

## Come Home

Where have all the Stoltzfuses gone? I searched for Stoltzfus businesses in every state of the union – they were listed in every state but eleven!

- Come Home for the Amish sing, April 9
- Come home for the Annual Benefit Auction, May 11
- Come home for the Music & Crafts Festival, September 28
- Come Home, schedule your family reunion.

Bring friends! (See the first house built along the Tulpehocken, see the preservation progress.) Consider what it meant for Nicholas and his family – after being restricted in Zweibrucken, Germany, to find Freedom and Land - and seventy Amish families to sing the Loeb Song in a place God led them to, here in Berks County. Walk through the same door they entered.



The Tulpehocken Road docket (in the Berks Sheriff office archives) dated 1769 marks the house and barn on the 101 acre tract which Nicholas and Christian purchased from Thomas Youngman in 1771.

A group of men were assigned to draw up the plans for the road, this is part of what they presented to the Berks Quarter Sessions Court for approval to proceed. Youngman, a land dealer, acquired about 240 acres from the 500 acre estate of Anthony Morris, II. (There were four generations of Anthony Morris) They mostly lived in Philadelphia, one led the Quakers in refusing to remove hats before magistrates since God alone deserved honor.



From Wikipedia: *In addition to serving Philadelphia as one of its leading brewers, Anthony Morris served in a variety of judicial capacities during the 1690s and was described by William Penn as “one of the most sufficient as well as diligent magistrates” in the colony. In 1704, Morris became the city’s mayor, a post later occupied by his son Anthony III, as well. Most of the older Anthony’s attention after the turn of the 18th*

*century, however, was devoted to preaching among the Society of Friends throughout North America.*



## Plain Interests

Plain Interests, a monthly printed by die Botschaft press, is edited by the Canadian David Wagler. The lead article in the Vol 12, No.12 issue by David V Miller asks if Amish schools should be teaching Anabaptist history. He asks “Do we have a history worth teaching? Did this faith just happen? How many of our people today have the knowledge of our history and how it has reached our day? How many have a mistaken knowledge of what history they know?”

The Stoltzfus House sits there. The Barn is intended to contain the story. History is like a woven tapestry, so many threads.

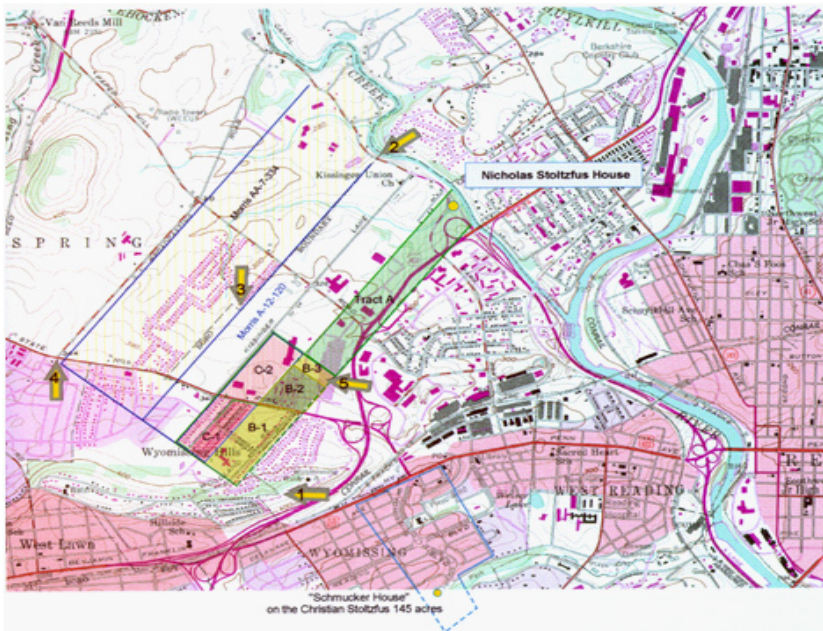
If you would like more information or are interested in donating, please contact Paul Kurtz by email at [psku04@ptd.net](mailto:psku04@ptd.net), by phone at 717-808-7785, or by visiting [nicolasstoltzfus.org](http://nicolasstoltzfus.org).

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## Stoltzfuses are Back

Jack Parmer located the 101 acre tract in "Ten Years of Progress on the Nicholas Stoltzfus House." It is the long, narrow green strip extending from the Tulpehocken Creek along Woodland Road and the freeway to the Sears building. The Stoltzfus House is located at the Creek end of the tract.

Today the gully next to the House has been graded and holds a shopping mall, and beyond the shops, up on the hill is the Wyomissing Farmers Market.

Most of the stands are operated by Amish vendors. Likely all of them can trace lineage to Nicholas. We wonder what these early people would think if they would see what is there now! But more than all the development, Nicholas would be astonished to see so many descendants operating stands so near his land!

Most of the Market's parking lot would have been on Stoltzfus land. Isn't that something to think about?

Photo Credit: Richard Patrick



## The Berks Amish Heritage Tours

Since 1959 it has been possible to board a bus to see where the Indians massacred the Hochstetler family, where Bishop Jacob Hertzler lived and was buried (He walked even so far as Chester County to perform his duties), see the stone house in the Wyomissing Park (where a plaque was dedicated at the 1976 Smoker, Smucker, Schmucker Reunion in remembrance of John and Barbara Stoltzfus Smucker and their family).

