



Dillman*

Descendants and Ancestors

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

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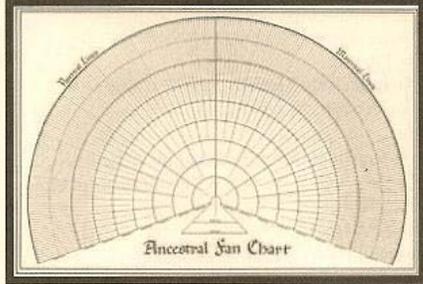
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*. "Words from Phil"



Ancestral Fan Chart

This ancestral fan chart—printed in acid-free stock—records one's ancestors back to the tenth generation. Use of this practical tool allows the genealogical researcher to enter the results of research in numbered blocks that at a glance show descent from all ancestral lines. Our most popular item!

Numbered blocks are arranged in a semi-circular pattern by paternal and maternal lineage from 1 at the center to 1,023 in the right corner. One can begin the center chart block with one's self (one chart), one's parents (two charts), or one's child(ren). Numbers follow standard genealogical format.

Printed on durable, uncoated stock, this chart comes flat or rolled for calligraphy and framing, but it folds easily and sells for use as a working copy as well. Blank charts make meaningful anniversary or holiday gifts for genealogy researchers, and family members welcome completed charts or showpieces lettered in flowing calligraphy.

Size: 25" (h) x 36.5" (w)
Regular Retail Price: \$8.95
Society Member Price: \$7.95

I received a newsletter recently from the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society advertising some of the resources that they offer as well as looking to recruit new members. This is the place where I ordered my Ancestral Fan Chart which I bring to each family reunion I attend. Since I always have someone asking where I acquired the chart from, I thought I would include this information in this newsletter. Their address is: 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602-1499. One word of advice – use a pencil on the chart, not a pen!

1. “Learning Ancestry from Pink Begonias and Aged Oak Trees”

By Don A. Dillman

When the search for ancestry reaches the years beyond the memories of older relatives, the focus usually shifts to what we might learn from government and church records, old buildings, recorded accomplishments of a few individuals, and in recent years, DNA information. All of these sources have been important for understanding the connection between North American Dillmans and the Dillmanns of Illingen, Germany, a small town in Southwest Germany. However, visits to Illingen in 1992, and again as part of the 2009 Dillman Tour, led to my appreciating quite different sources of information that contributed to understanding family lineage in this picturesque town, midway between Heidelberg and Stuttgart in Southern Germany.



Few locations in Germany have received as much attention from North American Dillmans searching for their German origins than has Illingen. It has a Dillmann school building inscribed, “Dillmann Schulhaus,” named for the Schulmaster, Elias L. Dillmann, (b 22 Nov 1791 , d. 5 Mar. 1877) who established it in 1826. His two sons became famous educators in Germany;

August was a professor of Ethiopian Studies at the University of Berlin, and

Christian Heinrich became a school reformer who established the Dillmann Gymnasium, a well known high school in Stuttgart. The prominence of this family of educators has made Illingen a location of interest for finding Dillman relatives.

Like many other North American Dillmans, I once thought my ancestors originated from Illingen. A chance meeting in Salt Lake City with the widow of my grandfather’s first cousin, Ray Dillman, resulted in the two of us sitting on her living room sofa one August afternoon while she sketched out my ancestry. Her penciled diagram ended with the name Elias Diehlmann, and under it she wrote the names of three sons—Elias (Germany), Andrew (PA), and Jacob (VA), identifying Andrew as my immigrant ancestor.



Twenty five years elapsed before Joye (my wife) and I were able to visit Illingen. That experience of discovery included a cemetery only a few blocks from the Dillmann School. Most of the grave markers were recent, but in one corner of the cemetery was a set of old

markers for the school master and his family. Our German friend who accompanied us expressed astonishment, partly because the graves were more than a century old and had not been recycled, as is common in Germany. But, more importantly he focused on the pink begonias growing on the gravesites. “These plants are annuals! Someone is taking care of these graves—there must still be Dillmanns here,” he exclaimed. That discovery of blooming plants that had to be replanted each spring, gave us hope that we might find a living Dillman connection.

