

STRAUSE-ROEDER AMVETS POST #114 SUMMIT STATION

During the spring of 1946 there was a developing interest to establish some type of veterans association by those who had served their country during the war years from 1941 through 1946. There was a feeling that a large number of veterans who lived in Wayne, North-South Manheim, and Washington Townships could band together to form a new and distinct organization. A national group of veterans-a new organization of World War II veterans had been established a year earlier.

The interest in such a group was initiated by a number of persons, but the key person in bringing the veterans together for a first meeting at Sweitzer's Hotel in Summit Station was Charles Peiffer. This first meeting was held in February 1946. At this meeting steps were taken to establish a veterans organization, efforts were made to affiliate with American Veterans of World War II Amvets.

Temporary officers were selected these were: President, Charles Strause; Secretary, Roy A. Brown; Treasurer, Irvin Peiffer. They organized July 3, 1946, and during the summer of 1946, approval was received from both state and national organizations, and the Strause-Roeder Amvets Post #114 was formally installed in September, 1946. The post was named after Lester Strause, who was first to die in action from this area during the war and for Robert Roeder, who received the nation's highest award-The Medal of Honor-Posthumously for heroic action in combat in Italy.

The first officers of this new organization were: Commander, Charles Strause; Vice Commander, Marlin Schneck; Adjutant, Roy A. Brown; Finance officer Irvin Peiffer; Provost Marshall, James Heinbaugh, and Solicitor General, Walter L. Brown.

A first major activity was the securing of a post home. A plot of land was donated by Harvey Heinbaugh and local farmers cut trees and donated the lumber. Then during the summer of 1947 the members of the post raised money and worked to erect a post home. This was completed and opened in the fall of 1947.

A Ladies Auxiliary was organized shortly after the formal chartering of the post. This group was instrumental in assisting in the picnics which were held at the Summer Hill Church grove and which served as a source of Revenue to build the post home.

The picnics which were sponsored for several years had added features during this time. New cars were awarded to lucky ticket holders. Ira R. Stump was the winner of the first car raffle. This was a brand new Ford.

The first steward of the post home was David Fessler, who served for a period of years, and presently serves as a resident manager.

Since its inception the post has provided not only service to its members but has attempted to serve and support the community. It conducts Memorial Day Services each year on the cemeteries in the township.

First Firing Squad Commander Charles Roeder, was succeeded by Alvin Berger, who served until his death Feb. 22, 1972.

Current Firing Squad:

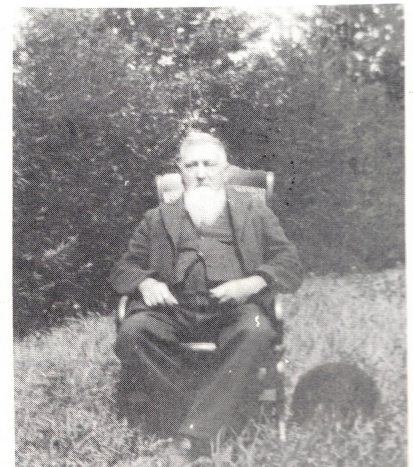
Commander-Paul Peiffer, George Yoder, Samuel Yeich, Irvin Peiffer, Herbert Krause, Charles Peiffer, Michael Santella, Russell Peiffer, Lee Moyer, William Peiffer and William Moyer.



CIVIL WAR DEFENDERS

These are 22 of Schuylkill Co's First Defenders who hold a unique niche in the history of Pottsville. When President Lincoln called for volunteers to defend the nation's capitol with the out-break of Civil War they were first to arrive in Washington ready to fight. Date of the picture, taken in front of Pennsylvania Hall is not known. Only one of the First Defenders pictured is definitely identified. Charles E. Riland is third from left in first row.

