#### Workgroup

# Kisabeth Historical Review

News Lines

May 2004



ell it's almost time for another family reunion. This will mark the 14<sup>th</sup> straight year that we 'rekindled' this event. I hope that many of you are considering making the trip this August. Many of us live in the area (within 2 hours driving distance). Remember, it would be great if you could stop by and meet some of your cousins on Saturday afternoon August 7<sup>th</sup> in Bascom, Ohio. Last year we only had about 50 family members attend but our first year (1991) we had almost triple that amount (138).

#### Special points of interest:

- 14th Annual Family Reunion
- John Paulus Kispert
- Josephine Kisabeth Brown Story
- Kisseberth Story
- Kisabeth Story
- Kissenberth News
- Kuespert News

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## 14th Annual Family Reunion

#### August 7, 2004

#### Meadowbrook Park Bascom, Ohio

All descendants and friends of the old medieval name of Küschwert are cordially invited to help celebrate our 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual reunion at Meadowbrook Park in quaint Bascom, Ohio on August 7, 2004.

The first known mention of our old surname Küschwert was in 1454. In the very small (3 or 4 houses & farm area) village of Tiefenbach in the Fichtelgibirge (Fir or Spruce Mountains) of northeastern Bavaria. From the Munich State Archives (Hauptstaatsarchiv München) its says. "*Paul Plechschmidt received on April* 23, 1454 for himself and his brother Jörg a farm located at the upper village of Tiefenbach where Kunz Küswert resides." So on April 23, 2004 we will mark the 550<sup>th</sup> year since the first mentioning of our early surname......In the larger town of Wunsiedel the archives refers to a Kunz Küschwert as being a rich citizen between 1442 & 1451. So



actually the earliest date was 1442 but his true birth date was probably right around 1400.

Since the early 15<sup>th</sup> century the name Küschwert has descended into various surname spellings. The most common being,

Küspert (Kuespert), Kispert, Kisseberth, Kissenberth, Kisabeth and Kisaberth.

On August 10, 1991 we held our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Reunion at Meadowbrook Park in Bascom, Ohio. We had our largest crowd (138 family members) that year. The main reason we chose this location is that the farmlands of the Bascom area of Seneca County, Ohio is where our Kisseberth ancestors first settled in

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Family Reunion at Meadowbrook Park in Bascom, Ohio

/ou are only a stranger but once

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Reunion

(Continued from page 1)

America during the 1830s & 1840s.

In 1994 we had our first Kissenberth relatives attend, Erwin & wife Gertrud Kissenberth from Rockledge, Florida.

This year (2004) we hope to have our first Kuespert and Kispert cousins attend.

#### **Highlights for 2004 Reunion**

We will once again be featuring our annual "homecookin" feast. This is a chance to sample some of our family recipes Scheduled time for lunch will be 1:00 PM. Remember if you are close to our reunion location (reasonable driving distance) bring your favorite dish to pass. If you are traveling a long distance PLEASE just bring your family. There is a family market (party store) in Bascom for cold drinks, chips and snacks. We always have plenty of good home cookin' to share.

There will be some family history pass outs. Also we will have copies of our history book & CD available for purchase. We also want to display some family heirlooms and some display boards of our specific families.

Remember to bring your swimsuit as Meadowbrook Park has a wonderful Olympic-size swimming pool.

Our shelter is the Beech. It has a large open area that can be used for games, etc.. The Beech is named for the large grove of Beech Trees that were native to the park. It is also one of the original shelters and dates from 1928. The shelter has been upgraded electrically for crock pots and coffee makers. It has a capacity for 100 people, plenty of room for our food and seating.

We hope to feature some games for both adults and the kids. We will have the annual egg toss and softball game if enough people show. Some other surprises also are in store....

Gordon Kisabeth, one of our family his-

torians will once again have his laptop available for data updates. He will also have his digital camera for copying old photos that you want to share. We plan video taping this event also.

Our day usually starts around 10:30 AM at the Beech Shelter and we break up about dusk. The Reunion committee will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Tiffin and would love to have our family members share the evening with us. We swap old stories, tell jokes, play euchre and snack until the wee hours of the night. It is sort of a "post mini reunion."

