



# *Dillman* \* *Descendants and Ancestors*

(\*Including other known variations of Dillmann, Stillman, Tillmann, Dielman, Dhyllmann, Dihlmann, Dillaman, Tighlman, Dieleman, etc.)

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[www.dillmanfamilyassociation.org](http://www.dillmanfamilyassociation.org)

We are a member of the Guild of One-Name Studies.

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*You just never know what you might find on the Internet!*

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## DILLMAN DESCENDANTS & ANCESTORS

### 1. “DILLMAN REUNIONS”

Several groups of Dillmans hold reunions in different locations each year. In this part of the newsletter, those reunions will be posted with times and locations updated as they become available to us. ***If you would like your Dillman reunion listed here, please send us the appropriate information.*** All dates, locations and times are subject to change.

**2013 - Sunday, JUNE 30** Bloomington, IN *Hans Georg/Conrad Dillmann Group*

Saturday, July 13 Bloomington, IL *Hans Georg/Conrad Dillmann Group*

Saturday, October 5 Tamms, IL *Hans Georg/Conrad Dillmann Group*

### 2. Dillman Family Association News Items



Frances (Dillman) Chessman, Phil Dillman’s aunt, passed away March 15, 2013, at the age of 71. She was born July 11, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois to Willis E. and Ruth (Hazel) Dillman. She was the beloved wife of the late Grant E. Chessman III; loving mother of Grant E. Chessman IV, Donna (Paul) Dawson, Janet (Bruce) Stryzik, Amy (Jim) Andricopulos and Joan (Joseph) Arrigoni; cherished grandmother of 11; dear sister of Willis Jr. (Patty) Chessman, Ron (Marguerite) Dillman and Patricia Bergstrom.; and loved aunt to many.

Fran was one of the family researchers to add to Phil’s growing interest in genealogy.

At the latest DFA Board meeting, it was suggested that the group is considering the possibility of a trip to Germany in 2015. This was based on the success of the trip there in 2009 , the many things learned at that time and since then, and the potential for discovering still more with this recently learned information. As we further discuss the possibility of this trip taking place, we will publish the information for you. Stay tuned!

### 3.

## Reunions of Old - by Phil Dillman

Family reunions have been taking place for well over 100 years, though most have not been continuous. The image below (owned by Carl and Sue Dillman and used for the buttons at the first DFA gathering) is from the Dillman and Rohrer Reunion at Clear Creek, Indiana. According to Mary E. Dillman on the 11th of May, 1931, that particular reunion was held about 37 years ago, or, sometime around 1894. A publication called the "Bloomington Telephone" reported in their issue from Tuesday, September 9, 1890, that "The second Annual reunion of the Rhorer and Dillman families was held in Gordon's Grove, Sept. 4th, 1890. The weather was all that heart could wish for, and at early hour the tribes began to arrive, and by 10 o'clock the hand shaking and introductions began as there were many who met for the first time in life." It went on to list some of the guests that traveled a great distance. A welcoming address and some brief speeches took place. "At the close of the exercises dinner was announced and after seating the company of 150, the work of relieving the inner man began. It was just such a dinner as might be expected from descendants of the old German stock of Rhorers and Dillmans, for if there was anything wanting it was not discovered." Following the dinner, there was music from the orchestra followed by a biography of the Dillman branch by Jacob A. Dillman. *It states that it was a carefully studied history, although, he wrongly explains how the Dillmans emigrated to America in 1726 and that there were seven sons, four of them serving in the war of the revolution and that two of them perished in that war. We now know that information to be incorrect, our Dillman ancestor arriving in America in 1751 and having only four sons, none perishing in the war, although, one taken prisoner by the British.* There were also poems recited and a report of 'artists upon the grounds to get a view of the happy and smiling faces as they enjoyed themselves. They appointed officers for another year.

The same two families met one year later in 1891. Reported in the Saturday Courier from Bloomington, Indiana, "On account of the threatening weather on Thursday of last week the reunion of the Rhorer and Dillman families was held at the Clear Creek church, instead of the Aaron Gordon Grove. A group photograph of the entire party was taken in front of the church building." Despite the weather, they had a large crowd. There was vocal music that was rendered by a choir selected from both families. The noon dinner was said to be "a feast that the gods might envy." There was more singing and poems read, and free-for-all speech-making and social enjoyment. It was observed that nearly all of the Rhorers from abroad spelled the name Rohrer. The paper included a nearly complete list of the visitors. I won't list them except to say that many of them traveled quite far, from places in California, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Louisiana, and Kentucky.