EDWARD MAIDENFORD



Two Civil War Veterans who lived
in Wayne Township

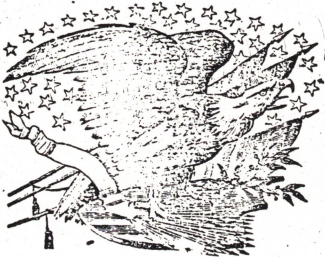
CIVIL WAR VETERAN

Edward Maidenford served in the Civil War in the year 1865 and was a private under Captain William Munk, Company "D", 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Res Light Artillery. He was born in Schuylkill County, Wayne Township, March 17, 1825 and died December 25, 1916 at the age of 91. His wife the former Sara Yeager was born 1831 and died in 1904. They were the parents of nine children namely:

- Charles Maidenford, born 1848
- Rose Ann, wife of Lewis Lutz, born 1850
- Alvin Maidenford, born 1853
- Eura, wife of William Berger, born 1856
- Mary, born 1858
- Jeremiah, born 1861
- Clara, Denzer, wife of Charles Geisler, born 1864 (married twice)
- Milton H. born 1866
- Sadie, wife of William Ney, born 1871

His only living grandchildren are Marion Maidenford Zimmerman, Wayne Twp. Mary Maidenford Davis, New York. Several Great Grandchildren and Great Great Grandchildren of his also reside in Wayne Twp. Mr. Maidenford, a farmer by occupation, resided in Freidensburg, Wayne Twp..

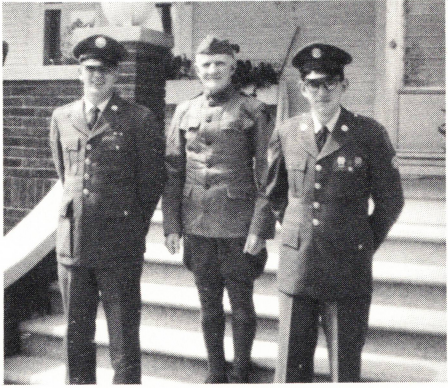
whom it may Concern:



Know ye, That Edward Maidenford a
Private of Captain William Munk's
Company, "D" 1st Regiment of Penn Res Light Artillery
 VOLUNTEERS who was enrolled on the 21st day of September
 one thousand eight hundred and 65 to serve One years or
 during the war, is hereby **Discharged** from the service of the United States
 this Twenty first day of June, 1865, at Chapin's Ferry
Virginia by reason of G.O. No. 41. A.G.O. G.S. 1865
 (No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist.)
 Said Edward Maidenford was born in Schuylkill Co
 in the State of Pennsylvania, is Forty one years of age,
Five feet Six inches high, Dark complexion, Grey eyes,
Dark hair, and by occupation, when enrolled, a Farmer
 Given at Chapin's Ferry Va this Twenty first day of
June 1865. Wm Munk
* This section will be erased should there be anything in the interest or physical condition of the soldier rendering him unfit for the Army.
 [G. O. No. 41] Wm Munk Capt 1st Regt of Penn Res Light Artillery
 Commanding the Coy.
Chapin's Ferry

WORLD WAR I

There are three world war I veterans living in Wayne Twp. Mr. Samuel Marburger, also lived in Wayne Twp. when he served in world war I, is now living in Auburn, Pa.



GUY R. DOUGLAS

Guy R. Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Douglas was born October 9, 1894 in Friedensburg.

On June 10, 1922 he married Ella E. Dietrich daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William Dietrich. They had one daughter MaryElla Douglas Hoy, born September 24, 1923. His wife Ella passed away October 3, 1923.

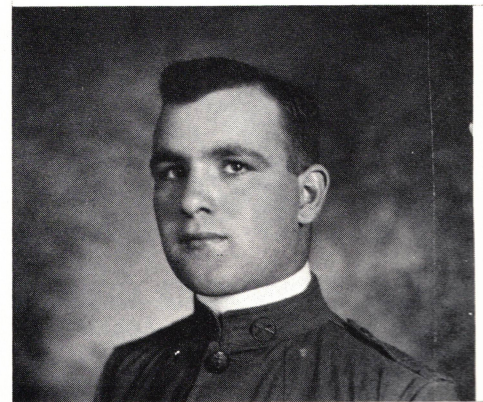
He later married Clara Sattizahn of Pine Grove, Pa.. They had a daughter Doris (deceased) and a son Dale who now resides at Sykesville, Maryland. There are five grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Mr. Douglas was a blacksmith, cabinet maker and did all kinds of mill work in his shop from 1933 until 1961, when the shop was destroyed by fire.

