

2011 GATHERING OF

the

# Low Dutch Cousins

**A FOURTH GATHERING!**

Sounds like a crazy idea.

Picture this scenario:



THE OLD MUD MEETINGHOUSE BUILT BY OUR DUTCH REFORMED ANCESTORS IN 1800.

A couple of distant cousins in different states meet through genealogy, compile an email list, put together a message to a group of Low Dutch Descendants that anybody can join, and through small individual donations from these members spread all over the nation, earn enough money to honor & provide markers for Revolutionary Patriots from the Low Dutch Community, who mostly didn't even have gravestones, and then spearhead a concerted effort to save the more-than-two-centuries-Old Mud Dutch Reformed Meetinghouse in Mercer Co., KY, near Harrodsburg, and the group continues to grow & prosper.

Pretty darn unlikely, right?

We did it anyway!

Harrodsburg, Kentucky

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The Place to be  
Thurs. Sept. 29 - Sun. Oct 2



## Save the Dates!

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	M-T-W-T-F-S-S-M-T
Sept 29, 2011	Sept 30, 2011	Oct 1, 2011	Oct 2, 2011	Oct 3 thro Oct 11
Early Regis.	Registration	Family Displays	Brunch	Leave Danville KY 6 9 Days, 8 nights WV, PA, NJ, NY Return to Danville
Research HHS	Barn Tour	Spkr TBA	Worship @Old Mud	
Business Mtg.	Dinner	Dinner	Veterans Memorial	
Spkr- Leonard	Spkr- Vince Akers	Spkr-John Curry	SAR, Packing up	

## 35 Low Dutch Veterans Honored in 2007, 2009, & 2011 – YES! -- Three More This Year

1. ADAMS, Francois 1751 -1837
2. BANTA, Abraham 1745 -1793
3. BANTA, "Father Henry" 1718 -1805
4. BANTA, "Shaker" John 1757 – 1815
5. **BANTA, Samuel Sr 1753 -- 1833**
6. BREWER, Daniel 1719 -1791
7. BREWER, Samuel 1757-1835
8. BRITTON, Simeon 1734 - 1814
9. COMINGORE, Henry 1749 -1836
10. COMINGORE, John 1749 -1845
11. COOVERT, Daniel 1759 -1848
12. COOVERT, Isaac 1755 - 1825
13. **COZINE, Peter VanHarlyn 1789 - 1867**
14. DEMAREE, John 1762 – 1839
15. DEMOTTE, Laurence 1719-1800
16. DEMOTTE, Peter 1758-1832
17. GAUNT, Thomas 1742 -- 1782
18. HUFF, Peter 1756-1840
19. KYLE, Rev. Thomas 1757-1846
20. LUYSTER, Peter 1761-1830
21. **MONTFORT, Francis 1746 - 1825**
22. MOORE, John 1757 -- 1836
23. MOORE, Samuel 1850 -- 1780
24. MOORE, Simeon 1734 -- 1814
25. MOORE, Thomas 1754 – 1835
26. RYKER, Gerardus 1740 -- 1781
27. SMOCK, "Barney" 1738 -- aft. 8/1812
28. SMOCK, John Bp.3 Jun 1739 -- 1812
29. SORTORE, Jacob 1730 -- 1820
30. STAGG, James (Sjeems) 1738 -- 1826
31. VANARSDALL, Cornelius A. 1748-1840
32. VANARSDALL, Cornelius O. 1758-1843
33. VAN ARSDALEN, Simon 1746 -- 1802
34. VAN DER VEER, Peter 1760 -- 1823
35. WESTERVELT, James/Jacobus 1755-1826



Thirty-Four veterans are proved as Revolutionary Patriots.

Peter VH Cozine is our first War of 1812 hero to be recognized.



Five of the Veterans honored in 2009 and this year's three new Vets will not have government grave markers. Money will be refunded to the sponsors.



The Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Cemetery and Gravemarker Administration Program has denied all our applications, saying we cannot prove these men are buried there. I'd like to see them prove they are NOT buried there.

Even appeals from our Congressmen have been denied.