Yet another early reunion was in the area north of Springfield, Illinois. An invitation from Lincoln, Illinois, dated September 8, 1908 reads "We take great pleasure in informing you that the 25th (quadrennial) re-union of the Houser, Hoover and Dillman families will be held at the residence of Dr. W. W. Houser in Lincoln, ILL, September 18, '08, the

birth day of Uncle Dock. Yourself and family are urgently requested to attend. Please come prepared to spend the most pleasant social day of your life. Much of the time will be devoted to the family genealogy which is in an advanced state of completion. Kindly come prepared to contribute all the important historic facts pertaining to your family that you possibly can." *The completion of the family genealogy refers to the book "Genealogy of the Houser, Rhorer, Dillman, and Hoover Families" which was printed in 1910.*

I have heard of reunions taking place near east-central Illinois during the 1940s in which the brothers Guss and Mack Dillman insisted on making the lemonade.

If you have stories of other Dillman family reunions of your own or from further back in time, please share them with us.



## 4. Dillmans and the Civil War, 150 Years Later - by Phil Dillman

The following information was found at the website Wikipedia: The **American Civil War (ACW)**, also known as the **War between the States** or simply the **Civil War** (see [naming](#)), was a [civil war](#) fought from 1861 to 1865 between the United States (the "[Union](#)" or the "North") and several Southern [slave states](#) that declared their [secession](#) and formed the [Confederate States of America](#) (the "Confederacy" or the "South"). The war had its origin in the issue of [slavery](#), especially the extension of slavery into the western territories. Foreign powers did not intervene. After four years of bloody combat that left over 600,000 soldiers dead and destroyed much of the South's infrastructure, the Confederacy collapsed, slavery was abolished, and the difficult [Reconstruction](#) process of restoring national unity and guaranteeing rights to the freed slaves began.

In the first year of the war, both sides had far more volunteers than they could effectively train and equip. After the initial enthusiasm faded, reliance on the cohort of young men who came of age every year and wanted to join was not enough. Both sides used a draft law—[conscription](#)—as a device to encourage or force volunteering; relatively few were actually drafted and served. The Confederacy passed a draft law in April 1862 for young men aged 18 to 35; overseers of slaves, government officials, and clergymen were exempt. The U.S. Congress followed in July, authorizing a militia draft within a state when it could not meet its quota with volunteers. European [immigrants](#) joined the [Union Army](#) in large numbers, including 177,000 born in Germany and 144,000 born in Ireland.

When the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect in January 1863, ex-slaves were energetically recruited by the states, and used to meet the state quotas. States and local communities offered higher and higher cash bonuses for white volunteers. Congress tightened the law in March 1863. [Men selected in the draft could provide substitutes or, until mid-1864, pay commutation money. Many eligibles pooled their money to cover the cost of anyone drafted. Families used the substitute provision to select which man should go into the army and which should stay home.](#) There was much evasion and overt resistance to the draft, especially in Catholic areas. The great [draft riot in New York City in July 1863](#) involved Irish immigrants who had been signed up as citizens to swell the machine vote, not realizing it made them liable for the draft. [Of the 168,649 men procured for the Union through the draft, 117,986 were substitutes](#), leaving only 50,663 who had their personal services conscripted.

North and South, the draft laws were highly unpopular. An estimated 120,000 men evaded conscription in the North, many of them fleeing to Canada, and another 280,000 Northern soldiers deserted during the war, along with at least 100,000 Southerners, or about 10% all together. However, desertion was a very common event in the 19th century; in the peacetime Army about 15% of the soldiers deserted every year. In the South, many men deserted temporarily to take care of their families, then returned to their units. In the North, "bounty jumpers" enlisted to get the generous bonus, deserted, then went back to a second recruiting station under a different name to sign up again for a second bonus; 141 were caught and executed.