In May of 1918 he served in World War I in 50th Railway Engineers. He served with the A.E.F. in France from July 9, 1918 to July 9, 1919.

He is now retired and he and his wife reside in the village of Friedensburg, Wayne Township.

Mr. Douglas is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Friedensburg, Pa.



WILLIAM H. LOY

Mr. William H. Loy was born April 30, 1897, in Panther Valley, Wayne Township and is presently residing in the home in which he was born. He is the son of George W. Loy and the former Sarah Reed. On June 1, 1918, he was married under the maple trees in his front yard, to Katie Schaffer from Washington Township. He worked as a dairy farmer and for the Reading Company at the St. Clair yards. He is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Friedensburg, Friedensburg Fire Company, and Friedensburg Fish and Game Club.

Mr. Loy served his country during World War I from July 1918 to December 1918, as a butcher in the kitchen at Camp Lee, Virginia. Now a widower, he still lives in the homestead in the Panther Valley, Wayne township.



CLARENCE STUMP

Clarence Stump was born in Washington Township on January 1, 1892. He was the second son of William and Allena Phillips Stump. When he was nine years old the family moved to Wayne Township where they bought the farm of his maternal grandparents, Charles and Christina Phillips. He still resides on this farm with his wife and married son and family.

He entered the Army on May 31, 1918, and was enroute to Europe when the armistice was signed in November of 1918. He served overseas in France and in the Army of occupation in Germany until August of 1919. He was discharged on September 5, 1919.

Upon returning to civilian life he resumed his occupation of farming, married the former Alma Straub and reared one son Kenneth, who is married to the former Ann Saunders. There are two grandsons, William and Charles Stump.



PRISONER OF WAR

ROBERT R. ROEDER

Sergeant Robert R. Roeder son of the late John R. Roeder and Mary Roeder was born in Friedensburg, Penna. He enlisted in the armed forces August 18th, 1942 and received his wings as a gunner sergeant in Texas in October of 1942.

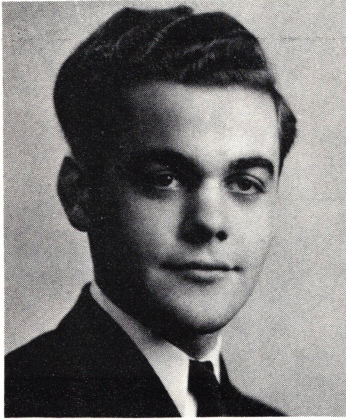
He was taken a prisoner of war on October 8, 1943 and was a prisoner of the Germans in Kerms, Austria for 19 months.

While a prisoner his diet was mostly vegetables—carrots, rutabagas and potatoes. He was served the same vegetables for two months in succession. He stated that he probably would have starved except for the Red Cross parcels which he received.

After he was released from prison he came home for three months for rehabilitation and during this time he married Fern Brown. He later went to Florida and received his discharge in September, 1945.

After his discharge from the service he returned home and worked in the family grocery store in Friedensburg. When this business was discontinued he obtained employment as a construction worker.

He and his wife and family are now living in Friedensburg. They are the parents of the following children; Carol, wife of Robert Morgan, Sandra, Darlene and Brian. They have one granddaughter, Melissa Sue Morgan.



PRIVATE HARVEY G. HEFFNER

Private Harvey G. Heffner, Jr. of Friedensburg, Pennsylvania was born January 31, 1925. He was the son of Harvey G. Heffner, Sr. and Mary (Boyer) Heffner of Friedensburg. Private Heffner had the following brothers and sisters: Claude J. Heffner, deceased, Margaret, wife of Harry H. Steward, Harrison, New York, Harold, Auburn, Pennsylvania, Grace wife of Lynbrandt Mease, Akron, Pennsylvania, Verna, wife of Joseph Manbeck, Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, Vera, wife of Charles Croneberger, deceased, and Eleanor, wife of Nathan Butz, Reading, Pennsylvania.

