

Peter Burgner (1755-1824)  
Lancaster Co. Militia

The name Burgener means literally citizen of Burgen in Germany, so that is their likely origin. Some were Catholic and some turned Protestant during the Reformation. Each has their own distinctive coat of arms. There were several other different formal spellings of the name; Burgner, Borgener, Borgner, and Bergner.

My Burgner/Bergner line came from Grindelwald, Bern, Switzerland and dates from the year 1495 with Richard Burgener. Richard was a Swiss Knight and Calvary man who fought in the battles of Novaro in 1513 and Pavia in 1525. Presumably he was one of the Knights Templar and came from Burgen, Germany. All of the material for seven Swiss generations was provided to me by a distant SAR compatriot cousin in Ohio. I came across only one corroborating item of proof in the IGI, that Andreas Burgener, b. 1550 married 25 Feb 1576 to Barbel Roth, b. 1555.

Seven generations later we find Peter Burgener leaving Switzerland on the brigantine "Mary", John Mason, Master, out of Rotterdam on 24 February 1742 arriving Philadelphia 25 August 1742. He was accompanied by sons, Christian and Peter Burgener, and by daughters, Maria and Fronica who were not listed on the ship's manifest which was a common practice at that time. They are named in the 1768 Lancaster Co. will of the elder Peter Burgener. In Pa. German Pioneers by Strassburger and Hinke on Page 331 is a photocopy of the brig "Mary's" manifest showing signatures of the three men as Burgener, Burckner and Bugner. Peter died in July 1768 in Elizabeth Twp., Lancaster Co, PA.

Peter Burgner, my future patriot, was the son of Christian, and grandson of Peter that arrived on the "Mary", and of Barbara Bauman, his mother. Peter was their fourth child, born in 1755, Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co., Pa. Peter married in 1776, Maria Catharina Daub, the third of eight children born to Johann Daub and Anna Catharina Marmelot. This entire family arrived in Philadelphia aboard the "Richmond" under Captain Charles Young Husband on 5 October 1763 as recorded in The Palantine Immigrant, Vol XV No. 3 Autumn 1990, Page 141 and Pa. German Pioneers, Vol. II, Pages 685 and 775.

Peter Burgner was found serving in the 1st Class of Captain John Stone's 6th Company, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Battalion, Lancaster Co. Militia in 1782 (PA. Archives 5th Series, Vol. xii, Pages 158-179). There were two Burgners named Peter who lived in Lancaster Co, in 1782; the Peter born in 1755 and who married Maria Catharina Daub must be the Revolutionary Patriot that served with Captain Stone as he fell within the age restrictions for service in the Lancaster Militia. This Peter's Uncle Peter, the immigrant who married Salamina Burkhart was born in Grindelwald, Bern, Switzerland 14 August 1719 would have been 63 years old in 1782. The elder Peter apparently passed away just two years later as is evidenced by his Lancaster Co. will dated 1 May 1784.

Peter Burgner appears in the U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 Lebanon Twp., Lebanon Co., Pa. Peter died in 1824 at the home of his son, Jacob Burgner in Lebanon. FYI, this Jacob is also my direct line ancestor.

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