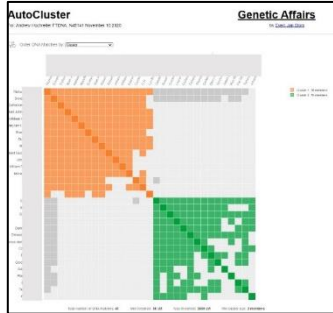


Der Kurier

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 4 / DECEMBER 2020



A new type of cluster genealogy: DNA

Discoveries columnist

Andrew Hochreiter

discusses different

methods of DNA

clustering, associated

software, and highlights how the techniques can be used in your family history research. **Page 135.**



Ich verstehe nur Bahnhof: Stick to the Script

columnist Katherine Schober discusses the efficacy of four online tools that can be used to translate German to English, including whether or not the tool is able to infer context or simply provides literal, word-for-word translations. **Page 149.**

ABTEILUNGEN

From the President	123
From the Editor Emeritus	125
From the Editor	126
Immigrant Connections	128
DNA Discoveries	135

DEPARTMENTS

Our Language Leaves	147
Stick to the Script	149
New Members	157
Der Kalender / The Calendar	158
Translators	159

**MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY**

PO Box 241

New Windsor, MD 21776

<http://www.magsgen.com>

Our mission: To stimulate and facilitate research on Germanic genealogy and heritage in the mid-Atlantic region

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) is a non-profit genealogical society founded in July 1982. Annual dues are only \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Add \$5 if you desire a printed copy of **Der Kurier** each quarter. Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. A membership application appears on the back cover and on our website. Benefits include:

Spring & Fall Conferences and Workshops

– Featuring expert speakers, member discounts

Outstanding members-only website

– German research aids, searchable databases

Der Kurier – Our award-winning 40-page quarterly journal

Stumped Roots - Individualized research help

Officers and Executive Board**President:** Dr. Kenneth Hegerpresident@magsgen.com**1st Vice President (Membership):** Gunter Schanzenbachermembership@magsgen.com**2nd Vice President (Programs, Webmaster):** Carol Carmanprograms@magsgen.com**Corresponding Secretary:** Jackie Currocorresponding@magsgen.com**Recording Secretary:** Debra A. Hoffmanrecording@magsgen.com**Treasurer:** Robert Greinertreasurer@magsgen.com**At-Large Board Member:** John Frankatlarge@magsgen.com**At-Large Board Member (Publicity):** Roy Shifletpublicity@magsgen.com**Der Kurier Editor:** Sean M. Kesslernewsletter@magsgen.com**Registrar:** Cheyenne Cashinregistration@magsgen.com**Research Inquiries:** Susannah E. Brooksstumpedroots@magsgen.com

Der Kurier is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. It is indexed in the Periodical Source Index by the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. A full name index for the previous year is included in each March edition.

Submissions to Der Kurier: Articles concerning Germanic genealogy and heritage in the Mid-Atlantic region are welcome, as are "Letters to the Editor." Research articles should document conclusions with appropriate citation of primary sources. MAGS reserves the right to edit submissions for length and style. Unless previous arrangements are made with the editor, material published becomes the property of MAGS. Deadline for submissions: the first of January, April, July and October. Submit to Sean Kessler, *Der Kurier* Editor, MAGS, 400 S Manoa Rd, Havertown, PA 19083. E-mail: newsletter@magsgen.com

VOM PRÄSIDENT

FROM THE PRESIDENT

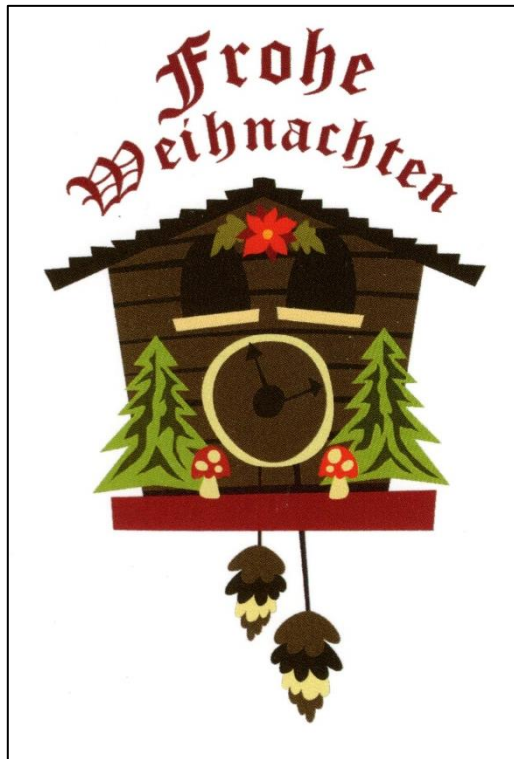
A New Year Awaits

Greetings and I wish you all an early *Fröhliche Weihnachten!* As you read this issue, we are on the cusp of a new year. Despite the curveball the COVID crisis threw us, MAGS managed to have a productive 2020, and we plan to do even more in 2021. I will give you a quick overview.

First let me comment on our fall conference. It was a rousing success, thanks in no small part to Carol Carman who ensured we have a Zoom account and who acted as host for the event. We were also fortunate to have the tech-savvy Judy Russell as our speaker; Judy did a fantastic job. Cheyenne Cashin