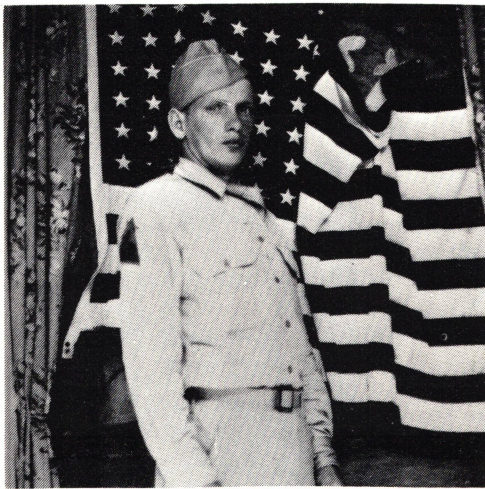
Private Heffner was a very active member of the Friedensburg Evangelical Church until the time he left for the Armed Services.

He was a graduate of Cressona High School, Class of 1943, leaving for the service two days after his graduation.

He was inducted into the service (World War II) June 5, 1943. He received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, from where he was transferred to Camp Meade, Maryland. He was then sent to Ireland for extensive training. In June, 1944, he was sent to France. On September 20, 1944, at the age of 19, Private Heffner was killed in action at Brest, France. He was attached to the Ninth United States Army.

On November 25, 1944, Private Heffner was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously, having sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

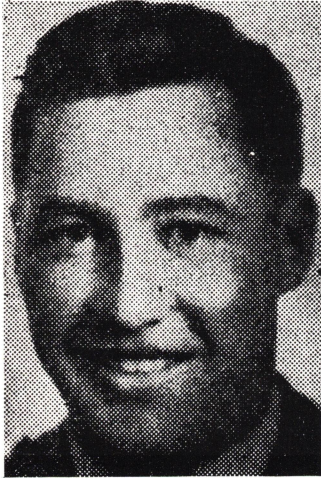
On February 19, 1945, Private Heffner was awarded the Bronze Star, posthumously for heroic service and bravery in connection with military operations against the enemy at Brest, France.



P.F.C. HARVEY D. LENGLE

P.F.C. Harvey D. Lengle, son of Mr. and Mrs. David A. Lengle was born December 16, 1923. He was attached to the 15th Tank Battalion, 6th Armored Division, having joined the United States Army in 1943. He received his training at Camp Polk, La., and Fort Meade, Maryland. He was killed March 20, 1945, in France and was buried in Lorraine American Cemetery, St. Avold, France.

P.F.C. Harvey D. Lengle was one of four brothers who also served in the armed forces, during World War 2, namely; Sgt. Ernest S. Lengle, Sgt., Hermit H. Lengle and S-Sgt. Paul E. Lengle. He also had a sister, Mrs. Alberta Madenford.



CAPTAIN ROBERT ROEDER

Captain Robert Roeder of the Army's 88th Infantry Division was awarded the congressional Medal of Honor, posthumously.

Captain Roeder of Summit Station, was the central figure in a heroic defense of Mount Battaglio (Battle Mountain) in Italy by a rifle company of the 88th division.

He was killed Sept. 27, 1944 in the battle in which every member of the company except one was either killed or wounded.

He inspired his men to repel numerous counterattacks by Paratroopers who were the best soldiers of the German Army. Captain Roeder killed at least two of the enemy after suffering his mortal wound.

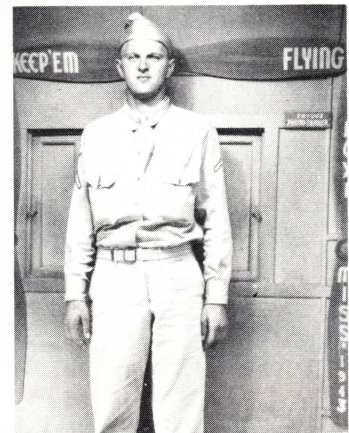
Mount Battaglio at the time was the most advanced position in the entire allied line in Italy, and its capture was necessary to the subsequent advance of the Fifth Army through the Northern Appenines and resulted in the great break-through into the Po Valley and the end of German resistance on the Italian Peninsula.

