

# The Kurr Family of Northern Berks County

By John H. Grimes and James M. Beidler

The European origins of the Kurr family have been known since the publication of Ann Louise Thompson's article on the Tauber and Kurr families (Jour. B.C.G.S., vol. 19, #2, winter 1998). Hans Georg Kurr was baptized 9 Jan 1652 at the Evangelical Church at Orlach, Schwabisch Hall, Jagst, Wuerttemberg, son of Hans Kurr and Barbara \_\_\_?\_\_\_. He was buried 12 Jan 1718 at Jungholzhausen, Schwabisch Hall, Wuerttemberg, Germany. He was married 11 May 1700 at Jungholzhausen to Maria Frentz, who was baptized 15 Oct 1670 at Altenberg, Braunsbach, Jagst, Wuerttemberg, daughter of Michael Frentz (Franz) and Margaretha Heckel. Hans Georg also married Maria Wuehlar: Maria had previously married Hans Leonhardt Sobel. The children of Hans Georg and Maria Kurr were all born in Jungholzhausen.

1. Hans Georg Kurr
11. Hans Peter Kurr, b15 Jun 1701, d18 Jun 1701 Jungholzhausen.
12. Anna Magdalena Kurr b 3 Oct 1702 d ? in PA;  
mar. 23 Nov 1723 Lorentz Dauber/Tauber b 5 Apr 1693.  
They arrived in Philadelphia 7 Oct 1743 on the ship "St. Andrew".
13. Anna Catharina Kurr b 27 Dec.1704
14. Georg Peter Kurr b 25 Sep 1707 bur. 26 Mar 1708, Jungholzhausen
15. Georg Phillipp Kurr b 1 Apr 1709 d 2 Jan 1772  
bur. Old Allentown Cemetary, 10<sup>th</sup> and Linden Sts, Allentown, PA.  
He also arrived in Philadelphia 7 Oct 1743 on the "St. Andrews".
16. Johann Jacob Kurr b 3 Feb 1712. While his immigration to America has not been established, a Jacob Kurr and wife Anna, had several children baptized at Dillingersville, Lehigh County for which Thomas and Elisabeth Kurr were sponsors. Jacob and Anna were also sponsors for Thomas and Elisabetha's son, Jacob.
17. Hans Thomas Kurr b 25 Oct 1716, d 1791 (will)  
mar. 1 May 1736 at Jungholzhausen to Elisabetha Schumann.  
Hans Thomas and Elisabetha arrived at Philadelphia 16 Sep 1736 on the "Princess Augusta". Elisabetha was born 28 May 1710 (?) in Jungholzhausen and died 1781 in PA. Thomas and Elisabetha are the ancestors of the Kurr families of northwestern Berks County.

## Note #1

The records of the Upper Milford Lutheran Church at Dillingersville also record the baptism of Johann Heinrich bap 28 Oct 1752 and Magdalena bap. 16 May 1755 to Michael and Margaretha Kurr. Their relationship to the other Kurr immigrants is unknown at this time but Michael was likely a close relative of Johann Jacob and Hans Thomas Kurr.