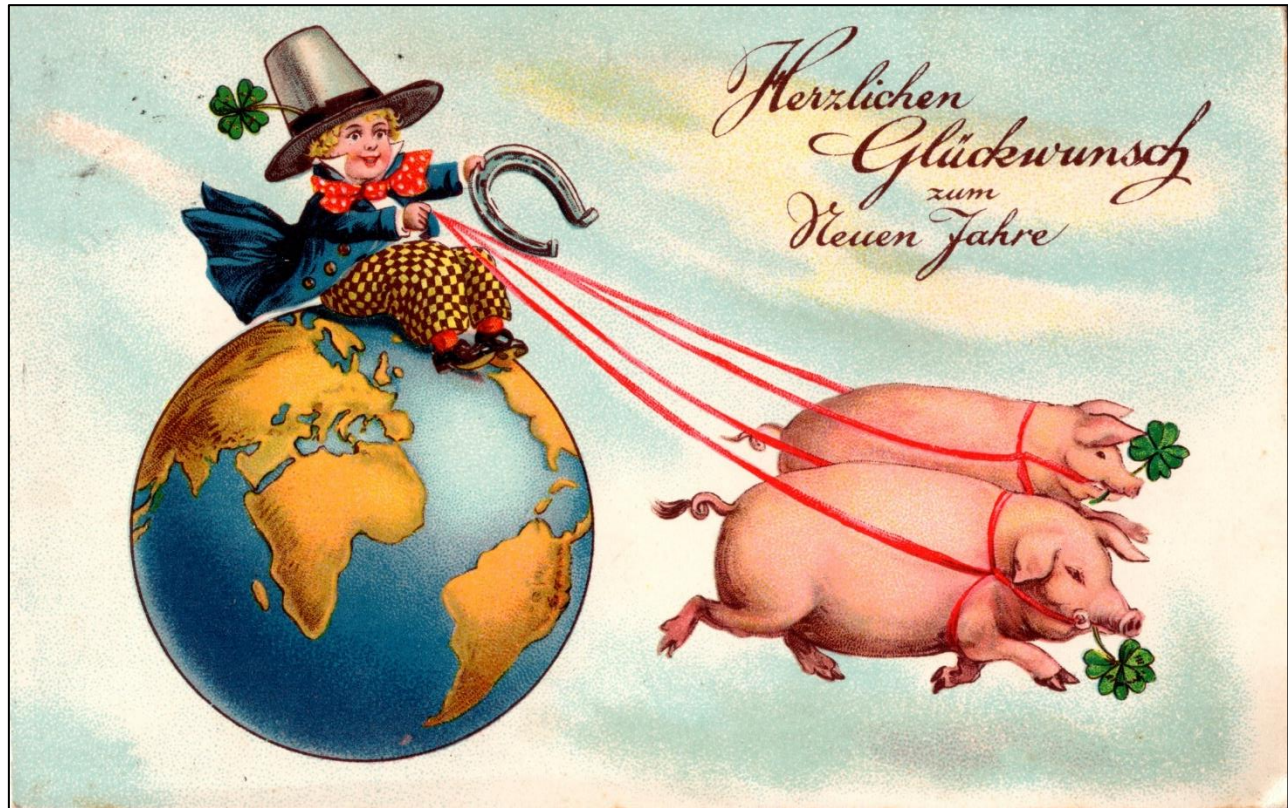
Kenneth W. Heger



reported that 96 people signed up to attend the conference, 82 of whom were MAGS members and 14 non-members. The total number of attendees is great, and the large number of non-members is encouraging. Gunter Schanzenbacher delighted in telling us membership is up again this year and the geographic area of the members is expanding. The Board plans to hold a virtual conference again for the spring 2021 conference to entice more people to participate. Keep an eye on the MAGS website for updates and help us spread the word about how easy it is to attend these virtual conferences.

I mentioned the Board has plans to grow the Society. In addition to finding creative ways to hold conferences with remote participation, we hope to provide even more tools to the membership. In the coming months, the Board will discuss how to add value to your membership in the following areas.

- Add more visuals to the public spaces on the MAGS Facebook and website pages; our intention is to use these postcards, maps, documents, etc. as a teaser to point to the members-only section of our webpage by using a “want to learn more?” hook. Gunter Schanzenbacher and Roy Shiflet are especially keen in this area.
- Work closely with other societies to increase awareness of MAGS; John Frank is doing a great job acting as our liaison with the IGGP and Roy Shiflet and Bob Dunfield forward us informational emails on activities of other societies. Be sure to check our website regularly for updates.
- Expand the number of quick fact sheets, reference reports, and search paths



- Add names to our databases; keep an eye open for a project Debra Hoffman is working on focusing on maritime records and Bremen.
- Continue our partnership with the University of Maryland's College of Information Studies to upgrade and streamline our databases and access to those resources. Here I want to thank Bob Greiner for taking point on this important project and explaining the technical aspects to me when he sees my eyes glaze over.
- Explore creating stand-alone video presentations that you can purchase for a small fee through our shop and watch at your leisure; here too we have Carol Carman and Jackie Curro to thank for thinking outside the box and proposing this idea.



We will be asking the membership for ideas and assistance as we move forward with these initiatives. Look for updates on the MAGS website. In the meantime, remember to access our webpage at <https://magsgen.com> and our MAGS Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Mid-Atlantic-Germanic-Society-182626951765986>.

Finally, I chose postcards from my collection appropriate for this time of year. I could not resist including an image of Krampus, a frequent subject of stories in my house growing up this time of year. I hope the New Year card amuses you as much as it does me. Enjoy this issue of *Der Kurier* and thank you for your continued membership in MAGS.

EMERITIERTER HERAUSGEBER**EDITOR EMERITUS**

Virtually Speaking, Literally

On March 10, I was the guest presenter at the Old York Road Genealogical Society in what was then Pennsylvania's emerging COVID-19 hotspot of Montgomery County. It was supposed to be my first lecture of what would be a busy spring speaking schedule—trips had been planned for Florida, Ohio, and Salt Lake City, along with many shorter hops.

Instead, my first in-person speaking gig of the year ... was also my last.

By the end of that week, my church had locked down and begun having Zoom worship services, I'd moved my tax preparation business to online only, and my girlfriend and I were quarantining in different cities and doing video calls to stay in touch.

And then all the components of that "busy speaking schedule" started to cancel, postpone, or move to the virtual world.

Many organizations, including MAGS, were in a pickle over contracts with hotels and conference centers that no one could have anticipated needing to have a "pandemic clause." Thankfully, governments stepped in and barred meetings, so most of the groups were able to escape or minimize cancellation costs.

The National Genealogical Society was able to literally turn on a dime and engage Playback Now to produce a virtual conference with a day of live interaction followed by a series of pre-recorded presentations to be purchased as well as a virtual exhibit hall.

I found that for just about all of the in-person events that were cancelled, other local or regional organizations seized the opportunity to present their audiences with a nationally known speaker in a virtual format—saving the travel costs of in-person events. Those groups found in many instances that they were able to engage new audiences of distance members for whom travel to in-person events had been a hardship.

As the pandemic wore on, just as in virtually every aspect of life, nimble societies such as MAGS realized the need to adapt. The result was this fall's conference with "The Legal Genealogist" Judy G. Russell, presented virtually over two days to a bigger audience than many recent in-person conferences.

A catch phrase I've heard both within and outside the genealogy world is that once there is a vaccine for COVID-19, "the crisis will be over—but what we return to will be different."

I believe that's the truth. While there are times that there's no substitute for human interaction, there are also many times in which a virtual substitute—or some sort of hybrid approach encompassing both in-person and virtual—can be found, although sometimes it requires loads of effort!

