



DER

RUHRER

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society
Volume VII, No. 3, March 1989

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Time marches on and so does MAGS. It's time again for our biennial election and you'll find a ballot elsewhere in this newsletter. I urge you to send yours in before April 10 so a count can be presented at the April 29 meeting. At that time nominations from the floor will be permitted also, but please remember that such a nominee must have given his or her consent to the nomination. The term of office begins the first of September of odd-numbered years, so that's why the election must take place at the preceding spring meeting.

A word of explanation about the slate. Cathryn Dippo, who has been active on the MAGS Board almost from the beginning and as Recording Secretary has remained familiar with all our activities, has been nominated for President; however, due to commitments in other organizations she will not be able to take office until January 1990. This means that she is being nominated as president-elect and I will serve pro tem through this calendar year. If this meets with your approval, please check both our names on the ballot.

Speaking of the spring meeting, you'll notice that it is planned for Leesburg, Virginia, and that we have three speakers scheduled again this time. The theme is "Germans South of the Potomac," but don't forget that many of those Germans came from Pennsylvania or

Maryland -- or even New York or New Jersey via the Great Wagon Road, so the talks should be interesting to you all. We'll be rotating our meetings for a while until we return to New Windsor in October 1990; tentative plans are to go to Emmitsburg, Maryland, on the Pennsylvania border, next October and to Middletown, Maryland, in the spring of 1990. If you have suggestions as to location or subject matter for future meetings, please don't hesitate to send them to Pete Linder.

CAN YOU HELP ME

My name is Christopher Cobb. I got your name and address from my sister who joined your group. I have a problem; maybe you can help or give me suggestions. Many years ago I found in the street an old photo of a German soldier. I want to return it to him or his kin. The soldier's name is Rettmeyer. He was a corporal -- from Bogenem --1873-76 according to an inscription (translated) on the back of the photo. The photo was produced by Ernst Alpers Mälerly Photograph Hannover Gerogetrasse No. 17 ?Bangelaupe No. 25, Die Plate wird für Nachbestellungen aufbewahrt.

If you can help please contact our Stumped Roots Chairman, George Billingslea, 1229 Wine Spring Road, Ruxton, Maryland 21204.

ZUR INFORMATION

The National Genealogical Society's Sales Department has published a brochure which includes new titles available. For a copy send a SASE to NGS Sales Department, 4527 17th Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

NGS Special Publication #38: *Records of Marriages and Burials in the Monocacy Church in Frederick County Maryland and in the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in the City of Frederick, Maryland 1743-1811* has been reprinted. This book was translated by Frederick S. Weiser, F.N.G.S., is indexed and often gives birthplaces in Europe and birth dates. The earliest concentrated settlement of Germans in western Maryland was in what is now Frederick County.

According to the November-December 1988 issue of the *NGS Newsletter* the U.S. Postal Service has filed a petition against Sharon Taylor and Halbert's, Inc. of Bath, Ohio, alleging breach of a consent agreement entered into in 1985. Halbert's offers for sale books with titles such as *(Surname) Immigrants and Their New World Descendants*, *(Surname) Families Around the World*, and *The New World (Surname) family Album and Complete Registry*.

New hours for the **Maryland Historical Society's Museum and Library** -- Tuesday - Friday 10:00-5:00; Saturday (9:00-5:00; Sunday (museum only) 1:00-5:00. (from *Maryland Genealogical Society's Newsletter*, Vol. 16:4 December 1988).

The Historical Society of Carroll County, Maryland, has published a **library guide** to assist researchers using its library at 210 Main Street, East, Westminster, Maryland 21157. The free guide includes a description of the library's extensive holdings of family

histories, books, periodicals, manuscripts, newspapers and land records. Write the Society at the above address or call (301) 848-6494.

According to the *Immigrant Genealogical Society's Newsletter* (November 1988) the East German government (D.D.R) "maintains a central office for genealogy which they will research for a fee." Write Zentralstelle für Genealogie, Georgi-Dimitroff Platz 1, 7010 Leipzig, D.D.R. (They do not like the designation East Germany; use D.D.R.)

Need a translation? The Immigrant Genealogical Society has a list of persons willing to translate for a fee. This list is available for members, but perhaps if you send a SASE and a small contribution to cover copy costs they would send you a copy.

Free upon request: Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, P.O. Box 253, Laughlintown, Pennsylvania 15655, will send a flyer announcing new books. Let them know the counties you're interested in.

The *North Carolina Genealogical Society's Journal* (August 1987) contains "A List of Children of Settlers of German Descent in Central North Carolina 1783-1792." This is an addition to a list for 1775-1791 published in November of 1982. The source is the Rev. **Johann Gottfried Arends's Register**. The original is in the Archives of the North Carolina Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, Salisbury, NC.

Copies of an article "Finding the Origin of Your German Ancestor Using Passenger Lists," which includes samples of documents, maps, and additional guides to the **German Section of the LDS Library Locality Index**, is available from the author for \$1.00 and SASE. Write L. T. Oswald, c/o Boulder Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 3246, Boulder, CO 80302.

EINE ERFOLGSGESCHICHTE

UNEXPECTED SUCCESS . . .

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MAGS

Ancestral roots? How do you find ancestral roots in Germany when you haven't a clue as to where or when your ancestors lived? We'd searched all the usual U.S. records. The most we could learn was that my great-grandparents came from somewhere in Wurttemberg in the late 1850's. Nothing more. We'd written to genealogists in Germany, but they said they couldn't help unless we knew specific places and dates. Surprisingly, they said that our name, Munch, was common in that area.

Then came the fateful day we learned about MAGS (at the LDS library) and an upcoming talk in April 1987 by Friedrich Wollmershauser on "Finding Your Ancestral Roots in Germany". I was inspired by his day-long lecture, took copious notes, and had my confidence renewed. But after continued correspondence with Wollmershauser in Germany, we still had no luck in locating our ancestors.