The war produced about 1,030,000 casualties (3% of the population), including about 620,000 soldier deaths—two-thirds by disease, and 50,000 civilians. Binghamton University historian J. David Hacker believes the number of soldier deaths was approximately 750,000, 20% higher than traditionally estimated, and possibly as high as 850,000. The war accounted for roughly as many American deaths as all American deaths in other U.S. wars combined.

2011 marked the 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War. Many in the American South attempted to incorporate both [black history](#) and white perspectives. A Harris Poll given in March 2011 suggested that Americans were still uniquely divided over the results and appropriate memorials to acknowledge the occasion. While traditionally American films of the Civil War feature "brother versus brother" themes film treatments of the war are evolving to include African American characters. Benard Simelton, president of the Alabama [NAACP](#), said celebrating the Civil War is like celebrating the "[Holocaust](#)". In reference to slavery, Simelton said that black "rights were taken away" and that blacks "were treated as less than human beings." National Park historian Bob Sutton said that slavery was the "principal cause" of the war. Sutton also claimed that the issue of state rights was incorporated by the Confederacy as a justification for the war in order to get recognition from Britain. Sutton went on to mention that during the 100th anniversary of the Civil War white southerners focused on the genius of southern generals, rather than slavery. In Virginia during the fall of 2010, a conference took place that addressed the slavery issue. During November 2010, black Civil War reenactors from around the country participated in a parade at [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania](#).

**The Dillman's Involvement** - According to information from Ancestry.com, There were 180 soldiers in the Civil War with the last name of Dillman or a variation of that last name. Of those, 169 fought for the Union Army while 11 fought for the Confederate Army. The Union States that they enlisted in were Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York,, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. The Confederate States were Florida and Virginia. They were listed as serving in the following capacities - Private, Corporal, Sergeant, or Lieutenant.

**5. If One Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words... - by Phil Dillman**

A short time ago, Richard Kawzinski (or somebody that knows him) donated two small albums of copied photographs with labels to the Dillman Family Association. Each album holds 28 pictures, mostly of his ancestors. Thus, I would value the collection at 56,000 words. Richard is a descendant of the Dillman-Dayga group which connects to the “Hawkins Wheel” of Jacob Dillman Dayga. Included in these photos is a shot of his grandfather, Alvah Leroy (Roy) Dillman, born August 1, 1873 in Wabash County, Indiana and died February 26, 1932 in Plymouth, Indiana. He was the son of Abraham and Matilda S. Brown Dillman Jr, grandson of Abraham and Elizabeth (Betsy) Hypes Dillman Sr., and great-grandson of Jacob and Margaret Lehman Dillman Jr. Donations like this to the DFA Library/Archive help us to continue connecting Dillman branches and to aid other Dillman family researchers.



**LEFT -**  
*Alvah Leroy Dillman and daughters Chloe L. and Charlotte E. Dillman*



**RIGHT -**  
*Richard's mother, Charlotte E. Dillman Kawzinski in 1956, about to get driving lessons in the car she had just purchased.*

**BELOW RIGHT -**  
*Uncle Esli Dillman, born December 1871, almost deaf when this was taken.*



**Back Row -**  
*Laura Ruana Perry Dillman Helser, Ruby Mae Dillman, Ruth Irene Dillman*  
**Front Row -**  
*Hilda M. Helser, Charlotte Elizabeth Dillman, Chloe Louise Dillman*



6.

## Dillman Farm History...so far



What began as a way to supplement their income, Carl and Sue Dillman began making apple butter in a garage Carl built in the 1970s. Carl delivered milk for Johnson Dairy and Sue worked at a local school. “We made about 200 jars at a time and Carl would deliver it to stores in Brown County on his milk truck.” Sue reminisced. As demand increased, more time and equipment and buildings were needed. “Each time we needed to expand I would add another garage for warehouse space.” Carl added. By the late 70s and early 80s, Carl and Sue incorporated the business and Dillman Farm, Inc. was official. The product line was expanded to include fruit preserves, jellies,

*The sign and building as they appeared in 1994. Photos by Laura Dillman*



and other fruit butters such as pumpkin butter. The sales territory also expanded to include farm markets, orchards, specialty stores,

and a few grocery stores. By 1984, Carl and Sue were joined by their son Cary in the business which had now become a full time endeavor. “Dad retired from the dairy and I quit my job and we decided now was the time to see if we can make a go of it.” Cary said. As the business grew, each family member assumed a different role. “Cary became the cook, Carl delivered the products we made, and I did the canning and kept track of the money.” Sue said with a smile. Throughout the rest of the 80s, sales increased as did the product line. “We were up to about 30 different products and we had steady growth.” Cary remembered. Then, in November of 1991, an early morning fire destroyed four buildings and the majority of the finished products and equipment.