- 171 Anna Barbara Kurr b 1737 d 1804  
mar 1<sup>st</sup> 21 Oct 1760 to Peter Mechlin/Mechling
- 1711 Elisabetha Mechlin b 1762
- 1712 Catharina Mechlin b 1763
- 1713 Philip Mechlin b1767 d 1843 mar 1792 Catharina C. Miller
- 171 Anna Barbara Kurr mar 2<sup>nd</sup> 29 Mar 1774 Johann Nicholas Getz/Goetz
- 1714 Thomas Getz b 23 Dec 1774
- 1715 Johann Nicholas Getz b 8 July 1777
- 1716 Johann Jacob Getz b 4 Feb 1780
- 1717 Elisabetha Getz b 19 Oct. 1784
- 172 Anna Elisabetha Kurr b 5 Jan 1740 d 1 Oct 1805  
mar Jacob Weiser b 22 Sep 1736 d 1 Jan 1808
- 1721 Anna Elisabetha Weiser b 23 Dec 1763 d 10 Jun 1837  
mar Johann Peter Etchberger
- 1722 Johannes Weiser b 23 Jan 1766 d 7 Nov 1825
- 1723 Johann Jacob Weiser b 5 Sept 1774 d 30 Jun 1793
- 1724 Maria Weiser b 17 May 1778
- 173 Catharina Kurr b ca 7 Dec 1745 d 30 Jan 1821  
mar Michael Walborn b 24 Nov 1742
- 1731 Elisabetha Walborn b 17/25 Sep 1769 d 31 Jul 1825  
mar Johann Jacob Artz
- 1732 Anna Maria Walborn b 26 Dec. 1771  
mar Georg Lebo
- 1733 Anna Catharina Walborn b 12 Mar 1774
- 1734 Christian Walborn b 28 Nov 1778
- 1735 Eva Barbara Walborn b 25 Nov 1779
- 1736 Catharina Elisabetha Walborn b 11 Jun 1787  
mar Simaon (Simon) Illig
- 174 Anna Maria Kurr b 10 Jul 1748 d 25/27 Mar 1838  
mar 10 Dec 1771 Georg Peter Battorf/Batdorf b 23 Dec 1748  
d 28/30 March 1826
- 1741 Johannes Batdorf b 3 Feb 1773 d 28 Sept 1834/5  
mar 11 Dec 1796 Elisabetha Lauer
- 1742 Thomas Batdorf b 10 Jan 1775  
mar Elisabetha Moser
- 1743 Elisabetha Batdorf b 18 Aug 1777 d 12 May 1842 single
- 175 Johann Jacob Kurr b 22 Dec1750 d 23 Feb 1815  
mar 23 Mar 1773 Juliana Rohrer/Rehrer d 1817
- 1751 Thomas Kurr b 14 Mar 1779 d 14 Nov (?) 1820(?)
- 1752 Johann Jacob Kurr b 2 Nov1784 d before 1817

Note #2

To date we have not been able to find any issue for either of Johann Jacob's sons (1751 and 1752).

Note #3

The records of Christ Lutheran Church record the birth of Johannes Kurr b 7 Nov 1763 to Johannes and Catharina Kurr . The elder Johannes is also unidentified.

176 Johann Thomas Kurr Jr. b 25 Jan 1754 d 28 Nov 1832  
mar 25 April or 16 May 1775 to Elisabetha Kinser/ Kintzer b 19 Jul 1752  
d 15 Jan 1829

1761 Maria Catharina Kurr b 18 Aug 1775 d 15 Apr 1827  
mar 9 Dec. 1798 to Johannes Anspach b 8 Mar 1775

17611 Elisabetha Anspach b ?  
mar 12 Dec 1831 Elias Reiger

17612 Maria Madeline Anspach b 3 Dec 1800  
mar Conrad Beck

17613 Catharina Anspach b 1 Jun 1803

17614 Johannes Anspach b 1 Jun 1803

17615 Jacob Anspach b 19 Jan 1816 / 15 Jun 1815

1762 Elisabetha Kurr b 12 Aug 1777 d bef. 1833  
mar 25 Dec. 1794 to Johannes Schneider

17621 Johannes Schneider b 16 Jul 1795

1763 Johannes Jacob Kurr b 20 Dec 1778 d 1 Nov 1830  
mar 23 May 1802 Catharina Lauer b 7 Apr 1783 d 28 Sep 1835  
Catharina (Lauer) Kurr mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> Johannes Batdorf, widower of her sister,  
Elisabetha Batdorf