After retirement, my wife Eleanor and I embarked, in September 1987, on a three-week trip through southern Germany. We knew our chances of finding anything specific were small. But we had great fun travelling throughout Wurttemberg and taking pictures of where our ancestors might have lived. We followed the beautiful Neckar River from Heidelberg to Neckarsteinach to Stuttgart to Tubingen. Each city was more beautiful than the last. We researched at the libraries in Stuttgart (as Wollmershauser suggested in his talk), searched through 1850 newspapers and records, and had a delightful time. But no luck in finding our roots.

We called Wollmershauser now and then for help (he now lives near Ulm), but he

too could find nothing. We traveled south, past the Danube and along the beautiful Lake Bodensee and stayed at enchanting Meersburg.

After a brief side trip to the Alps, we returned to Ulm and made one last nighttime call to Wollmershauser. To our great joy, he had located our ancestors in Herr Lowen's index from old newspapers. (For those who heard Wollmershauser speak at MAGS, you may recall his description of this index and the language difficulties encountered when obtaining information from it.)

"Where were our ancestors from?" we asked.

"Mockmuhl," he said.

"Where's that?", we asked.

"Oh," he said, "it's a very old, small town a few miles northeast of Heilbronn. It's on the Jagst River near the Neckar. It's like a fairy-tale town, with a wall around it. It even has a castle. Many of the old homes have been restored--perhaps you may even find your ancestor's home there." He then gave us the name of a local genealogist there, Frau Ilse Saur, who could help us.

Early the next morning we were off by train to Mockmuhl where we spent our last three days in Germany. It was indeed like a dream come true. Mockmuhl is over twelve hundred years old and nestled in the valleys of two small rivers surrounded by beautiful rolling hills and fields. The folks there were very hospitable --though few spoke English and we spoke little German. We stayed at the local inn, found seven remaining Munch families (none closely related) and met many wonderful people. We walked through the old streets past four hundred year old half-timbered homes and around the restored walls. We visited the castle of Ritter Goetz von Berlichingen (around 1500 his arm was cut off, so the jewelers made him a new one from iron, and he became known as the "Knight with the Iron Fist") and learned of the legends of Mockmuhl. With Ilse, we dug through mounds of old records (dating back to 1530) and found occurrences of our name back to 1496. We searched in the small town

FAMILY EXCHANGE

Use a 3 x 5 card for each entry. Type or print surname in all capital letters in upper left-hand corner with first and middle names of person under surname. Place information about ancestor (one date, one place) on same line as first name (limited to a total of 40 letters, numbers and spaces.) Place your MAGS membership number in upper right corner of card (see mailing label). Place your name and address on the back of the card. You are limited to 10 names at a time at 25 cents per name or 10 names for two dollars. Make check payable to MAGS and send to Doris Suresch, Family Exchange Service, 317 Johnson Farm Lane, Glen Burnie, MD 21061. If you wish an acknowledgment, include SASE.

MACK
Ebert Settled in Schriesheim, Ger. in 1560

JACKEL
Casper d. 1742, Germantown, PA

NEISZ
Jan d. 1719 Germantown, PA

NICE
Elizabeth 1726-1811 Germantown, PA

REICHERT
John b. c. 1790 Northampton, Co., PA

SNYDER
George b. 1799, Bedford Co., PA

STUBER
Carl (Charles) b. 1830, Lohr Sacona,
Northampton Co., PA

STUVER
Aaron b. 1835, Northampton Co., PA

TEETER
David b. c. 1810 PA

YAEKEL
Susanna 1740-1799 Germantown, PA

KLING
John Valentine d. 1714 Schriesheim, Ger.

Lucille Randolph, P.O. Box 605,
Caldwell, ID 83606

museum and at the church site where our ancestors were married, baptized and worshiped. Ilse made stacks of copies of actual documents about our ancestors and even located the site and an old photograph of the tiny house where they lived.

We became friends with the innkeepers, local officials, and many of the townspeople. We became special friends with the local English teacher, Erich Scheidel, who showed great hospitality and drove us around the nearby countryside to see archaeological digs at old Roman ruins, a monastery, a Jewish cemetery, and other beautiful towns along the Jagst River. It turned out that he had been befriended by Americans when he was a student at University of Michigan in 1972. By coincidence, we also found that he had attended the program, Christmas International House, in which Eleanor and I have been active in Gaithersburg, which provides housing and hospitality for foreign students at Christmas time. Perhaps, Erich will visit us someday.

What a wonderful ending to our vacation. It was with great reluctance that we left Mockmuhl, but we had schedules to keep and a long flight home the next day. As we rode the train down the hills to Frankfurt, we still basked in the warm glow and memories which we will cherish all of our lives.

Leaving Mockmuhl and its fairy-tale beauty, it seemed reminiscent of the Broadway show, *Brigadoon*. Perhaps Mockmuhl would also fade off into the mist for another one hundred years. But of course it was real. And we have a much better understanding of our ancestors and the difficulties (and few joys) of their lives across the centuries, thanks to some help from MAGS when it was most needed.

NOTE: Herr. Wollmershauser's new address is Herrengasse 8-10, 7938 Oberdischingen, W. Germany Telefon 07305-4742 (from USA: 011-49-7305-4742).

Neil Munch
9400 Five Logs Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
301-926-3728

PALATINES: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

by Ernest Thode

Mr. Thode is a genealogist and translator who often leads guided tours to Germany and Switzerland (next one July 4-18, 1989); in addition he has written a number of helpful books including *Address Book for Germanic Genealogy* and *Index to Naturalization Records of Washington County, Ohio*. His address is RR 7 Box 306-CA, Marietta, OH 45750-9437.

