

# Kisabeth Historical Review

KISSEBERTH / KISABETH / KISABERTH

Volume 1 - No. 1	June 1990
Gerald L Kisabeth, Editor	Gordon W. Kisabeth, Publisher

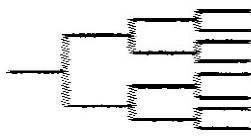
## GREETINGS

Welcome to the Kisabeth/Kisseberth/Kisabert family newsletter. It has taken awhile but with a little perseverance we are bringing you the first copy. This is the first of what we hope will be many newsletters. Always keep in mind that this is your newsletter. The future of this project will depend on your input. We must have your help, whether it be a donation of money, pictures (recent arid old) articles, old stories, family heirloom descriptions, group sheets or just a thank you note, you must make this newsletter a success.

I have been asked many times why would I undertake such a large project. Up until 1954 I was probably like many of our readers who thought family history wasn't important or let the past alone. Another favorite remark was let the dead rest in peace. Several contributing factors encouraged me to start this research seven years ago. The foremost reason was what better way of remembering our loved ones than to pay tribute to

them in written form or to preserve their old pictures or portraits for future generations. I believe that each find every one of us in his (her) own way is equally important and a major contributor to our family history. Another reason was our rare and unique surname Kisseberth/Kisabeth /Kisabert. If our name were Smith, Jones, Johnson or any of several hundred common names, I probably would not have participated in this study.

My only regret in doing this family history is that I didn't get started until fairly recently (1984) By then many of the older ancestors had passed away and a great deal of information and stories with them.



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This issue will acquaint you with the origin of our name and the various spelling changes that occurred over the 600-year history of our great name.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Many of our renders have already provided us with menu items for our project. To name all would take up a great deal of space. But I would like at this time to give thanks to the following family members far their special contributions; Foster & William Burdette Kisabeth, Calvin Cottrell PhD., Farrell Hanna, Robert Fruth, Wilhelm Kisseberth and Dr. Fritz Kisseberth

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## Kisseberth—Kisabeth It's Origin

Individual surnames originated for the purpose of more specific identification. The four primary sources for second names were: Occupation, location, fathers names some personal characteristics. The family name Kisseberth and Kisabeth has undergone many changes in the course of the centuries. The family originates in the Fichtelgebirge (Fichtel mountains). The probable progenitor (an originator of a line of descent) was a Kunz Kuschwert in the medieval settlement of Wunsiedel in Northeast Bavaria. Wunsiedel was known as a castle

Settlement in 1153 and in 1326 it was promoted to the status of city. Our family name Kuschwert probably gets its origin either by occupation an/or personal characteristic. It is mentioned in the Wunsiedel Archives between 1442 and 1451. Keep in mind that the ordinary man of those **far-off** days was not only unable to write his own name, but never had his name written down by anyone else. So our progenitor, Kunz Kuschwert must have been very special. He is listed as being very wealthy and he bore an ostrich as his heraldic animal. Nothing is known about the origin of the name Kuschwert, that is, it has not been researched. It is conceivable that the word kuren in the sense of “to choose” or “to select” could have been significant. The antiquated form of kuren is kiesen. This word form is another possible origin of the name. We can conclude from the various name pieces the following:

### KUSCHWERT

Germen (Bavarian)—To choose a sword. Kuren—to

**choose**, to select  
Schwert—sword.

The various 15th and 16<sup>th</sup> century spellings of our surname are as follows:

- I. Kuschwert
- II. Kuswert



3. Kueschwerd
4. Kueschwardt
5. Kuschwerdt
6. Kieschwerdt
7. Kisebartus
8. Kisibert
9. Kissiberth
10. Kisebert
11. Kisibert

And the remaining spelling variants are:

12. Kisseberth
13. Kisabet
14. Kisaberth

15. Kisabeth

Also I believe strongly that four similar surnames, Kisseberth, Kissenberth, Küspert and Kispert can be traced to the main common surname Kuschwert" The book "Deutsche Namenkunde"— lists under the main "stamm" GIS: Kispert, Küspert and Kisse (n) berth. This suggests a common link between the three names. Also we know that the origin of Kisseberth was Kuschwerten Wunsiedel. Today, several hundred years later the area in and round the small town of Wunsiedel, there are several families with the last name of Küspert. Also in the book "Deutsche Namenkunde" the prefix surnames KISP and KISS are interchangeable. German regional dialects account for a great deal of inconsistency in surname spellings. Certain consonants can be pronounced alike, allowing for a variety of spelling possibilities. Note that B and P are often interchanged and are

indexed as one in some languages, namely German. Also in handwritten old German s—c—h looks very similar to s—p.

All these various surname spellings. I believe, lead back to the common progenitor KUSCHWERT in the early 1400s.

### **OLD PICTURES**

We are in need of old Kisseberth/Kisabeth/Kisberth pictures. If you have any old family photos identified or even unidentified let **us** know. I can copy them right in my home or yours as I have several close up lens and a good quality camera. We can perhaps identify some of our ancestors. Old turn of the century pictures, tin — types. Pictures of farms, all would be grant. You could **9V271 send** photos or Xerox" copies to me for copying. So tell cousins, uncles, aunts, parents, Grandparents to search their attics and basements for old family pictures.

### **FAMILY HISTORY BOOK**

We are making progress towards a publishing date. We hope to publish a Kisseberth/Kisabeth family history book soon. We need your help. If you have any contributions let us hear from you. Whether it be pictures, stories, towns, correction dates or any. We would love to hear item from you. We are trying to find the most inexpensive publishing method available. Any ideas?

# **PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN**

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY,STATE,ZIP**

**TELEPHONE:**SURVEY

1. Please continue sending me our news letter..

Yes NO

2. Fm interested in attending a family reunion near Seneca

County, Ohio

Yes NO

3. Fm interested In purchasing a KisseeberthfKisabeth Kisaberth Family History Book.

Yes NO

## **MAIL ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

**GERALD L KISABETH  
45621 HOLMES DL  
CANTON, MI. 48187  
OR**

**GORDON W. KISABETH  
12258 CHEItRYWOOD  
CT.  
PLYMOUTH, MI. 48170**

## **GENEOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

**If you would be interested in pursuing any research on our family just let us know. We need help in same Ohio courthouses and other state agencies.. If you would like to help with the newsletter please contact us .**

## **FUTURE ISSUES**

**Some of the topics we hope to feature in upcoming issues**

**Family Coat-of -Arms**

**---Family Heraldic seal**

**---German Emigration/American Immigration**

**---Family Tree Charts**

**---Ancestor Profile**

**-- -Individual Families**

**---Count Leonard Kisseeberth and Castle Br.uberg**

**---Computer Genealogy**