The tour first went to 1700 Tulpehocken Road in 1976, as it was then proven to be the Nicholas Stoltzfus House. These early tours felt the sacrifice the Amish immigrants had made. To them it was a serious step to choose to follow Christ, to give up their homeland, sail and suffer hardship enroute, and then to feel freedom and opportunity.



In recent years the tours have been arranged by Masthof. As the Nicholas Stoltzfus House becomes a Heritage place, as there is interest, we hope to cooperate with Masthof to continue. Five tours are proposed for this year, each with a local interest. The October tour would follow the usual route.

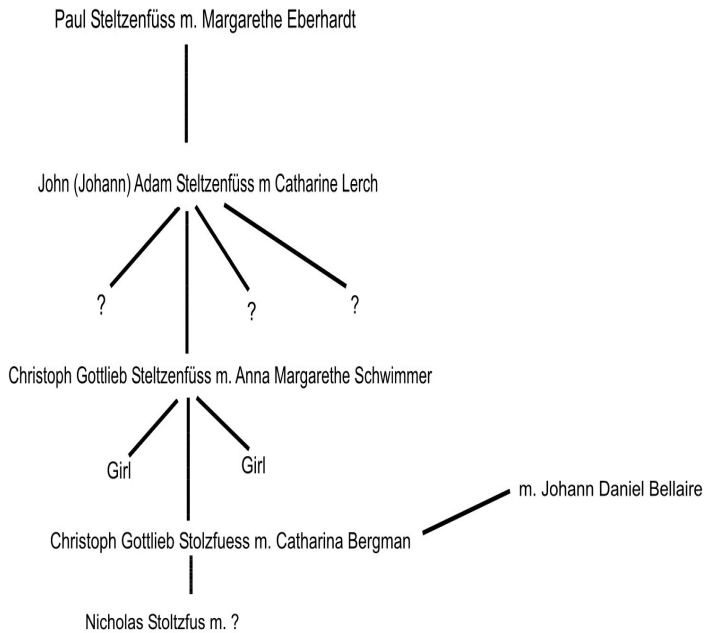
Register your interest on the return card.



## More Like This When the Barn is Done: To Nicholas and Beyond

Understanding To Nicholas, and Beyond! Here I try to represent how I am descended from Nicholas! Each of my grandparents has one line back to him in six generations, excepting my Grandfather Jacob who makes it in five. Fortunately I can relate some fact for each on my ancestors back to Paul Steltzenfuss (c 1600) who was a herdsman as reported by Zachary Stoltzfus.

### Lutheran to Amish - the Lineage



Nicholas Stoltzfus was b. in 1718. He m. Anna (-?-). He immigrated on 18 Oct 1766 to Philadelphia, PA. He took a 70 acre deed on 31 Jan 1770 at Cumru Twp, Berks, PA. He took a 101 acre deed on 9 Feb 1771 at Cumru Twp, Berks, PA. He died on 10 Nov 1774 at Tulphocken, Cumru Twp, Reading, Berks, PA. Tombstone near Crosskeys where he was thought to be buried.

Christian Stoltzfus. On list of 1809 signators, Amish discipline, He was b. on 10 Aug 1749. He m. Catherine Garber, daughter of John Gerber and Christina unknown, on 4 May 1774. He m. Elizabeth King, daughter of Samuel Koenig and Anna Yoder in 1785. He died in 1832. He was buried at Myer Cem.

.....Christian Stoltzfus..m. Anna Blank.....

Rebecca Stoltzfus.m .Christian Beiler

David Beiler..Rebecca Esh.....

Katie Beiler m. Elam Stoltzfus.....

Elsie Stoltzfus m Christian Kurtz

Paul Kurtz m. Lydia Sensenig

John m. Elizabeth Umble.. .....

Jonas m. Catherine Mast.....

Elam Stoltzfus m. Katie Beiler....

.....Christian Stoltzfus..m. Anna Blank.....

Jacob Stoltzfus m. Mary BlanK....

Tenn John m. Catherine Hooley

Rebecca Stoltzfus m John Mast.....

Lydia Mast m. Jacob Kurtz.....

Christian Kurtz m Elsie Stoltzfus

Paul Kurtz m. Lydia Sensenig

Abraham Stoltzfus m..Susanna Fisher

Barbara m. Abraham Kurtz.....

Jacob Kurtz.. m. Lydia Mast.....

Christian Kurtz m Elsie Stoltzfus

# Nicholas Stoltzfus Homestead 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Auction Saturday, May 11, 2013

Bring Something ~ Buy Something  
8:00 AM Breakfast ~ Sanger Chor ~ Heritage events  
8:00 AM ~ 5K Walk/Run Races ~ Adult and Children  
9:30 AM ~ Auction ~ 11:00 AM ~ Quilts



Questions? 717-808-7785

For more info visit: [www.nicholasstoltzfus.org](http://www.nicholasstoltzfus.org)



There will be  
lots of good  
food & heritage  
events all day  
Hear the singing  
in the 'Barn'



Auctioneer: Moses Smucker - AU4088 717-278-6532

*Return Address*

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Stamp  
Here*

*Address*

*Send a copy to a friend.*