We found the person who was caring for the graves, Emil Hoß, who reported that his mother was a Dillmann. He looked carefully at our records, before explaining that the dates fit, but that there was no record of the two sons, whose names he then wrote down. He said the emigrant sons were possible because of many wars between France and Germany in which territory changed hands and church records were often destroyed. He initiated a call to Erich Dillmann, a relative in Pforzheim, who had constructed a genealogy that included the Dillmanns of Illingen. Erich said he had been unable to find a linkage to American immigrants so was skeptical that we were descendants. Nonetheless, we left Emil’s home that afternoon with a marvelous sense of appreciation for having met a German Dillmann, and remained optimistic that eventually an ancestral connection might be found.

Twelve years later we found through DNA testing sponsored by the Dillman Family Association (DFA) (<http://www.frankdillman.com/dnaindex.htm>), that my ancestral line could be traced to a family that migrated from Neureut (near Karlsruhe) to

Pennsylvania in 1751. Then in 2008, Erich Dillmann, who we communicated with by phone that day in Illingen, volunteered for a DNA test, and we learned that the Illingen Dillmanns were connected to a different family line in the U.S., known to us as the Virginia Dillmans.

Illingen was an important destination for the October 2009 Dillman Tour. Others in our Tour group had visited Illingen previously, wondering as we had, if this was their family line, but all eventually learned as we did that it was not. However, the Dillman Family Association is about all Dillmans and we looked forward to the morning we would spend there. Perhaps we would learn new pieces of information that would help the Virginia Dillmans understand their family heritage. Kurt Schmidt, a pleasant gentleman, described by an Illingen town official as the informal town historian, volunteered to show us the Dillman sites. As we strolled with him through the quiet streets on a Tuesday morning he filled in details about the history of Illingen, its 15th century church, the half-timbered houses on Dillmanstrasse, the school, and next door to it the school master’s home. When the visit seemed about to end, Herr Schmidt explained that he wanted to take us, “to a high hill” outside of Illingen, but did not explain why. We drove in a southwesterly direction past orchards and tidy unfenced fields of sugar beets, harvested wheat and other crops. Upon reaching the ridge line, a kilometer or two from Illingen, he stopped his car near three large, but tightly clustered oak trees, and announced that we would have refreshments. Behind us was Illingen, nestled in its shallow valley. A few yards ahead of us in the other direction, were

manicured grape vines that descended the much steeper south-facing slope towards the river Enz. In the far distance we could see Nussdorf, from where Elias Dillmann (Sr.) and his family moved the short distance to Illingen in the early 1800's.

As a checked table cloth was spread on the ground under the majestic oaks, freshly baked pretzels emerged from his baskets and drinks were poured. Herr Schmidt then explained more about Elias the school master; in addition to bringing formal education to Illingen he became a community leader, an entrepreneur and agriculturalist. Herr Schmidt talked with us about Germany's defeat of France in the Franco-Prussian Wars in 1871, associated with the modern German state, and why he had brought us here. "Elias Dillmann planted these three oak trees in honor of the victory over the French in those wars.



Sitting under the branches of these nearly 140 year old oak trees reminded me that searching for and appreciating ancestry is about more than finding official records, DNA tests, and the personal accomplishments of a few individuals that cause memory of their particular lives to last longer than for others. It is also about more than specific dates, locations and the inanimate

artifacts associated with people's activities.

Plants have been part of people's lives since the beginning of time and they relate to us in many ways. The pink begonias on old grave sites motivated us to take the next steps for learning about the Dillmanns of Illingen. The majestic oak trees demonstrated the human concern of an accomplished Dillmann with leaving a living reminder for a very important historical event with deep meaning to the lives of Dillmanns, the Illingen community, and his country.

