



# Kisabeth Historical Review

KISSEBERTH / KISABETH / KISABERTH

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Gerald L. Kisabeth, Editor

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Gordon W. Kisabeth, Publisher

## GREETINGS

From all indications (both verbal and written) I'm happy to announce that our 1st annual family reunion at Meadowbrook Park in Bascom, Ohio was a huge success. At last count we had 138 members attend. Thanks to all who made their way and sorry to those who didn't. Perhaps next year we will have even more attend. I would like to apologize for not visiting with everyone but this being our first "get together" it was somewhat chaotic at times. Your donations were greatly appreciated. It will keep our newsletter going for another year. Again thanks to all. We hope you had a good time and enjoyed the day and look forward to sharing next year will all our cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

**CONGRATULATIONS** Lisa Mane Kisabeth, daughter of Gordie and Michele Kisabeth was married to Bryan Thomas Deasley on Saturday June 22, 1991 in Plymouth Michigan. Bryan is currently playing professional hockey for the Calgary Flames organization. Both attended our reunion last month. Best wishes to the Kisabeth-Deasley.

## 2nd ANNUAL REUNION

We are all set for 1992 Date & Time: Saturday August 1, 1992 9:00 am until dusk  
Location:  
Meadowbrook Park Bascom, Ohio Meadowbrook park is located on State Route 18 between Tiffin and Fostoria, Ohio. This is the area where our ancestors first settled in 1832 and will mark the 160

year of our arrival in America. We will be including area motels in future newsletters. We again hope you will set aside this date and make every effort to attend. I promise it will be bigger and more organized. If anyone would like to help on the committee please let us know. So please tell all your uncles, aunts, & cousins to show for the big event.

## FAMILY HISTORY BOOK

Gordie and I will be working on this project in the upcoming months. We've just finished updating all the records for the computer and only have to write a few more articles. We will be shopping for a printer during the winter months and hope to keep the cost per book around \$25-\$30.

### ATTENTION

If you would like to share any information with our readers just drop us a line. We need articles for the newsletter. Also if you would like to submit any article or story for our upcoming history book please send it to us.  
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### NEXT ISSUE

- The German Villages of our Ancestors
- Biographical Profile of Adam Kisabeth
- Family History Book update
- Our family seal (the ostrich)  
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### ATTENTION

If you have any information on your family that we can add to update your family tree please send it to us. Any items such as births, marriages, deaths and special events all would be entered in our computer files. When our family history book goes to publication we all want to be current with our specific information.  
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### NEWS LETTER

If you know of anyone that would like to receive our newsletter just drop us a note.

Also if whatever the reason you do not wish to continue receiving our newsletter please let us know. We mail out about 100 newsletters each time and it could save us a little postage if you are no longer interested. Thanks

**THE FOLLOWING IS A  
NEWCLIPPING FROM  
THE REVIEW TIMES.  
FOSTORIA, OHIO AUG,  
23, 1991**

## **Kisabeth Kisseberth Kisaberth Family's gather**

**The first reunion of the Kisabeth. Kisseberth. Kisaberth families was conducted Aug 10 at Meadowbrook Park Bascom. There were 130 family members and guest attending the event.**

**Mary Kisaberth, 91 was the oldest family member present and 2-month-old Natalie Kisseberth was the youngest.**

**Thirteen states were represented with Brad Kisseberth traveling the farthest from LaMesa Calif. These families are the descendents of four brothers who immigrate from Germany and settled in Seneca County in 1832.**

**An August 1992, reunion is planned with the committee being composed of Gerald and Gordon Kisabeth. Barbara Shipley. Bill Kisseberth and reunion president Foster B. Kisabeth of Plymouth Mich.**

### CASTLE BREUBERG

The following pages will be about Count Leonhard Kisseberth and Castle Breuberg. Gerald Kisabeth visited the castle and brought back a piece of the rock. Actually it was a piece of the wall of the Castle. It was thought a history lesson on the castle might be in order. So here is the story

