# The **Andreas Killian** Descendants

# Historical Association of North Carolina

## AKDHA



*Our Roots Run Deep*

Catherine "Brinia"

John

Elizabeth

Andrew

Leonard

Christiana

Crate

George

Samuel

Margaret

Daniel

Jean

Andreas Killian 1702-1788

1732 America

KILLIAN

AndreasKillian.com ©
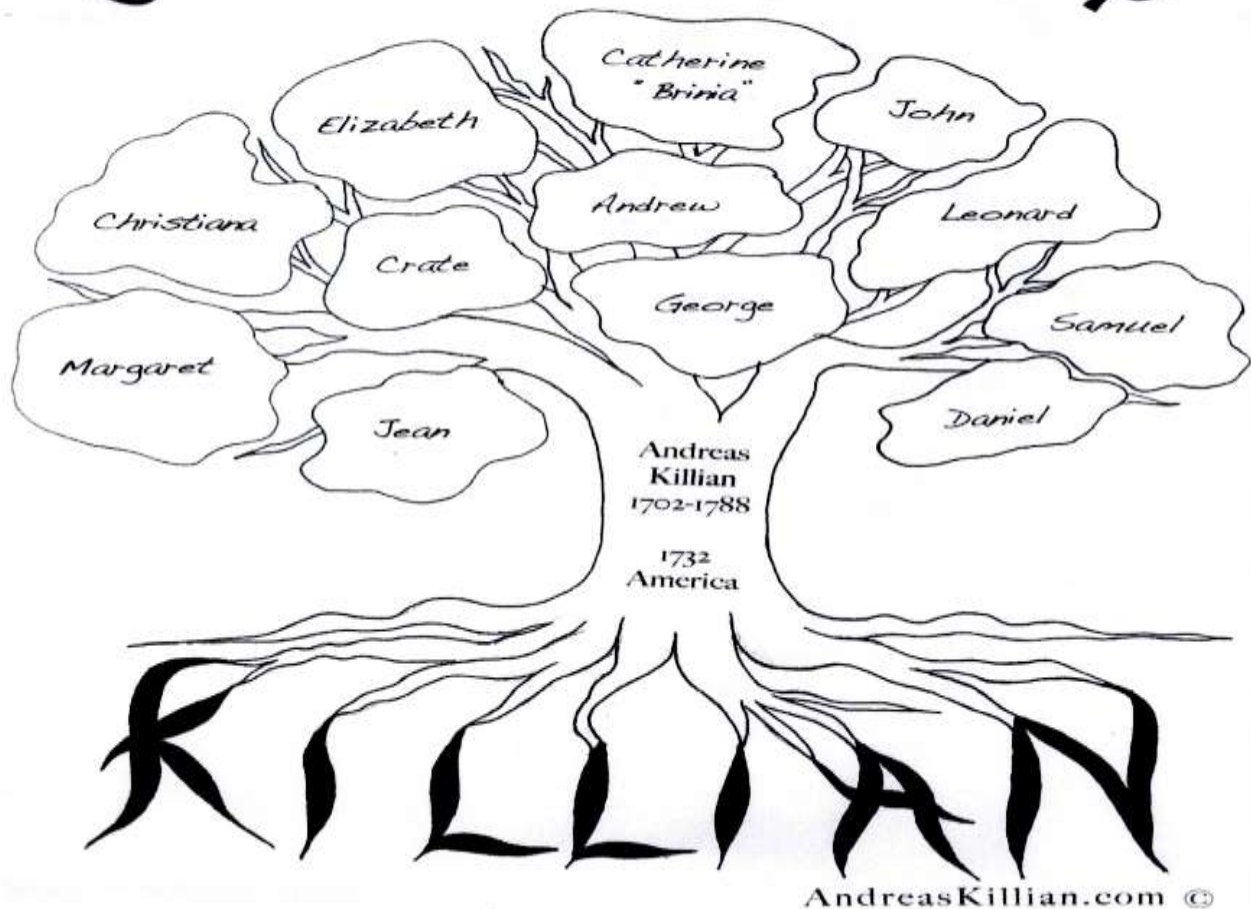
***Celebrating 91st Year Reunion***
**September 12-14, 2025**
**Conover, North Carolina**



CIRCA 1560 Killian
Erzberg, Mittelfranken, Germany
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**ADKHA Association Officers** for 2025-2026  (2-year + terms)

| | |
|---|---|
| President | Bill Killian (TX) |
| Vice-President | Eddie Killian (SC) |
| Secretary | Loretta Killian (NC) |
| Co-Secretary | |
| Treasurer | Eric Killian (NC) |
| Co-Treasurer | Cathy Killian (NC) |
| Historian | Kim Sipe (NC) |
| Newsletter Publisher | Leigh A. Warren |
| Webmaster | Eddie Killian (SC) |
| DNA Administrator | James Green III (SC) |
| Book Editor & Sales | Cheryl Killian (GA) |
| At Large | Lee Killian (NC) |
| At Large | _____ |
| At Large | _____ |
| Programs/Projects Director | _____ |
| Cemeteries Project Director | _____ |
| Welcome Committee | _____ |

Past Historian/DNA/Information/Newsletter: Cheryl Killian(AL), Wayne Milam, Wayne Setzer(NC)

*Please help support this group, plan meetings, participant in setting up meetings, etc.  Together a Team Effort can keep our reunion going each year, planning each year, and making it a successful event and family gathering among kinship folks.*

# Thank You---Cheryl Killian, Charles Killian, Eddie Killian, Dan Sipe, Sandy Phillips, Eddie Killian, Bill Hinds, William McCreight, Wayne/Catherine Milam, Wayne Setzer, Eric/Cathy Killian, Lee/Brenda Killian, Doris/Ray Pope, Linda/Steve Killian, Steve/Phyllis Killian, Bill Killian, Bill Hinds, Gene Killian and all that have contributed to the Descendants of Andreas Killian Organization (AKDHA).
## If I've missed acknowledging anyone, please let me know, Thank you!