We will honor them on Sunday Oct 2 at Old Mud, and they will be included in our Low Dutch Patriot book anyway.

# Looking Forward!



BILL FAULCONER & TOM HILL  
HELP A COUSIN DOWN THE STEPS.

## Thursday, Sept. 29, 2011

- 10 to 2: Harrodsburg Historical Library (HHS) open for research on Morgan row.
- 3 to 6: Business meeting & officer election at Harrodsburg's new Mercer Co Public Library meeting room.
- 7: Speaker at Mercer Co Public Library, Carolyn B. Leonard – *The Low Dutch in New Amsterdam & long hard road to KY*

JAY W.  
OUR  
T-SHIRT  
MAN.

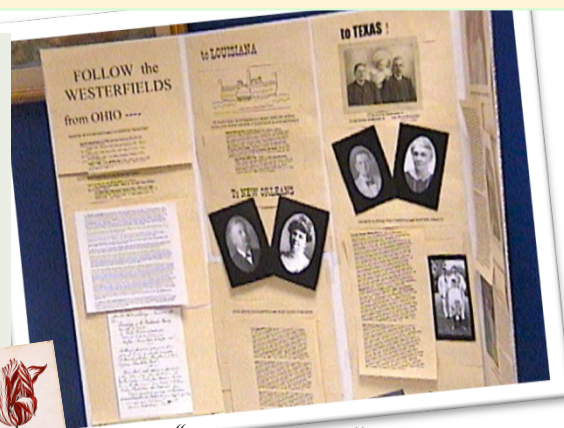


## Friday, Sept. 30, 2011

- 8 to 10: Registration at Country Hearth. (Pick up nametags, maps & schedules)
- 11 – 2: **Dutch Barn Tour & Powerpoint** presentation led by David Shewmaker at Mercer Co Library.
- 2 – 5: Late Registration, Setting up displays & silent auction at Mercer Co. Extension Center  
*NOTE: We are not welcome at the center until 2 pm.*
- 6: Dinner Buffet at Extension Center; Speaker **Vince Akers – The Low Dutch in Kentucky**

## Saturday, October 1, 2011

- 8:30: Extension office opens.
- 9:00: Welcome by Mayor, Family Groups tell about their displays & handouts, Silent Auction begins.
- Noon: Family Affair catered lunch. **Speaker: TBA**
- 3:30: Autograph Party – Public invited.**
- 5:00 Building is closed until 6:30 while incredible buffet catered by Family Affair is being prepared.
- 7: 00 Dinner Buffet; Speaker – **John Curry – “The wild and wooly life of Dutch Settlers on the Kentucky frontier.”**



“WESTERFIELD” DISPLAY

MISS  
AMERICA  
HEATHER  
FRENCH  
HENRY.



## Sunday, October 2, 2011

- 10:30 Brunch at 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Restaurant.
- 12:30: **Worship at Old Mud Meetinghouse – Public Invited.**
- 2:30: Memorial for Veterans at Old Mud Graveyard, led by Kentucky Sons of American Revolution.

# Dutch Cousin Officers & Chairpersons 2011

President: Claude Westerfield, Farragut IA <[meltedclaud@gmail.com](mailto:meltedclaud@gmail.com)>  
Vice President: Jay Westerfield, Bloomington IN <[jayc19@comcast.net](mailto:jayc19@comcast.net)>  
Secretary: Carolyn Leonard, Oklahoma City, OKC <[dutchcousin@gmail.com](mailto:dutchcousin@gmail.com)>  
Treasurer: Diana Davis, Jamesville, NC [dianadavis8@aol.com](mailto:dianadavis8@aol.com)  
Gathering Coordinator: Carolyn Leonard, OKC <[dutchcousin@gmail.com](mailto:dutchcousin@gmail.com)>

**TEE-SHIRTS:** Dennis & Carole Karwatka <[ckarwatka@yahoo.com](mailto:ckarwatka@yahoo.com)> are handling the Dutch Cousin T-Shirt sales, so get yours ordered - to be distributed at the gathering.