But I believe genealogy groups are worth that effort and I applaud the MAGS Board for taking that tack, too!



James M. Beidler

VOM HERAUSGEBER

FROM THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor

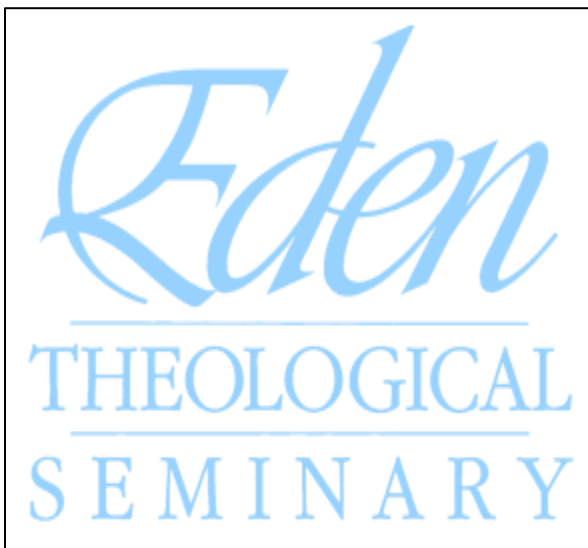
For my editor's column this issue, I decided to include a very thoughtful and informative letter I received from *Der Kurier* reader Scott Holl.

"Dear Editor:

I am writing in my roles as Manager of the History & Genealogy Department at St. Louis County (Missouri) Library and part-time archivist at Eden Theological Seminary, where the official records of the former Evangelical Synod of North America reside. Two articles in the September 2020 issue of *Der Kurier* piqued my interest.

In reference to the article, "Finding Swiss Church Records in the Bern Canton Archives," I would like to mention "Guide to the Church Books of Canton Bern," an online guide created by the St. Louis County Library History & Genealogy staff. The guide serves as a finding aid to the microfilm set and includes corresponding Family History Library roll numbers, where available (St. Louis County Library has the only complete microfilm set of Canton church records in the U.S.). Researchers might find the guide useful when preparing to research records online. The guide can be downloaded as a PDF at:

<https://www.slcl.org/content/guide-church-books-canton-bern-switzerland>



In my work at Eden Theological Seminary, I maintain biographical data for pastors who served the Evangelical Synod of North America. I was therefore delighted to open the *Kurier* to "A Case of Genealogical Serendipity" and see a photo of the Rev. John M. Steiner. I recently received information about Steiner from someone researching pastors who had served the *Deutscher Evangelische Kirchenverein von Ohio* (more serendipity!). Greiner's well-researched article fills many gaps in Steiner's bio, and I will add a copy to Steiner's file in our archives.



Sean M. Kessler



On page 91, the author briefly mentions the origin and development of the *Deutsche Evangelischer Kirchenverein von Ohio*. He states, "The Evangelical Association eventually became the Evangelical Synod of North America. In 1921 they merged with the Reformed Church to become the Evangelical and Reformed Church." I would like to shed further light on this statement and correct one error.

The German Evangelical Church Association (or Society) of Ohio was one of a number of like-minded German Protestant groups organized by between 1840 and 1854, the earliest of which was founded near St. Louis as the *Deutscher Evangelische Kirchenverein des Westens* (German Evangelical Church Society of the West). These two organizations merged in 1858 and, after absorbing another group in 1860, adopted the name, "German Evangelical Synod of the West." Subsequent mergers changed the name in 1877 to "German Evangelical Synod of North America." "German" was dropped in 1927. The Evangelical Synod of North America merged with the Reformed Church in the U.S. in 1934, not 1921, as stated by the author.

Greiner points out that the German immigrants that founded congregations were influenced by Pietism and cherished congregational independence. I would like to note, however, that the missionary pastors saw themselves as continuing the doctrines and practices of the state churches in Germany, especially those that united Lutheran and Reformed Protestants. The Evangelical Synod identified strongly with the Evangelical Church of Prussia, which had merged Lutheran and Reformed congregations into one united Evangelical Church beginning in 1817 ("Evangelical," which in the German context has the same meaning as "Protestant," can be applied to all German Protestant denominations). Doctrinal standards for the Evangelical Synod and its antecedents were the Augsburg Confession (Lutheran), Luther's Small Catechism, and the Heidelberg Catechism (Reformed). It was not unusual for missionary pastors to alternate between Lutheran, Reformed, and Evangelical congregations in the early days. Steiner himself had served both Lutheran and Evangelical congregations at various times. I would caution that Greiner's use of the term "Evangelical Association" can be confusing, as this was the name of an unrelated group that developed into the Evangelical United Brethren, an antecedent of the United Methodist Church.

Greiner mentions that Steiner came to America with two other Basel missionaries: Friedrich Besel and David Gackenhimer. Besel served congregations in the German Evangelical Church Society of Ohio, as well as at least one Lutheran congregation. Gackenhimer served Reformed Church congregations in Pennsylvania, followed by congregations related to the Evangelical Synod in Van Wert County, Ohio and Huntington County, Indiana before his death in 1882."

I welcome and encourage all of you to reach out to me with ideas and suggestions (email me at newsletter@magsgen.com). *Bis zum nächsten Mal!*

AUSWANDERER ZUSAMMEN

IMMIGRANT CONNECTIONS

Immigrants from Southern Germany and Alsace



Bob Greiner

Dorothea Abert gave birth to her first child in January 1822 in the village of Herschberg in the Palatinate (*Pfalz*), which at the time was part of Bavaria (*Bayern*). Her daughter Dorothea was noted as illegitimate and no father was named in the Protestant Church baptism record. Another child, Elisabetha, was born in July 1824, also illegitimate with no father named. Illegitimate births were relatively common during that era in Germany. A young man might not yet have completed his apprenticeship or was not earning sufficient money to support a family, so he was not permitted to marry. Still, life went on.

Salome was Dorothea's third child, born in December 1826. The entry in the Herschberg church book for the *Nahmen der Eltern* (names of the parents) column reads:¹

Dorothea Abert von hier, beischläferin von Val. Köhler, der sich als Vater bekannt.

“Dorothea Abert from here, concubine (literally sleeper with) of Val[entine] Köhler, who is known as the father.”