*We could not do this without all of you ~ your knowledge, expertise, advice and time.  Thank you and many blessings to you all.*

# Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association Reunion
## Celebrating 91 Years of Reunions
## September 12-14, 2025
## Schedule of Events

Our goal is to create a fun, informative and affordable event.
All information and any changes to the schedule will be available on our website at:

## www.AndreasKillian.com
## or
## Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association (AKDHA)

Friday and Saturday During the Reunion: Tables provided encouraging you to bring: AKDHA Table, Killian Books (Things I Remember, Forefathers of Andreas Killian, Family of Andreas Killian by AKDHA, The Andreas Killian Family Cookbook), Tables for photos; crafts; books; genealogy info; AKDHA website, items of interest; DNA info; self-guided tour booklets will be available; other family items to show (sharing books involved people bringing any books they no longer need or want. There would be no rules about exchanges or cost, merely take what you would be interested in reading with no obligation to return it/them.)

**Locations**:
- Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Family Life Center, 4420 County Home Road, Conover NC 28613

**At all events**:
- Reunion Schedules and maps available
- **Purchase your AKDHA Reunion Cookbooks, Killian Historical books, cookbooks etc.**
- Place your orders for Killian T-Shirts from last .

**Friday, September 12, 2025**

**6:30 pm**: Social Gathering at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Family Life Center

**7:00 pm**: Potluck Dinner with delicious home cooked recipes prepared by local Killian cousins.  Local descendants, it is suggested you bring enough food to feed your family and two guests.

**8:30 pm**: Wrap up evening with a group photo before concert by Workers in the Harvest.

**Saturday, September 13, 2025**

**10:00 am**: Request tour of Killian points of interest, cemeteries (self-guided tour booklets), etc.

**10:30 am**: Genealogy 101+ Questions and Answers by Eddie Killian

**11:30 am**: Festival of Activities: hamburger & hot dogs fresh from the grill by B.S.A troop, booths/tables (take home items, genealogy research, website, historical items, books for sale, etc.), corn-hole games, horseshoes, card games, chess, checkers, dominos, music, children's games, door prizes throughout the day

**12:30 pm**: Killian DNA Program by James Walker Green, III

**1:30 pm**: AKDHA Annual Business Meeting: Election & appointment of association officers, Prizes for youngest, oldest, and farthest traveled, etc., AKDHA Scholarship Award presentation (descendant of Samuel C. Killian):     Riley "Aiden" Killian, Conover NC.

**3:00 pm**: Racing Killian's by Eddie Killian, possibly local Elmer and/or Glenn descendants and/or visit to museums with cars, litterateur, possibly comments from descendants

**4:00 pm**: Group photo; then go to Hickory Motor Speedway to experience a race like when the Killian's raced in the 1960's. Buy your supper at the speedway and we will eat together. The race will be too loud for us to talk, so we will plan to return to the Best Western lobby to talk, research, DNA and mingleSunday,

## Sunday, September 14, 2025 (On your own)

**10:00 am**: Service and Homecoming at Old St. Paul's Church or

**10:30 am**: Service at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

## Reminders:

• Plan to come to upcoming Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association Reunion, September 12-14, 2025
• Invite family and relatives to upcoming reunion
• Send your family history information, pictures, articles, etc. for the AKDHA newsletter or AKDHA website

(Eddie Killian: fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net and Kim Sipe: kimbosipe@charter.net)

• Visit your/our AKDHA website: www.andreaskillian.com
• Join/Sign-up for AKDHA Email list at AKDHA website
• Still looking for a person(s) to do the newsletter and or assist in getting the newsletter together and published

Killian Reunion (Hotel Gathering Place for One-on-One Learning Sessions)(Submitted by James Walker Green, III)   (Submitted by James Walker Green, III)

Best Western, Hickory I-40 Exit 125 1520 13th Ave Dr. SE, Hickory, NC 28602-5183 (828) 323-1150
BestWesternHickory@Yahoo.com
Includes: Weight Room; Pool; (open until end of Oct. from ~8 AM to 9, 10 PM or whenever last person leaves, no Lifeguard);

►From WEST on I-40 take exit #125 to Hickory. Turn right at Lenoir Rhyne Blvd. Turn quick left at 13th Ave. Dr. SE/NC-2267

►From EAST on I-40 take exit #125 to Hickory. Turn left at Lenoir Rhyne Blvd. Turn left at 13th Ave. Dr. SE/NC-2267

**Cross Country Campground of Denver** (800-852-4840) is available for those who wish to camp. The rate for full hookup is $45 per night. Let us know ASAP that you intend to camp and we can contact the campground with a total site count for the group rate of $40 per night. Call Eric Killian (828) 217-4488 or email at blademannc@yahoo.com.

## For Meals on Your Own

The Best Western offers continental breakfast and you will have many choices near the hotel, including the Cracker Barrel, Golden Corral, Outback Steakhouse, Panera Bread, Applebee's, Valley

Hills Mall Food Court, Longhorn Steak House, Texas Roadhouse, etc.

**Cookbooks**:  Andreas Killian Cookbook (for sale, raise funds for Scholarship and the Association).



## Street Address and Phone Numbers

**Best Western**   (828) 323-1150
1520 13th Ave. Dr. SE
Hickory, NC 28602

**Old St. Paul's Church**
(Saturday evening/ Church Service Sunday)
1714 St. Paul's Church Rd.
Newton, NC 28658

**Killian's Hardware Museum**
(Closes Saturdays at 12 noon) (828) 256-2147
3790 Springs Rd., NE
Hickory, NC 28601

**St. Stephens Lutheran Church ELCA**
(Saturday Evening at 5pm, Sundays 2 services)
2259 12th Ave. NE
Hickory, NC 28601

**Catawba County Museum of History**
30 N. College Ave.
Newton, NC 28658
(828) 465-0383

**Hart Square Village**   (828) 320-9461
5029 Hope Road
Vale NC  28168

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**  (828-256-2970)
6175 St. Peters Church Road
Conover NC  28613

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  (828-464-4071)
2126 St. Johns Church Road
Conover NC   28613