Plants associated with people's lives cannot give us the details available from written records, but they can be an important aspect of telling us who we and our ancestors are as human beings. The majestic oaks and shiny acorns I found myself admiring during much of the visit, reminded me that ancestry and the search for it is about more than human descendants. I wondered how many other oak trees in the region could be traced to this majestic trio on the ridge above Illingen and began to think of it as another of the enduring legacies of the Dillmanns of Illingen.

Memories of the school, the church, the houses, the street, and hospitality we experienced during our two visits to Illingen are strong and will persist. When I converse with the Virginia Dillmans whose relatives lived in Illingen, I will share those memories, but I'll also tell them about the blooming begonias, mature oak trees and the polished mahogany look and feel of the acorns that make me remember with special fondness and appreciation what we learned in our visits to Illingen.

2. “Update on Hans Georg Dillmann and Euphrosina Stober” By Andrew Stillman

In preparation for last autumn’s Dillman Trip to Germany, I made contact with a couple of Germany historians/researchers. It had been virtually impossible to locate records for Neureut, Baden and for our Dillmann family prior to the birth of their daughter, Eva Rosina, in 1721 (please refer to “[Insights into the Heritage of Hans Georg Dillmann and Margaretha Murr](#)”, Dillman Descendants and Ancestors, Vol. 1. No.4, June 2009, pages 4-6). One kindly historian informed me that the parish of Neureut was included with that of Eggenstein for administrative purposes in the period of 1701-1720, no doubt due to the slow return of inhabitants to Neureut following the desertion of the area during the War of the Palatine Succession in 1688-1697.

With this in mind, I eagerly ordered the microfilm for the church records of the Evangelische Kirche in Eggenstein from 1702-1962 at my local Family History Centre. The film was expected to arrive in 6-8 weeks. Most of this time flew by while we were in Germany. Once I got caught up after returning home, I was eagerly awaiting the film. 8 weeks stretched to 10 then to 12, then Christmas arrived, then 14 and finally after 16 weeks, I was informed that a copy of the film had arrived.

I anxiously made my way to the London Family History Centre armed with the following information. I knew that Hans Georg Dillmann Sr. was noted as being a “new” or “young” citizen of

Neureut in a listing of citizens in 1706¹. He was also listed as a citizen of Neureut in 1709².

In scanning the microfilm, I also was looking for references to either Hans George or Euphrosina as sponsors at baptisms or marriages and didn’t find any.

The microfilm³ yielded the following information:

1) Johannes Michael, born 11th August 1709, baptised 12th August 1709, son of Johannes Georg Dillmann and Euphrosina. Sponsors: Johannes Michael Linder and Anna Maria...

2) Conradt, born 14th August 1711, son of Hans Georg Dillmann and Euphrosina. Sponsors: Hans Michael Linder and Anna Maria, Johann...., Anna Barbara...

3) Anna Barbara, born 9th March 1715, daughter of Hans Georg Dillmann and Euphrosina. Sponsors: Johannes ... Anna Barbara

4) Anna Maria, born 5th May 1717, daughter of Johannes Georg Dillmann and Euphrosina. Sponsors: Johannes Anna Barbara....

However, the much sought after marriage record of Hans Georg Dillmann to Euphrosina Stober was not among these records. The marriage

likely took place sometime in 1707-1708 and the location remains a puzzle. We know fairly certainly that Hans Georg was not local to Neureut, being listed as a “new” citizen in 1706. It could very well be that Euphrosina also was not from the immediate area. They were likely married in Euphrosina’s home parish, which often happened in those days. Hence the whereabouts of the marriage record remains a mystery. It was hoped that the marriage record

would provide a clue as to the origin of Hans Georg.

(In the Eggenstein Parish records, there were a few births of Stobers in 1703-1708, prior to the birth of the Dillmanns. The fathers, Johannes Bernhardt Stober and Johannes Jacob Stober could potentially be brothers to Euphrosina, but there was no direct link in the records. The Family History Library does not have any records earlier than 1702 for Eggenstein.)

The hunt continues!

