

# Kisabeth Historical Review

## KISABETH

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 20th Kisabeth Family reunion August.7.2010
- Gregory Kisseberth go to Bogata
- Kevin Kisseberth football Klein High
- Picture Page
- Kispert Immigration

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FROM OUR MEDIEVAL NAME OF KUSCHWERT  
THE FOLLOWING NAMES HAVE EMERGED:

Küspert—Kispert—Kisseberth· Kissenberth—Kisabeth— Kisaberth

NOVEMBER 2009

## 20th Reunion - August 7, 2010

For a most enjoyable weekend try a drive through the beautiful Midwest, namely Seneca County, Ohio. This is the area of our annual family reunion and a great place for a vacation. There are great places to stay and many things to do in addition to our reunion (August 7, 2010 Saturday 11am until dark). It is very close (less than 50 miles) to the famed Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio. Driving is very accessible as the Ohio Turnpike and I-75 are very near our reunion site. There are plenty of local golf courses and antique shopping (both Tiffin & Fostoria, Ohio are known the world over for their famous glass crystal). Adults, teens and the kids would love it. This would be a great time to get to know your ancestors and your family history back to the 1400s. We will have history books, family tree printouts, old photographs, newsletters, history CDs, games (softball, basketball, egg toss & more) and a huge Olympic size swimming pool. We are even trying to book a small Bavarian band if enough relatives show for this event. Just let us know you are coming and we will provide maps, directions, hotel listings and more.

Hi, my name is Gerald Kisabeth and I am the family historian for the various related surnames of Kisabeth-Kisseberth-Kisaberth-Kissenberth-Kispert and Kuespert which all come from the medieval name of Kuschwert in Bavaria. My brother Gordon and I completed the \*K History Book in 2002. We are planning a big 20th Annual Family Reunion in Bascom, Ohio next August 7, 2010. The 1st year of our reunion (1991) we had about 160 family attend. But for the last few years we have had less than 40 people attend mostly because many of the older relatives have passed away. We are asking that any relative or even just a friend try to make plans to attend our 20th Annual Reunion.

Also, I am trying to update our records for a follow-up book so that we can include all the "newbies."



**Beech Shelter, Meadowbrook Park**

If you have some free time write us and tell us what specific \*K family that you belong. Also please try to spread the word for any relative or friend to try to make it to our big \*K Reunion on August 7, 2010 at the Meadowbrook Park in Bascom, Ohio (midway between Fostoria & Tiffin). This is the area where most of our German immigrant ancestors settled and farmed back in the mid 19th century.

One final note, I have spent over 25 years researching and writing our \*K Family History and both Gordon & I would be most thankful and grateful if you would make an attempt to try and attend the 20th Annual Kisabeth-Kisse(n)berth-Kispert-Kuespert Reunion next August 2010. And if you cannot or are unable we would LOVE to hear from you with any news and/or updates on your specific \*K line.

Gerald (Jerry) Kisabeth & Gordon W. Kisabeth  
email: gkisabeth241950mi@comcast.net  
gerald@kisabeth.net  
geraldkisabeth@hotmail.com  
gordon@kisabeth.net

Check [www.kisabeth.net](http://www.kisabeth.net) for maps and more details

# Greg Kisseberth



**Gregory Kisseberth**  
Bogata, Columbia  
South America

**C**ongratulations!!! To our cousin Greg Kisseberth for his teaching position at the Universidad Externado de Colombia in Bogata. Greg has been teaching english at the university since 2007 and is enjoying the hot and humid climate away from our shivering winters. . Prior to his current position Greg was director of the english department at Gimnasio Los Caobos in Chia, Colom-

bia.

Gregory Allan Kisseberth was born on October 13, 1961 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan to Richard & Ruth Ann (Collins) Kisseberth. He has two younger brothers, Steven and Michael. Greg is the grandson of Milo Commodore Kisseberth (1898-1963) and the great-grandson of George Henry Kisseberth (1861-1934) and the great-great-grandson of Gabriel Kisseberth (1835-1908) of little Gilboa, in Putnam County, Ohio.