**Billy Graham Library**  (704) 401-3200
4330 Westmont Drive
Charlotte NC  28217

**Boxcar Grille**     (828) 459-9287
(Friday night dinner and speaker)
3140 N. Oxford St.
Claremont. NC 28610

**Mt. Zion Lutheran Church**
(Church Service Sunday)  (828) 256-2123
4420 County Home Rd.
Conover, NC 28613

**Andy Killian's Auto Sports**
(Saturday a.m.)    (828) 256-2155
2570 Springs Rd., N.E.
Hickory, NC 28601

**Murray's Mill**  (828) 241-4299
1489 Murrays Mill Rd.,
Catawba, NC 28609

**Bunker Hill Covered Bridge**
Off US Hwy 70
Claremont NC  28610
(14 miles east of Claremont NC)

**Kings Mountain Historical Museum**
100 E Mountain St.          (704-739-1019)
 Kings Mountain NC  28086

**Castanea Community Church**
14815 Lucia Riverbend Hwy
Stanley NC  28164
(704) 827-3551

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# Where the Reunions Began…

## Salem Lutheran Church
## 3410 Startown Rd, Lincolnton NC 28092

Salem Church was founded by Joseph Killian, Anthony Hallman, Henry Cressamore, Jonas Rudisill, Henry Gross, Jonas Hedrick, John Cline-(Lutheran) and John Ramseur, Henry Ramseur, and Daniel Carpenter-(Reformed). Dr. L.L. Lohr states that "an organization was effected in 1796." Records indicate that the original organization took place in a log structure, but an exact date as to when the structure was built has not been found. The building was a community "Meeting Place" which was common among the German pioneers in their early settlements. The original structure could have been built around 1750.

The original log structure was situated on a tract of land owned by Jacob Killian. On July 19, 1815, Mr. Killian deeded the tract to the Commissioners "for the purpose of encouraging schools and a place for public worship." In 1835, an addition was built "to accommodate the people of color on days of public worship." In 1848, the decision was made to erect a new brick building on the Salem site. Although the Reformed had no organized congregation at the time and would not have for another 25 years, some Reformed families had buried their dead in the existing Salem cemetery. This prompted the Lutheran church leaders to make an unusual and compassionate decision to continue Salem as a union church. The new church building, completed in 1849, was dedicated in 1850 "to the use of the Lutheran and German Reformed Churches. The Lutheran congregation assumed 3/4th of the cost and the Reformed congregation 1/4th. Note—this proportionate basis of sharing expenses for the union church arrangement has essentially continued to the present. A well was dug in 1928 to provide Salem Church with a good supply of water. Improvements were made over the years with due respect for preserving the "Country Church" atmosphere. Salem Lutheran Church was affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Tennessee Synod at the time of its original organization in 1796. This affiliation continued until May 2, 1921 when the Tennessee Synod was merged into the United Evangelical Lutheran Synod of North Carolina. At that time, Salem Lutheran Church became a part of the North Carolina Synod. With due consideration and respect for the important work of pastors known and unknown at Salem Lutheran Church prior to 1855 and after 1884, a giant step forward for the spread of Lutheranism in western North Carolina took place under the able and devoted efforts of the Rev. Alfred J. Fox, M.D. The Rev. A. J. Fox was ordained into the Lutheran ministry at a session of the Tennessee Synod at Salem Lutheran Church on September 13, 1838. He undoubtedly preached at Salem on many occasions prior to his call to Grace Lutheran Church (Lincoln County) and Salem Lutheran in 1855. It was typical at the time for many Lutheran congregations to hold worship services once a month. Congregations were so small that no single church could provide a living wage for a full-time pastor. At one time, Rev. Fox had responsibility for ministering to as many as eleven congregations. On top of his medical practice, this seemingly impossible task required him to cover the areas of Lincolnton, Newton, Hickory, Gastonia, Kings Mountain, and surrounding areas along with excursions into Tennessee on synod

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business. His travel was made on horseback – never being late for appointments regardless of the weather for twenty-eight years. Rev. Fox was elected president of the Tennessee Synod on five occasions. He was one of the first to open Sunday Schools in the Lutheran Church. He died quietly on June 10, 1884 with the words "I know that my Redeemer liveth" on his lips Rev. Fox was buried in the Salem Lutheran Cemetery – beside the Church he loved and where he had been pastor without interval with Salem Lutheran for twenty-eight years of service to the church.

## Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
## Sharing Christ for 250 Years

### 1757 – Present

The history of Old St. Paul's congregation must be told by a piecing together of details from meager sources of information. It is about pioneer Pennsylvania German (Deustch) people who came down through the Shenandoah Valley to the wilderness of the Carolina colony in the 1740's and 1750's.



These farmer folks, seeking fertile land to support themselves and their families in the New World, discovered that the best land in eastern Pennsylvania was already bought. As they married and left the family farmstead they migrated south.

Encouraged by the enthusiasm of trapper/explorer Heinrich Weidner, they purchased land in this region from the agents of Lord Proprietors in England. This heavily wooded land in the Catawba Valley was obtainable for as little as fifty cents an acre!

Weidner was born a Prince in Germany but as a second son would never have ruled that principality unless his older brother had died young. He decided to face the pioneer challenges and sail for America. Having the strength of a Christian faith he was able to meet those challenges. Also since his family was wealthy he bought over 10,000 acres of land in this area. Two rivers flowed through this land; these he named for his sons, the Henry and the Jacob's Fork!

In this migration of Germans there were two significant factors different from most other settlements in America. First, they came here without a spiritual leader. The pastors in Pennsylvania had enough work just gathering the new European immigrants into congregations. Secondly, no additional Germans came from either the old country or from their first settlements in the New World.

Probably Andreas Killian was typical of those first settlers west of the Catawba River. He sailed into the port of Philadelphia in 1732 and fifteen years thereafter brought his family to a homestead on Clark's Creek.

Between Adam Sherrill's ford at the Catawba River and Weidner's place on the South Fork, the soon-after-constructed Deustch Meeting House was the center of the German settlement. This meeting house was built to serve two groups of believers, the Lutheran and the Reformed. Without a pastor, these families assembled to worship, sing, pray, and listen to a

sermon read from a book. Their first log structure was erected close to the old cedar trees in the back of the cemetery. It was very narrow and probably held no more than one hundred people. It is very natural to conclude that together the two congregations did not comprise more than two hundred souls. From this small start have stemmed tens of thousands of Americans who can trace their ancestry back to these God-fearing forebears.

After several years that little log hut was struck by lightning and burned. Then they decided to build a bigger, better structure and put it up on the wagon road. The likely year was 1757, for a reliable report says a Reformed minister named Martin preached to the congregation during his travels in the year 1959.