¹ letter from noted local archivist and historian, Wolfgang Erb, Karlsruhe, Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany. September 2009

¹ http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Teutschneureuter_Einwohnerverzeichnis_1709

¹ Evangelische Kirche Eggenstein, 1702-1962, item 4, microfilm # 1272877

3. **“Dillman, Indiana”** By Phil Dillman

John Wesley Dillman Sr. 1783-1855 was a grandson of Hans Georg Dillmann Jr., the immigrant. John and his wife, Lydia Rhorer, had many children, one of whom was a son named Andrew 1811-1886 who married Sarah Kilander. They were both born in Kentucky but moved across the river to Brown County, OH with their respective families. As adults, they met and were “united in marriage” on November 19, 1835. Andrew was a farmer and he, with his wife, Sarah, had thirteen children. They moved to Wells County, IN with their family in April 1854 and settled in Jackson Township. Andrew affiliated himself with the Democratic Party, was an enterprising and public-spirited man, and took an active interest in the affairs of his township. He and Sarah were also worthy members of the Christian Church.

On March 21, 1878, it appears that Andrew and Sarah sold a quarter acre of

their land to Jackson County for the purpose of building a school.

Sometime after Andrew’s passing in 1886, a post office was opened in the town and was named “Dillman” in his honor. In 1895, the town’s population was only 28 persons. However, Jackson Township soon shared in the oil boom starting in the 1880s. By 1890, the population had grown to 1,700 and up to 2,200 persons in 1900! Many businesses opened to address this growth.



In 1889, four of Andrew's sons, John, Ed, Jacob, and Sidney built a church in town. It was originally called Edwards Chapel and it was dedicated in December of 1889 by Bishop Milton Wright, the father of aviation pioneers Wilbur and Orville Wright. It is located just north of county road W 900 S on county road S 1100 W, just southeast of the town of Van Buren.



Sign on northbound State Hwy. 3

By 1910, the population had dropped back to 1,700 as the gas and oil wells were depleted and the fortune hunters

moved to the newly discovered oil fields in southern Illinois and Missouri. Thus, many of the businesses either closed or followed them. The name of the church was eventually changed to the United Brethren Church of Dillman and, later, The Dillman Church.

While there are no longer any storefront businesses in Dillman, IN, the church still appears to have a respectable following and is well-maintained.



4.

“DILLMAN’S SAND LAKE LODGE”

By Phil Dillman



Marvin Dillman was a young man living in South Dakota when he served as a camp counselor at a northwoods camp in the Lakeland area of Wisconsin. He remembered the experience fondly so, when he was offered a position as a CCC Camp Manager in either, Arizona, Dakota, or Wisconsin, there was never a question in his mind; it had to be Wisconsin. The year was 1934 when he moved to Wisconsin for that position. That was also the year that he met a young teacher named Peg Peterson with whom he fell in love. The two of them talked about their future and decided that, whatever their future was to be, it would happen in that area of Wisconsin.

They soon learned that the old Ben Gauthier Resort, a place that Peg's father helped finance in 1918, was for sale. Marvin and Peg knew they had found their future. They wanted to purchase the place and open a boys' camp. Peg's father, however, felt that this was a foolish notion as these were the Depression years and they could never make a go of it. Marvin and Peg pleaded their case to her father who eventually agreed to help them with the purchase, although, he made one last attempt to dissuade them by charging them 5% interest at a time when banks were charging only 3%.

They purchased the resort in 1935. It included the hotel, 13 buildings, 35 acres and 1,500 feet of frontage on White Sand Lake. The two were married at their hotel on June 1st of that year and started their venture. Their start was late in the season and the boys' camp didn't work out, although, they were able to fill some of the 22 rooms in the hotel along with some of the outer cabins with

tourists. Some of the improvements they made included the first inside bathroom in the hotel and the first electricity, a generator system which charged during the day for use at night. They also put in an outhouse with a flush toilet for the cabin guests.