*Circa 2001 - photo by Phil Dillman*

“It was a set back, for sure, and it took two years to build it back, but the new facility and equipment gave us an opportunity to take the next step in meeting the growing demand for our products.” Carl claimed. For the next 19 years, Dillman Farm products were being sold in almost every state and in a variety of stores. Unique products like F.R.O.G. preserves (figs, raspberries, orange, and ginger), pear apple chai preserves, chipotle apple raspberry sauce and a variety of salsas, mustards, barbeque sauces and numerous fruit preserves and butters were being produced by the thousands. “We had come a long way from the 200 jar days.” Carl said. By 2011, when Carl was 80 years old and Sue was a young 76, they had semi-retired and Cary was overseeing the business that now included



*Circa 2005 - photo by Phil Dillman*

12 employees. “Mom and Dad put a lot into this business to make it succeed. I don’t think they knew what it was to just work forty hours a week. It was time for a change.” Cary said. Change also came in the form of an EF-1 tornado on May 26, 2011. “In about 60 seconds the tornado destroyed what took 20 years to build.” Cary said. Not only had the business sustained over one million dollars in damage, Carl and Sue lost three quarters of their house. “The tornado was devastating but no one was hurt.” Sue said. It took about a year to build the facility back and Cary believes that, like the fire in 1991, that tornado gave Dillman Farm an opportunity to begin the next phase of this family business. The Dillmans hope that things will be quiet now and they look forward to another productive 20 years. Cary summed it up this way: “1991 and 2011 are two years that I am happy to be behind me. People ask, ‘How did you get through all of that?’ I have to say the Apostle Paul was right when he said, ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.’”



*April 2013  
Photos by  
Phil Dillman*

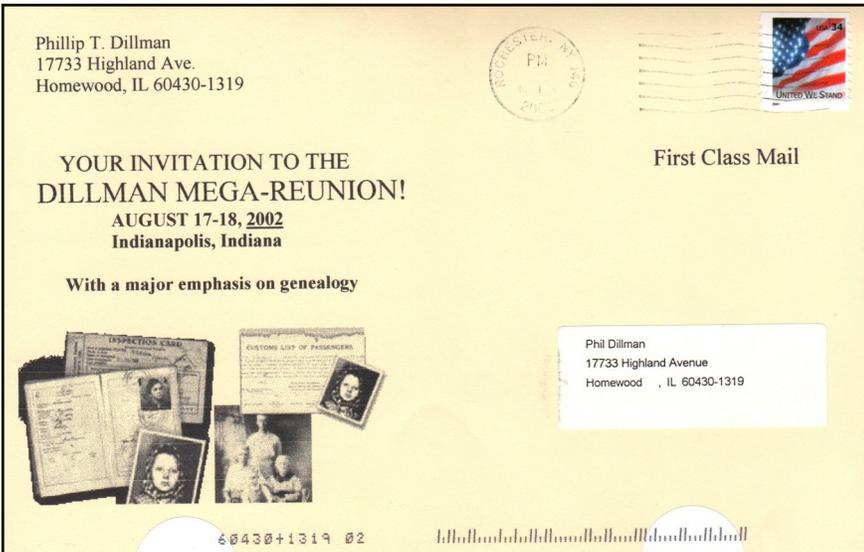


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We believe that the food we eat should be as simple and natural as possible.  
 We use no preservatives, or corn syrups.