Author's Note: This article first appeared in the Genealogy Week section of the weekly publication, *Antique Week*, which each week provides a lead article "Your Ancestors ... and How to Find Them," a question and answer section, a "letters" section, a list of forthcoming genealogical events, a list of upcoming and new books, a column on where to find elusive records, and other articles, as well as genealogy "for sale" and "wanted" ads. This is the most frequently published genealogy publication I know of, although to a casual observer it looks like an antique and collectible weekly (which it also is). For a sample issue, address *Antique Week*, P.O. Box 90, Knightstown, IN 46148. Some revisions and corrections in the original article have been made, thanks to the kind assistance of Dr. Udo Krauthausen of Mainz-Laubenheim, Federal Republic of Germany.

"Who is a Palatine?" That elusive word is hard to define for historical reasons. It is used in a narrow and a broad sense. Indeed, sometimes it seems to mean almost any German or Swiss or Alsatian. Strictly, the quick and easy answer is: "Somebody from the Palatinate." But this answer is inadequate and doesn't correspond to actual usage; it begs the unanswered question: "Where exactly is or was the Palatinate?" Indeed, there are many definitions of the Palatinate. In the 1700's, when the first mass immigration to America from the Palatinate took place (1710 to New York), the Palatinate referred to a widely scattered area near the Rhine River in present-day southwestern Germany with its capital at Heidelberg and later at Mannheim, when the Palatinate as defined above was ruled by one of the seven, then eight (1654), later nine (1692) electors of the Holy Roman Emperor, thus the Kurpfalz or Electoral Palatinate.

But then the definition of the Palatinate changes. After the Napoleonic Confederation of the Rhine (1806-1813) and the Congress of Vienna (1815), the major portion of the historic Palatinate east of the Rhine became incorporated into the state of Baden. An area west of the Rhine, with its capital at Speyer, governed by Bavaria (capital: Munich) became known as the Rheinpfalz, Rhine Palatinate, Rheinische Pfalz, Rhenish Palatinate, Bayerische Pfalz, or Bavarian Palatinate. This is the Palatinate of the 19th century, the home of many emigrants to America listed in those useful 1850, 1860, or 1870 U.S. censuses dating prior to the unification of Germany in

1871 (while individual territories are still usually listed rather than Germany or Prussia) which give birthplaces as being from the cryptic foreign land of Rhinefalls or Rinefels for Rheinpfalz or Rinebier or Byrum or Bion for (Rhein-)Bayern, those puzzling place-names often sent in as queries to genealogical columns for clarification.

Let's examine proper usage of the words *Palatinate* and *Palatine*. The German words are *Pfalz* for the territory, *Pfälzer* for the person, and *pfälzisch* as an adjective. In English, the Palatinate (accent on *lat*; rhymes with and has the rhythm of *refrigerate*) is the territory. A Palatine (rhymes with and has the rhythm of *pal of mine*) is a person. The adjective form is also Palatine, same as the person. Sample sentences of correct usage (read them aloud to practice your pronunciation): Fifteen thousand PALatines came from the PaLATinate and other areas of southwestern Germany to London to escape the terrible freezing weather and crop failures in 1709; identified Catholics were returned to continental Europe; many of the PALatines were sent to Queen Anne's PALatine settlements in frontier New York in 1710; other PALatines were sent to Ireland; other PALatines elsewhere, such as the Scilly Isles. Many PALatines came from the PaLATinate and other areas along the Rhine in the 1720's to 1750's and founded PALatine Pennsylvania German or so-called Pennsylvania Dutch (a misnomer) settlements in southeastern Pennsylvania with names such as Manheim Township and Heidelberg Township, both named for the

(continued on page 38)

PALATINES, continued from page 37.

former capitals of the PaLATinate; they spoke a PALatine dialect (Pennsilvaanisch Deutsch). A different type of PALatines came from the Bavarian PaLATinate west of the Rhine in the 1800's for economic, social, and political reasons, mostly via LeHavre, France, and brought their PALatine farming and trade skills to the new PALatine settlements or to well-established German settlement areas in the U.S., founding such places as PALatine, Illinois.

But many of the 1709-1710 group mentioned above were not strictly Palatines, i.e., not from the Electoral Palatinate. According to a contemporary report by Pastor Johann Hermann Broessken of Dreieichenhain, there were 8,569 from the Palatinate (plus 125 from Pfalz-Zweibruechken) out of 15,313 (including 871 journeyman, craftsman, no homeland given), or about sixty percent; the rest, mostly Protestant (either Lutheran or Reformed), were from Hesse-Darmstadt, counties surrounding Frankfurt, Worms (Catholic), Speyer (Catholic), Alsace, Baden, Nassau, and adjacent territories. Palatine, even at this early date, becomes a collective word, a generic term for Germans; Germans, Palatine or not, wanting to be sent to America and not back to Europe probably called themselves Palatines; it is what the English in London and the colonial rulers in New York called all German-speaking persons, regardless of origin. (Similarly, from 1775-1783 all British auxiliary troops became generically known as Hessians, although only about 16,992 of 29,875 were actually from Hesse-Kassel; others were from Brunswick, Waldeck, Ansbach-Bayreuth, Anhalt-Zerbst and Hesse-Hanau.) and of the 1727-1775 group found in Strassburger & Hinke's *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, usually lumped together as Palatines, the ca. 68,872 Germans listed in the colonial time period were probably less than half from the Palatinate, with large contingents from Baden, Wuerttemberg, Hesse-Darmstadt, Alsace, Switzerland, Nassau, and others from smaller counties, domains, church territories, etc. Even if, or maybe especially if they are listed indiscriminately as "a shipload of Palatines" or "foreigners," one must take these possible origins other than the Palatinate into consideration and study origins of the shipmates and especially near neighbors on the lists. As a rule of thumb, an

immigrant's following the Reformed religion in America makes a true Palatine origin rather more likely for Germans (but Swiss and Nassovian, i.e. coming from Nassau, are also possible); following the Lutheran confession in America makes a true Palatine origin relatively less likely.