If you have any questions, please email us or call us. We would love to hear from you. So try to make plans to attend. Last year we only had about 50 people show but hope for more this year. For directions see our web page (www.kisabeth.com) & if you need help in places to stay just contact Gordon or Gerald.

We will be mailing our May newsletter in about a month. If you know of anyone who like to be added to our mailing list just let us know. Several of our relatives do not own computers so we have to mail the newsletter. Remember; the newsletter is free but we do have a small donation box at the reunion to help cover postage costs.

Looking forward to seeing you at our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Reunion on August 7, 2004 at Meadowbrook Park in Bascom, Ohio. Remember; " you are stranger only once."

#### **Reunion Committee:**

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#### News Lines

## JOHN PAULUS KISPERT



Approach to My. Whitney form Owen's Valley

John Paulus Kispert was born on 29 January 1837 in Kornig Reich,, Bavaria, Germany. He was the third child of John Wolfgang and Anna Barbara (Wunderlich) Kispert. After his father's death in 1839/40 his mother married Jno Nicholas Bauernfeind. In 1848/9 the family migrated to Jefferson, Wisconsin until the early 1860's when they moved to the East Prairie area of Minnesota.

John joined a government survey party that headed west. The party broke up at Pikes Peak, Colorado. John went on to the gold fields in California. He was with a scouting party that entered the Owen's Valley in Ingo County, California. The valley is bordered by the Sierra Mountains on the West and the White Mountains on the East. Across the mountains is Death Valley. He liked what he saw and took up land North of Mount Whitney (14,496 high) and South of Independence.

#### A quote from Chalfant's Story of Ingo:

John Kispert trapped bear for the popular Native California sport of bear and bull fighting. He was so impressed with the area that he located ground at George's Creek, which he obtained a government title years later. Necessity for building a log house did not prevent his tilling some acreage in spite of Indian hostilities. He marketed it in Aurora at 36 cents a pound. The miners drank it instead of coffee."

After he made his "stake' he returned to Minnesota in 1869 to marry his boyhood sweetheart. She got tired of waiting and had already married (It is possible that the sweetheart was Caroline who had already married his brother Martin). John felt that he shouldn't have made the trip with out dividends, so married the younger sister, Augusta Engel, who had hilarious disposition and often embarrassed the young minister of their church. On the trip back to California, she was certain that Indians, rattlesnakes, rocks and sage brush would get her before they reach the ranch.

#### From the Memoirs Delia (Engel) Beckley

"When I was eleven years old; a gold digger, John Kispert from Owen's Valley, California came to visit his brother Martin Kispert and the usual happened. My sister Augusta fell in love and promised to marry him and returned with him to the gold fields in California. After the wedding and farewell to the family, they boarded a train for Faribault and were gone. They went to Reno on the first overland passenger train. The track was finished in 1868. From Reno to George's Creek they traveled by horse and buggy on very rough roads. Augusta developed tonsillitis and had anything but a pleasant honeymoon trip. No settlers but many Indians living in adobe huts. At their home there only a sprinkling of white families among the Indians so it was not very homelike to her.

Mining was not very profitable so John bought a large farm and also ran a big trucking business from Independence to Los Angeles, a distance of 250 miles, which required a week's time. He couldn't leave his wife alone, so he sold the business and strictly farmed. He had Indians working for him for a low wage and board. A squaw would do a big washing for a watermelon. They were friendly and harmless, though not the best associates. A plague carried up by Mexican workers wiped out a lot of families.