## 7. The First Mega-Reunion and Creation of the Dillman Family Association in August 2002 By Don A. Dillman

*(Editor's note. This is the first in a series of articles reporting events that occurred at early Dillman Mega-Reunions. This narrative is based on memories of one of the participants in the first Dillman Mega-Reunion that resulted in forming the Dillman Family Association (DFA). We invite others to share their memories of the early years of the DFA and its accomplishments).*



An unexpected invitation to spend two days in a hotel meeting room near the Indianapolis airport with no planned meals or the likelihood of seeing anyone we had met before was unusual. Even the name, “Dillman Mega-Reunion” seemed strange. Was it really going to be a reunion, or only a casual meeting of people connected to a surname about which little was known?

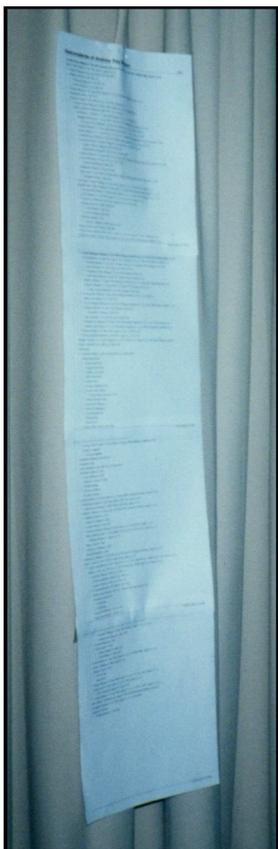
However, our curiosity was piqued and it took only a few minutes to decide that we were going to be there. After three decades of accumulating more questions than answers about my Dillman roots, my wife Joye and I wanted to be there. As

Earl Dillman, one of the organizers, explained in letters and emails sent to as many “Dillman” names as could be found throughout the U.S., “This reunion isn’t about hot dogs and t-shirts; it is going to be full of just genealogy.”

Our 1800 mile flight from Pullman, Washington, to Indianapolis, Indiana, for the August 16, 2002, meeting got us there with less time and effort than that expended by many others. Marguerite Dillman came from Florida with her electric chair that facilitated her mobility. Chuck and Marie Dillman drove 200 miles from Michigan. My brother, Ed, the one person we did know, had driven by himself nearly 400 miles from Iowa. Louise and Herschel McKinney travelled from near St. Louis, and others came from California and North Carolina. Phil Dillman came a shorter distance from near Chicago, but carried with him many boxes of collected Dillman genealogies and memorabilia connected to the Dillman name. Altogether, about 70 people, representing 40 families, and hundreds of unanswered questions comprised the group that assembled at the Wingate Hotel near the airport for two days of learning who we were. It soon became evident the assembled group included some very determined participants who had been searching for knowledge of their past.



The main question I wanted to have answered had been on my mind for decades. I was a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Lucas County, Iowa, Dillman. I had visited many times my great-great grandparent Andrew Dillman's gravesite in the Niswender Cemetery, next to where his 40 acre farm had been; I knew from my parents that he and his wife had migrated there in the 1850's from Indiana. But, my understanding of their deeper ancestry was fuzzy, based on a 1967 conversation with a distant cousin. I came to Indianapolis hoping for more certainty on names and locations of my earlier Dillman ancestors, including the one who had migrated to the U.S. I was also hoping that someone might be able to answer a small but nagging question –what caused Andrew Dillman's death at the age of 38, in 1866.



I discovered others were similarly curious about their ancestry. People came with hand written notes, binders full of records and even posters. A white on green Dillman Street sign was hung behind the podium. Dillman bumper stickers were set in a corner of the room above a table with Dillman bric-a-brac, ranging from ashtrays to a copy of the original Dillman March (a music score, which we copied). Thick loose leaf notebooks contained the life-long collection of some family genealogical collections of Dillman information weighed-down the tables with far more information than one could digest in a couple of days. I saw the Dillman name used in more places and ways in one day than I had seen in my entire life time. A scanner was set up and worked nearly non-stop to record pictures, histories, notes, charts and anything else “Dillman” for inclusion in a CD that would be produced afterwards to share details.

Undoubtedly the most attention-getting items in the room, and the ones many of us would return to again and again during the two-day event were posters and taped-together sheets of paper that covered much of the available wall space, displaying the lineage of different Dillman lines insofar as they were known. One of them, prepared by June Riccio, and of particular interest to me, was a horizontal 30 foot scroll, comprised of taped together 8 ½” x 11” sheets of paper, listing known children of my g-g-g grandfather (also named Andrew). The lineage information was also displayed vertically, 13 columns to represent the children of my g-g-g grandfather, some of which were only a few sheets long, and others that fell all the way to the floor where the last pages bunched together in a pile. Some, but certainly not all of the attendees showed up on these printouts.