The history of the development of the word may explain how and why it came into use. The first use of the precursor of *Palatine* goes back to Roman times, pertaining to the Roman emperors. The Palatium was the central one of the seven hills of Rome, this particular hill being the traditional site of the first Roman settlement where Romulus is said to have founded the city of Rome. During the Roman Empire the Palatium became the site of the residences of the Emperors and of the Temple of Apollo, thus the "regal hill," the "hill of the palace." This foremost section of town was called the Palatina tribus and Augustus Caesar bought it up and built his palatium or palace there. After the burning of Rome in 64 A.D., Emperor Nero included the entire hill in the grounds of his *aura domus* (Golden House). This palatium (palace) remained the official residence for the Emperors until 235 A.D., when Emperor Alexander Severus died. *Palatnus* was the adjective form, referring to the Emperor. The *domus Palatina* meant the imperial house; the *toga Palatina* meant the imperial toga.

The meaning of the word evolved as the Roman Empire grew and influenced other lands. First, people who worked for the imperial court of the Roman Empire in any way were called Palatini or Palatines, as the adjective becomes substantivized into a noun. Under Constantine the Great (306-337 A.D.) the troops stationed at the capital in Rome and the imperial army commanders were also called Palatines. In the Byzantine Empire at Constantinople the administrators of the imperial finances and domains were called Palatines. Members of the entourage of early German kings were called Palatines. Comrades-in-arms of Charlemagne were called paladins, the legendary twelve peers or knightly champions in attendance on Charlemagne, the Frankish King who was Emperor from 800-814. (Television viewers once even saw an old-West version of a *Paladin*, namely Richard Boone in *Have Gun, Will Travel*.) (Continued next issue.)

1989 Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Ballot

- President — Anne Tenney
- President Elect — Cathy Dippo
- First Vice President — Paul Fogle
- Second Vice President — Pete Linder
- Recording Secretary — Gail Komar
- Corresponding Secretary — Doris Suresch
- Treasurer — Bob Miller
- Member-At-Large — Bob Hull
- Member-At-Large — Helyn Collison

Please mark your ballot and mail before April 10, 1989 to:

Election Chairman
Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society
PO Box 2642
Kensington, MD 20895

Please send your ballot to MAGS, P.O. Box 642, Kensington, Maryland 20895 by April 10.
Thank you.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating chairman would like to present the following slate of officers for 1989-1991.

President: Anne Tenney
President-elect: Cathy Dippo
First Vice-president: Paul Fogle
Second Vice-president: Pete Linder
Recording Secretary: Gail Komar
Corresponding Secretary: Doris Suresch
Treasurer: Bob Miller
Member-at-large: Bob Hull
Member-at-large: Helyn Collison

Please note that we have a President-elect position this year. the reason for this is, if elected, Anne Tenney will continue the presidency until January 1, 1990, at which time Cathy Dippo will become president. Cathy has a previous commitment and cannot undertake additional responsibility until January 1, 1990. Nancy H. Mossburg, Nominating Chairman.



THE MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY
A GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Annual Spring Meeting

Saturday, April 29, 1989
CARRADOC HALL
1500 E. Market Street
Leesburg, Virginia 22075

COLONIAL GERMAN SETTLEMENTS SOUTH OF THE POTOMAC

- 8:30 AM Registration, coffee hour, exhibits, etc.
- 9:15 AM Opening session
- 9:30 AM-10:30 AM The Germanna Colonies of Virginia, John K. Gott. Mr. Gott, a graduate of Bridgewater College, is now retired from his work as librarian at Langley High School. He is the author of Fauquier in the Revolution and The Years of Anguish. He serves as Vice-President of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies.
- 10:45 AM-12:15 AM Germans in the Shenandoah Valley, Klaus Wust. Mr. Wust, a native of Westphalia, is the author of the prizewinning The Virginia Germans and editor of Shenandoah Genealogical Source Books. He is currently involved in an eleven year project, which will culminate in a book which studies the 18th century migration of Swiss and Germans to North America.
- L U N C H
- 1:30 PM-3:00 PM Southerly Movements of Germans over the Great Wagon Road, Peggy Joyner. Mrs. Joyner is a graduate of what is now James Madison University. She has spent thirty years studying the colonial German settlers in Virginia. She has written genealogies on the SHOMO and ROOSEN families. Certified by the National Genealogical Society, she has received their Award of Merit.
- 3:15 PM Business Meeting

To participate in this program and avoid the late fee, mail registration form and fee by April 8, 1989 to Joan Sheviak, 3519 King Arthur Road, Annandale, VA 22003. Phone: (703) 560-7144. For a confirmation, please include a SASE.

REGISTRATION FORM - MAGS SPRING MEETING

I am unable to attend but would like to receive information about MAGS.

I will attend the MAGS April 29, 1989 meeting. My check is enclosed.

Members @ \$18.50 (includes lunch)

New members @ \$26.00 (includes first year's dues and lunch)

Non-members @ \$21.00 (includes lunch)

Late fees - Postmarked after April 8, 1989 @ \$3.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