After already using the land for burials and buildings for a goodly number of years, the church leaders went to the effort of recording the deed to the property in Rowan County in 1771. Paul and Frony Anthony conveyed the land to the Lutheran and Presbyterian Christian Churches for the payment of one-pound sterling from each of the parties. The tract contained ten acres and was laid out most easily as an east-west, north-south, and rectangle straight on the compass points.

John Gottried Arndt traveled west from the Lutheran settlements near Salisbury in August 1776 and gave first communions. It would not be until 1785 that he was made missionary full-time to the region west of the Catawba River. Not until Arndt arrived here did people get rid of a sad superstition of never marking gravestones with their names. For these pioneers wrongly held that the devil would harass them until Resurrection Day if he could identify their location. Immediately after Arndt's pastorate began all graves were inscribed in German with names and personal data. Native German Arndt preached in that language and common speech among these folks remained that way until Arndt grew old and virtually blind. The assistant pastor called to accompany Arndt on his rounds of serving the eight to ten scattered flocks was young Phillip Henkel. He was born in New Market, Virginia where he grew up speaking English. The veteran circuit rider Arndt died in 1807. The immediate influence of Henkel is evidenced by the usage of the English language on the tombstones in 1808.

Many family names had been altered by British record keepers aboard ships that brought our forefathers to America. Hence when they were administered the oath of allegiance to the British crown they came out with Anglicized or even translated surnames. Those that did not get changed then did so on property deeds or marriage bonds. Hardly any Carolina Germans escaped with the original spelling of their names. Even Weidner and Wolfgang became Whitener and Wilfong.



Under the Lord's blessing these families multiplied and occupied more land. They grew numerous enough by the 1790's to mother some new congregations in the area such as Grace, Zion, and St. John's Lutheran. After the turn of the nineteenth century the Deustch Meeting House became known as "South Fork Church."

Additionally, as individuals they acquired more acreage and therefore began buying slaves to share in the booming cotton economy. So, these people decided to tear down the one-story

church and build a two-story church having a slave gallery on the second floor. The usable logs were retained from the one-story church and used in the two-story building.

Probably in 1818 Henry Cline was given the job of constructing a very plain but practical log church. This building, sealed by boards, is still standing solidly against the sky in our midst. As a carpenter, Cline was a genius, realizing a seating capacity in the small structure of 250 people. He used steep narrow stairwells and high steps to the tiers of the balcony achieving a space-saving specialty.

For a reminder of the old country a canopy, or sounding board, was placed over the head of the preacher in the pulpit. The seats downstairs were designed to have an opening for the hoop skirts or bustles which were the lady's fashion at that time. Only the pews in the center had solid backs to seat the church board.

Cline was sure that there could never be a woman on the church council, but that day has come to Old St. Paul's congregation. Thankfully we can now rejoice that the talents of all God's people can be recognized and utilized.

For some unexplained reason a second deed was drawn for the historic church in 1818 as the third edifice was constructed. It is signed by John Smyre and made out to trustees John Propst and John Wilfong for the two congregations.

After the civil war slaves no longer occupied the balcony so the young men and boys were shifted to that section. They were as bad to carve names in school desks and church pews as youngsters today. In the soft wood of the upstairs seating, initials and even a few names abound!

Pastor Arndt and his congregations helped form the North Carolina Synod in 1803. In 1820 the influence of the Henkel's for confessional Lutheranism caused most of the western North Carolina flocks to shift to the Tennessee Synod. But in 1846 Adam Miller Jr., an
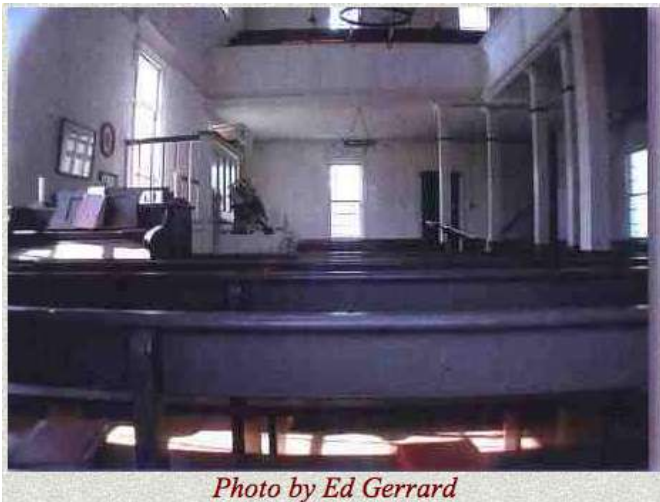

Photo by Ed Gerrard

uncompromising opponent of innovation in doctrine or discipline, was convinced that the Tennessee Synod had also become too liberal and formed the Tennessee Synod (Reorganized). The new grouping of Lutherans applied after the Civil War for admission into the Joint Synod of Ohio. In 1884 they were received into that church body with Ohio headquarters and in the 90's convinced said assemblage to start a seminary in Hickory. This school, known as St. Paul Practical Seminary, served as ministerial training base for Carolina pastors until it closed in 1910.

The church building was shared by the two Lutheran and Reformed denominations until 1901 when the Reformed congregation built their own house of worship three miles south at Startown. A few years later in 1905 the Lutheran congregation split over synodical affiliation differences and one group moved several miles south and became known as St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Startown in the Tennessee Synod. Since both St. Paul's were on the same mailing route ours came to be distinguished as Old St. Paul's congregation.

Perhaps the most prominent pastor in service of Old St. Paul people was George Luther Hunt. Tutored by Adam Miller Jr., he arrived here after the War Between the States. He bought a sizeable portion of land and remained for the rest of his lifetime. He stemmed from eastern Tennessee stock and often rode his little black mule, "Coaly", that far in his circuit riding ministry.

A church history book in German form 1901 says St. Paul's Church near Newton had 100 communing members. That must have dropped substantially in 1905 when St. Paul's at Startown was formed. Membership in 1952, when the present brick building was built across the road, was about 150 communicants.

A significant step was taken in 1956 when after a dozen years of sharing Pastor Schillinger with St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hickory, a parsonage was built and Calvert Love was called to become our first full-time pastor.

The years have taken their toll on our old church building and in 1994 a "Friends of Old St. Paul's" committee was formed to completely restore the structure.

Research by Rev. Luther Knuaff.