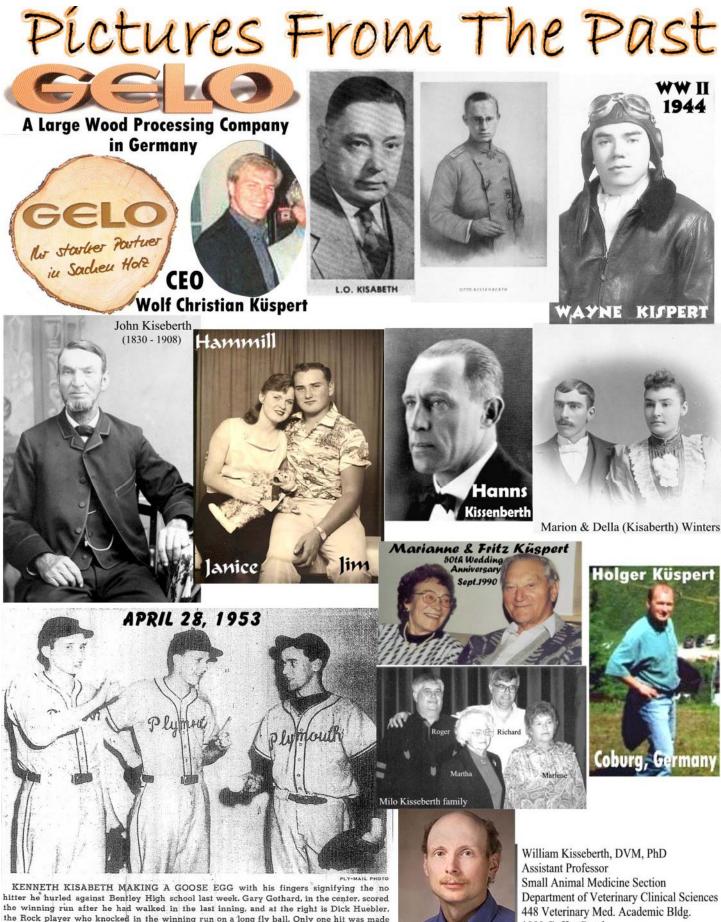
Later Owen's Valley was visited by a tremendous earthquake. Scores of Indians were caught in their adobe huts and were crushed to death. John's house was a solid frame building which withstood the shocks, although everything in the house had a different location when it was over. There were deep cracks in many places that were as wide as ditches."

John and Augusta never returned to visit in Minnesota, but few relatives did get to Owen's Valley.

They were blessed with 3 girls and 2 boys. John died in 1901 and Augusta in 1932. They were buried in Independence, California. The only surviving family member with the Kispert surname is Gregg (Sonny) Kispert, who lives in Carson City Nevada.



Independence Inyo County California



the Rock player who knocked in the winning run on a long fly ball. Only one hit was made by Plymouth, and young Kisabeth got that one-a clean single over second in the fourth inning. Plymouth won the game 1 to 0 and is undefeated for the season. Kisabeth has allowed 9 hits in 4 games and two unearned runs.



1900 Coffey Road Columbus, OH 43210-1089

Oct. 20, 1945 55.940 See Gophers Unfurl Passing Attack to Gain **Big Ten Victory** 

NORTHWESTERN, 30-7

**KISPERT KICKS FIELD GOAL** 

### Then Tosses to Carley for First .Touchdown-Mealey and **Ringer Also Score**

#### STATISTICS OF THE GAME 311-- ATL-1

First downs	Minn.	N.M.U
Forward passes	First downs 18	9
Forward passes	Yards gained, rushing 277	50
Forwards completed 6 8 Yards gained, forwards.151 182 Forwards intercepted by 4 0 Fumbles	Forward passes 8	20
Yards gained, forwards.151 182 Forwards intercepted by 4 0 Fumbles	Forwards completed 6	8
Forwards intercepted by 4 0 Fumbles	Yards gained, forwards.151	182
Own fumbles recovered. 4 4	Forwards intercepted by 4	
		5
Yards lost, penalties 65 10	Own fumbles recovered. 4	4
	Yards lost, penalties 65	10

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 20 (CP)-Minnesota, long famed for its powerful ground attack, took to the air today to score a lopsided 30-to-7 victory over Northwestern University before a football homecoming crowd of 55.940.

It was Bernie Bierman's twentyfirst consecutive victory at Minnesota and put the Gophers in a tie with Purdue for top honors in the Big Ten." Indiana, also unbeaten, has a tie with Illinois against its record.

Minnesota scored two touch-downs in the first period and a field goal and one touchtown in both the third and fourth periods.