Marguerite Dillman started the meeting by saying with eloquence how much she had looked forward to this reunion. She had wanted it to happen for many years. She also described herself as the last person in her line of descent. Curiosity about understanding something that happened a century before any of us was born can be a powerful motivator. She set a tone that made us want even more to share and learn from one another. The eloquence of her presentation is preserved on the First Mega-Reunion CD. It would soon become apparent that while the specifics of each person's curiosity were different, finding answers required connections. Each person at the reunion had the potential to be a provider of information as well as a recipient of answers to their questions. Some came to the reunion because they could not relate their line to any others, and just hoped that someone in attendance might have answers for them. (con't.)



June Riccio, creator of the horizontal and vertical printouts, wore a badge of pictures revealing that it took her four generations to get back to her Dillman ancestor. She was especially knowledgeable about Dillman ancestry across multiple lines of descent. A Californian, she expressed a passion for finding the burial site of her immigrant ancestor, which I quickly realized would be that of my g-g-g-g grandfather.

Early in the reunion, several attendees spoke about their searches and where their paper trail had stopped. After describing to the group what little I knew about my ancestry, Toby Hurley, who I had not yet met, responded quietly and personally: “You are the reason I came to this reunion. I am hoping to find out more about my great-great-grandmother Susanna, and her infant daughter. She was the sister of your Andrew Dillman. She and her husband, David Finley, moved to Iowa with Andrew and his family, and bought land next to them. David died in the Civil War, and then she moved back to Indiana.” Only an hour into the first day of the reunion and Toby, who knew far more genealogy than did I, discovered the story beside the “D Finley” name on the land plat near my g-g-grandparents homestead, only a few miles from the farm where I was raised; already some of my hopes for this reunion were being realized.

Later, that day we were able to show Toby a picture of the Niswender cemetery where the infant daughter of her great-great-grandmother was likely to have been buried, and promised to search cemetery records and the cemetery itself in hopes of finding some evidence. This exchange of information is what a meeting of potentially related individuals should be about, I thought.

Soon I was asked a question posed by Robert Dillman, who reported being descended from a Kansas Dillman line. He asked if we knew anything about the Dillman Cemetery near St. Charles, Iowa, in Warren County, some 35 miles to the west of Andrew Dillman’s (3) gravesite. I did, having visited there for the first time only the year before. It is a tiny, but mysterious, plot of land surrounded completely by private property, visible from Interstate 35 because of a very large white cross being placed there by a relative of one of 30 or so people buried there.

Robert showed me an email from a person in Warren County, Iowa, who investigated for him and found out that Robert’s g-g grandfather, had established the cemetery. Because of our own curiosity, Joye included both the original photos and the cemetery description with names, in the material carried to Indianapolis, and we were able to show Robert the tombstone of his great, great, uncle who was buried there. We then went to June’s genealogy charts and found our lineage connection. His great-great grandfather was the next older brother of the father of my g-g-grandfather. Robert now had the evidence he was looking for, and we had received the knowledge of this cousin who had passed through Iowa, living temporarily in Warren County before moving on to Nebraska and then Kansas. This small mystery was now solved.

Disappointment was also part of the reunion. A few attendees, including Charles Dillman and Frank Dillman each concluded that he was not related to anyone else in the room. In my case, despite meeting new distant cousins, I felt no closer to understanding, with confidence, who was my original immigrant ancestor.

We learned at this first Mega-reunion that at least three of us had visited a small village in southwestern Germany named Illingen, where Dillmann’s had once lived, thinking it might be the place from which our particular ancestor had migrated. One of those visitors, Louise McKinney, shared this paragraph from a history of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, published in 1916.