Good luck Greg and buena suerte .

# Kevin Kisseberth



**Kevin Kisseberth #88**  
Klein High School  
Klein, Texas

It appears that we may be watching another cousin on Saturday afternoons for the next few years.

Kevin Kisse-

berth a senior LB-DE and TE for the Klein High School Bearkats has several colleges recruiting him for their future football programs. With the 2009 football season coming to a close the recruiting wars are just now starting to heat up.

The University of Minnesota has already made an offer to Kevin. According to Rivals (noted national recruiting service) Kevin is ranked number 52 in the nation at the outside linebacker position. His skills performance stats this past summer are:

Ht:6'3"

Wt:220 lbs

40:4.6 secs

Shuttle:4.19

Vertical:32 inches



Kevin is the son of Dean Howard & Elaine (Robinson) Kisseberth. His grandfather was also named Dean Howard Kisseberth (1913-1986) and his great-grandfather was Howard Kisseberth (1883-1958) who was the son of our prominent Seneca County farmer Jacob Kisseberth (1843-1937).

Some of the colleges recruiting Kevin are; Baylor, Iowa State, New Mexico, Rice, Southern Methodist, Louisiana Tech, Tulsa, Tulane, UTEP and Texas A&M.

So remember the name Kevin Kisseberth you may be seeing number #88 Saturdays on TV during the next four years. Good luck Kevin!

# Andrew M. (Drew) Kisabeth

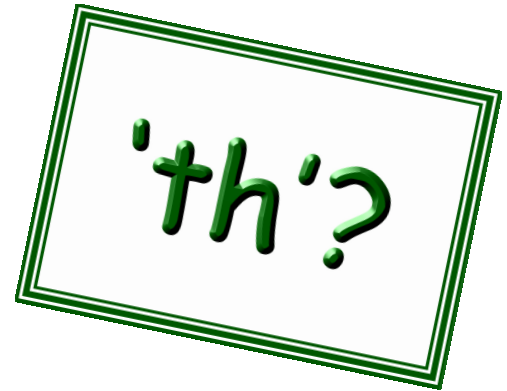


Andrew M. (Drew) Kisabeth has also accepted a new position with Zimmer Spinal. He is the son of Gerald L. & Pamela A. (Kampo). Drew lives in Macomb, Michigan with wife Melissa and daughter Elle. Drew has just returned from a three week orientation class in Minneapolis, Minnesota. As a Spinal Specialist he will be working closely with some of the area's top Orthopedic Surgeons. Congrats to Drew!!

## HOW DO YOU PRONOUNCE 'TH'?

All Kisseberth and Kissenberth readers should pay close attention to this piece. Ever wonder why the German th and the t are pronounced the same? Here's why, as explained by George Fenwick Jones, author of German-American Names:

"The th in modern German names should always be pronounced as t because the h in the diphthong th was introduced into spelling in the 16th and 17th centuries in an attempt to gain elegance, since th appeared in many words taken from the Greek via Latin. Therefore the h should be ignored in pronouncing German names like Walther & Goethe." And don't forget our names Kisseberth and Kissenberth."



## Old Kisseberth Photo Identified — Elizabeth Kissebeth (1834-1861)

After years of trying to ID an old family photograph I have some good news especially for the descendants of Gabriel Kisseberth (1835-1908) of Seneca and Putnam County, Ohio. Written on the top of this old photo was "Grandma Kisseberth." I had searched through several magazines that told of trying to identify old photographs but I never was able to pinpoint the exact timeframe of the photo. Well, I finally found an article titled "The Tasseled Frame." It described the exact ornate frame of our Kisseberth picture. This vintage carte de visite or CDV (special type photo) is dated during the time of the Civil War as many soldiers appeared on these cards. The photo is of Elizabeth Nort (1834-1861), 1st wife of Gabriel Kisseberth. She died shortly after giving birth to George Henry Kisseberth (1861-1934), the old sexton of the Harmon Cemetery in tiny Gilboa, Ohio. She was also the mother of John Lewis Kisseberth (1859-1927) prominent farmer of Hancock County.