*~~The historic building is open to the public for Sunday afternoon tours during the months of April through October.*

**Tax-deductible contributions for restoration and upkeep of this structure may be sent to:**

<div align="center">

**Friends of Old St. Paul's Church**

**2035 Old Conover-Startown Road, Newton, NC  28658**

**Mt. Zion Lutheran Church**
**4420 County Home Road, Conover, NC  28613**
**(828) 256-2123**

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In 1892, area families who had moved to North Carolina voiced a desire to have a church of their own. They had been traveling eight to ten miles on horseback, on foot, by buggy or wagon, to worship at other Lutheran churches.

Out of pastoral concern for these families, the Reverend J.H. Rexrode, who was serving St. Stephens and other neighboring congregations, started holding services in the fall of 1892. The first services were held in the old Charity School House on the County Home Road. The school house was located in the northwest corner of the plot of land on which Ned Sipe's home is





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presently located.

In August, 1893 the cornerstone for the first church building was laid. The church was erected on a half-acre parcel of land given by H. Adolphus Herman, located where the present-day Mt Zion bus garage stands today. The wood frame building was a mere 30 by 50 feet, and much of the labor and materials were donated by the members. Ten months later, on June 3, 1894, the small congregation dedicated the first sanctuary. A month later, on July 1st, the congregation of Mt Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church was formally organized with thirteen families that made up the charter membership of the church.

There was no organ or piano available to start with- hymns were started with a pitch pipe. The men sat on the right side of the church and the women and children were placed on the left.

With the congregation now settled in the new church building, new souls were continuously added to the roster, and finally, the group issued its first call for a permanent pastor.

The Reverend Lawrence Propst answered this first call in 1895, serving his term for thirteen years. During his founding tenure, the congregation continued to grow and a parsonage was built.



Humble beginnings for the church, as seen in this 1893 photograph. Courtesy of James Yount.

Since these initial days, the congregation of Mount Zion Lutheran has continued to be truly blessed. Over the course of more than a century, we have stayed the course of God's word even while continuously building, razing, rebuilding, remodeling, and altering the facilities as required by the times and people. As a June 23, 1894 article from The Lutheran Standard reported, " … a Mt. Zion for themselves and their children and all true believers."

## Killian's Hardware

### 3790 Springs Rd. NE, Hickory NC 28601



Since 1953, the third generation of Kilian's proudly operates the business in the spirit of

grandfather Emory, founder-father Elmer, and children Sharon and Susan. Kilian's is always changing with the times and is at least a step or two ahead! Customers come to shop. Customers come to visit and enjoy old-fashioned popcorn. In addition, on a few very special days of the year, tour our collection of antique cars, area history, and memorabilia from eras past.



**Andy Killian's AutoSport Car Collection**
**2570 Springs Rd. NE Hickory NC 28601**





Our legacy began with our Father, Bob Killian, and a 1940 Ford Deluxe Coupe, one of his favorite cars of all time. After 40 years of buying, selling, and trading, the Killian family has accumulated a very nice collection of classic automobiles. Our specialty has always been buying and selling Mustangs although we have owned many other makes and models. We have bought and sold over 5000 cars, classic and late model, with over 600 being Mustangs. We were lucky enough to have kept a few along the way. We take pride in preserving the authenticity of original, low mileage automobiles when possible. If beyond preservation, we have the knowledge and capability to restore vehicles back to factory specifications with show winning results.

# The Catawba County Museum of History

The Catawba County Museum of History offers testimony to the hardy settlers of the Catawba River Valley and their resourceful descendants who carved a world-renowned furniture and textile empire out of the backwoods.

It is the story of the American Dream as perceived by the self-sufficient Scotch-Irish, German, English, and African peoples who followed the Native American trails along the Catawba River in search of a place to call home. The story is artfully displayed in the unique setting of the former Catawba County Courthouse, an imposing National Register Renaissance Revival structure built in 1924, on the square in downtown Newton.

The collections include agricultural tools and implements forged from hand-dug iron ore, and handcrafted household cupboards, wagon benches, beds, tables, chests, cradles, plantation desks, a firkin, and miniature furniture samples shown by "drummers" or early salesmen.

There are treasured military uniforms, including a British Red Coat from the Revolutionary War era (one of the few such coats in existence). A major repository of Civil War objects, the museum displays the Clinton A. Cilley Collection, including this distinguished colonel's field desk; firearms, notably a Colt 45 swiped from Stoneman's Raiders by a Newton boy and handed down through his family; and an 1861 locally hand-made and hand-dyed First National Flag of the Confederacy, the "Stars and Bars."

Two full-scale, original antebellum parlors have been reconstructed and preserved in the museum, the Shuford-Jarett from 1830, featuring deft molding-plane embellishments—in the time before power tools—and pegged muntins, and the Munday Parlor from 1840, with trompe l'oeil dentils, marbleized wooden baseboards, and a hand-painted dazzling central medallion. Visitors can also walk through Dr. Hambrick's 1920s medical office, containing his ice-cold stainless-steel examination table and an extensive variety of instruments from the period.

Illustrative of the Catawba Valley's long tradition of alkaline glazed stoneware, the pottery exhibit includes a ten-gallon Daniel Seagle and other late nineteenth century pieces by Thomas Ritchie and Sylvanus Hartsoe. Also, on display is a piece by Craig, who presides over the exhibit in a 1997 panoramic photograph by Benjamin Porter. Part of "Panoramic Catawba," the CCHA's on-going photographic documentary project, the late Burlon Craig is pictured outside his pottery shed, at home in Vale.

Textiles include hand-stitched quilts, pioneer's homespun, the jeweled frocks and hats of Twenties' flappers, and, made by local women, a detailed and colorful tapestry depicting the county's history in celebration of North Carolina's 400th anniversary. Visitors will also find a gallery of looms and spinning wheels devoted to early weaving techniques and one with a number of industrial machines used to make socks in a local knitting mill.

A 1930's racecar, which roared around the county fairgrounds, is complemented with a photograph gallery of the first race at the Hickory Motor Speedway, in 1951, rich bootleggers (the rumors are true) having funded its construction.

Perfect for learners of all ages—or for those seeking entertaining educational gifts—the Museum Bookstore offers the CCHA's extensive selection of publications, as well as prints, cards, videos, the 1886 Yoder Map, and other items pertaining to county history.