Northwestern crossed the Minnesota goal line for the second time this year in the second period when Max Morris, Northwestern end, caught Jim Farrar's 20-yard pass and raced for a touchdown.



Bob Carley, Hudson Mealey, Merlin Kispert and Judd Ringer scored touchdowns for Minnesota and Kispert kicked the single field goal. Kispert also kicked three points.

The fireworks opened early in the second period when three plays put Minnesota on the Wildcats' 12-yard line, but Minnesota was stone-walled for three plays and Kispert kicked the field goal from the 20-yard stripe.

Minnesota's unexpected passing attack resulted in the first touch-Northwestern had been down. forced to kick and four plays advanced the ball to the 45-yard line when Kispert hurled a pass to Carley on the 33. Carley raced down the field without opposition. Kis-pert kicked the extra point. Northwestern also took to the

air with Farrar on the shooting end. One was good for 34 yards and another for 20, but a fumble gave Minnesota the ball and seven plays later Tom Cates passed to Kispert for a touchdown from the 11-yard line. Again Kispert kicked the point.

#### Wildcats Threaten Again

Northwestern threatened Minnesota again in the third when Bob McKinley recovered a Gopher fum-ble on the 6-yard line. Farrar tried in vain to hurl another pass, but in vain to huri another pass, but penaltics and losses gave Minne-sota the ball on downs. Kulbitski and Cates began a power drive that scored five first downs, climaxed in a pass, Red Williams to Ringer, that was good for a touchdown. Kispert kicked the point. Minnesota's iast touchdown came as a result of a fumble by North-

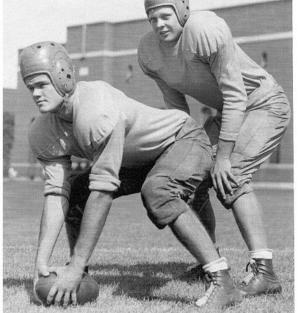
as a result of a fumble by North-western on the 20-yard line, fol-lowed by Cates' lateral to John Lundquist putting the ball on the 5. Mealey took it over three plays later, but Jim Shearer failed to convert.

Minnesota threw eight forward passes and completed six for a net yard gain of 151.

The line-up:	
MINNESOTA (10)	NORTHWESTERN (7)
	E Morris
Olsonowski	T Hagmann
Graiziger	.G Schuetz
Van Dusen	C Miller
HanzlikF	I.G Lecture
Westrum	T Mansen
Carley	LE Wiltgen
Shearer	B Farrar
Cares	L.H Bairstow
Rispert	Connors
Mealey	F.B Whan
	BY PERIODS

Minnesota Football 1944-45-46 MINNESOTA DOWNS Gophers Launch Drive Bob Carley. Hudson Mealey. (1924-1983 (1924 - 1983)

Back



**M. Kispert** 

Kicker



Minnesota Goldern Gophers 1944



- n Kinpert, Richard Van Dusen, Budy Sikich, Robert Gi m Aldworth, Robert Turnacliff, Tom Waiswriaht, Do



## Josephine Kisabeth Brown

Josephine Kisabeth was born January 25, 1887 in Paulding County, Ohio. She was the oldest child of Noah & Cynthia (Hughes) Kisabeth. Her siblings were Lena, Stella, Mabel, Clara Edna, Sylvia, Elizabeth, Marjorie, Vandella, Andrew Manuel and Elmer. Josephine, aged 13, is listed in the 1900 Ohio Federal Census as living with her grandparents Mr. & Mrs. A.L. Hughes in Crane Township, Paulding County, Ohio. Her grandparents were in their 70s at the time so it could be assumed that she was helping out on their farm. Noah Kisabeth shows as owning between eight and ten acres also in Crane Township during the early 1900s. Her parents could have lived very close to her grandparents thus allowing young Josephine to stay with the aged couple.