Elizabeth Kissebeth  
1834-1862

# Fingerhakeln (finger-wrestling)



This is a popular entertainment and test of strength, practiced in Upper Bavarian inns involving a middle-finger

tug-of-war between 2 male opponents across a table. It is a traditional sport for-

mally organized about 1950 with championship matches for the Alps, Bavaria and for the whole of Germany. Both players sit on opposite sides of the table, one finger hooked into a leather ring (Hakelriemen), and try to pull their opponent's hand past the "out" mark near the edge of the table. Any finger except the thumb may be used.

## Lisa Kisabeth

Lisa Kisabeth of Plymouth, Michigan has accepted a new position with the Plymouth-Canton Public School District. Lisa is a graduate of the University of Michigan & Eastern Michigan University. Her administrative duties include the Business & Building use scheduling for all 3 high schools in the PCEP. Lisa is the daughter of our newsletter editor and co-author of our history book Gordon William Kisabeth. Her mother is Mary Michele (Case) Kisabeth. Congratulations to Lisa!!

## Erin Williams

Wedding bells this month will be chiming for Erin Williams of Plymouth, Michigan. She is the daughter of Kenneth B. & Joan (Strait) Kisabeth. She was wed to Michael Krause at Singer Island, Florida on November 13, 2009. A reception will be held at the Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon, Michigan on November 28, 2009. Congratulations to Erin & Mike!!

Read about

Erin Krause

Lisa Kisabeth

Harold Curie

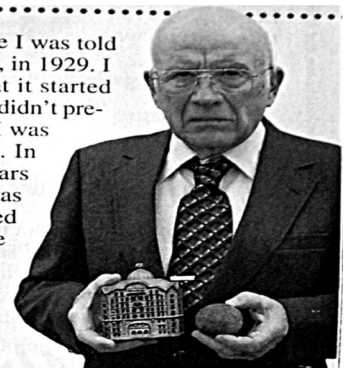
and

More

## Harold Curie

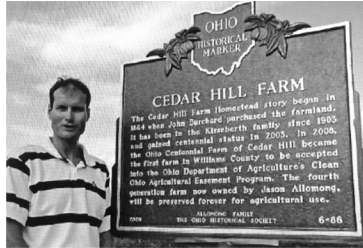
We had a nice visit with Cousin Harold Curie of St. Joe, Indiana this summer. He is the husband of the late Emily Curie (granddaughter of Sylvester Jacob Kisabeth (S)). Harold a part time farmer who still farms the land of his ancestors received the Hoosier Homestead Farm Award (owned by the same family for over 150 years). Harold recently appeared in an issue of Remmisce Magazine (a nationally syndicated monthly). It seems Harold has in his possession 2 old heirlooms, a very old bank belonging to his mother and also a very old orange. Read the article for yourself.

**ORANGE** (right) is the one I was told I got for my first Christmas, in 1929. I played with it so much that it started getting hard and my mother didn't prepare it for me to eat, since I was having fun playing with it. In December, it will be 77 years old. The bank I'm holding was a gift to my mother, Mildred Gee Curie Jarrett, after she was born, in 1901. She gave it to me when I was very young. —Harold G. Curie  
St. Joe, Indiana



# Kisseberth Farm Lives On.....

The original homestead farm of cousin George Oliver Kisseberth (1879-1951) in Williams County, Ohio near the town of Edgerton lives on. Through the efforts of his great-grandson Jason Allomong the old Kisseberth, now called The Cedar Hill Farm is a state of the art masterpiece. The homestead was originally purchased by a John Burchard in 1864. George Oliver Kisseberth purchased the estate in 1903 and it gained centennial status in 2003. Last year (2008), the Ohio Centennial Farm of Cedar Hill became 1st farm in Williams County to be accepted into the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Program. The 4th generation farm now owned by Jason will be preserved forever for agricultural only.