*“Elias Diehlmann was born in 1686 in the town of Nussdorf, Germany. In the early part of the eighteenth century he moved to Illingen, Germany—two miles from Nussdorf. He died there in 1756. Elias Dihlmann or Diehlmann had a son Jacob Dihlmann, who in turn had three sons, namely, Jacob Dillmann, Jr. Andrew Dillmann, and Elias Dillmann, Jr. These sons changed the spelling for the name to Dillmann and after their emigration to America they dropped the final “n.”*”

Our visits to Illingen had resulted in some frustration for all of us. None of us from our different lines could find evidence that we were connected to the Dillmann family that had once lived there. In addition, a

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genealogy published by Erich Dillman, who Louise had met with at his home in nearby Phorzheim, Germany, was doubtful about the connection. (It would be another seven years before this mystery would finally be resolved through his help. See Dillman Family News, Volume 3, No. 1 (<http://www.Dillmanfamilyassociation.org>))

The Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, history posed a confusing but common dilemma. It is hard to reconcile the memories of people recorded in the 1800's and early 1900's in the United States, with the available evidence. This question about a possible connection could not yet be answered. The direction an investigation might take to resolve this challenge was also not obvious. June Riccio suggested the possibility of DNA testing of male descendants. It was explained to us in simple terms that a cheek swab of male-descendants would reveal whether participants shared the same male ancestor, because of certain genetic information being passed intact (or nearly so) from father to son on the Y-chromosome. Additional searching and sharing of historical records might allow us to connect the dots between DNA and other information in order to resolve this mystery and others that emerged in Indianapolis.

The most striking realization that began to form in the minds of many of us is that we were not alone. Instead of a lonely search by one person, the burden (and also the joys of searching) could be shared. A collective search that might depend partly on DNA testing, partly on records passed down in one family but not another, one persons knowledge of formal search techniques and another's ability to access help from knowledgeable historians could be more productive than what each of us had been doing alone. The challenge now, it seemed, was to build upon our connections, our separate pieces of information, and our commitment to learn more from each other. It was also clear to us that a piece of seemingly useless information found by one of us as we tried to answer questions about our own ancestry, might provide a missing link to someone else. Forming The Dillman Family Association to promote such investigations was a promising solution.

This Dillman Mega-Reunion of 2002 was about connecting at this higher level, with people who have different knowledge of genealogies and widely diverse skills that could be applied to our common interest of which the Illingen challenge was only one example. By the end of the second day a Dillman Family Association had been formed and a decision made to create a web site (<http://dillmanfamilyassociation.org>). Dues, a modest \$5, were paid by most of those present to help with costs, and someone volunteered to organize a reunion in 2004 to see what kind of progress was being made.

Most important, although we could hardly know this at the time, was the willingness of Frank Dillman to volunteer for a committee assignment, "Sure, I can set up something for DNA testing," he said. Little did we realize that two years later at the next Mega-Reunion, this decision, under Frank's leadership, would provide the critical piece of information for getting beyond June's taped together sheets of paper that remain a lasting reminder of the 2002 Mega-reunion where our DFA journey began.



## DILLMAN DESCENDANTS & ANCESTORS

### "FUTURE ARTICLES"

We would like to include any Dillman-related stories and/or photos that you might wish to submit for upcoming newsletters. We will try to include your submitted stories/photos as quickly as possible.

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*The DFA newsletter, "Dillman Descendants and Ancestors," is available by e-mail to all paid members of the Dillman Family Association. Membership is available to any individual with interest in the activities of the Dillman Family Association for \$25.00, which covers the two year period between mega-reunions (August 2010-August 2012). Membership in the DFA entitles individuals to receive an e-mail copy of each newsletter, and information on other DFA activities. Membership dues should be mailed to Louise McKinney, Treasurer, at 1510 W. Delmar, Godfrey, IL 62035 ([merrielouise@yahoo.com](mailto:merrielouise@yahoo.com)).*

*You can now join the DFA ONLINE through Paypal! Log into Paypal at [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com), set up a personal account and use the Send Money feature to deposit your payment into the DFA account using this e-mail address: [merrielouise@yahoo.com](mailto:merrielouise@yahoo.com)*

*Members may request receiving copies of the newsletter by postal mail instead of e-mail. Donations of \$10.00 per year to cover the cost of printing and mailing such copies will be greatly appreciated.*

### Phil's Phamily Tree Phunnies

by Phil Dillman