17631 Thomas Kurr b 2 Jun 1803 d 29 Jul 1829

17632 Michael Kurr b 3 Sep 1805 d 25 Aug 1823

17633 Johannes/John L. Kurr b 13/18 Sep 1807 d 30 Dec / 1 Jan. 1831

17634 Anna Maria b 29 Jul 1812 d 9 Feb 1875

17635 Catharina b 28 Mar 1815 d by 1831 d without issue

17636 Elisabetha b 27 Jan 1818  
mar Abraham G. Stein

17637 Peter Kurr b 12 Feb. 1821 d 26 Oct 1839

17638 Margaretha / Peggy Kurr d by 1831 without issue

17639 Son # 5

1764 Barbara Kurr b 3 Feb 1781  
mar 13 Oct 1801 Jacob Boshaar

1765 Thomas Kurr III b 17 May 1783 d 22/24 Dec 1843  
mar 1<sup>st</sup> Catharina Groff b 30 Dec 1782 d 4 Apr 1830

17651 Johannes Kurr b 12 Sep 1806 d 6 Jan 1842  
mar Maria Magdalena \_\_\_\_\_

176511 John Thomas Kurr

176512 Jonathan Kurr

17652 Edward Kurr b 14 Sep 1808 d bef. 1880

176521 Reuben Kurr

176522 Andrew Kurr

176523 Elizabeth Kurr mar \_\_\_\_\_ Elier

17653 Jacob Kurr b 4 Dec 1809 d 20 Mar 1883  
mar 22 Jan 1841 Elisabetha Brobst b 19 Nov 1825 d 22 Jun 1882

Note #4

Jacob was the hotel keeper of the Eagle Hotel in the village of Bethel.

176531 Catharina Ann Kurr b 16 Dec 1846 d 23 Aug 1859  
176532 George J. Kurr  
176533 Maria J. Kurr b 1851 d 26 Sep 1915 single  
- took over father's hotel about 1875  
176534 Elizabeth Kurr mar Thomas Miller  
17654 Andreas/Andrew Kurr b 15 May 1813 d 13 Mar 1880  
17655 Salomon / Solomon Kurr b 9 Jan 1816  
mar Catharine \_\_\_\_\_  
176551 John Adam Kurr d 27 Apr 1855  
176552 Edward Kurr of Muncy PA  
176553 Thomas Kurr of Solomon City, Kansas  
176554 James D. Kurr of Hummelstown, PA  
17656 Maria Kurr b 14 Jul 1818 d 18 Nov 1818  
17657 Christian Kurr b 28 Nov 1819 d 6 Sep 1822  
17658 Thomas Kurr IV b 24 Oct 1823 d 16 Feb 1824  
17659 Elisabeth Kurr b 19 Oct 1829  
mar 8 Jun 1851 Georg Preis  
176591 Rosa Preis mar H. E. Moyer  
176592 Mary Preis  
176593 William Preis  
176594 Adam G. Preis  
176595 Malinda Preis mar Nathaniel Swanger  
1765 Thomas Kurr III  
mar 2<sup>nd</sup> Elisabetha \_\_\_\_\_ b 15 Feb 1790 d 14 Feb 1862  
1765(10) Anna Maria Kurr b 20 May 1834  
1766 Anna Maria Kurr b 30 Apr 1786 d 19 Feb 1870  
mar 9 Jun 1807 Johannes Wilhelm b 27 Mar 1785 d 22 May 1872

Note #5

This couple are the ancestors of Jim Beidler and John Grimes' uncle, Thomas F. Wilhelm.

17661 Adam Wilhelm b 1808 d 1858  
mar Elisabetha Kuehner / Keener  
17662 Elisabeth Wilhelm b 1809 d 1877  
mar John Himmelberger  
17663 Johannes Wilhelm b 27 Feb 1811  
17664 Isaac Wilhelm b 2 Aug 1812 d Jun 1869 mar Rebecca Wagner