Researchers and family historians will enjoy the museum's Library & Archives.

# Murray's Mill



A ten-minute hop, skip, and a jump from I-40, the Murray's Mill Historic District, in the rolling countryside of eastern Catawba County, nestles just as it was a century ago along the banks of Balls Creek. It's perfect for an afternoon picnic or a quick leg-stretcher. A placid pond slips over a mill dam, and the 28' waterwheel of this National Register Historic Site makes its slow way around. Nailed to a door-frame in the general store, an old coffee can catches bottle-caps, and a porch swing awaits you out front, as does a chat with a friendly guide before beginning your tour.

Preserved intact are the 1913 mill itself, the 1890s Murray & Minges General Store, the 1880s Wheathouse, used as an exhibit gallery, the 1913 John Murray House, furnished to the period, and numerous outbuildings. Run by three generations of the Murray Family, who abandoned operations in 1967, the picturesque structures and surrounding land form the last milling complex in the county, meticulously preserved and interpreted by the Catawba County Historical Association since 1980 when restorations began, Governor James G. Martin attending the opening ceremony in 1986.

The centerpiece of the historic district is Murray's Mill, built by John Murray, whose father, William, had operated a mill on the site since 1883. In 1906, William deeded the property to his sons, John and Ollie. In 1907, John Murray acquired a 5/6 interest from his brother Ollie, who would take over operation of the general store. In 1913, John replaced his father's mill with the current two-story structure, adding a 22' overshot waterwheel, in lieu of the former turbine. Making room for the mill's expansion, the Murrays moved the general store at that time to its present location. In 1938, John's son, Lloyd, raised the dam six feet and installed the 28' waterwheel (it's said that William's original wooden dam stands beneath the surface of the present pond).

Inside Murray's Mill, visitors will find William's original, one-ton French buhr millstones, for grinding corn, as well as a Eureka roller mill that John installed for grinding wheat into flour. All of the mill's storage bins, each partitioned by tongue and groove sheathing, have been preserved, too. When the CCHA overtook the mill's restoration in 1980 the bins still held

flour from the day Lloyd Murray, John's son, shut the doors due to bureaucratic red tape and increasing taxes.

## The Murray & Minges General Store



Inside "the mercantile department of O. D. Murray and Company," the two-story, gable-front general store (later assuming an additional name, Minges, through a marriage), and visitors can crack the lid of an antique Coca-Cola refrigerator and grab a drink in the bottle. The store is also stocked with old-fashioned wooden toys, such as yo-yo's and finger tops, as well as pioneer folk toys. Sweet tooth will find B ·B ·Bats, Cow Tails, Striped Pure Coconut, Candy Buttons, Root Beer Balls, and rock candy in assorted flavors. Old-fashioned soaps and salves and Happy Home Flavorings (some popular with fish, according to the fisherman who stop in), are joined by Pointer brand overalls, aprons, and hats, and Murray's Mill tee-shirts, hats, and mugs. The store is also a convenient way to pick up one of the CCHA's many historical publications. Bead-board ceilings and walls are notable architectural elements, as is the ceiling's octagonal opening, used by Murray to keep an eye on the register while re-stocking the upstairs Murray and Minges General Store.

# Bunker Hill Covered Bridge



Designated as a National Civil Engineering Landmark in 2001, the Bunker Hill Covered Bridge is the only remaining example in wood of the Improved Lattice Truss patented by General Herman Haupt. One of only two original remaining covered bridges in North Carolina, the other being Mt. Pisgah in Randolph County, the Bunker Hill Covered Bridge was built in 1895 by Andy L. Ramsour. Catawba County Commissioners in 1894 had called on nearby owners of Bunker Hill Farm to build and maintain a bridge that would cross Lyle's Creek on the old Island Ford Road, a former Native American trail. The landowners hired Ramsour, keeper of the Horseford covered bridge that spanned the Catawba River north of Hickory. He likely found Haupt's design in a popular book on bridge building.



Originally constructed as an open span, the Bunker Hill Covered Bridge, whose roof is ninety-one feet long, was covered in 1900. In 1921 its wooden shingles were replaced with a tin roof. (Bridges were covered to protect their timbers from the elements; travelers enjoyed a reprieve from rain and snow only as a consequence.) Bolick Family members donated the bridge in 1985 to the Catawba County Historical Association, which restored it in 1994 with the expertise of Arnold M. Graton, a master bridge wright

from Ashland, New Hampshire.

The Bunker Hill Covered Bridge has significant associations with the American Revolution. Of the Island Ford Road, on which the bridge rests, Dr. J. E. Hodges, President of the Catawba County Historical Association in the 1950s, writes in 1959 that following the Battle of Cowpens in 1781, General Morgan detached 531 British prisoners under guard of Colonel William Washington's dragoons and Colonel Charles McDowell over the Island Ford Road. The men crossed Lyle's Creek at the Bunker Hill Ford on their way to the Island Ford of the Catawba River, where they were received by the Commissary of Prisoners and conveyed to the interior of Virginia.

# Back to Andreas Killian 1702 - 1788

Our pioneer ancestor came from Germany on the ship Adventure. Landing at Philadelphia where he took the oath of allegiance September 12, 1732. He came to North Carolina about 1747 and later established a home about two miles northwest of here (Old St Paul's Church).

The following is a suggested format to take you from Andreas to yourself.