Eventually an entire battalion of the 88th Division had to fight to hold it, but it was G Company, commanded by Captain Roeder, which got there first and fought out the counter-attacks until the company was decimated.

Captain Robert Roeder was the son of Cora Lutz Roeder and the late Joseph A. Roeder of Wayne Township.

The U. S. Army Reserve Center in Schuylkill Haven, Pa., was named in honor of Captain Roeder. April 30, 1960 a memorial plaque which is placed in the lobby was unveiled by his mother, Mrs. Cora M. Roeder, and Major General Ralph C. Cooper, commanding general of XXI U. S. Army Corps. General Ridgway, former Army Chief of Staff also attended the ceremony and paid high tribute to Captain Roeder.

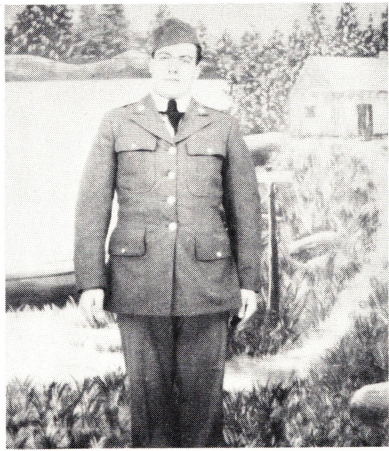
The AMVETS north of Summit Station on Route 183 also paid tribute to Captain Roeder and Private Lester H. Strause of Summit Station by naming the post the STRAUSE-ROEDER AMVETS.



WILLIAM SNYDER

William Snyder, the first son of Andrew J. Snyder and Dillie Savilla Herring Snyder, was born January 29, 1918. At the age of 24 he entered the service of World War II, November 11, 1942. He received his training at Camp Shelby, Miss., and at Camp Pickett, Virginia. He was a member of an infantry company on Morotai Island in the Netherland East Indies where he was killed in action December 4, 1944. He had attained the rank of sergeant. He is buried at Manila, Philippine Islands.

He had the following brothers and sisters: Henry, Luther, Daniel, Isabel, Sarah, Emma, Andrew, Albert, Arthur, Paul and Leonard.



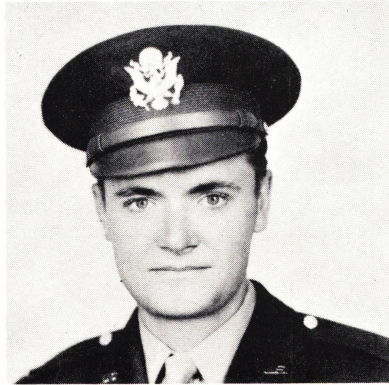
LESTER H. STRAUSE

Lester H. Strause son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Strause was inducted into the service in 1942 and received his training at Camp Wheeler, Ga. He was sent overseas in July of 1942 and lost his life in February 19, 1943 in Tunisia.

Before entering the service he worked as an electric welder in the city of Reading, Penna. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Summer Hill and was the first of the parish to give his life for his country.

He was survived by his father Ralph and his mother Bertha Reber Strause, his brother Ray and two sisters; Grace and also Mary Adams of Hamburg, Pa.

The Strause-Roeder Amvets located north of Summit Station was so named in his honor.



JOSEPH R. WOLL

Joseph R. Woll the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Bashaski Woll was born in Chicago Illinois, December 12, 1917. He was killed July 2, 1945 on a mission over Budapest, Hungary, in a B-24 Liberator Bomber. He was the bombardier when the plane was destroyed by the enemy.

He attended Pottsville High School and graduated from the U. S. Army Air Force Mechanic's School at Glendale, California.

Before enlisting in the Air Force in 1941 he assisted his father on a poultry farm in Summit Station.