17665 Jacob Wilhelm b16 Feb 1814 d 1883 mar Lovina Keiser  
17666 Anne Maria Wilhelm b 28 Jun 1815 d 23 Jun 1860  
mar Henry Kuehner  
17667 Catharina Wilhelm b 27 Feb 1817 mar Jonathan Zeller  
17668 Augustus Wilhelm b 24 Mar 1823 d 8 Jan 1903  
mar Rebecca Kurr  
17669 Joseph Wilhelm b 15 Jun 1826 mar Lovina Winter  
1766 (10) Rosiwaell Wilhelm b 21 Oct 1827  
1766 (11) John Wilhelm b 1828 mar Elisabeth Winter  
1767 Johannes Kurr b 9 Jun 1789 d 25 Mar 1860/61  
mar 10 Jan 1813 Anna Maria Roehrer/Rehrer b 21 Dec 1793 d 9 Feb 1875  
17671 Elisabetha Kurr b 3 Jul 1813 d 9 May 1893  
mar 27 Nov 1833 Isaac Gerhart  
17672 Isaac Kurr b 9 Mar 1815 d 11 Sep 1885  
mar 22 Mar 1834 Catharina Artz b 12 Mar 1816 d 28 Feb 1861  
176721 Letheisa /Lettisa Kurr b 17 Oct 1834 d 17 Jun 1869  
mar Henry Walborn  
176722 Caroline Kurr b 7 Jan 1838 d 24 Apr 1913  
mar Augustus B. Forry b 3 Aug 1836 d 20 Jun 1907  
1767221 Catharine/Kate Forry b 18 Nov 1857 mar John Schaeffer  
1767222 Franklin Forry b 12 Mar 1861  
1767223 Elias Forry b 29 Mar 1864  
1767224 Abner Forry b 13 Jun 1865 d 7 Sep 1934 mar Alice Peiffer  
1767225 Vesta Forry b 11 Apr 1868 mar Jacob Scholl  
1767226 Evan K. Forry b 20 Aug 1871  
176723 John Artz Kurr b 1 Aug 1842 d 5 Aug 1910  
mar 1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Jane Klopp b 29 Jan 1848 d 20 Mar 1883

NOTE #6

John A. Kurr was a storekeeper in Bethel

1767231 Frederick Peter Kurr b 12 Jul 1875  
1767232 Martin Luther Kurr b 23 Aug 1876 d 5 Sept 1877  
1767233 Thomas Adam Kurr, MD b 20 Nov 1877 d 20 Sep 1919  
mar 9 Jul 1904 Margaret D. Manbeck b 18 Jun 1881 d 11 Sep 1959

Note #7

Dr. Kurr's practice was based in Fredericksburg, but he may have cared for your parents or grandparents during the flu epidemic of 1918. He died in a weakened state the following year.

17672331 Ralph John Kurr b 23 Jan 1905 d 20 May 1988  
mar 17 Jul 1947 Ruth Maxwell b 2 Jul 1917 in Jamesville, NY  
d 6 Jul 2009

Note # 8

Ralph was a cousin of John Grimes' father. While he had lost the use of his left arm due to polio at the age of 5, he would spend his adult life in the Syracuse N.Y. area where he became an advocate for the blind, people in need of rehabilitation and those with multiple disabilities.

1767234 Mary Rebecca Kurr b 7 Aug 1879 d 22 Mar 1959  
mar 9 Jul 1904 Robert C. Manbeck b 20 Feb 1879 d 1938  
1767235 Jennie L. Kurr b 15 Apr 1881 d 14 Jul 1901  
1767236 Lydia Jane Kurr b 17 Apr 1881  
176723 John Artz Kurr  
mar 2<sup>nd</sup> Priscilla R. Snyder b 1 Nov 1844 d 19 Jul 1928  
1767237 Eulan Isaac Kurr b 29 Dec 1886  
mar 1 Oct 1911 Virginia Nelson  
17672371 Eulan Nelson Kurr b 2 Aug 1912  
17672372 Richard Franklin Kurr b 25 Mar 1919 d 26 Aug 1999  
mar Sara M. Fisher  
176724 Amelia Kurr mar 7 Apr 1854 Cyrus Kline  
176725 Mary Kurr mar 22 Nov 1861 Levi Dunkel  
176726 Emma Kurr mar Tylon J. Rollman  
176727 Isabella Kurr mar Franklin Stoudt  
176728 Catharine/Kate Kurr b 31 Dec 1852  
mar 22 Jan 1876 Thomas Kline  
176729 Amanda Kurr b 24 Oct 1855 mar Darius Dundore  
17673 Jonathan Kurr b 9 Jun 1816 d 29 Jan 1902  
mar Maria Elisabetha Trautman  
176731 Lovina Kurr b 7 Apr 1840 mar Daniel K. Derr  
1767311 Alice Rebecca Derr b 19 Mar 1864  
1767312 Robert Frank Derr b 2 Jun 1865  
176732 John Ezra Kurr b 24 Aug 1841 d 27 Jan 1843  
176733 Adam Kurr b 9 Oct 1842 d 27 Jan 1843  
176734 Israel Benjamin Kurr b 26 Apr 1844  
mar 1<sup>st</sup> Celisa Geissler b 9 Feb 1845 d 5 Dec 1881  
176734 Israel B. married 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Moyer on 10 Feb 1884  
176735 Selisa (Celisa) Susanna Kurr b 23 Dec 1845 d 4 Jan 1849  
176736 Rebecca Elizabeth Kurr b 21 Aug 1847 d 9 Nov 1923  
Had a child out of wedlock by Augustus Wilhelm (17668)