## My family line to Andreas Killian……

1. **Andreas Killian**   B: 1702 Germany   D: 1788 North Carolina

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

**Please add any information you are willing to share with your Killian Cousins**:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Your Name and Address:

_____

_____

_____

_____

*Leave Information with Kim Sipe, Historian or President Eddie Killian, or Eric Killian, Doris Pope.*

# How Are We Related?

1. **First person**: Go to the top ROW and find the Column heading that defines your relationship to Andreas Killian.
2. **Second person**: Go to the first COLUMN and find the Row title that defines your relationship to Andreas Killian.
3. **Find the cell** where the column and row intersect. This is your relationship.

| 1. Andreas Killian (Common Ancestor) | 2.Child | 3.Grandchild | 4.Great Grandchild | 5.Great Great Grandchild | 6.Great Great Great Grandchild | 7.Great Great Great Great Grandchild | 8.Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild | 9.Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.Child | Sibling | Niece or Nephew | Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew |
| 3.Grandchild | Niece or Nephew | First Cousin | First Cousin Once Removed | First Cousin Twice Removed | First Cousin Three Times Removed | First Cousin Four Times Removed | First Cousin Five Times Removed | First Cousin Six Times Removed |
| 4.Great Grandchild | Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Once Removed | Second Cousin | Second Cousin Once Removed | Second Cousin Twice Removed | Second Cousin Three Times Removed | Second Cousin Four Times Removed | Second Cousin Five Times Removed |
| 5.Great Great Grandchild | Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Twice Removed | Second Cousin Once Removed | Third Cousin | Third Cousin Once Removed | Third Cousin Twice Removed | Third Cousin Three Times Removed | Third Cousin Four Times Removed |
| 6.Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Three Times Removed | Second Cousin Twice Removed | Third Cousin Once Removed | Fourth Cousin | Fourth Cousin Once Removed | Fourth Cousin Twice Removed | Fourth Cousin Three Times Removed |
| 7.Great Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Four Times Removed | Second Cousin Three Times Removed | Third Cousin Twice Removed | Fourth Cousin Once Removed | Fifth Cousin | Fifth Cousin Once Removed | Fifth Cousin Twice Removed |
| 8.Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Five Times Removed | Second Cousin Four Times Removed | Third Cousin Three Times Removed | Fourth Cousin Twice Removed | Fifth Cousin Once Removed | Sixth Cousin | Sixth Cousin Once Removed |
| 9.Great Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild | **Great Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew** | First Cousin Six Times Removed | Second Cousin Five Times Removed | Third Cousin Four Times Removed | Fourth Cousin Three Times Removed | Fifth Cousin Twice Removed | Sixth Cousin Once Removed | Seventh Cousin |

# Who Did You Meet at the Reunion?

Put an (X) in the corresponding box of the cousins you met today!

| 1. Andreas Killian (Common Ancestor) | 2.Child | 3.Grandchild | 4.Great Grandchild | 5.Great Great Grandchild | 6.Great Great Great Grandchild | 7.Great Great Great Great Grandchild | 8.Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild | 9.Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.Child | Sibling | Niece or Nephew | Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | Great Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew |
| 3.Grandchild | Niece or Nephew | First Cousin | First Cousin Once Removed | First Cousin Twice Removed | First Cousin Three Times Removed | First Cousin Four Times Removed | First Cousin Five Times Removed | First Cousin Six Times Removed |
| 4.Great Grandchild | Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Once Removed | Second Cousin | Second Cousin Once Removed | Second Cousin Twice Removed | Second Cousin Three Times Removed | Second Cousin Four Times Removed | Second Cousin Five Times Removed |
| 5.Great Great Grandchild | Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Twice Removed | Second Cousin Once Removed | Third Cousin | Third Cousin Once Removed | Third Cousin Twice Removed | Third Cousin Three Times Removed | Third Cousin Four Times Removed |
| 6.Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Three Times Removed | Second Cousin Twice Removed | Third Cousin Once Removed | Fourth Cousin | Fourth Cousin Once Removed | Fourth Cousin Twice Removed | Fourth Cousin Three Times Removed |
| 7.Great Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Four Times Removed | Second Cousin Three Times Removed | Third Cousin Twice Removed | Fourth Cousin Once Removed | Fifth Cousin | Fifth Cousin Once Removed | Fifth Cousin Twice Removed |
| 8.Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Five Times Removed | Second Cousin Four Times Removed | Third Cousin Three Times Removed | Fourth Cousin Twice Removed | Fifth Cousin Once Removed | Sixth Cousin | Sixth Cousin Once Removed |
| 9.Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandchild | Great Great Great Great Great Grand Niece or Nephew | First Cousin Six Times Removed | Second Cousin Five Times Removed | Third Cousin Four Times Removed | Fourth Cousin Three Times Removed | Fifth Cousin Twice Removed | Sixth Cousin Once Removed | Seventh Cousin |

# Flags or Flowers

Each year our Vice-President would do the honorable task of placing a single flag on Killian graves among several local area churches.  For the 87th Reunion, with some help, Eric hopes to place over 100 flags on Killian graves in the following Church Cemeteries.  If you would like to restart this again, please let the Killian Reunion Association know and if you could help that would be great.  If you have a connection in the plastic floral arrangements, let us know.   Thank you.

## Mays Chapel Methodist
1707 Mays Chapel Church Rd. Maiden, NC 28650

## Millers Lutheran
2280 12th Ave. NE, Hickory, NC 28601

## Mountain View Mennonite
5252 Hwy 10 W, Hickory, NC 28602

## Mt. Zion Lutheran
4420 County Home Rd., Conover, NC 28613

## Old St. Pauls Lutheran
1714 St. Paul's Church Rd., Newton, NC 28658

## Salem Lutheran & Reformed
3410 Startown Rd., Lincolnton, NC 28092

## St. John's Lutheran
2126 Saint John's Church Rd., Conover, NC 28613

## St. Peters Lutheran
6175 St. Peters Church Rd., Conover, NC 28613

## St. Stephens Lutheran Missouri Synod
2304 Springs Rd., NE, Hickory, NC 28601

## St. Stephens Lutheran ELCA
2259 12th Ave., NE, Hickory, NC 28601

## Wesley's Chapel UMC
2613 Wesley Chapel Rd., Newton, NC 28658

## Zion Lutheran
1911 Zion Church Rd., Hickory, NC 28602

# Down to Business!

## Andreas Killian 90th Reunion - Business Meeting Agenda
## Saturday, September 10, 2024, Mt. Zion Church

**Invocation:**

Call to Order:   President or President Elect- Bill Killian, Eddie Killian
Prayer:  Jimmy Price

**Recognition:**

- Thanks to those involved in planning and execution of this year's reunion
- Remembrances of those who passed since last reunion (see if someone wishes to offer a remembrance not otherwise listed in the newsletter)
- Additions/Births to the Killian Family since last reunion (see if someone had a child or got married)
- Who Traveled the Greatest Distance for the Reunion (__**Jenny Monhundro**__)
- Oldest  Attendee (__**Jenny Monhundro / 84yrs; Jimmie Price / 84yrs**__)
- Youngest Attendee (__**Silas Avery Todd--13 mos.**__) Great-Grandchild/Doris Killian Pope
- Family Represented (in parentheses is last year's count)