Geburtsort am 17. d. d. d. Geburtsort am 25. d. d. d. Geburtsort	Valentin	Taufort Abert von hier, beischläferin von Val: Köhler am 17. d. d. d. am 25. d. d. d.	Offizier Abert. Jacob Hof. Dorothea Köhler. Elisabetha Köhler. Elisabetha Köhler. m. d. d. d.
--	----------	--	--

Salome Abert baptism record from Herschberg church book. Courtesy of Archion.

Valentine was again named as the father of their fourth illegitimate child, Sophia, born in November 1829. That was the last entry found for this couple in the Herschberg church records. There was no evidence that they married.

Several other individuals named Abert, presumed to be family members, first appeared in Herschberg in 1819. Elisabetha Eder, the wife of Philipp Heinrich Abert, died in September 1819. Philipp Heinrich died in December 1827 at age 65. They were most likely the parents of Dorothea and the other Aberts. Elisabetha Abert, daughter of Philipp Heinrich, married Gottfried Kammerdiener in 1823, had one child in 1824, and died in 1825. A younger Philipp and Magdalena

¹ Evangelische Kirche, (Herschberg, Pirmasens, Pfalz), church records, Taufen, Trauungen, Bestattungen, Konfirmationen, Kommunikanten, Sonstiges 1814-1879, baptism entry for Salome Abert, image 22; original, Zentralarchiv der Evangelischen Kirche der Pfalz; digital image, Archion.de, <http://www.archion.de/p/3657f9015f/>.

Abert had several children baptized between 1821 and 1827. There is a clue in only one record about where the family lived before arriving in Herschberg. Christina Abert was confirmed in 1823. A note with the entry simply said "*aus dem Elsass*" — from Alsace.

At the time I found these records, they were only a passing curiosity. I was researching my wife's Hartenstein family in Herschberg and this family did not seem to be related to them. It wasn't until several years later that I came across the Köhler family again.

Based on a single clue in a Pennsylvania church record, I began searching for the Hartenstein ancestors in the records of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in New York City. These records were later copied, in part, to the personal records of Rev. Frederick Geissenhainer, Jr. Since I had already studied the Herschberg records, I was surprised to find many familiar names from Herschberg in the New York church records. Valentine and Dorothea were among them.

St. Matthew's baptism records included an obvious addition at the end of the year 1831. The entry reads:²

Parents: Valentine Köhler, Dorothea Abert of Herschberg, Bavaria

Child: Carolina, born 4 December 1831 at sea – and was baptized on the 14 of December 1831 at sea by the Rev. Philip Henry Dennler.

Sponsors: Michael Scher, Elizabeth Ruff, wife of Mattias Raufsteder, Caroline Eckhart

Not only is this an interesting record of a child born at sea, but it also limits the date of immigration for this family to the two weeks between 14 December and 31 December.

Further research revealed that the Köhlers arrived in New York City on the ship *Rhone* from Le Havre on 31 December 1831.³ The ink on the passenger list is very faint, but the names and ages of the family members match with the children born in Herschberg. Dorothea's surname on the passenger list was Abert.

Another unique entry appeared in the St. Matthew's marriage records on 7 November 1833. It provided another clue about the couple. The entry reads⁴:

Valentin Koehler, now aged 33 years, a laborer residing N. 115 Willet Street, and Dorothea Abert, now aged 33 years residing at the same place, having been joined together in matrimony five years ago in Hermersweiler in the Canton of Sulz in Elsass in France by Michael Shehr, the Maire of the place – confirmed their matrimonial

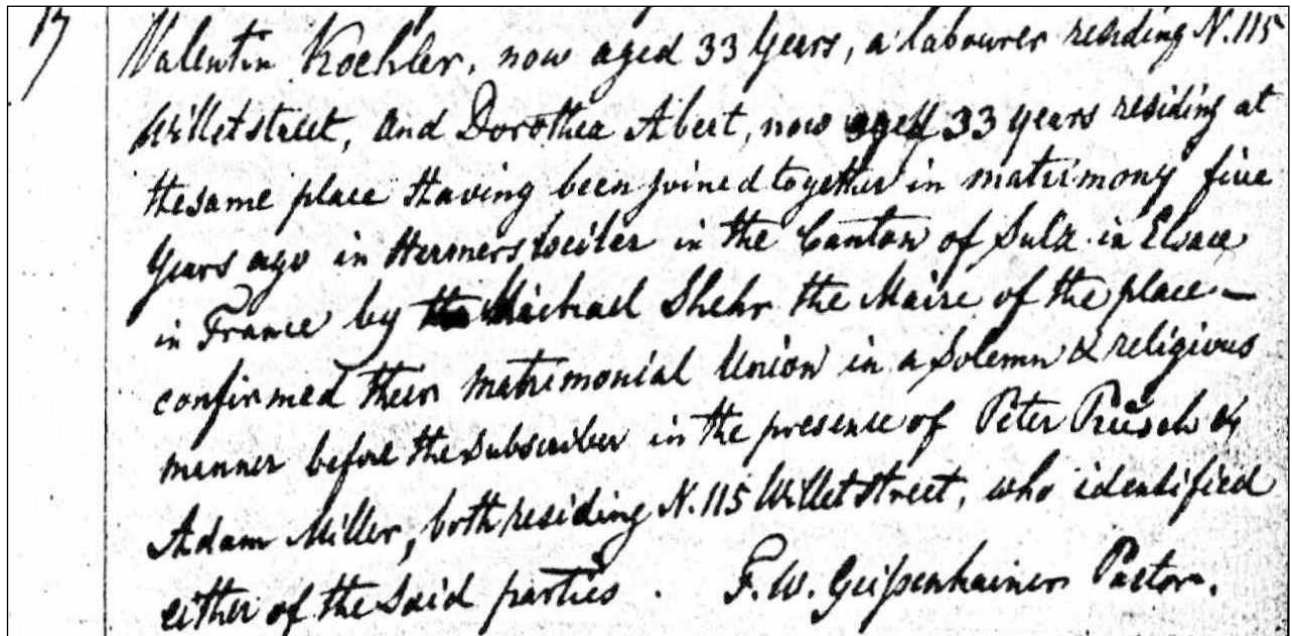
² United German Lutheran Churches (New York, New York), Communicants 1808-1838 (includes confirmations) Burials 1808-1835 Marriages 1808-1835 Baptisms 1808-1835, baptism entry for Carolina Köhler, 31 December 1831; FHL microfilm 1901795, Item 3.

³ "New York, Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957", digital image, *Ancestry.com*, (<https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=7488&h=1022252137>), V. Koehler entry, Ship Rhone, arrived 31 Dec 1831.