Gerald, Pam & Gordon Kisabeth were invited to see the farm first hand this summer. It was a beautiful sight just to see what Jason has done to the old farm. In the mid - 1990s we first visited the Kisseberth farm then owned by Jason's grandfather Kermit Kisseberth (1911-1997). Both the farmhouse and barn needed much work and Kermit was getting on in age and his health was starting to fail him. When we witnessed the job Jason Allomong did it was unbelievable. He took an old run down farmhouse and made it into a modern luxury model home that seeing is believing, as words cannot describe this house. The barn was destroyed and Jason built a 40-by-40 foot steel shop with structured walls, two automatic 14-foot doors and



heated floor. It's immaculate and mostly empty except for a portable basketball hoop, a couple of small tractors, a full bath, and a lounge area.

At the intersection of the 2 county roads, he had a 1/2 acre swimming and fishing pond

dug into an embankment; he spreads a fresh load of sand at its edge every year. A charming 10-by-12-foot gazebo was constructed overlooking the 19-foot-deep pond, as well as 27 steps leading to the inviting sky blue water and a sturdy dock with railings.

Jason asks visitors to remove their shoes before entering his house. If the Williams County Fair gave awards for spotless, uncluttered houses (and garages and shops), Cedar Hill Farm would set the standard. "Nobody can clean like I do," said Jason, an admitted neat freak. Having played high school basketball and softball, he's a sports fan, and has three large-screen televisions in various locations to prove it.



He is driven, motivated, fussy, a creature of habit, and has a hard time sitting still, he said. His faith provides him with foundation and optimism,

and he's involved with his church in Edgerton.

More than anything, Jason wants to fill the house with love, marriage, and a family, as all the Kisseberths who occupied these walls before him have done.

Jason and his lovely parents (Dan & Sherri) went out of their way to welcome us. We had a great afternoon and evening with our wonderful host. The ham dinner was delicious & we topped it off by making our desert- good old fashioned home-made ice cream. We had so much fun! Thanks Jason - we're proud to be related!



# Kispert Immigration

## Immigration

In future issues of our online and printed family newsletter and website we hope to be able to show the immigration arrivals of our various name spellings here in America. Our newsletter and website already shows that the Kisseberth-Kisaberth & Kisa-beth spellings can be traced to our Georg Kisseberth (February 1832) and later to the rest of his family on July 1, 1842. The Johann Kissenberth (1848-1918) family of New York arrived in 1849-1850 (no exact date as yet). The other Kissenberth family (Balthasar K. 1854-1914) arrived in New York Harbor on July 2, 1872.

Some of the early Kispert immigrants were; Lorenz (1854), Joseph (1856), John (1866), Emil (1878), Conrad (1887), Lorenz (1886), Johan (1888), and E.O. Kispert (1891) all arriving in New York. Nicholas Kispert arrived in the port at Baltimore in 1846. Christopher Kispert immigrated in 1855 and Alois Kispert touched American soil in 1859 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Among the early Kuespert-Küspert-Kuspert immigrants arriving in New York Harbor were; Christian (1852), Nicholas (1853), Carl (1853), Alexander (1854), Lorenz (1863) and Johann (1880). John (1854) and Wolfgang (1891) Kuspert arrived in Baltimore Harbor.

We hope to connect some of our current Kispert-Küspert-Kuespert-Kuspert families and even the Kisbert and Kiespert families with their immigrant ancestors' first arrivals in America.

Below is the immigrant story of our Kispert relatives in the Jefferson, Wisconsin and the East Prairie (southeastern) area of Minnesota.

## Kispert Immigration (children of Wolfgang Kispert)

Our historian for the Wisconsin and Minnesota Kispert families is Eugene Kenneth Kispert of Owatonna, Minnesota. Gene has found the ship passengers list for his immigrating ancestor after many years of searching.

It was very difficult because his great-great-grandmother Anna Barbara Kispert had remarried John Nicholas Bauernfeind after her first husband Wolfgang Kispert had died in the Fichtelgebirge area of Bavaria around 1849 or 1850. Less than ten years later the family emigrated from Bremen Germany to New York Harbor. The parents and all the children came over as Bauernfeinds not Kisperts but Martin (John), Anna Barbara and John Paul were actually born Kispert as Wolfgang was their biological father.