They had many challenges, though, starting with a fire on May 1, 1939, which burned the hotel along with all of the resort linens that were stored inside, all of their wedding gifts and the prize Musky that Peg's father had caught. However, being young and energetic, Marvin and Peg honored all of the reservations that summer, they relocated the lobby and dining room to some of the cabins and made it through the season. They tried raising additional money through other ventures such as raising mink, chickens, cows for milking, etc. Through all of their efforts, they were rewarded when their business remained strong during the war because their guests had saved up their gas ration stamps throughout the winter for the drive up to the resort and then extended their stay.

Dillman's Bay Resort, as it is now known, is still a favorite vacation destination for many. The resort features swimming, skiing, and sailing for families and for group retreats.

Marvin Dillman was born to Stephen and Polly Koelle Dillman in Revillo, S.D. They descend from pioneer Christopher Dillman, who was born July 1752 in Bad Schwalbach, Unteraunes Co., Hesse Hanau, Germany, entered Canada as a Hessian Soldier, and who's family still largely populates the area near Halifax, Nova Scotia.



Dillman's Sand Lake Lodge and cabins

5. "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.

2010-

Last Saturday in June – the 26th

Descendants of Andrew and Elizabeth Bruner Dillman

Part of the Hans Georg Dillmann group Near Bloomington, IN

2nd Saturday in July – the 10th

Descendants of Rev. C.K. and Bertha Eickelberger Dillman

Part of the Hans Georg Dillmann group Kansasville, WI

DILLMAN MEGA-REUNION #5 Thursday and Friday, August 12th and 13th
Roanoke, VA.

Saturday, August 14th

The Virginia/Erich Dihlmann group Hungry Mother State Park, Marion, VA

Saturday, October 9th, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Central time

Descendants of Frank & Minnie Walker Dillman

Part of the Hans Georg Dillmann group Tamms, IL

6.

“The Guild of One-Name Studies”

The Dillman Family Association has joined the Guild of One-Name Studies (<http://www.one-name.org>). The Guild, founded in 1979, serves as a centre of excellence for One-Name studies and the preservation and accessibility of related source information. One-Name studies differ slightly from traditional genealogical research in that One-Name studies focus on all occurrences of a single surname, regardless of relatedness. Given that the DFA, in trying to piece together various Dillman lines, has been collecting information on all Dillman families for many years, has a regular Newsletter and a DNA project, we are eligible for Category A membership. Category A membership is the top tier and the recognition that the DFA belongs to this level is a tribute to our organization.

Membership in the Guild will widen exposure of the DFA within the genealogical community. In addition, the Guild provides organizational support for members in terms of best practices in running a One-Name study. They have publications and sources that can assist people in their studies, including their quarterly journal. They also have annual meetings, conferences, and seminars and regional committees.

They provide guidance in web site content, awards for best website, etc

The DFA has registered the DILLMAN surname, indicating that we are the source for information on DILLMAN families the world over. In addition, we have registered the following variants: DILLMANN, DIHLMANN, DIELMANN, and DIEHLMANN. (Note: the STILLMAN surname is more widely based than Dillman and was not a good candidate for inclusion as it would signify that the DFA is actively researching all Stillman families. Also, TILLMAN was already registered to the TILTMAN One-Name Study and was not available for registration).

Being a member of the Guild also comes with obligations. The primary one is that the DFA is required to respond to e-mail and postage-paid queries within 10 days. Responses can reasonably inform the person with the query that we are looking into their request and will get back to them at a later date. Queries don't need to be satisfied in 10 days, but they must be responded to. For this purpose, the Guild has assigned us an e-mail 'alias' which is dillman@one-name.org. However, DFA members continue to be STRONGLY encouraged to make use of the DFA Forum for posting any queries.

7. **The 2010 Dillman Mega-Reunion**

A biennial get--together of all people interested in learning about and sharing their Dillman ancestry.

Why You should come to this year's get-together at the Airport Quality Inn, in Roanoke Virginia, August 12-13th.

- **Do you know who your great-grand parents are, but cannot trace your ancestry back further? Maybe DFA members can help.**
 - Some Dillman lines have been traced back to the 1700's in North America
 - Other Dillman lines have been traced back to the early 1500's in Germany
 - The DFA library resources will be at the Mega-Reunion and members may be able to help you identify additional Dillman ancestors and where they once lived.