⁴ United German Lutheran Churches (New York, New York), Communicants 1808-1838 (includes confirmations) Burials 1808-1835 Marriages 1808-1835 Baptisms 1808-1835, marriage entry for Valentine Köhler and Dorothea Abert, 7 November 1833; FHL microfilm 1901795, Item 3.

union in a solemn & religious manner before the subscriber in the presence of Peter Prusch & Adam Miller, both residing N. 115 Willet Street, who identified either of the said parties.

F. W. Geissenhainer, Pastor



Valentine Köhler and Dorothea Abert marriage record from St. Matthew's church book

The amount of detail in this entry was unusual for Rev. Geissenhainer, as they did not usually include information about the European origin of the couple. There was another marriage on the same page for a couple and witnesses who also lived at 115 Willet Street. The people in both of these records can all be identified as immigrants from Herschberg.

Hermersweiler (French name Hermerswiller) is a community in the Canton of Sulz (French name Soultz-sous-Forêts) in the Bas-Rhin Department of France. Church and civil records are available for free on the Department of Bas-Rhin Archives website. The records are arranged by village, then by year and type of record. The types usually found are *naissances* (birth), *publication de mariages* (banns), *mariages* (marriages) and *décès* (deaths). There are also indexes (*tables décennales*) that cover ten-year periods. The images are generally very clear and after 1811 were recorded on preprinted forms. In the early 1800s, the information could be recorded in either German or French.

Using these French civil records, I was able to discover more about the Abert family. Philipp Henry Abert and Elisabetha Eder were married in Hermersweiler on 24 November 1795.⁵ (The date was actually 3 Frimaire Year IV of the French Republican Calendar, which was being used in France between 1793 and 1804). Based on their stated ages, these were obviously the same couple who later

⁵ Hermerswiller, Bas-Rhin, marriage record of Philipp Abert and Elisabetha Eder, 24 November 1795; digital image, Hermerswiller - Etat civil - Registre de mariages 1793-An IV, Archives Departementales du Bas-Rhin, (<http://archives.bas-rhin.fr/detail-document/ETAT-CIVIL-C192-P1-R59433#visio/page:ETAT-CIVIL-C192-P1-R59433-3678903>).

died in Herschberg. They bore several children in Hermersweiler between 1795 and 1800. One of those was Dorothea, born on 31 May 1800 (11 Prairial, Year VIII). The births of two more children in 1809 and 1812 were found in the nearby village of Hohweiler (French Hohwiller).

One would assume that Philipp and Elisabetha Abert had other children in the years between 1800 and 1809. However, I was not able to find any French civil records in nearby villages to confirm that. There is some evidence in the Herschberg church records to support the theory, though. Their daughter Christina was confirmed in 1823, so she was probably born about 1810. Another daughter, Elisabetha, married Gottfried Kammerdiener in Herschberg in 1823. The record stated that she was born in Schöenburg near Hermersweiler in the month of Thermidor in year X (July/August 1802). The eldest son Philipp and his wife Magdalena (maiden name Abert) were married in Hohweiler in 1815.

According to their statement in St. Matthew's record, Valentine and Dorothea were married in Hermersweiler about 1828. However, they were obviously not yet married in 1829 when their child Sophia was born in Herschberg. I found no evidence of their marriage in the civil records of Hermersweiler.

The mayor of Hermersweiler in the early 1800s was Michael Scher, whose wife was also named Abert. Their son Michael Scher was born in 1807 and arrived in New York on the same ship as the Köhlers. He was a sponsor for the baptism of Carolina Köhler, who was born at sea. My opinion is that the couple and their friends from Herschberg simply lied about the previous marriage to convince the pastor to sanctify their union.

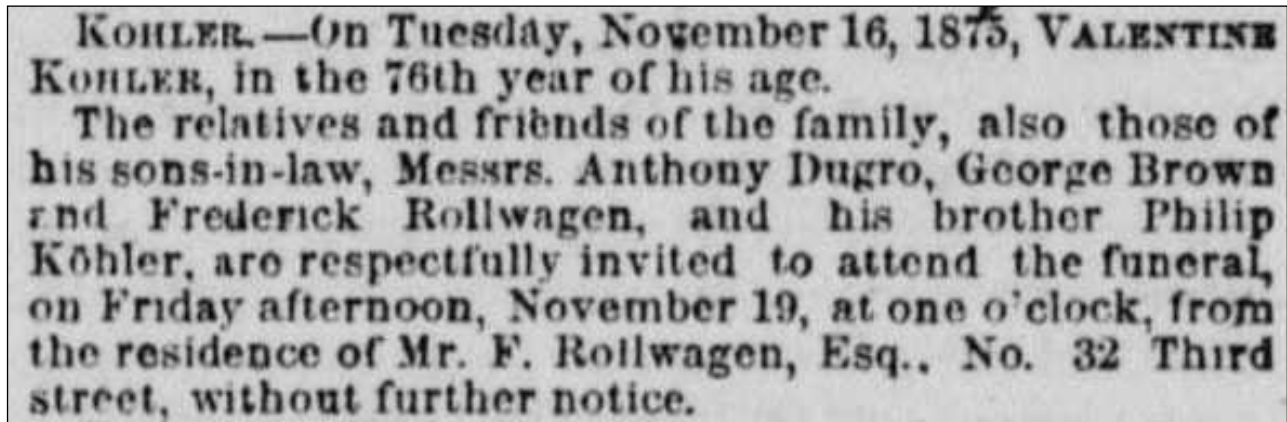
Valentine and Dorothea had three more children baptized in St. Matthew's Church between 1834 and 1838. They were Charles Frederick (1834), Louisa (1836), and Sophia (1838). Unfortunately, several of their children also died. Carolina, born at sea, died in 1833. Sophia, born in Germany, died in 1835. The second Sophia died in 1839, and Charles Frederick was not found again. The four surviving daughters—Dorothea, Elisabetha, Sarah, and Louisa—eventually married and remained in New York City.

Valentine and Dorothea Köhler do not appear in the records of Rev. Geissenhainer beyond 1839. A Valentine Keeler appeared in the 1840 census of New York City, ward 11, with a wife and four daughters.⁶ That is consistent with the known births and deaths. However, he and Dorothea were not found in any other New York City census records. I find this to be a common problem. It is frequently difficult to find ancestors in the 1850 and 1860 New York City census records. Perhaps it was difficult to obtain information from families in the crowded tenements of "Little Germany." Or perhaps the census enumerators were just not as thorough as they should have been.

