
hapgar@mcri.com
(1999-2003)

Roger Flarkey
(Recording Secretary)
90 Sunset Trail
Denville, NJ 07834
(973) 627-3660
rwflarkey@aol.com
(2003-2006)

Lynn Conley (Genealogist)
51 High Street
East Rutherford, NJ 07073
comet1966@aol.com
(2002-2005)

Louanna Rachel Rich
(Corresponding Secretary)
P O Box 52
Hatboro, PA 19040
(215) 674-0244
whitebird4us@yahoo.com
(2002-2005)

Debbie Apgar (Membership)
416 Runyon Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08806
(732) 968-3065
dapgar@rci.rutgers.edu
(2003-2006)

David Rich
(Corresponding Secretary)
P O Box 52
Hatboro, PA 19040
(215) 674-0244
whitebird4us@yahoo.com
(2003-2006)

Former Trustees (years as trustee)

Helen Apgar (1986-1987)

Richard Apgar (1986-1990)

Reba Bloom (1986-1990)

Dorothy Apgar (1986-1990)

Robert H. Apgar (1987-1994)

Jack W. Schuster (1990-1996)

Wayne Apgar (1988-1995)

George M. Apgar Sr. (1986-1996)

Phyllis Apgar (1990-1997)

Ruth Apgar (1986-1997)

Mary Apgar (1988-1997)

Al Tiger (1986-1997)

Brenda Zimmerman (1991 -1997)

John S. Apgar (1997-1998)

Laurence D. Apgar (1999)

Wayne Dilts (1994-2003)

John Apgar III (1996-2002)

Cassie Apgar (1999-2002)

Judy Hankinson (1996-2003)

Christopher Apgar (1999-2003)

Lois Dege (2001 -2004)

Deceased Trustees (life)

Robert O. Apgar (1919-1995)

Ronald F. Apgar (1940-1998)

Henry E. Apgar Sr. (1907-1998)

Barbara Apgar (1929-2001)

