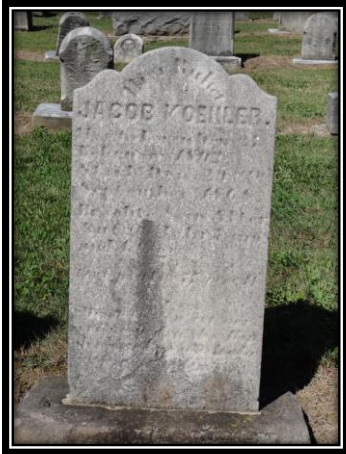


Exploring the Cemetery: The Koehlers

It was recently pointed out to me that there are two Jacob Koehlers in the graveyard. One died in 1868 and the other in 2008, 140 years later. Are they related? My initial reaction was "Probably so!" Family names were very important.



A little research revealed another extensive web of relationships among the occupants of the graveyard that had previously escaped my attention. Thanks to Brenda Fetter for pointing this out.

Jacob Koehler (d. 1868) was a carpenter. His wife, Catherine, died 20 years before him, in 1848. That makes her one of the earliest burials. Catherine was the daughter of David Hackman, Rothsville's premier cabinetmaker, and Susan Howerter.

Jacob Koehler left a daughter, Elizabeth, married to Christian Buch; a son, Henry; and another daughter, Sarah, single at the time his will was made, but later married to Samuel Weachter. The fact that Sarah inherited her father's 11 acres probably went a long way toward ensuring that Sarah did not become an old maid. You may recall that Samuel Weachter was one of the Rothsville boys who left in a group to join the 5th Pa. Heavy Artillery during the Civil War.

Henry Koehler married Susanna Kelso. Their surviving children were Alice, married to John Bender, and Lemon. Lemon married Annie Shirker, and their surviving children were Harvey and Lottie. Lottie married Charles K. Frymyer, and Harvey married Charles's sister, Florence. Harvey and Florence had children Miriam (married Leroy Mumma), Henry (married Mary Elizabeth Musser), Luella (married Woodrow Adams), and Jacob, who died in 2008. This completes the line of succession from Jacob to Jacob.

And each and every one of the mentioned individuals is buried in the cemetery, together with many of their offspring and their offspring's offspring.