Valentine wrote a will in 1860 in New York City.⁷ It did not mention his wife Dorothea, so it is likely that she had died by then. The will named his four daughters and their spouses as heirs.

⁶ 1840 U.S. census, New York, New York, population schedule, Ward 11, p. 32 (handwritten), last line, Valentine Keeler entry; image, *Ancestry.com*, citing FHL microfilm 0017197.

⁷ New York, New York County, Surrogate's Court, Valentine Koehler probate, 7 November 1875, Wills Volume 242, p. 81; "New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999", *Ancestry.com*, (<https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8800&h=7394310>).



Valentine Köhler obituary from the New York Herald

Daughters Elisabeth Köhler and Dorothea Dugro were named as executors. Valentine died on 16 November 1875 at the home of his daughter, Louisa Rollwagen. His death certificate indicated that he was born in Herschberg on 14 April 1800. A brief obituary in the New York Herald mentioned his sons-in-law and a brother⁸.

Valentine was buried in the Dugro vault at the Lutheran Cemetery in Middle Village, Queens County. It was purchased by his son-in-law, Anthony Dugro, in April 1874, shortly after the death of his wife Dorothea Dugro. Many other family members are interred in the vault. Valentine's wife, Dorothea, is probably not buried there since she died before 1860.⁹

Valentine and Dorothea Köhler family:

Valentine Köhler (1800 – 1875)

Dorothea Abert (1800 – before 1860)

Children:

1. Dorothea (1822 – 1874) m. 1841 Anthony Dugro (1823 – 1884)
2. Elisabetha (1824 – 1898) m. 1842 James Marshall (1818 – ?)
3. Sarah (Salome) (1826 – 1891) m. 1844 George Brown (1819 – 1903)
4. Sophia (1829 – 1835)
5. Carolina (1831 – 1833)
6. Charles Frederick (1834 – before 1840)
7. Louisa (1836 – 1898) m1. 1856 Frederick Rollwagen, Jr. (1835 – 1876)
m2. 1890 Arthur Engelberg (1861 – 1907)
8. Sophia (1838 – 1839)

⁸ "Marriages and Deaths", *The New York Herald*, 19 November 1875; digital image, Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress, (<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030313/1875-11-19/ed-1/seq-8/>), Valentine Kohler obituary, page 8.

⁹ Personal correspondence from a descendant of Sarah Brown who visited the cemetery and acquired information from the office.

Considering the inauspicious beginning of their lives, all four Köhler daughters died with considerable wealth. Dorothea's husband, Anthony Dugro, had a mass transit contract with the city of New York. He owned a stagecoach line that conveyed passengers along Sixth Avenue—one of the busiest streets in the city. Later he became involved in politics and was on the board of governors for the city almshouse. His will indicated that he owned considerable property at the time of his death.¹⁰ One of their sons, Philip Henry, became a wealthy Supreme Court judge in New York City. In 1892 he built and owned the Savoy Hotel near Central Park and lived there.

Elisabeth Köhler married James Marshall in 1842. They had a daughter, Wilhelmina, in 1843, but no further information about her has been found. In 1855 James and Elisabeth were living with her sister and husband, Sarah and George Brown. She was named Elisabeth Köhler in her father's will of 1860 and all later records. Either her husband died, or they had divorced. In the 1870 Federal Census she was living with the Dugro family, and in 1880 again with Sarah Brown.

Elisabeth wrote a will on 28 May 1892 and died in April 1898.¹¹ A notice published in the New York Times by the surrogate court named each of her potential heirs. One clause of her will instructed her executors to sell as much of her real property as necessary to acquire \$40,000 in cash, to be divided into five equal shares. The heirs were her nieces and nephews, as well as her sister Louise Engelberg. She also specified that two of her heirs would have the option to buy her shares in the Savoy Hotel. Obviously, Elisabeth had acquired quite a fortune for a single woman.

Sarah Köhler married George Brown, a mason, in 1844. They had several children and were found in several city census records from 1855 through 1880. Although George had not yet died, Sarah made a will herself on 14 September 1887.¹² She named her husband as executor and gave him all of her personal estate. She specifically put her real estate holdings in trust for her husband during his remaining lifetime, to be divided among their surviving children and heirs after his death. Apparently, Sarah also had extensive real estate holdings in the city. She died in April 1891 and George in July 1903.

The youngest Köhler daughter was Louisa, born in 1836. She married Frederick Rollwagen, Jr. in 1856. Frederick's parents immigrated from Hunsbach in the same region of Alsace as the Köhlers. Frederick Rollwagen, Sr. died a millionaire in 1873. His will was contested by his heirs because shortly before his death he married his housekeeper and rewrote his will. The housekeeper received the bulk of his estate and claimed to be carrying his child. After a long court battle, the New

¹⁰ New York, New York County, Surrogate's Court, Anthony Dugre (sic) probate file, 15 October 1884, Wills Volume 331, p. 212; "New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999", *Ancestry.com*, <https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8800&h=2997567>

¹¹ New York, New York County, Surrogate's Court, Elizabeth Kohler probate file, 21 September 1898, Wills Volume 604, p. 54; digital image, "New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999", *Ancestry.com*, (<https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8800&h=5949427>).

¹² New York, New York County, Surrogate's Court, Sarah Brown probate file, 4 June 1891, Wills Volume 457, p. 195; digital image, "New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999", *Ancestry.com*, (<https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=8800&h=4411863>).

York Court of Appeals eventually ruled in January 1876 that the will was invalid and the Rollwagen children should inherit his estate.

Frederick, Jr. died soon afterward, and his will was probated on 27 March 1876, so presumably Louisa benefited from his estate.¹³ She was living with her sister Sarah Brown's family in the 1880 census. In 1890 Louisa married Arthur Engelberg.

In January 1898 Louisa wrote her will in Rockland County, New York. She specifically devised numerous pieces of diamond jewelry to four of her nieces, daughters of Dorothea Dugro and Sarah Brown. She left 100 shares of preferred stock of the Savoy Hotel to her second husband. The remainder of her estate was divided between her sister Elisabeth Köhler and a trust for her granddaughter Daisy (Margaret Griswold).

Louisa's will was probated in May 1898. An account of her estate in July 1898 showed that Arthur Engelberg received \$15,000, her sister Elizabeth nearly \$25,000, and her executor \$25,000 to be held in trust.¹⁴ Obviously, Louisa benefitted from her father-in-law Frederick Rollwagen, Sr.'s estate and the subsequent early death of her husband Frederick, Jr. It is also apparent that the ownership of the Savoy Hotel was a family affair. Unfortunately, Louisa's sister Elisabeth died in August 1898, so her share was also passed on to nieces and nephews.