**HOSPITALITY:** Gladys Dorrell <[gladysdorrell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gladysdorrell@sbcglobal.net)> volunteered (3<sup>rd</sup> gathering in a row!) to be chairperson of hospitality (that means preparing and serving coffee and stuff to welcome everyone on Saturday morning. Her volunteer committee includes Rosalind Cummings, Rodney Dempsey, Mary Jo Gohmann.

**NY TRIP:** Janice Cozine <[jco@windstream.net](mailto:jco@windstream.net)> is gathering information on bus seating so be sure you get your trip registration filled out and sent in with the deposit to our Treasurer by July 15.

**VETERANS:** Susan Nease <[smnease@comcast.net](mailto:smnease@comcast.net)> is compiling a book of our Low Dutch Revolutionary Veterans we have honored. The book will be for sale to help raise money for Old Mud, with one free copy to the HHS Repository.

**BOOK SIGNING:** Barbie Abbott <[barbie@thekidzclub.com](mailto:barbie@thekidzclub.com)> is ready for signups, so if you have a book to sell of interest to the Dutch Cousins, and you will be there for the autograph party on Saturday afternoon, send her information about your book.

**HISTORIAN:** Barb Whiteside <[ktdink@insightbb.com](mailto:ktdink@insightbb.com)> volunteered (well, okay, I begged until she did) to assemble a scrapbook history of our group to place in the HHS Library.

**WEBMASTER:** Pam Ellingson <[ellingson.pam@gmail.com](mailto:ellingson.pam@gmail.com)> is doing a great job with our new website [www.DutchCousin.info](http://www.DutchCousin.info) Go there now, and visit often to see updates.

**SILENT AUCTION:** Ruby Ingram <[raingram.ingram@gmail.com](mailto:raingram.ingram@gmail.com)> is preparing for the silent auction, so let her know what you are bringing to share in this fundraiser. It is always fun and the money goes to Old Mud restoration.

**FAMILY GROUPS:** Pam Ellingson <[ellingson.pam@gmail.com](mailto:ellingson.pam@gmail.com)> is coordinating the family group displays event. Let her know what you plan to bring (think vertical--space is so limited) and bring handouts about your Dutch family history to help others tie their line into the original Dutch settlers..

**REPOSITORY:** Amalie Preston <[amaliepreston@gmail.com](mailto:amaliepreston@gmail.com)> is prepared to receive and archive your Low Dutch Research so it will be available for others to use many years from now. Contact her to learn how she wants your material prepared for the repository.

**REGISTRATION & NAMETAGS:** Louise and Randy Ledger <[Flounderlu@aol.com](mailto:Flounderlu@aol.com)> volunteered again to handle registration. That is a BIG job and we are ever so grateful.

**WORSHIP:** Claude Westerfield <[meltedclaud@gmail.com](mailto:meltedclaud@gmail.com)> will be in charge of Sunday morning worship.

**OLD MUD RESTORATION:** Vince Akers, Bill Faulconer, Jerry Sampson. Mr. Sampson assured me today we won't need a tent this year; we will be able to hold Sunday worship INSIDE this treasured building.

**PUBLICITY, NEWSLETTER, DUTCH EMAIL LIST:** Carolyn B. Leonard

**WE HAVE THE MOST WONDERFUL FAMILY!**

# Some Speakers for the 2011 Gathering

## THURSDAY 7 PM – FREE AT THE NEW MERCER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**SPEAKER – CAROLYN B. LEONARD OF OKLAHOMA CITY:**



**TOPIC: THE LONG HARD ROAD TO KENTUCKY**

LEONARD IS AUTHOR OF THE “WHOS YOUR DADDY?” BOOK, WRITES FOR THE NATIONAL COWBOY AND WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM, AND COORDINATES THE DUTCH COUSINS REUNION, HER POWER POINT PRESENTATION WILL HELP YOU FIND YOUR DUTCH COUSIN ANCESTORS.

