



# *Dillman* \*

## *Descendants and Ancestors*

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

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### \*. “In Memoriam”

Because of the number of DFA Charter members that have passed away since the DFA started, we felt they should be remembered from time to time in upcoming issues of “Dillman Descendants and Ancestors.” In this issue, we would like to remember Marguerite Dillman, Jim Hurley (husband of Toby), Ray Welch (husband of Barb), and Glenda Dillman (mother of Phil and Laura).

From the Dillman DNA project, we remember Erich Dihlmann of Germany and Bob Dillman of Canada.



Phil and his mom, Glenda, at Pepsi-Fest, March 2008

### 1. “FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE VARIOUS SPELLINGS”

By Don and Joye Dillman

The information in this article was compiled and organized by Gabrielle Hippler of Mannheim, Germany for the DFA, based upon conversations with Don and Joye

Dillman. Listed here are the first mentions of the various Dillman (Tielman, Dielmann, Dylman, Dillmann, Tillmenken, Tilemann, Dullmann, Tilemann-Degens) surnames that turned up through multiple searches of German records.

YEAR	NAME	LOCATION
940	Gella Tielman	Netherlands
1347	Konrad Dillman	Wuerttemberg, Germany
1387	Kaplan Dielmann	Muehlhofen-Herxheim, Rhenish Palatinate
1402	Herrn Dielmann	Hadamar, Germany
	Reference to Knight Dillman or Tillman of Nackenheim	
1450	Petrus (Peter) Dieleman	Wachtebeke, Belgium
1455	Thomas Dylman	United Kingdom
1485	Martin Dillmann	Wuerttemberg (Wurmberg lineage)
1509	Johann Dillmann (a priest)	Baden-Durlach, Germany
1522	Wendell Dillmann	Lembach, Bas-Rhin, Alsace, France
1530	Hermann Tillmenken	Fredeburg, Sauerland, Germany
"	Georg Tillmann	" " "
1532	Georg Dillmann	Breuningsweiler, Wuerttemberg, Germany
1545	Velten Dillmann	Dernbach, Rhjenish Palatinate, Germany
1550-1560	Johannes Dielman	Schultheis in Rudesheim, Germany
1555	Familie Dillmann	Auerbach, Bavaria, Germany
1570	Friedrich Dillmann	Herchleim, Hessen, Germany
1575	Hans Tilemann	Eibelhausen-Dillkreis, Germany
1585	Michael Dillman	Schnait, Wuerttemberg, Germany
1600	Friedrich Dillmann	Hipoltstein, Bavaria
"	Johann Thielmann	Belshausen, Echenburg, Germany
"	Enche Thielmann	" " "
1608	Hartman Tilmann	Unterschmitten, Hessen, Germany
1624	Daniel Dielmann	Hahn, Germany
1625	Engel Dillman	Altenkirchen, Rhenish Palatinate, Germany
1635	Dominicus Tillemans	Achen, Nordrhein-Westfallen, Germany
	Nocolas Ou Phillip Tillemans	" " " "
	Philips Tillemans	" " " "
1640	Jan Harms Dilmann	Sappemeer, Groningen, Netherlands
	Elske Jans Dilmans	" " "
1648	Johannes Dillmann	Niederzeuzheim, (Hadamar), Germany
1682	Hans Georg Dillmann	Neureut, Baden-Durlach, Germany
1690	Johannes Georgius Dillman	Ettlingen, Baden-Durlach, Germany
1694	Johann Dullmann	Erlinghausen, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany
1695	Peter Diell	Narbach Valley, Saar, Germany
1700	Tilemann-Degens	Unterauerback, Bavaria, Germany
1710	Johann Christof Dillman	Bad-Schwalbach, Hessen-Nassau, Germany
	Christopher George2 Dillman	(moved to Nova Scotia before 1786)
1750	John Dillman	United Kingdom

Keep in mind that this is a work in progress and that more variations on the Dillman name may still be discovered. Also keep in mind that the letters “D” and “T” were often interchangeable in the German language.

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## 2. “THE DILLMAN-DAYGA GROUP”

The Dillman-Dayga (also seen as Dagga or Degen) line of Dillmans is one of the groups with a history that is difficult to pin down. The earliest known ancestor of the group is Jacob Dillman Dayga. The story states that he was born in Germany and, upon his immigration to the United States, he dropped the last name of Dayga. In a letter dated November 9, 1982 to Marguerite Dillman from researcher Lucille Dillman Smith, she states, “Over a year ago, I received a real bonanza in my Dillman research when a Dillman Family Wheel compiled in 1888 by John Hawkins of Indiana came to light. Some family up there had it and were getting ready to destroy it when a neighbor learned of it and asked if she might have it. The family gave it to her and she saw that it got to the archives in Preble County, Ohio. The Archivist there knew I was researching Dillmans and sent me a copy. Since then, I have worked with it constantly and have yet to find it in error; those records I have been able to find confirm it in every detail. In all, about 175 descendants of the emigrants are named in this Wheel.”