1767361 Elizabeth Ellen Kurr b 24 Dec 1866  
176736 Rebecca Kurr later married 22 Dec 1872 John Issac Groff who had  
previously married 26 Jan 1867 Henrietta Isabella Gerhard.  
Rebecca and John had issue:  
1767362 John Harvey Groff b 8 Feb 1876 d 28 May 1966  
1767363 Cora Elizabeth Groff b 22 Dec 1878 d 28 Dec 1891  
176737 Michael H. Kurr b 30 Sep 1849 d 29 Aug 1928  
mar 24 Dec 1872 Miranda Elizabeth Snyder b 10 Sep 1852 d 7 Jun 1934  
1767371 Mary Elizabeth Kurr b 5 Sep 1874 d 26 Sep 1958  
mar 25/26 Nov 1899 William Spannuth b 24 Oct 1870 d 19 Jul 1939  
17673711 Michael Emmanuel Spannuth b 27 Jun 1900  
17673712 Frederick Pierce Spannuth b 26 Jan 1902  
17673713 Lena Miranda Spannuth b 8 Dec 1903 d 5 Jun 1939  
17673714 William Guy Spannuth b 3 Jun 1908 d 6 Mar 1997  
17673715 Herbert Ammon Spannuth b 14 Mar 1912 d 23 Oct 1997  
176738 John Kurr b 24 Apr 1851 d 27 Mar 1941  
mar Elizabeth Gerhart b 8 Feb 1850 d 16 Oct 1932  
1767381 Agnes Kurr b 24 Dec 1870 d 2 Nov 1918  
1767382 Charles E. Kurr b 27 Feb 1875 d 14 Jun 1959  
mar Carrie Eva Deck b 1 Nov 1883 d 23 Apr 1902  
17673821 Elsie Marie Kurr b 8 Feb 1901  
17673822 Gertie May Kurr b 1 Jan 1902 mar Roy Keller  
1767382 Charles E Kurr mar 2<sup>nd</sup> Carrie Emerich (?)  
17673823 Jennie Eliza Kurr b 5 Sep 1905 mar Rev. Harvey Kettering  
176739 George Kurr b 23 Nov 1854 d 1 Jan 1941  
mar Clara M. Snyder b 12 Sep 1858 d 16 Jan 1927  
1767391 George J. Kurr b 20 Nov 1883 d 4 Aug 1901  
mar Sallie B. Weber b 10 Aug 1875 d 26 Oct 1954  
17673911 Mary Elizabeth b 19 Oct 1898  
mar \_\_\_\_\_Roberge  
17673912 Sara mar \_\_\_\_\_Zock

Note #9

George J. died of paralysis after a visit to dentist. His wife Sallie was an 1893 graduate of the Kutztown Normal School and lived at the Bashore Tavern in Meckville after her husband's death. Her daughter Sara became a great supporter of Tulpehocken Schools and libraries.