In May and June 1892, the New-York Tribune published a list of millionaires in New York City.¹⁵ Among those people was P. Henry Dugro, who was a judge of the Superior Court and the owner of the Savoy Hotel. It noted that his wealth was inherited and grew due to real estate investments. The estate of Fred Rollwagen was also on the list. His wealth was also based on real estate investments. Although not on the list, we see that Elisabeth Köhler and Louisa Rollwagen had also accumulated sizeable wealth based on real estate.

What we observe with the Köhlers is that without the discovery of records in several locations, it would have been difficult to trace the origins of this family. The St. Matthew's marriage record gave an indication that Dorothea was from Hermersweiler in Alsace. But nothing in the French civil records pointed to Herschberg. It was only because I was also researching families from that village that the Köhler connection was discovered. That was not by accident, as I was looking at everybody from the village. Once again, we can see the value of broadening our research to include extended families, friends, and neighbors.

¹³ Ibid, Frederick Rollwagen probate file, 18 March 1876, Wills Volume 234, p. 244, (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8800/images/005519100_00164).

¹⁴ New York, Rockland County, Surrogate's Court, Louise Engelberg (Engellg) probate file, 5 May 1898 – 28 July 1898, Wills Volume X, p. 356; Minutes, Volume W, pp. 155, 163, 209, 220; digital image, "New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999", *Ancestry.com* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8800/images/005515171_00210, https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8800/images/005515130_00485).

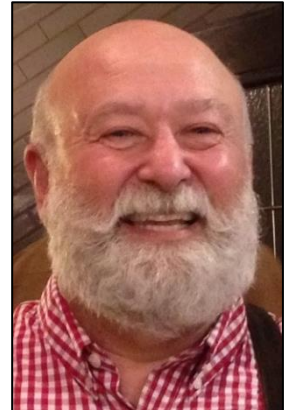
¹⁵ "American millionaires", *New-York Tribune*, 29 May 1892, p. 13 and 5 June 1892, p. 13, entry for P. Henry Dugro and Frederick Rollwagen; digital image, *Newspapers.com*, (<https://www.newspapers.com/image/146746134/?terms=rollwagen>).

DNA-ENTDECKUNGEN

DNA DISCOVERIES

Using Clustering Tools and Genetic Networks to Find Family

The use of DNA to identify family has become a valuable element of a genealogist's tool kit. But to apply the results, one must understand the concept and function of DNA relationships. Fortunately, much of the drudgery work is removed by the automation of analysis steps. DNA test companies have progressively developed and improved their reports and tools. Genetic genealogy has benefited from the work of "citizen scientists," so-called because they are mainly volunteers and hobbyists who have blazed new trails in their passion for discovering family history. These include amateur software developers who recognized specific needs of genealogists for specialized tools. That is the story behind many standard tools adopted by the test companies to maximize the effectiveness of DNA results. One success was the evolution of clustering tools that separate DNA matches into genetic networks to be exploited for ancestral relationships.



Andrew
Hochreiter

I wrote previously about the three products that are provided by DNA testing. These include the raw data, your estimated ethnicity predictions or biogeographical origins, and, most valuable for genealogists, your DNA matches. The most progressive steps have evolved in the area of methodologies and tools to analyze DNA matches.

Autosomal DNA Testing

Autosomal DNA (atDNA) was introduced for direct-to-consumer testing almost a decade after Y-DNA and mtDNA testing. Before that, it was not certain that this type of DNA could be used effectively to identify relatives. This was probably due to its randomness, recombination, and dissipation characteristics. In fact, a book written on DNA and family history in the early 2000s stated, "To the classical genealogist bent on reconstructing family trees this is about as useful as knowing one's star sign." I'm sure that based on the fantastic growth and benefits of atDNA testing, the author probably wishes these words could be recalled. In the ten years since its introduction in 2010, the understanding and employment of atDNA has exploded exponentially. Autosomal tests are offered by all the testing companies; in most cases atDNA is the only test available. The benefits are extensive including the use by both men and women and the extensive kinship coverage. The popularity of these tests is reflected in the explosive growth of company databases. It is estimated that Ancestry has about 15 million, 23andMe has about 10 million, MyHeritage has 4.2 million, and Family Tree DNA has 1 million. As the databases grew, so did the number of tools and methodologies to utilize these autosomal results. From chromosome browsers to triangulation, family historians enjoy a wealth of applications that enhances understanding of their DNA and matches.

Despite the advantages, there are also challenges. One major downside is that atDNA results cannot indicate what segments came from which parent. Knowing this is important in order to match that segment to the ancestor who it came from. This is overcome if one or both parents can test. But in the absence, “phasing” (identifying the donor parent) must be done through analysis. Different techniques and tools have been developed to help phase results and link DNA segments to specific paternal or maternal ancestors.

Emergence of Clustering Tools

	1	2	3	4
Perc				
Tim				
N.D.				
M.H				
Ami				
Joyc				
Van				
Alis				
shar				
Gler				
Apri				
Karc				
Mar				
KCo				
Ken				
mdc				
Clivi				
R.M				
Barr				
Shir				
Krisi				
Gab				
Dwi				
Elizé				

The Leeds Method

Test companies provide a list of genetic matches who share varying amounts of atDNA with you. These matches also share DNA with others who match you. These interrelationships among shared matches provide hints to the type of relationship and how DNA is shared from common ancestors. One of the most useful techniques that has emerged to separate similar genetic relatives into unique groups who possibly share DNA from a specific ancestor is called clustering. This practice started with Dana Leeds (thus called the **Leeds Method**) who devised a process to divide her matches according to mutually shared DNA. Her goal was to identify four main groups, each one associated with one grandparent. This technique, although simple, pioneered visualization of genetic networks along ancestral lines. Her method is described at:

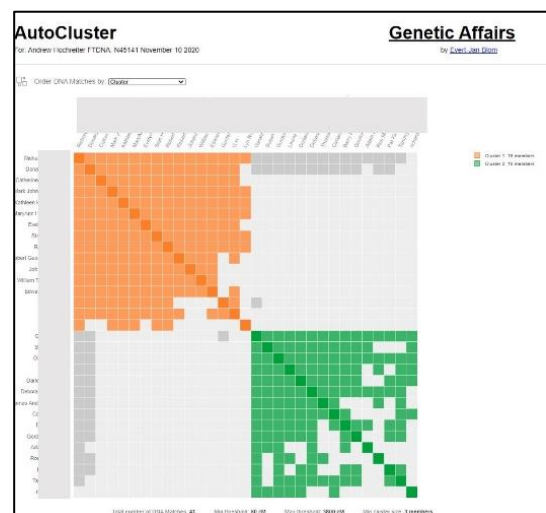
<https://www.danaleeds.com/the-leeds-method/>

It involves colorizing shared matches into grandparental groups.