The ship's name was the SS Telegraph and left Bremen, Germany and arrived in New York Harbor on June 21, 1848. From there the family settled in the Jefferson County area of Wisconsin and later in the East Prairie area in southeastern Minnesota.

The Bauernfeind-Kispert family left New York and made their way to Jefferson, Wisconsin, either by the Great Lakes or more probably overland. The Milwaukee area had a very large German population. In fact, it was sometimes called the German State with over 50% of the people German or German-American. Jefferson was a small German town of 6 breweries. According to Gene there were other Kispert families living in Jefferson at the time of his Kispert arrival. These Kisperts migrated to the Green Bay area. It was located at the edge of the Michigan territory, which became part of the state of Wisconsin in 1848. It is good farming country, but with many trees and hilly. It probably looked somewhat like their homeland in the Fichtelgebirge area of Bavaria. No Kisperts live in Jefferson, Wisconsin at this time.

Minnesota became a territory in 1849 and a state in 1858. The Indian Wars were ending and many settlers moved west to East Prairie (SE MN). This area has very rich "ready made" farmland which needed very little clearing. The Homestead Act of 1862 provided 160 acres of farm land to bona fide settlers.

The Bauerfield family left Jefferson in the early 1860s and settled in the Nerstrand area. Ann Barbara (Kispert) apparently did not make the move. John Paulus went to Minnesota, but moved to California and had an interesting history (Kisabeth Historical Review newsletter of May 2004). Martin Kispert (1839-1911) settled in Minnesota and married a girl from the next farm, Caroline Engel (1843-1916). They were blessed with 7 sons and 5 daughters. Martin bought 60 acres from his father-in-law and eventually had 160 acres of prime farm land. He was known as a good blacksmith, organizer, bee-keeper and progressive farmer. Martin helped organize and was on the Board of Directors of the Nerstrand Elevator and the Nerstrand Creamery. He served on the School Board of County 55 Rural School. Martin owned a Case steam engine and threshing machine and would thresh other farms in the area. A prize procession of his was a 1903 EMF automobile. He said that EMF stood for Every Monday Fix. His wife was noted for being a good mother and excellent cook. Her fried potatoes were excellent. Martin and Caroline Kispert were the great grandparents of Gene Kispert.

Martin & Caroline (Engel) Kispert have over 700 direct descendants and counting!!



Kenneth "Clem" Kuespert  
(1925-2003)



Charles W. Kisabeth Family

Matt Robert Emily Amy Ben Anne Chuck



Emily Kissenberth



Michael & Erin (Williams) Krause



Kispert Family Reunion  
Minnesota - 2008



Craig H. Kisabeth Family

Craig Kendra Beau Jennifer Connie Madison



Lisa Marie Kisabeth



Amber Kisseberth  
& daughter Madison



Drew & Meli Kisabeth  
with daughter Elle



tattoo  
Bryan Kisabeth



Marco Kispert



Werner Kispert



George Kispert



Kisabeth Children - 1925

Foster Margaret Denzel Burdette Glenn Robert Philip



D'haene Family

Jason Dan Shelly Margaret Sadie George David Rick Jackie Dirk Wendy



George Oliver Kisseberth

Gerald Kisabeth  
41599 Haggerty Woods  
Canton, MI 48187-3778

## We are on the Web !!!

Our  
Web  
site



We are on the web at [www.kisabeth.net](http://www.kisabeth.net) or [www.kisabeth.com](http://www.kisabeth.com).

The web site has all the archived newsletters and current information about our family tree. We always welcome new information about the

family and will post stories you send us.

We have stories about our ancestors and information on our arrival in the United States from Germany.

You will find a lot of history on this site. Now that Gerald and Gordon are retired, the web site will be updated on a regular basis. (except on Wednesday as the Rusty Nail in Canton has Coney dogs for 50 cents).

If other Family members have reunions, let us know. We can post on the website and provide information in our newsletter.

Please send information, Photo's, stories, etc.

20th Reunion August 7, 2010