1767392 William Jonathan Kurr b 9 Dec 1885 d 9 May 1920  
mar Susan A. Krick b 7 Jul 1874 d 5 May 1953  
Susan mar 2<sup>nd</sup> 18 June 1921 Henry Muth  
Susan mar 3<sup>rd</sup> 22 Dec 1928 Aaron J Schaeffer  
17673921 Warren Kurr  
176739211 June Dorothy Kurr b 29 June 1931  
176739212 Betty Susan Kurr b 22 Nov 1932  
17674 Daniel Kurr b 10 Feb 1819 d 25 May 1920  
17675 Priscilla Kurr b 13 Feb 1821 d 24 Feb 1895  
mar 5 May 1839 John Walborn  
176751 Henry Jacob Walborn b Oct 1839 d 3 Jul 1915  
176752 Emma Priscilla Walborn b 31 Jan 1859 d 20 Nov 1910  
176753 Michael John Walborn b 16 Jan 1861 d 9 Jan 1916  
17676 Maria Kurr b 11 Jul 1823 d 16 May 1898  
mar 4 May 1844 Jonathan Walborn  
17677 William Kurr b 8 Sep 1825 d 6 Dec 1884  
mar 25 Apr 1846 Selesia Geissler b 1828 d 20 Dec 1889  
176771 Leandra R. Kurr b 5 Jan 1851 mar T. B. Klinger  
176772 Addison Henry Kurr b 19 Sep 1855  
mar 31 May 1879 Cecilia Markey b 1845 d 3 Dec 1879  
1767721 Bertha May Kurr b 9 Dec 1879  
176773 Erasmus Michael Kurr b 1 Dec 1858/9 d 19 Feb 1939  
mar 28 Feb 1878 Mary Ella Schleasman

Note #10

Erasmus was a later operator of the Eagle Hotel / Kurr House in Bethel

1767731 Hattie Edith Kurr b 7 Oct 1879  
1767732 Charles Edwin Kurr b 20 Jun 1880 mar Martha R. \_\_\_\_\_  
17677321 Robert Lewis Kurr b 1 Aug 1912  
1767733 Mary Celesia Kurr b 7 Mar 1886  
1767734 Lewis Bryan Kurr b 17 Mar 1898 mar 5 Oct 1920 Esther M. Snyder  
176774 Calvin Wellington Kurr b 27 Feb 1862 mar 13 Jun 1899 Hannah Ziegler  
176775 Clara Kurr mar Almon Reed  
1767751 William Almond Reed  
17678 Henry Kurr b 4 Mar 1828 d 24 Aug 1898  
mar Elizabeth/Eliza Muth b 17 Feb 1831 d 11 Mar 1901  
176781 Thomas Addison Kurr b 1 Jan 1857  
mar 27 May 1882 Rebecca Boltz b 1860 d 5 Oct 1897



Note # 11

According to Carl Ganster in his book "My Home Town" (2001), Thomas A. Kurr moved from Mt. Aetna to Stouchsburg and started the Kurr Furniture Store and Funeral Parlor. The business would survive for 3 generations. A picture of the horse drawn Kurr hearse appears on page 114 and the business on Main St on page 48.

1767811 Almer L. Kurr b 12 Apr 1883 d 20 Mar 1969 mar Mary Ann Moyer  
1767812 daughter b 26 May 1884 d 25 Aug 1898  
1767813 Aquillas Howard b 29 Oct 1887 d 1957  
mar Nora Rhine b 1890 d 1984  
1767814 Warren L. Kurr b 1911 d 1988 mar Fay Dietrich b 1910 d 1993

Note #12

Warren would move the furniture store out to Route 422 and close the funeral home.

17678141 David Kurr (?)  
17678142 Annette Kurr (?)  
176782 Jacob Kurr b 7 April 1858 d 13 Feb 1923  
mar 17 Sep 1887 Ada Rebecca Moyer  
1767821 Mary Rebecca Kurr b 26 Aug 1888  
1767822 Ellen Vesta Kurr b 9 Nov 1889  
176783 Mary Jane Kurr b 28 Feb 1860 d 1 Aug 1880  
176784 Isabella Maria Kurr b 27 Oct 1871  
mar \_\_\_\_\_ Krick  
176785 Mirenda Fidelia Kurr b 2 Jun 1874  
176786 Emma Kurr mar \_\_\_\_\_ Martin  
176787 John E. Kurr  
176788 Annie Kurr mar Penrose Zeller  
176789 Minnie Kurr mar William Webber  
17679 Rebecca Kurr b 14 April 1831 d 18 Feb 1908  
mar 18 Dec 1856 Jonathan Killmer b 13 Aug 1831 d 8 Nov 1900