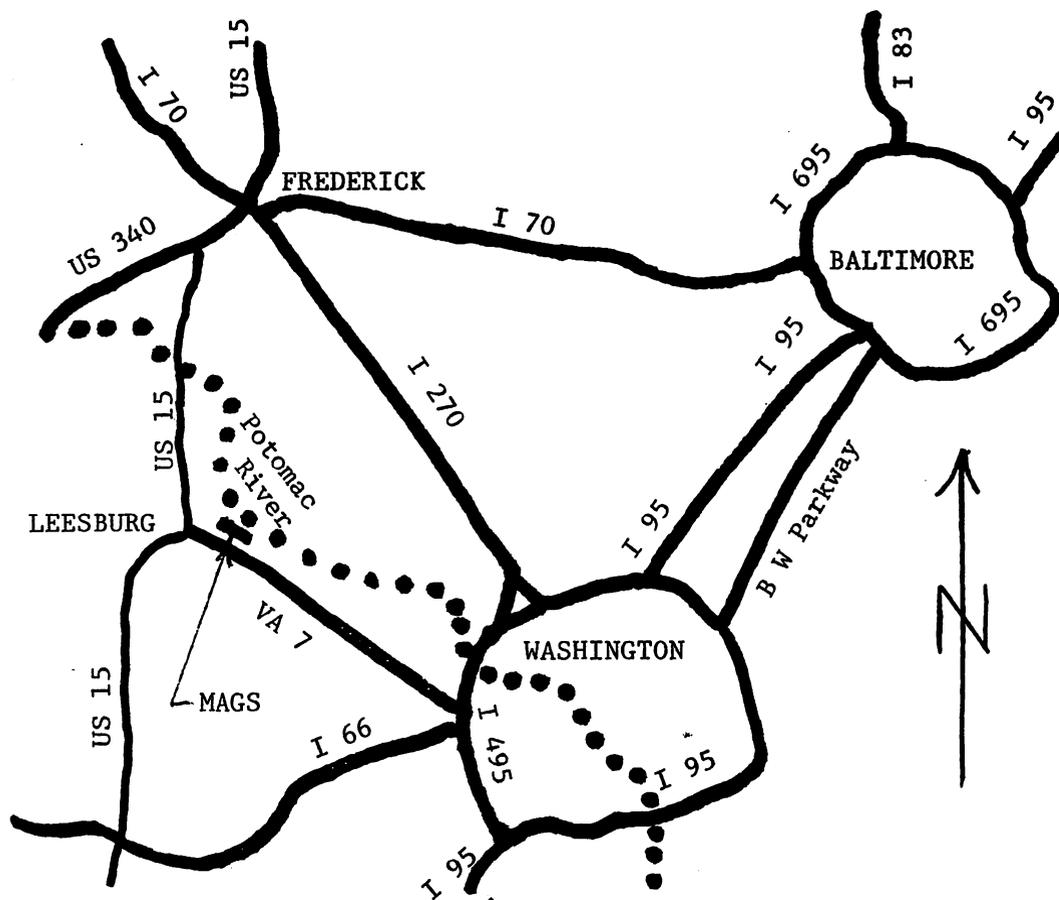
I am interested in researching the following four Germanic surnames:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Where did you learn about this meeting? Loose Flyer (Where found _____);

DER KURIER; Other Newsletter (Name _____); Other (Specify _____)



DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING

CARRADOC HALL, situated in the east end of Leesburg, Virginia on VA-7 westbound, is a modern 126 room motel. Its phone is 703-771-9200.

From the Washington Beltway I-495
Take VA-7 westbound about 20 miles to the "Entering Leesburg" sign, which is under high tension lines. Shortly thereafter turn right to Carradoc Hall. Please park on the west (Leesburg) end of the building.

From the Baltimore Beltway - I-695
Take I-70 west 39 miles to Frederick. Turn on US-340 west and US-15 south. Stay on US-15 and US-15 Bypass for 25 miles and turn at VA-7 eastbound in Leesburg. Continue with directions below.

From Leesburg US-15 Bypass
Take exit for VA-7 eastbound. Go east about 1.8 miles and reverse direction. Now traveling westbound on VA-7, pass "Entering Leesburg" sign near high tension lines and shortly thereafter turn right into Carradoc Hall. Please park on the west (Leesburg) end of the building.

DER KALENDER

- 1 April 1989 Maryland Genealogical Society's Spring Seminar: "European Genealogy" at Colony & Motor Inn, Ft. Meade Road, off Baltimore-Washington Parkway.
- 1 April 1989 Fairfax Genealogical Society's Spring Seminar: "Putting Technology in a New Light" Helen F. M. Leary, C.G., F.N.G.S., at George Mason University, Fairfax, Va. Contact FGS, P.O. Box 2344, Merrifield, VA 22116-2344.
- 1 April 1989 Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's Eleventh Annual Genealogy Conference, 2176 Lincoln Highway, East, Lancaster Mennonite High School, Lancaster, PA. See related article.
- 29 April 1989 MAGS Annual Spring Meeting: "Colonial German Settlements South of the Potomac" at Leesburg, VA.
- 17-20 May 1989 NGS Conference in the States: "Journey into Your Past" Radisson Hotel St. Paul, St. Paul, Minnesota. Write NGS Conference, 4527 17th Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.
- 10-15 July 1989 National Institute on Genealogical Research, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Write NIGR, P.O. Box 14274, Washington, D.C. 20044-4274.
- Fall 1989 MAGS Fall Seminar at Emmitsburg, Maryland.
- 6-9 June 1990 NGS National Capital Area 10th Anniversary Conference: "A Capital Conference"

Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's eleventh annual conference will be held on Saturday, April 1, 1989, at the Lancaster Mennonite High School, 2176 Lincoln Highway, East, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Registration begins at eight. Dr. Donald F. Durnbaugh will begin the conference by discussing the historical background and the distinguishing features of various Brethren groups. The remainder of the day will be divided into four sessions which provide five choices each. These sessions include cemetery restoration, Lancaster County Historical Society resources, organization of data, computer use, photography in family history, marks of a good genealogy, Prussian and Russian Mennonite Church records, Anabaptist groups, use of Mormon materials, the mixture of German and English language in some records, use of Lancaster County courthouse records and methods of beginning research. Registration is \$25.00 for non-members; an optional lunch is \$4.00 and the evening banquet at the High School is \$8.50. The banquet program includes a concert by the Ephrata Cloister Chorus. Registration fees must be postmarked by March 18 and sent to Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602. (717) 393-9745.

Thinking about using a computer in your research? The NGS/CIG is sponsoring a series of computer-aided genealogy sessions on Wednesday, May 17, 1989, at the NGS Conference of the States in St. Paul, Minnesota. These will include lectures followed by actual hands-on lab time. DOS, Wordperfect, dBase III+, and utilities will be featured. An additional \$10.50 fee per paired session will be charged. Space is limited. Sign up early.

Recommended: Helen Leary, an excellent and entertaining speaker whose knowledge of her subject will prove valuable to all who listen. See you at Fairfax.