FROM HOLLAND TO NEW AMSTERDAM & NEW NETHERLAND, FROM NEW YORK TO PENNSYLVANIA, FROM PENNSYLVANIA TO KENTUCKY, THESE LOWLANDERS LEFT A LEGACY TO THEIR DESCENDANTS. HEAR ABOUT THEIR LIVES IN NEW AMSTERDAM AND LEARN ABOUT THEIR UNIQUE CUSTOMS, SUCH AS WIVES RETAINING THEIR MAIDEN NAMES, WORSHIP IN THE HOLY LANGUAGE OF THE LOW DUTCH, HOW AND WHY THE FIRST 50 FAMILIES CAME, AND HOW THEY SUCCEEDED IN PURCHASING A "LOW DUTCH TRACT" IN KY, HOW THEY RAISED MONEY TO BUILD OLD MUD IN 1798. HANDOUTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

## FRIDAY 11AM – DUTCH BARN TOUR

**DAVID SHEWMAKER, TOPIC: ARE YOU HIDING A DUTCH BARN ?**

BARN EXPERT DAVID SHEWMAKER OF HARRODSBURG IS WORKING ON A POWER POINT PRESENTATION OF DUTCH BARN CONSTRUCTION TO BE GIVEN AT THE NEW MERCER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, FOLLOWED BY A TOUR TO A DUTCH BARN STILL IN GOOD CONDITION. SHEWMAKER IS AN INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE FOR CHURCHES AND CHURCH RELATED INSTITUTIONS. THEY LIVE CLOSE TO THE OLD MUD MEETINGHOUSE AND HE HAS RECENTLY BECOME QUITE INTERESTED IN PRESERVING SOME OF THE DUTCH HERITAGE, SUCH AS THE SPECIAL BARN IN THE AREA.



## FRIDAY 6 PM – DINNER KEYNOTE

**VINCE AKERS OF INDIANAPOLIS, AUTHOR OF “THE LOW DUTCH COMPANY ON THE KENTUCKY FRONTIER” ... AND HERO OF OLD MUD CHURCH**

**TOPIC: THE LOW DUTCH IN KENTUCKY:** FOREMOST HISTORIAN OF THE LOW DUTCH HISTORY, AUTHOR AND POPULAR SPEAKER VINCENT AKERS WILL KEYNOTE THE FRIDAY DINNER AND HOLD YOU SPELLBOUND WITH HIS TALES OF THE LOW DUTCH IN KENTUCKY. “THEY ADOPTED THE TERM LOW DUTCH TO DISTINGUISH THEMSELVES AS BEING FROM THE LOW COUNTRIES OF HOLLAND AND EUROPE INSTEAD OF GERMANY, WHOSE NATIVES WERE ALSO KNOWN AS DUTCH,” AKERS SAID. HE PROVIDED MATCHING FUNDS FOR RESTORATION OF THE MEETINGHOUSE. HE JUST RETIRED FROM CUMMINS ENGINE CO WITH 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE AS HEAD OF THE TAX DEPARTMENT, BUT SAYS HE HAS LESS TIME THAN BEFORE. VINCE WAS DESTINED TO BECOME A HISTORIAN FROM THE AGE OF SEVEN, WHEN HIS HISTORIAN GRANDFATHER WILLED HIM ALL HIS COLLECTION OF DUTCH HISTORY.



## SATURDAY 7 PM – DINNER KEYNOTE

**JOHN CURRY, A NATIONAL EXPERT ON THE LONGHUNTERS.**

**TOPIC: “OF HATCHETS AND LONG RIFLES”**

JOHN CURRY WILL BRING US DETAILS OF OUR LOW DUTCH ANCESTORS LIVES WHEN THEY CAME TO SETTLE IN MERCER COUNTY. THE “LIVING HISTORY SITES” WEBSITE DESCRIBES CURRY AS ONE OF THE NATION’S FOREMOST EXPERTS ON THE LONGHUNTERS, AND HE ADMITS TO BEING “AN INCURABLE 18TH CENTURY HISTORY FREAK WITH A FASCINATION FOR WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED AND WHAT IT WAS REALLY LIKE TO BE THERE AT THE SCENE...” CURRY SAYS HE IS AN OUTDOOR TYPE FELLOW, A HUNTER, AND A HORSEMAN, WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT MUZZLE LOADING FLINTLOCK RIFLES. HE IS ALSO A PUBLISHED AUTHOR AS WELL AS HISTORIAN AND POPULAR RE-ENACTOR. HE WROTE THE BOOK, “ROCKHOUSES & RHODODENRON” AND PROVIDES A MONTHLY COLUMN FOR THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE.