Josephine married Fidellus (Dell) Brown in Paulding County. His father William L. Brown owned over 50 acres of farmland which was located very close to the Kisabeth homestead. Neighbors marrying neighbors was common practice in the 1800s. Fidellus and Josephine were blessed with eight children, William N., Charles, Rollie, John, Stella, George, Gertie, and Bertha. It was after the birth of John that the family relocated to the Rollin, Le-

nawee County area of Michigan. The time was about 1912 and daughter Stella was the first of the children to be born in Michigan.

Fidellus (Del, Dell or Delbert) died in 1929 leaving Josephine to care for the children. The 1930 US Census of Rollin Twp. lists Josephine as head of house. Living at home at the time were William (age 23), Rollie (20), Johnnie (19), Stella (17), George (13), Gertie (10), and Bertha (4). The children must have been a big help with all the dally duties of farm life.

Josephine lived to see her children grow and enjoyed her 19 grandchildren and her 26 great grandchildren. Her home later was at 300 South Street in Addison, Michigan. It was on June 27, 1967 that a tragic accident claimed the life of Josephine. She was 80 years old and a member of the Addison Congregation of the Jehovah's Witnesses. She is buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Hudson, Michigan.

William N. Brown married Louise A. Slathood on October 25, 1948. They had no children. He died of a heart attack suffered at his home (211 Barr Street, Hillsdale) on September 10, 1956. He was 49 years old. William had previously lived in Addison (35 years) and Jonesville (5 years). He also was a member of Jehovah's Witnesses. Gerti Brown married Harland Lewis and lived in Addison while Bertha married Lawrence Hornstra and resided in Marine City. Charles E. and John were also living in Addison at the time of their mother's passing in 1967. Rollie was living in Mt. Sidney, Virginia.



Stella Brown married Aubrey Hammill. She was born June1, 1912 while her husband was born July 30, 1905. This couple had three children, Nancy (born October 23, 1931), Maybell (born June 28, 1936) and James (born May 19, 1941). Stella died on September 16, 1958 at only forty-six years of age. Aubrey died two days before Christmas in 1977.

James Hammill married Janice Riley (born April 3, 1942) and this union was blessed with three children al-

though little Kathy Louise died at birth (February 28, 1965). Kevin James was born on June 23, 1961 and Steven Wayne on October 7, 1969. Steve married Cheryl Taylor and both are members of the fire department although in separate communities. Steve is on the Addison Fire Department while Cheryl is on the Somerset F.D.

Kevin James Hammill married the former Amy Byers. Amy was born on January 10, 1964. The Hammills are the proud parents of Erin Nicole born September 7, 1990 and reside in Manitou Beach, Michigan. Both Amy and daughter Erin are amateur artists and Amy along with her mother-in-law Janice is the noted family genealogists.

Information provided by Amy (Byers) Hammill - May 2004.

### Burn Victim Dies Thursday

Mrs. Josephine Brown, 80, of Addison died Thursday at the University hospital, Ann Arbor. Mrs. Brown suffered burns over 65 per cent of her body June 27 when her clothing caught fire, apparently from a stove.

apparently from a stove, Mrs. Brown was alone in the house at the time of the incident. A son, John, working outside, said his mother suddenly ran out, her clothes in flames. He extinguished them and took her to Addison hospital from which she was then transferred to Ann Arbor.

Born January 25, 1887 in Ohio, Mrs. Brown was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Kisabeth. A daughter of theAddison Congregation of Jehovah Witnesses, she had lived on her farm for 52 years.

She is survived by three sons, Charles E, and John of Addison, and Rollie of Mt, Stdney, Va.; two daughters, Mrs. Harland (Gortie) Lewis of Addison and (Gortie) Lewis of Addison and Mrs. Lawrence (Bortha) Hornstra of Marine City; a brother, Manuel Kisabeth of Clare; six sisters, Mrs. Lena Salisbury of Paulding, Ohio, Mrs. Stella Sal-Isbury, Mrs. Elizabeth Frickand Mrs. Sylvia Rhoades of Hicksville, Ohio, Mrs. Marjorich Dysinger of Clare and Mrs. Tom Durfey of Huron, Ohio; 19 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. Her husband, Dell Brown, died

in 1929, Funeral services were held Sunday at the Brown Funeral

### **Family History Supplement**

Both Gordie & I are working diligently to update our family data files & put them on a CD and/or hard copy. We hope to also have a Küspert/Kuespert and Kispert data CD available soon. We will keep you posted.