“John Hawkins prefaced this marvelous work with the following short paragraph: Jacob Dillman Dagga came from Germany about 1700 and settled in Pennsylvania. He dropped the Dagga and became Jacob Dillman. Died in Franklin Co., Virginia. The Dillmans came to Ohio in 1828. Jacob had eight children.”

She states that there is a slight discrepancy in the dates of 1700 and 1828 that Mr. Hawkins listed as her branch of the family was in Ohio in January of 1819 when her ggGrandfather executed his will. The 1828 date probably represents when his branch of the family went to Ohio. Later researchers also believe that the actual arrival of the family to the United States was around 1737/1740.

As to the ‘Dagga’, no one seems to know the significance of this, and I can only theorize.

We currently have a copy of this “wheel” in the Dillman Archives/Library which was obtained by June Riccio on her research trip to Preble County, Ohio, several years ago.

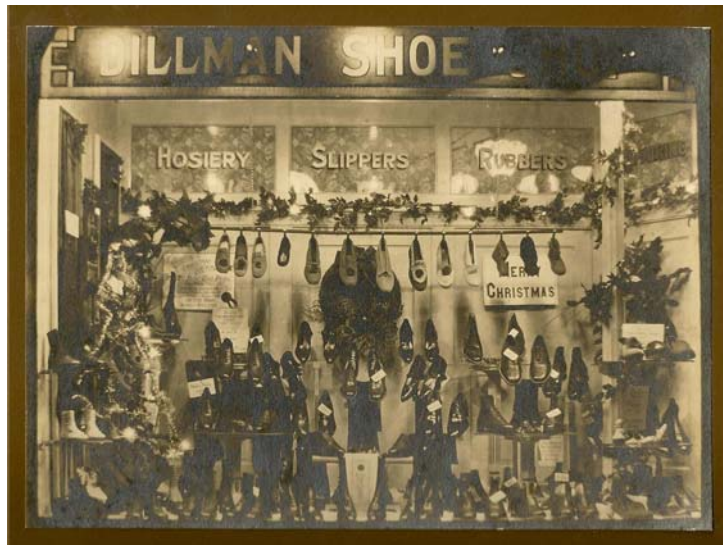
Known researchers of this line are Frank C. Hawkins of Germantown, MD as of 2002, Bob and Geri Arnold of Ohio, Rex Dillman, and his sister, Valerie Wurn, of Indiana, MJ Hoff (on the Internet), and the Tewksburys of Champaign, IL.

This group is connected to Dillman Food Stores in Middletown, Ohio; Dillman’s Furniture in Muncie, IN; Derek and Dwight Dillman of Peru, Indiana, Bluegrass banjo players who performed with Bill Monroe and Jimmy Martin and traveled around the world to entertain. Derek has released a couple of CDs featuring his incredible banjo picking. Many ancestors of this group are buried in Mexico, Indiana.

3. "DILLMAN BUSINESSES"

How many times have you been traveling and your heart skips a beat because you suddenly see a business with your last name on the sign? Being a truck driver in the Midwest, it has happened to me a number of times. Naturally, I feel compelled to stop and photograph the business and talk to the people working there. However, knowing I'd probably never get to some of the other Dillman businesses out

there, I wrote to a number of them asking for anything they had with their business' name that I could add to the Dillman Archives. Many of them sent items that I have since displayed at the Dillman Mega-Reunions. Even a simple business card is appreciated. I have found a few items on Ebay which I either purchased or saved the image on the computer. Here are a few examples:



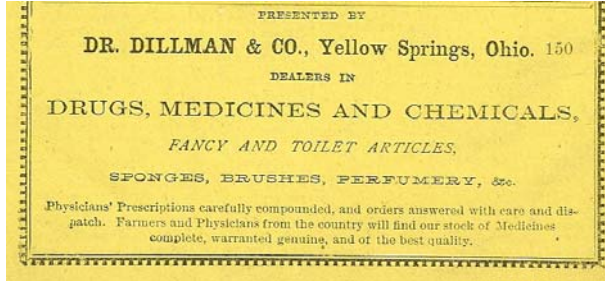
I won a packet of photos on Ebay which included these photos of Dillman Shoes which was located near Philadelphia, PA.



I took this photo of the plumbing company in the 1980s in Joliet, IL.