    Leonard_____(_____)    Samuel C._____(_**7**_)    Jean_____(_____)
    Elisabeth_____(_____)    George _____(_____)    John _____(__**4**_)
    Christianna___(_____)    Andrew_____(__**1**__)    Margaret _____ (__**2**__)
    Daniel_____(_____)    Crate_____(_____)

**Old Business:**
- Approve prior year's Minutes to Business Meeting (Loretta)
- Treasury Report (Eric/Cathy)
- Newsletter Editor's Report (Eddie, Cheryl/Charles)
- Webmaster's Report (Eddie Killian)
- Historian's Report (Kim Sipe, Mentor: Cheryl K)
- DNA Report (James Greene or Cheryl Killian)
- Publications Report (Books, etc.) (Cheryl Killian)
- New Projects Report (Project Director )

# Business Meeting Agenda

**New Business:**

*The Elections will take place next year for <u>President</u>, <u>Vice President</u>, <u>Secretary</u>, <u>Welcome Committee Chair, Treasurer, Newsletter Publisher</u> and any other office being vacated.*

*1. Election of Officers:        Current (years served)          Nominees          Elected*

President:      _____

Vice President:      _____

Secretary/CoSecretary:    _Loretta Killian, Co/Kim Sipe__ (Serve 2 years)

Treasurer:  ___Eric Killian/Cathy Killian_____ (Serve 2 years)

Historian:  _____Kim Sipe_____ *

Webmaster:  _____Robert 'Eddie' Killian Jr._____

Welcome Committee Chair:  ____Lee_Killian_____

**Any New At Large Members?**

             _____

             _____

             _____

             _____

             _____

**Any new 501(c)(3) Board?**

             _____

             _____

             _____

<mark>**Newsletter Publisher**</mark>: _____
       **\*Please Volunteer to do the newsletter. We need your assistance and help.**

2*. Next Year's Annual Reunion (91<sup>st</sup> AKDHA)*

 When? Second Sunday in September is: <mark>**Sept.  12-14, 2025**</mark>   Where? <mark>**Mt. Zion Church**</mark>

*Chaplain gave Thanks/Prayer for a successful family gathering and bid everyone a safe and healthy year.*

Meeting adjourned, ***Respectively reported by Secretary <u>Loretta Killian</u>*** (original signed)

**THANK YOU!  Those who Donate & Volunteers your Time and Energy each year to the Killian Reunions, Newsletters and the Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association.   We appreciate all of you and your patronage to the AKDHA.**

Carlton & Ruth Darnell, Albuquerque NM
Duke Energy (Dan Sipe)
Maribeth Zay Fischer, Indianapolis IN
James Green, Winnsboro SC
Bill Hinds, Florida          *in memory*
Ann Jenkins, Lincolnton NC
Suzanne Price Jones, Blacksburg VA
Bryce Killian, Hickory NC
Nancy Kerr, Elizabethtown TN
Bill Killian, Hendersonville NC
Charles & Cheryl Killian, Ellenwood GA
Eddie & Loretta Killian, Gaston SC
Eric & Cathy Killian, Hickory NC
Joe Killian, York SC    *in memory*
Lee & Brenda Killian, Denver NC

Steve & Linda Killian, Conover NC
Steve & Phyllis Killian, Hickory NC
Tim & Sue Killian, Hickory NC
Wayne & Catherine Milam, Southside AL
William & Anjte McCreight, Germany
Sandy Phillips, Cornelius NC
Doris & Ray Pope, Conover NC
Jimmie L Price, Blacksburg VA
Wayne & Ginger Setzer, Charlotte NC
Dan Sipe, York SC
Kimberly Sipe, Conover NC
Brent Stapley, Meza AZ
Kandice Waller, Winston-Salem NC
Pete Whitener, Newton NC   *in memory*
Glen Killian, Alabama
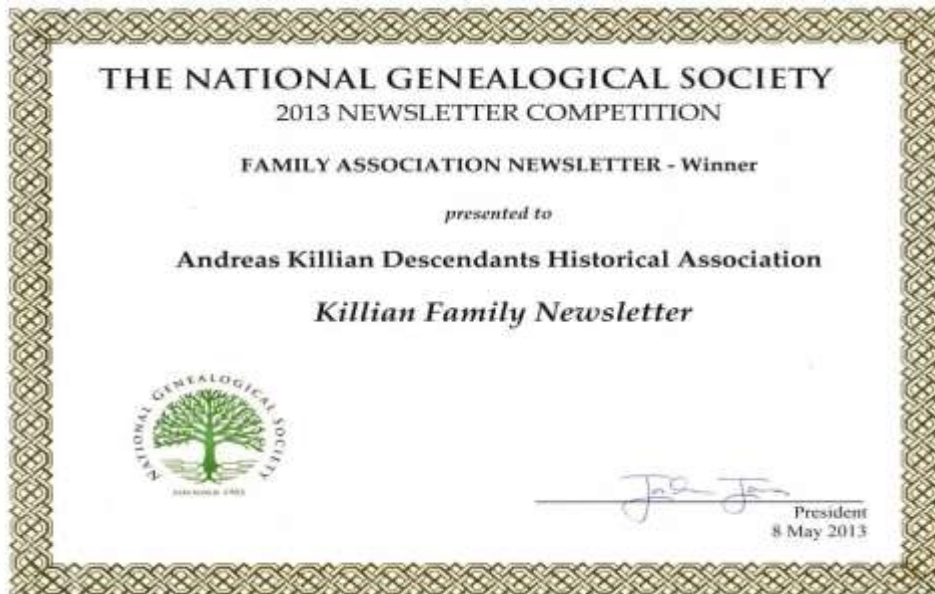


Family Association Newsletter: Winner: **The Andreas Killian Descendants Historical Association Newsletter**, edited by **Charles D. Killian & Cheryl Mann Killian** of Ellenwood, Georgia.

"**We have been blessed to have had ancestors with the foresight and ability to establish The Andreas Killian Association and I believe it is our duty and privilege to carry on out of respect for them and for the benefit of future generations.**"     ~~ *Charles D. Killian*

# New Relatives/Friends:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

# Killian, News/Notes………