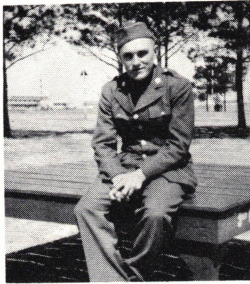


MICHAEL F. ZEMENCIK

Staff Sergeant Michael F. Zemencik son of Matey and Maria Martykan Zemencik entered the Army October 10, 1942. He trained at Camp Atterbury, Indiana and Fort Benning, Florida and later was sent to Germany. He was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry in action in the vicinity of Carentan, France. He also participated in the

African, Sicilian and Italian Campaigns.

Other awards which he received were the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Service Star (Normandy), Bronze Service Star (Northern France), Bronze Service Star (Germany) and the Distinguished Unit Badge of the 22nd Infantry.



MATTHEW J. ZEMENCIK

Matthew J. Zemencik, son of Matey and Maria Martykan Zemencik was killed in the service of his country November 24, 1944.

Private First Class Zemencik was attached to Company F, 26th Infantry and received the citation for the Bronze Star Medal for his meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in North African Theater of Operations and in the European Theater of Operations, from 8 November 1942 to 10 July 1944.

At the time of his entry into the Armed Forces and his death he was a resident of Summit Station, Wayne Township, Pennsylvania.



PHILIP ZEMENCIK

Philip Zemencik son of Matey and Maria Martykan Zemencik also served his country and was wounded in action in the Korean War. He had the following brothers and sisters: PFC Matthew Zemencik, killed in service; Michael Zemencik, wounded in action, Cyril, deceased, Betty married to Louis Yob, Helen married to Steve Zulick, Frances married to Edwin Yeakly, Rosalie married to Russel Leiby and Irene married to Marvin Miller. His mother passed away in 1962 and his father resides on Red Hill, Wayne Township, Penna.

ST. MARK'S (BROWN'S) CHURCH

The lists of veterans who are buried in the cemetery are as follows:

Name:	Military Duty
Isaac Miller	1861 - 1865
John Fessler	1861 - 1865
Peter Singley	1898 -
Charles Hummel	1917 - 1918
Charles Wert	1917 - 1918
Joseph D. Freeman	1917 - 1918
Charles G. Bomm	1941 - 1945
Clarence Marburger	1941 - 1945
Roy C. Kemmerling	1944 - 1954
Joseph Slish	World War II - Korean War

VETERANS FRIEDENSBURG U.C.C.

WAR OF 1812

Michael Fritz

CIVIL WAR

George Cressman	Daniel K. Reed
Elias Fessler	Charles Riland
Urbon Fessler	Samuel Riland, Sr.
Lewis Fritz	Samuel Riland, Jr.
George Lerch	Joseph Shappel
Henry Luckenbill	Daniel Yeich
Edward Madenford	Andrew Ziegler
Thomas Morgan	

WORLD WAR I

Levi Bretzius
 George Eichert
 Austin Krammes
 John Lauck
 Heber Riland
 Herman Schaeffer
 Russell E. Muench

WORLD WAR II

Mahlon H. Bretzius
 Jonathan K. Eichert
 Harvey Heffner, Jr.
 Reynold Weidner
 Willard Weidner
 Joseph Kosack
 Elmer Wolfe

WAR-VETERANS-REEDSVILLE CHURCH CEMETERY

Frank Berkheiser	G.A.R.
Joseph Wildermuth	G.A.R.
Henry Bowden	World War 1
Worne Rhine	World War 1
Edward Blankenhorn	World War 2
Webster Mengle	World War 2

WAR VETERANS - SUMMER HILL CEMETERY

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Adam Brown	Johannes Reber
Johannes Dewald	Conrad Roeder
Mathias Heim	

WAR OF 1812

Daniel Bressler	Casper Roeder
Johannes Heim	Conrad Roeder
Christian Ney	

MEXICAN WAR

John Adam Wenrich

CIVIL WAR

William Bartolet	Hiram Miller
Thomas Becker	Phillip Moyer
George Bensing	Harrison Neuin
William F. Bensing	George Reber
Daniel Berger	Elias Rhine
George Berger	Henry H. Roeder
Benjamin Dewald	James Seigfried
Frank Emerich	John Seigfried
Joshua Emerich	Daniel Stoudt
Jonathan Freeman	William Wagner
William Freeman	Franklin R. Webber
William Krammes	Christian Weilda
Jonathan Kremer	