The Dillman Switzer calendar came from Ebay.

I met the folks at Dillman Equipment in Wisconsin.



The folks at Dillman and Upton in Rochester, MI sent me a shoebox filled with items. The ad for Dr. Dillman is from an Almanac dated 1883.

I'm always interested in adding more Dillman items to the collection. Even photos of a Dillman business are

welcome, especially if you include information about the business or its location.

4.

#### “Upcoming Family Reunions”



*Reunion for descendants of Samuel and Sarah Hook Dillman, Hoopeston, IL*

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.

**2009** – Saturday, June 27, around 11:00 AM-3:00 PM Eastern Time

Descendants of Andrew & Elizabeth Bruner Dillman

Near Bloomington, IN

Saturday, July 11, around 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Descendants of Rev. C. K. & Bertha Eckleberger Dillman

(Samuel & Sarah Hook Dillman)

Bloomington, IL

August 1-3 Friday Saturday & Sunday *for additional information email: j-lee@live.ca*  
Descendants of Peter abt.1789 (Martin & Agatha Dillman)  
Prince George, British Columbia, Canada

Saturday, October 10, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Central time  
Descendants of Frank & Minnie Walker Dillman

Tamms, IL

**2010-** DILLMAN MEGA-REUNION #5 Date and location to be determined

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**5. “Different People Asking Different Questions Gives Strength to the DFA”**

Joye, my wife and former DFA Treasurer (2004-2008), has rediscovered quilting after a hiatus of several years. A few weeks ago I watched while she laid out on the living floor several pieces of fabric that I could not imagine ever ending up in the same quilt. A week later, she showed me the blocks constructed from those unconnected and seemingly discordant fabrics. An intriguing pattern had emerged that connected both the cloth and the individual blocks. It even included strips from a piece of Indonesian batik cloth that I had purchased for her on a trip 30 years ago, and has been in “inventory” ever since.

Watching Joye go through this process reminded me of what I think the DFA is about—helping all of us find pieces of genealogical information and figure out how they fit together into a large and meaningful pattern. Sometimes it takes years or even decades to collect enough information that we can figure out how it fits together. Computer technology is speeding up that process, and so is the DFA.

I find it helpful that some DFA members are primarily interested in

finding living relatives. Others are intrigued with how many generations they can trace back in their ancestry, and the connections to other countries. Still others are trying to find answers to particular questions—where is the gravesite of my gggg grandparents?

Most of us, I think, have a specific question or two, to which we hope to find an answer. In my case, I keep wondering about the cause of death for my great-great grandfather when he was only 37, a question for which no answer has as yet been found, but it’s one I keep returning to again and again in hopes that piece of information will turn up. A few years ago we were excited to find a land transfer record to his wife dated a few days before his death, so we suspect his death was anticipated, rather than being a sudden event. But, more remains to be learned, and we keep hoping some descendant of his Indiana family will find the answer. Getting separate pieces of information from different people that eventually connects into the larger picture is how the DFA helps all of us.

This is an exciting time for the DFA. Through DNA testing we continue to find out which Dillmans are probably

related and not related. The Germany Tour is being planned as a way for those with overseas interests to trace the connections we now know exist with several locations in that part of the world. Meantime, individuals who are trying to figure out their recent ancestry, but have been “stopped” a few generations back are able to use the CD’s compiled after each Mega reunion to find connections they did not know about. Different people doing different things gives the DFA its strength to help all of us in our individual searches.

The DFA has come a long way from the paper printouts of ancestors and descendants that we puzzled over in Indianapolis in 2002, wondering who might be related to whom, but there is more to be done. Joye reminded me of the latter when the quilting blocks she constructed reappeared a few days later with a couple of new pieces of fabric

that fit into the patter better than the ones she had originally included. There is strength in numbers and diversity, whether it’s pieces of fabric or genealogy.

To help DFA accomplish its goal of increasing our understanding of our ancestry, please encourage others to join the DFA and our effort to learn more about all things Dillman. Thanks everyone, for your support of the DFA. The officers would welcome suggestions for new activities that the DFA might consider undertaking in future months and years.

Don Dillman  
(Dillman Family Association President,  
2008-2010)  
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Street, Pullman WA 99163, or 509-334-  
1141

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## 6.

### **“German Tour 2009 Update”**

By Andrew Stillman

Great News! Arrangements are progressing nicely for the Sept 30, 2009 – Oct. 13, 2009 expedition to the homeland of our Dillmann ancestors. Don and I have recently both been to Germany (Don on business and I to meet up with a local tour operator) and together we had the opportunity to sit down with a friend of Don’s who has been very helpful with our genealogical research.