### **DNA Testing**

I will have my DNA tested this summer from a very reliable & reputable laboratory. The cost is about \$200. You may think that this is way too much money but the DNA results would also include my 3 brothers, close cousins and uncles with the name Kisabeth as we share the same 25 marker DNA-Y. I also believe that our Kisseberth relatives would fall into this category as well. The DNA results are strictly confidential and only known to the person tested. By comparing a Kisseberth (Kisabeth) and a Küspert (Kispert) we would be able to definitely connect the two surnames to a common origin and more importantly we would be able to trace our generalized migration patterns thousands of years. DNA Genealogy is a very interesting field.

#### What DNA tests can show

The Y-chromosome test (the Y-test) can indicate:

• whether specific individual men share a common male ancestor.

• if a set of men with the same or similar surname are directly related through a common ancestor.

• how many different common male ancestors any given group collectively shares.

• to which broad haplogroup each individual male belongs to (for example, over half of all Europeans belong to one of two major haplogroups of 28 known worldwide).

an analysis of the mutations in the Y-chromosome can also be used to estimate the degree of separation between individual males in terms of the number of generations since the separation occurred. That man is often referred to as the most recent common ancestor or MRCA. (There is currently a debate over the 'natural' rate of mutation of individual DNA markers over time.)

Many family history projects include this DNA sampling. If we could get only 1 Küspert/Kispert volunteer we could then initiate a DNA-Project donation Fund to help raise the \$200 for the testing. By having some of our cousins simply send a small donation we could have the necessary fee in no time.

I am asking our Küspert-Kuespert-Kispert cousins to seriously consider volunteering for a 25 marker DNA test. If *ANYONE* is even remotely interested in this project *PLEASE* do not hesitate & call me or email me or write me at Gerald Kisabeth 1-734-844-2106 or <u>gkisa-</u> <u>beth241950MI@comcast.net</u> or Gerald Kisabeth 41599 Haggerty Woods Ct., Canton, Michigan 48187 USA.

Some further reading on DNA Genealogy & some of the companies involved:

http://www.dnaheritage.com/default.asp

http://www.genetree.com/product/y-chromosome-dna.asp

http://www.familytreedna.com/faq.html

### **Kisbert Surname Theory**

There are approximately 56 Kisbert surname spellings in the US Index Search but no Kisbert spellings in Germany. I am quite sure that the Kisbert spelling was a result of a spelling error occurring on a census or other official record many years ago The more common Kispert name was the original spelling. One of the earliest Kisbert spellings in the US was the immigration listing of a Christopher Kisbert arriving in Philadelphia in 1855. Also in 1862 there is a Wilhelm & Eugenia Kispert listed.

It appears that the Kisbert surname surfaced in the east, namely around the New Bedford, Bristol, Massachusetts area. From there the name has spread mainly to California and Rhode Island.

I have sent out a few emails & snail mails with the hope of hearing from some of our Kisbert cousins.

## **Bush vs. Kerry? They're distant cousins**

## Genealogy buffs claim political rivals are linked

#### By Matt Sedensky

The Associated Press

Updated: 1:29 p.m. ET Feb. 17, 2004

HONOLULU - Democratic presidential candidates are constantly being compared to the current commander in chief. Now, two genealogy buffs say they have proof President Bush and the current Democratic front-runner share similarities thicker than water.

Bruce and Kristine Harrison, Hawaii-based publishers of historical databases, traced back the family histories of Bush and Democratic Sen. John Kerry.

The result? They're cousins

Well, 16th cousins, three times removed, to be exact. But cousins, nonetheless.



## Reunion — 2004

Don't Forget To Come to The Reunion



The Beech Shelter

## Looking

### For

## **Family Related News**

As you know the *Kisabeth Newsletter* is for you and also from you. By this I mean we try to post information that you have sent and share it with all family members. I ask you to send us any news, past, present or future that is family related. *We need you!!!*