Cemetery Notes



When the trees and brush along the cem-etery fence line were recently cleared away, some previously-obscured grave markers became quite visible. These are:

John W. Cempher (Compher), Site Y1, infant son of Samuel and Hannah Cempher, died 1844. (not pictured)

Adam Coopper (Cooper), Site GG1, two-year old son of Phillip Coopper, died 1804. (above right)

Jacob Schmidt (Smith), Site GG2, 1789-1796 (in German) (above left). Jacob was the first-born son of Lorenzo Frederick Schmidt. Frederick was born near Ansbach, Bavaria, and came to America as a "Hessian" soldier for the British in 1777, in the Ansbach Regiment. His regiment surrendered at Yorktown in 1783, and he was held as a prisoner of war in Winchester until 1783. He stayed in America, married Christina Agatha Sunifrank of The German Settlement (now Lovettsville), and was active in New Jerusalem. Frederick was described in our church records as "Ludimagister" and "Praeceptor," meaning he was probably a teacher in our school. Frederick and Christina had seven more children baptized at New Jerusalem, before moving to Rocking-ham County in 1803. Among their descendants is our former Virginia Delegate Joe May.