**LEONHARD  
KISSEBERTH  
AND  
CASTLE  
BREUBERG**



(Lienhard) Kisseberth (Kisibert) was born in 1590 in Kirch-Brombach where his father Alexander was the well known area parson/minister having followed the teachings of Martin Luther shortly after the Reformation. Until the time of his appointment to Erbachischer Amtmann at Castle Breuberg in 1637 he was the Zentgraf at Kirch-Brombach. As the Zentgraf (Centgraf) or Criminal Judge of Kirch-Brombach he was the Administrator of the Zent which in the high and middle ages was a judicial district of the county. The Zent or Cent was headed over by the Zentgraf who was appointed by the ruler and it was almost exclusively a criminal court. Kirch-Brombach at that period in time was the principal center in a group of 14 villages that comprised the Brombach Zent or the Kirchspiel (parish). To give the reader a near proximity to the area in central Germany, Kirch-Brombach is located approximately 50 miles southeast of Frankfurt.

A large amount of Leonhard Kisseberth's records and holdings are unavailable. Unfortunately the very valuable Graflich Erbachische Gesamtarchiv (Comprehensive Archive of the Earldom of Erbach) was completely demolished in World War II. Likewise 80% of the holdings of the Darmstadt State Archives were destroyed.

Leonhard, at the age of 47, was appointed by the mediatised prince to the position of Erbachischer Amtmann (Official of Erbach) at Castle Breuberg in 1637. He was an administrative official or magistrate with a great deal of judicial responsibilities. He lived at the castle during the time of The Thirty Years War (1616-1648). This conflict arose directly out of the religious and administrative settlement of the mid-sixteenth century known as the Peace of Augsburg. For religious affairs, this treaty aimed at freezing the positions achieved by the Catholics and the Lutherans. The position of Amtmann has many possible translations- district judge, magistrate, senior civil official, bailiff and steward.

In a short historical story about Castle Breuberg titled "Die Geschichte der Dynasten und Grafen zu Erbach" (History of the Dynasties and Counts of Erbach) by Simon in 1858: "Soon afterwards (after 1631), however, the castle was the scene of many quarrels between its two owners. Count Johann Dietrich Von Lowenstein had converted to Catholicism..., while Counts Ludwig the Knight and Georg Albrecht I of Erbach were equally avid followers of the Protestant faith.... A small imperial commando under an ensign avid and reinforced by Lowenstein musketeers, who constantly dealt the cruelest of excess to the Erbach magistrate at Breuberg. But the worst incident of maltreatment of the Erbach magistrate at Breuberg was at the order and in the presence of Count Ferdinand Carl of Lowenstein. The Count had come to Breuberg for that very purpose and summoned Magistrate Kisseberth with friendly words on the first Sunday of Advent in the year 1641, in the morning before the church service, but meanwhile had gone out of his home and across the bridge to the gallows. While he was still on the bridge, Kisseberth, an old man of 60 years, whose crime consisted of only being a faithful servant to his master, was attacked from behind and beaten by three Lowenstein stable hands, driven to Count Ferdinand, and there, at the latter's command, was tied to the gallows with heavy ropes and

## LEONHARD KISSEBERTH & CASTLE BREUBERG

beaten so mercilessly with thick birch switches in his presence that finally, with cries of torment and covered with blood, he fell over unconscious and as a result became mortally ill. Several persons swore at the investigation that they had heard the tormented cries of the magistrate down at the Mumling River near Neustadt, where they were going to church and discerned the words: "O Jesus come to my aids! O Jesus, do not forsake me!" There was an Erbach publication about this incident in 1644.

Somehow Leonard survived that painful and difficult experience and lived another thirteen years. He married Anna and together had four children. Margretha was born in 1618 and married Peter Wolf in 1644. She died March 28, 1709. Another daughter Anna married Johann Daniel Mink on February 3, 1647. Leonard's oldest son who was named after his father lived only thirty years but did become magistrate in the small town of Neustadt at the foot of Castle Breuberg. His fourth child Johann Michael was born November 28, 1637 and died March 3, 1694. He was Lord Mayor of Kirch-Brombach.

Leonhard Kisseberth I, our closest link to the nobility died September 6, 1654 and is buried in Kirch-Brombach.

Written September 1989  
By Gerald L. Kisabeth  
8th great grandson of  
Leonhard Kisseberth I

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