A preliminary itinerary can be found at <http://www.dillmanfamilyassociation.org/itineraryDillman%2009.pdf> which includes among other things, dinners with local Dillmanns! Yes, we will be able to sit down with local

German Dillmanns and swap family stories while learning about German culture. We are also trying to arrange a visit to the Dillmann Winery located in Geisenheim. Most importantly, the trip will include visits to the towns/villages listed as our ancestors’ place of origin, including Lautzenhausen (Family Group 5), Bad Schwalbach (Family Group 4), Lembach (Family Group 6), Illingen (Family Group 1), Neureut (Family Group 2), and Wurmburg (Family Group 3).

Our Dillmann ancestors lived in a rather beautiful part of Germany, an area that includes the Rhine valley, wine regions of Western France/Eastern

Germany, and the Black Forest extending down to Lake Constance and

the borders with Switzerland (enclosed in the red oval on the map below)



This is guaranteed to be the trip of a lifetime and everyone will return home with many wonderful memories!

Participation is open to all DFA members and their families noting that there is an absolute limit of 40 people for the ground transportation.

The price of the trip will include all hotels, breakfasts, most dinners, ground transportation, guide/interpreter, and admission fees to attractions. The price of the trip does not include airfare to and from Frankfurt, which will be our starting point. Each participant will be required to make their own flight arrangements.

A final price has not yet been determined. However, based on information we have to date, the trip looks like the cost will be very close to **USD 1970 per person based on double occupancy and USD 2385 per person for single occupancy.** At this point,

these numbers are for budgeting purposes only! Please bear in mind that the German prices will be based in Euros and with exchange rates for converting the USD to Euros constantly moving, the final price may move up or down. To facilitate conversion of the funds into Euros and transmission to our German service providers, the DFA has agreed to receive the funds from the members and forward them to the destination on behalf of the participants.

The final price will be advised in the March Newsletter. Payment will need to be made in 2 parts. A deposit of 50% will be required of all participants no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 with the balance to be provided no later than 15<sup>th</sup> of July, 2009. Cancellation can be made up to 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2009. As with any travel plans, it is highly recommended that participants ensure they are covered by travel insurance.



If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Andrew Stillman, Chair of the

Germany Organizing Committee, at: [Andrew.stillman@unb.ca](mailto:Andrew.stillman@unb.ca)

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7. **“FAMILY STORY CORNER”**  
**“Occupations”**  
By Phil Dillman

Many times, a person will begin a career in the same line of work and, often, the same location as their parents. Most of the time, the reason is because the job is stable, well-paying, and close to home. In the case of my family, it depended on the location and the particular era in which they lived.

On my mom's side, my ggg grandfather was a woodworker from Switzerland when he immigrated to the U. S. One of his descendants wrote that she remembered watching him carve his own wooden shoes even after he became a U. S. citizen. His grandson became the head of a carpenter gang that lived in converted train cars on the Illinois Central Railroad. Eventually, the gang was no longer needed so, once my grandfather was old enough to work for the railroad, which he really wanted to do, carpentry work was contracted out so he worked in other areas on the I.C.

On the Dillman side, my g grandfather, Covey Dillman, became a barber in Tamms, IL, in the southern part of the state. My grandfather followed suit, moving to the Chicago area and opening a barber shop near 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and Stony Island Avenue. He gave that shop to his dad and opened a new shop on 55<sup>th</sup> Street in the Hyde Park area. He then gave that shop to his son, Jack. He opened yet another shop in Homewood, IL while his son, Bill, opened a barber shop in Dolton, IL. It was easy to make a living as a barber at that time since most men had their hair trimmed every couple of weeks. His son (my dad), Richard, joined him at the Homewood location in the 1950s. In 1957, my grandfather died suddenly of a heart attack so his youngest son, Ron, joined my dad where they ran the place until 1970. That's about the time when a lot of men stopped getting their hair cut as often. Thus, the family tradition of the Dillman men becoming barbers ended which is okay with me because, personally, I prefer having longer hair even though I'm bald on top!

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8. **“READER FEEDBACK”**

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 have listed a few topics for future articles but we would like to include any Dillman-related stories and/or photos that you would like 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](mailto:pd62pepsi@sbcglobal.net)*

Lineage/Hereditary Societies

Hans Georg Dillmann! Where did you go?!

Cemetery hopping: The Reasons Why

Understanding DNA in genealogical research

Record every “story”, it might be a clue!

*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 \$10.00, which covers the two year period between mega-reunions (August 2008-August 2010)*

*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 Earl Dillman, Treasurer, at 14 Fellview Dr., Pittsford, N.Y. 14534-4014, [ed37dillman@gmail.com](mailto: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.*