PHOTO © GRAPHIC ENTERPRISES

# Looking Back

Who are the Dutch Cousins  
and how did that come about?



## 2003 – Westerfield Reunion - St Louis

Claude Westerfield of IA invited Carolyn Leonard of OK and Jim Cozine of NV to the Westerfield Reunion in MO, but only about a dozen Westerfields showed up. There was some discussion about disbanding the group, and at a suggestion from Leonard, all present voted to invite the other distantly related Low Dutch family groups to join in one reunion called the “Dutch Cousins” & to meet biennially. As usual, the suggester gets to be chairperson.



## 2005 – Dutch Cousins - Harrodsburg

First meeting of the new combined group was attended by almost a hundred people from all over the nation. Jay Westerfield took care of the money, Claude W and his bride Kathy led the program, our cousin Ralph Anderson provided his “cow palace” for a meeting place and even furnished lunch and hired coaches to take us on a tour of his plantation. It was an unforgettable weekend. We toured the 19<sup>th</sup> century homes of John Cozine and Lawrence DeMott, both still in use. On Sunday we worshipped in the “open air” Old Mud Meetinghouse – with no doors or windows.



## 2007 – Dutch Cousins -Shelbyville

For the second national meeting of the Cousins, Shelbyville welcomed about 125 cousins from many states. Vince Akers narrated a coach tour of Shelby Co and Henry County, which included a fascinating tour of the Long Run Massacre site, the old Dutch Tract and cemetery, Six-mile meetinghouse and a famous horse farm and mansion. Incredible lunch of “KY Hot Brown” at the historic Old Stone Inn. We returned to Harrodsburg for worship in Old Mud and dedicated the first fifteen grave markers for our Dutch Revolutionary War Veterans in the graveyard with a ceremony presented by the Kentucky Society Sons of American Revolution in period dress. It was very impressive.



2007 - SHELBYVILLE



2003-ST LOUIS



2005-HARRODSBURG



## 2009 – Harrodsburg

More than 150 cousins registered from at least 25 states for the third biennial Gathering of Dutch Cousins in Kentucky. Beginning with an organizational business meeting on Thursday, followed that evening with a special program at Ft Harrod, through a day at Shakertown with a special presentation in the graveyard by Barbara Whiteside on “*Low Dutch Shakers*” undaunted by a sudden thunderstorm. Other speakers included Joan England Murray, author of “*The Bantas of Pleasant Hill;*” Jay Fonkert, Certified Genealogist and nationally recognized speaker; Mary W. Park, National President of the Holland Dames, Jim Cozine-- the guru of Cozine ancestry-- and several other “Cousins.” We benefitted from a very successful Silent Auction, Autograph Party, Family Group Info Displays, Worship at Old Mud, and seventeen more Revolutionary War Veteran memorials by Kentucky SAR. The HHS research Library opened for us on Monday. It was a very special weekend AND 2011 SHOULD BE EVEN BETTER! STAY TUNED ...



**GOAL & MISSION:** We are descendants of the Low Dutch who settled New Amsterdam & New Netherland, moved to New Jersey, migrated to near Gettysburg, and made history when they later populated the Kentucky frontier. Our Dutch Cousins goal is to research, share and preserve the genealogy and history of our common Low Dutch heritage, including but not limited to, the restoration and preservation of the Old Mud Meetinghouse near Harrodsburg, KY. Our mission is to honor the memory of these ancestors, and enjoy the friendship of cousins - both newly-discovered and long-loved.





Lotsa Hugs!  
**Memories**

FOLD LINE

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Low Dutch Cousins Gathering**

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:  
 Carolyn B. Leonard, Co-ordinator  
 6812 Newman Drive  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73162



Forwarding Service Requested

**Low Dutch Cousins**  
 From 1600s New Amsterdam  
 to the 1800s in Kentucky  
[www.DutchCousins.info](http://www.DutchCousins.info)

Address Label Here