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN

German Immigrants Lists of Passengers Bound from Bremen to New York 1847-1854 With Places of Origin, compiled by Gary J. Zimmerman & Marion Wolfert. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1987. xxiv, 175 pages; hardcover.

This is the second printing of this book and one can well see why. The Bremen lists have, as far as is known, been destroyed. Some transcripts of early twentieth century lists were recently discovered, but no nineteenth century lists are known to survive. The authors have attempted to reconstruct the lists using American sources, specifically the NARS microfilm, Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York. They were selective; only those passengers who gave a place of origin were listed which, according to the authors, was 21%. The alphabetical compilation includes name, age, place of birth, year of entry, and list number. An "Explanation of the Text" which should be mandatory for all source compilations is included, and, in addition, there are a table of abbreviations and a list of the ships with date of arrival, NARS microfilm number and year and list number. Care was taken to maintain family integrity rather than to do absolute indexing; something we can only wish others would consider. Alphabetized lists are great but not when they destroy information. Three cheers for these compilers. Copies are available from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 Calvert St., N., Baltimore, MD 21202-3897. Cost is \$20.00 plus p/h: \$2.50 for first book; \$1.00 for each extra. Tax: Maryland residents 5%; Michigan residents 4%.

German Immigrants Lists of Passengers Bound from Bremen to New York, 1855-1862 with Places of Origin, compiled by Gary J. Zimmerman & Marion Wolfert. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1986. xx, 167 pages; hard cover.

and
German Immigrants: Lists of Passengers Bound from Bremen to New York,

1863-67 with Places of Origin, compiled by Gary J. Zimmerman & Marion Wolfert. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1988. xviii, 221 pages; hardcover.

These two volumes continue the excellent work reported in the first. We could wish that the lists were not limited to those immigrants who indicated place of birth, but we're grateful for these. Future volumes are planned. Copies are available from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 Calvert St., N., Baltimore, MD 21202-3897. Cost is \$20.00 for Volume II and \$21.50 for Volume III plus p/h: \$2.50 for first book; \$1.00 for each extra. Tax: Maryland residents 5%; Michigan residents 4%.

Proprietary Tax List of Philadelphia County & City 1769. Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1988. iv, 209 pages; indexed; softbound.

A reviewer is supposed to remain objective; however, when one has just discovered a long-lost ancestor, it's difficult to retain objectivity. This book is a reprint of material from the *Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series*, and if you have ever tried to plough through the Archives, assuming you could find copies, you would understand my joy. I knew my ancestor came from Philadelphia, but I had given up trying to find him in the Archives. One only hopes that this book will be followed by others, and that future publications will include background information. This reprint consists of a list of taxpayers in Philadelphia County which at that time included Philadelphia City and Montgomery County. The list includes name with the occupation sometimes appended; number of acres, horses, cattle and servants taxed; and the amount of tax. A list of wards and townships is included. Order from Family Line Publications, Rear 63 Main Street, East, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Cost is \$13.50 postpaid.

Marriages and Deaths from the Newspapers of Lancaster County Pennsylvania 1831-1840. Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1988. vi, 181 pages, softbound; indexed.

Sources for the information were newspapers in the Historical Society of Lancaster County and the Library of

Congress. The author states that German newspapers were not consulted, but that a "major portion of the German newspaper notices duplicate those in the English papers." It is important to note that these are abstracts; not lists of names and dates; obituaries often capsule the major events in a person's life and many of the obituaries are for people who have long been gone from the area. The the author suggests that we all may have been overlooking a source of information in the old hometown newspaper. Even if you don't have ancestors in the area the old obituaries make interesting reading. Order from **Family Line Publications**, Rear 63 Main Street, East, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Cost is \$12.50 postpaid.

Abstracts of South Central Pennsylvania Newspapers, Volume 2, 1791-1795: Items from the York Advertiser and Carlisle Gazette, pertaining to the lives of persons living in South Central Pennsylvania. Compiled by Martha Reamy. Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1988. v, 190 pp., indexed; softbound.

The entries are chronological and missing issues are noted. Advertisements of land for sale, goods for sale, help-wanted, runaways, estrays, deaths, and marriages are only some of the items included. Again this would make interesting reading even if you weren't ancestor hunting. There are two appendixes listing letters at the Carlisle and York post offices. Order from **Family Line Publications**, Rear 63 Main Street, East, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Cost is \$14.00 postpaid.

Abstracts of the Inventories of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1772-1774 (from Volumes 110-118). V. L. Skinner, Jr. Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1988. iii, 148 pp.; softbound; indexed.

This is a part of a series planned to cover all of the inventory records for the colonial period. The first volume 1774-1777 is also available. The information contained in the abstracts includes name of the decedent, liber and folio reference, county, value of inventory, names of appraiser(s), creditor(s), next of kin, executor/administrator, and any other persons mentioned. Since all

probate records were required to be filed with the Prerogative Court, one can assume that any estate completing probate in Maryland during this time period should be listed. (As the reviewer is not an authority on Maryland records; corrections to this assumption are welcome.) Order from **Family Line Publications**, Rear 63 Main Street, East, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Cost is \$13.50 postpaid.

Genealogical Computing was begun by Paul Andereck in the early 1980's and is currently being published by Ancestry, Inc. The January 1989 issue contains 40 pages chock full information. Departments include "Beginners' Board, Applications, Reviews, and a Directory. The directory is an annual list featuring one of the following each quarter: computer interest groups, data bases, software and bulletin boards. This periodical deals not only with genealogical software, but also with genealogical applications for "normal" software. Subscription is \$25.00 per year from Ancestry, Inc., P.O. Box 476, Salt Lake City, UT 84110. A free sample of Genealogical Computing, is available until April 30. Send a postcard request to Department RV, address above.

ZUR INFORMATION, (continued from page 34.)

