

# Ridenour Immigration to the USA

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Reutenauer/Ridenour immigration to the USA

*Added by MSzadkowski on 2 Sep 2009*

Added by kkkrumm on 6 Feb 2009

<http://webpages.charter.net/eeridenour/ridenour.html>

They arrived in the USA on Sep. 11, 1728 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania aboard the ship "Robert and Alice". Hans Balthasar was the first of the sons of Nicolaus "Claus" Reitenauer to leave Alsace for America. His sister, Anna Christina, her husband, Daniel Klingenschmidt, and two nephews, Henrich and Peter, (sons of his brother, Nicholas Reitenauer) made the journey with him. The baptismal certificate for his son, Adam, dated 14 April 1735,, is the last record found in Alsace for Balthasar Reitenauer and his family. He signed his name in German script at the courthouse of Philadelphia upon arrival.

On July 4, 1738 "The Ship, "Robert and Alice" sailed out of Dover, England bound for America. Balthasar, his relatives named above, and, perhaps, other relatives and neighbors were among the passengers on board. It is uncertain when they left Alsace or when they arrived at Rotterdam and then, Dover; but it is known that their voyage across the ocean took about 8 weeks. Captain Walter Goodman, the skipper of the "Robert and Alice", described this voyage in the following letter he wrote back to Germany on the 19 of October, 1738.

"On the 4th of July last I sailed out of Dover in England and arrived here on this river (Delaware River) on the 9th of September with crew and passengers in good health but on the way I had many sick people, yet, since, not more than 18 died, we lost by far the least of all the ships arrived to-date. ..." Captain Goodman also wrote that he had sailed with 4 other ships, who had many more deaths among their passengers."