- **Are you interested in learning about European Dillmans?**
 - A group of ten DFA members spent two weeks in Germany visiting locations from which Dillmans originated, and met many German Dillmanns and Dihlmans, some of whom have relatives in the United States.
 - Pictures, records and Dillman artifacts obtained this year (from Family Trees to a Coat of Arms and matchbooks) will be on display at the Roanoke Mega-Reunion

- **Would you like to learn about how DNA testing has helped clarify the family lines of some DFA members and may help you learn your ancestry?**
 - DNA tests of nearly 50 Dillman volunteers has resulted in identifying twelve different Dillman Family lines in North America and Germany, some with many North American descendants, and others that so far, are only in Germany and/or other countries.
 - How does DNA testing work? It's a simple saliva test; several DFA members can explain how it works and why it's been successful in helping people know to whom they are related.

- **Would you like to have Dillman records, memorabilia, news stories and other information about Dillmans added to our library and its availability made known, to others to help with their ancestry searches?**
 - Our library continues to grow, and includes hundreds of items; notebooks filled with descendant records, Dillman stories, sheet music for a Dillman March, and new this year, a metal Dillman shield from German Dihlmans related to a group of Dillmans in the U.S. we refer to as the Virginia Dillmans.
 - The DFA has produced CD's at previous reunions in 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008—These CD's have helped many of us find grave markers, buildings, churches, and new family members. We are now making such

information available through our Newsletter and in other ways consistent with the donor's preferences.

- **Would you like to join the DFA and receive our quarterly newsletter dedicated to learning about all Dillmans in all places?**
 - We welcome everyone with an interest in Dillman ancestors and descendants as members. We are entirely volunteers and the two-year membership fee for (2010-2012) is only \$25. (Registration for the 2010 Mega-Reunion in Roanoke is \$50 and includes the two-year membership.)
 - The newsletter averages 12-16 pages and is sent by email, but if you prefer having it mailed, we are happy to do that, and would appreciate a donation of \$1.00 per issue to cover mailing costs.

The 2010 Dillman Mega-Reunion is a biennial get-together of all Dillman ancestry lines where Dillmans help other Dillmans Learn about their ancestry. Sponsored by The Dillman Family Association this year's get-together will be at the Airport Quality Inn, Roanoke, VA, August 12-13, 2010. Information about the program and registration are on our web page: <http://www.dillmanfamilyassociation.org/>. For questions, contact Don Dillman, DFA President, 2008-2010 at dillman@turbonet.com. Or, write to him at 705 S.W. Mies Street, Pullman WA 99163.

Please let us know your reactions to this issue of the DFA newsletter. Are there any particular features you would like to see in future issues of the newsletter?

“FUTURE ARTICLES”