Reprint on how to decipher old German script (orig. published 1881), Witter's *Deutsch-Englische Schreib-Und Lese-Figel*, send \$4.50 to Indiana German Heritage Society, 401 Michigan Avenue, East, Indianapolis, IN 46204. (Curtesy of the *Chicago Genealogical Society Newsletter*, September 1988)

The **Palatine Heritage European Tour 1989** provided by Wastler Escorted Travel, Inc. and supported by the Pennsylvania Chapter of Palatines to America is scheduled for September 8 to 23. Contact Wastler Escorted Travel, Inc., P.O. Box 775, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0775. Phone (717) 697-6368.

VEREINSNACHRICHTEN

Do you know of a German research organization which might be of interest to our members? We would be glad to provide space for a description of the services of any such organization. We would, of course, appreciate reciprocity and will provide information about MAGS on request. The following information was provided by the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society.

The Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to collecting, preserving and interpreting books, papers and artifacts related to the Anabaptist/Mennonite heritage. It is based in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and offers a variety of services that any organization would find hard to match. Membership fees range from ten dollars for students to one thousand for a life membership. Annual individual membership is twenty dollars and provides the quarterly magazine *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage* which focuses on the genealogy, historical background, religious thought and culture of Mennonite and Amish-related groups originating in Pennsylvania, the bimonthly newsletter, *Mirror* which lists recent accessions to the library, archives, and museum; and provides information on seminars, conferences, field trips, educational programs, etc.; and the *Annual Report* which summarizes the calendar year activities. In addition, members have access to the library and archives which contains a card file with over 230,000 families arranged alphabetically by surname, publication of queries in the *Heritage*, up-to-date access to the speakers bureau, research network, surname exchange file and slide programs, discounts on selected Society Book Club titles, genealogical research fees including German script transcription and translation, subscription to the used-book auction catalog, and registration fees for seminars and conferences.

Back issues of the *Heritage* have some interesting articles including "Palatine Mennonites in Schleswig-Holstein, 1693-1698," "LeFevre Cemetery North of Strasburg," Jacob Funk (1730-1816): Germantown Preacher," "Germantown Links to Lancaster County, Pa., Families," and numerous articles on surnames including Myers, Stutzman, Oberholtzer, Kuster, Doors, Neff, Naffziger, Gerber, Kreider,

Schantz, Grebiel, Weaver, Lehman, Brubaker, Rhodes, Herr, Bauman, etc. Back issues are available for five dollars each; out-of-print issues will be copied for fifteen cents a page.

The Society has a number of books and other genealogical supplies available at a discount to members. In addition to various genealogies, the Pennsylvania German Society's *The Pennsylvania German Fraktur of the Free Library of Philadelphia*, a two-volume set is available.

The Society's Library is the major research center for Pennsylvania Mennonite and Amish history, genealogy and theology. It also holds a major collection of historical/genealogical material concerning southeastern Pennsylvania with a special focus on Lancaster County. The Library's hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 8:30-4:30. Non-members are charged a daily library use fee. A brochure listing the library's holdings states that there are over 230,000 cards in the genealogical card file and over 1800 published genealogies. Other works include local histories, biographical encyclopedias and directories for various counties, city and county directories, gazetteers, the *Mennonite Encyclopedia* and the *Brethren Encyclopedia*, Lancaster County atlases published in 1864, 1875, and 1899 in addition to the approximately 50 atlases from other Pennsylvania counties, over 1500 cemetery transcriptions from Lancaster and other counties in addition to the Gerberich and Wornor collections on microfilm; genealogical archives (over 60 linear feet) which includes correspondence, genealogists' papers, and miscellaneous items (cataloged by surname); indexed obituary clippings from local newspapers beginning with 1956; indexed orphans' court abstracts from 1740-1804; surname exchange file; and Lancaster tax lists on microfilm.

Membership information is available from Florence O. Horning, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602-1499; phone (717) 393-9745.

YOUR AHNENTAFEL

We'd like you to keep those ahnentafels coming so that we can build up enough to start sharing them in the pages of the newsletter. Who knows -- some long lost cousin may see yours and get in touch with you. We've seen ancestors of our own in ahnentafels published in another newsletter. That was a real thrill and reaffirms that sharing pays. (Refer to Volume 7, Number 2, December 1988, pp. 24-25, *Der Kurier* for an earlier appeal.)

And while we are at it, did you notice the error in Generations IV and V in that issue. We goofed. Poor Grandma Johanna Stuckenburg who, it is true, came to this country all by herself in 1860, was bodily lifted out of Generation IV where she should appear as number 15 to Christopher Vietmeier's number 14 and placed with Generation V where the earliest possible number anyone could have is 16!

Once more we appeal to you. Send your ahnentafels to the Ahnentafel Committee, c/o Ardyce Harrison, 4925 Jamestown Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Having spent my life eating my words, I may as well do it again. No less than a month ago I wrote MAGS President Anne Tenny and told her that I would limit *Der Kurier* to twelve pages for a while -- until I got my hand in. Well please note that we're still at sixteen pages and I had to leave out one of what I hope will be a continuing series of articles on research. I had scheduled an article on Virginia land records for this issue. You'll see it next time; it will be followed by an article on the Maryland Archives and I hope by then I will have a volunteer to write an article on some aspect of Pennsylvania research. As I stated earlier, I am well acquainted with Virginia and West Virginia research, but I will have to have

help in Pennsylvania and Maryland. Our membership has been very obliging and we have had a number of volunteers. (See THANKS). I'm sure you're as excited as I am about the column Corinne Earnest will host. This is information that most of us would find extremely difficult if not impossible to locate. And next time we'll have Bible records from Beverly Hoch in "Zum Beispiel." I'm actually looking forward to the next issue and I hope you are too.

See you at Leesburg where I know you'll hear some interesting and informative talks. Even if you're not interested in Virginia research, come any way; you never know what kind of clues you'll find. I once went back three generations on a West Virginia line from a will in Kentucky. Brothers and sisters and children often carry information away with them that you need. Come enjoy the country, the company and share the knowledge.