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

William P. Bomm

WORLD WAR I

Theodore Auchey	Gordon Heinbach
William E. Bartolet	James Kauffman
Amos M. Bressler	Milton Kremer
George G. Clauser	Clarence F. Moyer
William Dickinson	William Nagle
Lando Emerich	Charles H. Reber
Lewis D. Emerich	Earl Reber
William H. Freeman	Oscar Reber
John Heim	

WORLD WAR II

Francis A. Bebelheimer	Carl M. Frey
James B. Bowers	Lewis W. Hughes
Earl Brommer	Guy W. Reber
Darwin Dewald	

KOREAN WAR

Earl Brensinger

DEBINDERS CEMETERY CIVIL WAR

Benedict Derr	Absolom Hehn
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BEAVER VALLEY

Conrad Minnich -
 Revolutionary



VETERANS BURIED ON ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Aulenbach, Jacob	Sternner, John
Minnig, Jacob	Snyder, Adam

WAR OF 1812

Zerbe, George

CIVIL WAR

Berkelbach, John	Moyer, William
Dietrich, Gideon	Palsgrove, Stephen
Fenstermacher, Henry	Schaeffer, Samuel
Hummel, John	Schropp, William
Kerschner, John	Snyder, Paul
Kramer, William	Sternner, Jeremiah
Kramer, William K.	Sternner, Joseph
Kutz, William	Sternner, William
Luckenbill, Morgan	Wenrich, Henry
Minnich, James	Zechman, George

WORLD WAR I

Dietrich,	Nagle, Charles
William Herman	Reed, George
Fidler, Albert	Staller, Earl W.
Ketner, Gordon	Temple,
Kramer, Jonathon	Francis Levan
Moyer, Harry	Yeich, Benjamin
Moyer, John	

WORLD WAR II

Laubenstein,	*Buried at Fort
Wilmer B.	McKinley,
Schaeffer, Paul	Phillipine Islands
Snyder, William*	

MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH WHO SERVED IN WORLD WAR I

Brown, Andrew	Ketner, Gordon	Reed, Martin
Cooper, George	Kramer, George	Reed, George
Douglas, Guy	Kramer, Jonathon	Ryland, Harold
Dietrich,	Kramer, Leo	Ryland, Heber
William Herman	Loy, William H.	Staller, Earl W.
Faust, Clarence	Marburger, Samuel	Staller, Clifford
Fessler, George	Miller, Frank	Staller, Maynard
Fidler, Albert	Moyer, Harry	Stoyer, Henry
Ketner, Harry C.	Nagle, Charles	Stump, Clarence
		Yeich, Benjamin



THE LIBERTY BELL

The original Liberty Bell was cast at White Chapel Bell Foundry in London in 1752. Even then the White Chapel Foundry was old and well established, having been founded in 1570. Soon after the bell was hung in Philadelphia, it was broken, and was re-cast in facsimile by Pass & Stowe of its home city.

It rang for all important events, the most important being for the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. It cracked in 1835 when it rang the death of Justice Marshall, but because of its historic association with Independence, it was never recast.

For the U. S. Bicentennial, the White Chapel Foundry, Ltd. was commissioned to cast 2,400 small replicas of the original bell, one for each month of the 200 years. Bells are now individually made, so to cast so many identical bells with an inscription whose small scale makes it delicate, required a special process.

First a wax "bell," complete in every detail and formed in special molds, is coated with eight layers of a ceramic material which assumes the intricate detail of the wax master. This master is later melted out, leaving a smooth hollow shell into which the metal is poured at 1150 degrees centigrade.

Bells cast in this ceramic shell have an even finer finish than that obtained by traditional methods, but the process is limited to size and is economic only in large numbers. While the process is "new" it is but an ancient method in new guise. Bells were cast in clay molds formed around wax patterns more than a thousand years ago.