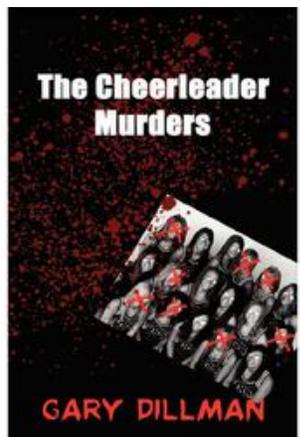
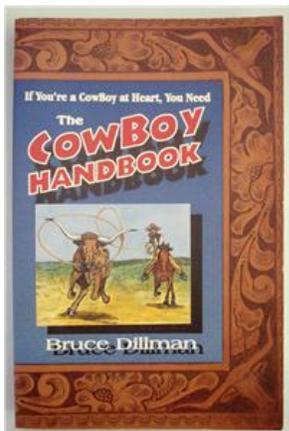
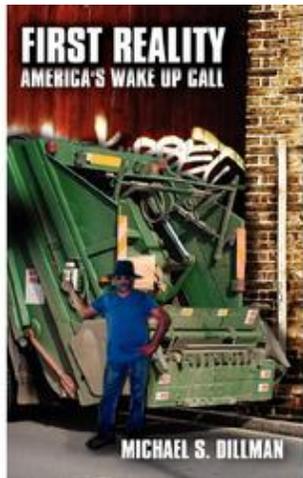
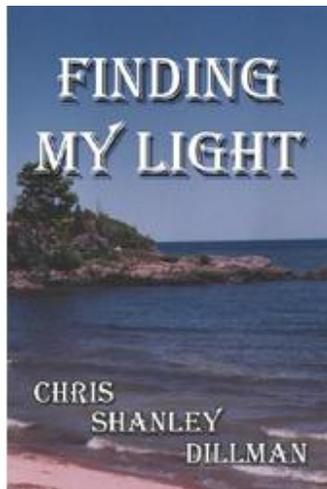
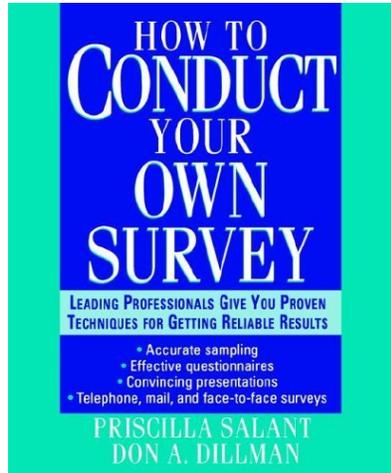
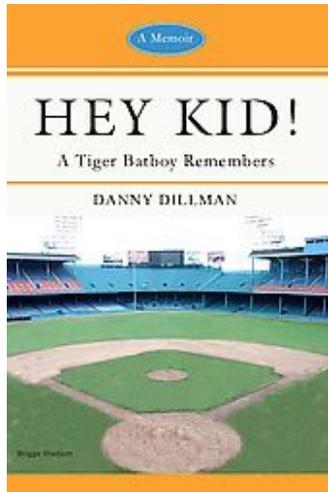
We would like to include any Dillman-related stories and/or photos that you might wish to submit for upcoming newsletters. We will try to include your submitted stories/photos as quickly as possible.

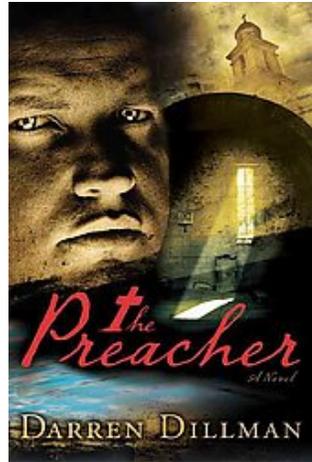
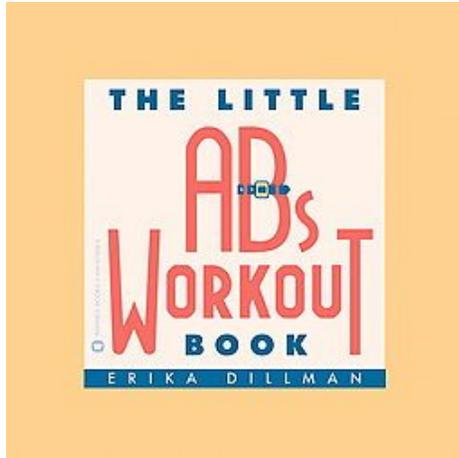
Phil Dillman, 18351 Cowing Ct., Homewood, IL 60430, pd62pepsi@sbcglobal.net

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 (2010-2012).

Membership in the DFA entitles individuals to receive an e-mail copy of each newsletter, periodic updates on DFA activities and the right to vote on all DFA affairs. Membership dues should be mailed to Earl Dillman, Treasurer, at 14 Fellview Dr., Pittsford, N.Y. 14534-4014, ed37dillman@gmail.com.

Members may request receiving copies of the newsletter by postal mail instead of e-mail. Donations of \$1.00 per issue to cover the cost of printing and mailing such copies will be greatly appreciated.





Books seen recently on Ebay



Item seen recently on Ebay