A BIG THANK YOU to

Klaus H. Hein who provided the German translations for the article headings and ideas for the figures we hope to soon be using scattered throughout the newsletter.

John Frank who has volunteered to index the back issues of *Der Kurier* and to help with Emigrant Ancestor File.

Beverly Hoch, who has volunteered her collection of Bible records AND who has a friend Corrine Earnest who will provide us with a continuing column using information from her collection of fraktur and taufscheins.

VON UNSEREN MITGLIEDERN

MAGS member Roy H. Wampler won the Maryland Historical Society's Parker Prize for the best genealogical publication on a Maryland family. His book *The Derr Family, 1750-1986* was published in 1987 by Gateway Press, Inc. (from the *Maryland Genealogical Society's Newsletter*, Vol. 16:4 December 1988).

SUCHANZEIGEN

Please mention at least one time, one place, one German surname with known variant surnames. Limit each query to one family and use no more than fifty words, not counting your name and address. More than one query may be sent at a time, but each should be clearly written or typed on a separate sheet of 8 1/2 by 11-inch clean, white paper. Please indicate desired priority for printing. MAGS reserves the right to edit. Neither MAGS nor *Der Kurier* assumes any responsibility for accuracy. Send your queries to Edythe H. Millar, Queries Editor, MAGS, 760 Caroline Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546.

KELLER
WALTER

#7-29 Maria Anne KELLER, b ca 1785; m Daniel WALTER (WALTERS) b ca 1871, d 3 Apr 1835 in Freckenfeld, now Rhineland-Palatinate, formerly Bavaria, etc. Have death certificate. 1870 census, P.O. Kelso, Dearborn Co., IN, shows Maria WALTER, aged 85, b Bavaria in household of son Andreas WALTER. Welcome any info. Will share.

Judith WALTERS, 700 7th St., SW, Washington, DC 20024.

DACROTH
SHCREIBER
FUCHS
ENKE/ANKE
LEINPENSEL
COSTA
ENGLEMAN

#7-30 Christoph DACHROTH, B 10 Jan 1819. Rothsloben (aka Boldeslebn Freufsen), m 10 Nov 1846 Johanna FUCHS SCHREIBER in Wiehe, Tieufsen (Freufsen?) Johanna b 30 Jan 1831 in Wiehe, Ger. To Pittsburgf, PA ca 1850. Have info on Johanna ancestors (FUCHS, ENKE). Need parents of Dachroth. Also Charles Frederick LEINPENSEL/LINEPENSEL, b 11 Jul 1836 where? Mother Mary COSTA; fa Ernest LEINPENSEL. Chas m Maria ENGLEMAN b 2 Feb 1844, Saxony, Ger. in Allegheny, PA 15 Sept 1862. Any info welcome. Will share.

Edythe H. MILLAR, 760 Caroline Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546.

SINGER
CHRISTLIEB

#7-31 Nancy SINGER b. ca. 1755 probably PA, m Jacob CHRISTLIEB/CHRISLIP ca 1779 probably PA, d 1824, Harrison Co., VA. Need wedding record & parentage; birth records of ch-Mary, John, George, Christina.

Majorie Heater HERRING, 12016 Midlake Drive, Dallas, TX 75218.

DIBERT/DEIBERT
CRETZINGER
HAMM

#7-32 John DIBERT/DEIBERT m Elizabeth CRETZUBGER 19 May 1808 in Washington Co., MD. Was John related to Christian or Mary DIBERT who lvd Sharpsburg, MD? Mary m John HAMM.

Jack QUINN, 1070 Eastmarr Bl., Columbus, OH 43209

NARS GIFT FUND CONTRIBUTION

The National Archives Gift Fund seeks to collect a contribution of at least \$1.00 per year from every genealogist. The Federation of Genealogical Societies act as caretaker of funds which are accepted by NARS when they become sufficient to finance a new project. The finding aids which have been produced are a great help to genealogists throughout the country at NARS Regional Archives. The most recent projects have been indexing and microfilming records of immigration through Canadian ports, 1895-1952 (M-1462, M1463 and M1465). The first project was the Street Index to Major Cities in the 1910 Census. Your \$\$\$'s are well used, so keep sending them to our Treasurer with your membership dues. gsr

Der Kurier, the newsletter of the *Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society*, is published four times a year, in September, December, March, and June. Deadline date for copy is the first of August, November, February, and May. Send all copy to **Barbara V. Little**, P.O. Box 1273, Orange, VA 22960. *Der Kurier* is indexed in the *PERiodical Source Index* published by the Allen County Public Library.

MAGS OFFICERS:

President: Anne-T. Tenny
First Vice-president: Paul E. Fogle
Second Vice-president: Peter Linder
Treasurer: Robert Miller

Recording Secretary: Cathryn Dippo
Corresponding Secretary: Doris Suresch
At-large Board Members: Ardyce Harrison
George Billingslea

MAGS SERVICES:

When writing to us, please follow the directions for the particular program or send SASE for information to the person listed.

Information about MAGS: Write Doris Suresch, 317 Johnson Farm Lane, Glen Burnie, MD 21061.

Membership: Single \$7.50, family \$10.00 per year (September 1-August 31). Send check to Paul E. Fogel, 12 Locust Boulevard, Middletown, MD 21769.

Surname Exchange Index: Write Sue S. Smyser, 6266 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310.

Stumped Roots & Professional Referral: Write George Billingslea, 1229 Wine Spring Lane, Ruxton, MD 21204.

Queries: Write Edythe H. Millar, 760 Caroline Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546.

Spring and Fall Meetings: Information: Write (SASE) Peter Linder, 3109 Ramblewood Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043.
Registration: Write Bob Hull, 8308 Kay Court, Annandale, VA 22003.

Suggestions or Offers of Assistance: Write Anne T. Tenny, P.O. Box 141, Garrett Park, MD 20896-0141.



Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society
P.O. Box 642
Kensington, Maryland 20895

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Orange, VA
Permit No. 103