Its great value is associating unknown matches with known matches to identify the common ancestor. The initial objective is to find the four groups of grandparents using second and third cousins, but additional steps can be performed to add fourth cousins and identify repeating surnames in the clusters.

When this manual technique became popular, automation soon followed. A Dutch software developer named Evert-Jan Blom created **Genetic Affairs** and another developer, Jonathon Brecher designed **Shared Clustering**. MyHeritage coordinated with Genetic Affairs to offer an Autocluster feature for matches in their database. Third-party sites DNAGedcom and GEDMatch also implemented their own versions of clustering tools for their patrons. So how do these tools differ and what can they reveal for the user?

The goals are twofold. The first is to divide your shared matches into genetic groups by DNA shared by you and other matches. The next is to identify each group with a common ancestor related to everyone in the



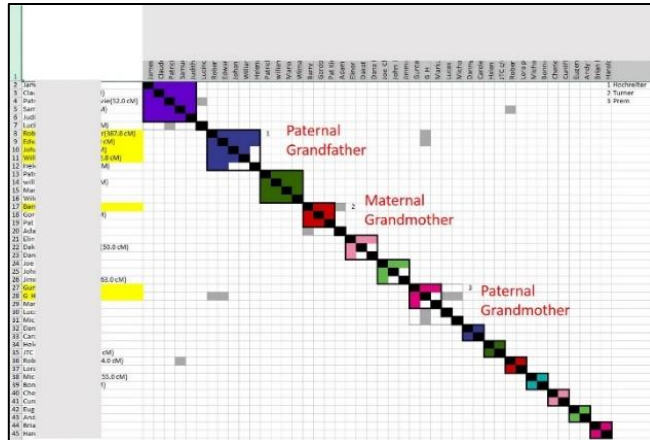
Two clusters that represent two grandparent couples (Genetic Affairs)

genetic group. Steps to use clustering tools at the various sites are similar. Examples are from different cluster sites to illustrate their results.

Step 1: Gather Your Match List

Each test company maintains a list of your DNA matches. This list is uploaded to the cluster tool to generate the automated clustering. An additional subset list can be compiled of people who share DNA with both you and your match. These are like a third reference point of others who have matching DNA. Each company calls this derivative list something different. It is “Shared Matches” at Ancestry, “In Common With” (ICW) at Family Tree DNA, “Relatives in Common” at 23andMe, “Shared DNA matches” at MyHeritage, and “People who match both kits, or 1 of 2 kits” at GEDmatch. This dynamic allows clustering into genetic groups. The tools upload the company data of DNA matches that you want to cluster, including the DNA matches and the subset list of sharing.

Step 2: Set Parameters and Run the Tool



Changing cM settings will divide clusters differently (DNAGedcom)

Next, the tool can be run to create the clusters. There are parameters that can be chosen, or you can run the default settings at the cluster site. These parameters can include the minimum cluster size (2 or more), minimum cMs shared, maximum cMs shared, and minimum size of largest segment, among other options. Evert-Jan Blom explains it well in his website description:

<https://geneticaffairs.com/features-autocluster.html>.

“AutoCluster organizes your DNA matches into shared match clusters that likely represent branches of your family. In the visualization of

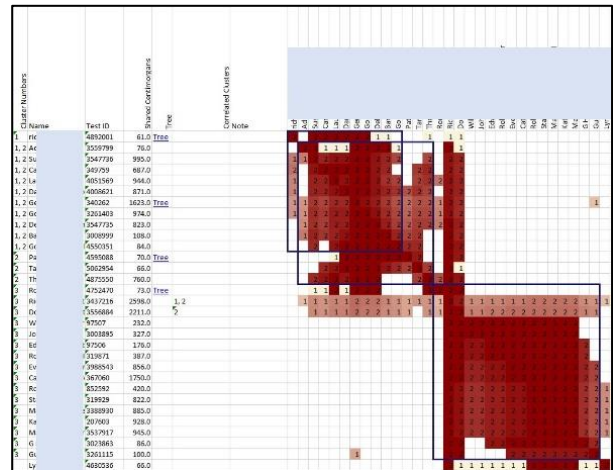
this analysis, each of the colored cells represents an intersection between two of your matches, meaning, they both match you and each other. If we would perform this clustering of matches using first cousins, they would sort into two groups: maternal and paternal. However, if we cluster our matches based on our 2nd cousins, they could form into four groups. Dana Leeds of the Leeds method suggests starting the first analysis using matches between 400 and 90 cM.” Adjusting these or other default settings can refine the clustering results. If there are no clusters at all, a reduction of the lower cM threshold would possibly help. Sometimes, an increase to the upper cM threshold is needed. A large number of clusters can be reduced by decreasing the range between the lower and upper cM thresholds.

Step 3: Review the Clusters

These tools produce an appealing graphic when they align the matches into groups of related cousins. Watch as some programs rearrange the names in the list into separate clusters. Each group has its own color, which helps to visually define them. The names of your matches are shown across

the top and left side of the graph. A diagonal line of squares runs from the top left to the bottom right indicating where the same person intersects with him or herself. The other intersections create the squares of clusters of those who share DNA closely and therefore usually share common ancestors. This automation easily forms your shared matches into groups that can be researched to find the related ancestor. The ease of this procedure is reflected by Jim Bartlett, author of the blog “Segmentology” (<https://segmentology.org/>). Jim is an engineer who spent years grouping his matches in a spreadsheet according to segment and common ancestor represented in that piece of DNA. He lauded

clustering tools by saying he could have saved 10 years of work if the tools had been around earlier. But his experience is our gain as he shares his expertise in the excellent articles about DNA segments in his blog. The clustering tools have validated his work and he encourages everyone to try clustering.



Example from Shared Clustering tool

Step 4a: Find the Common Ancestor or Couple

So, do you stop after producing a colorful Mondrian rendering of your genetic groups? This would not accomplish much towards revealing family history. It is necessary at this point to analyze the clusters. The goal of this phase is to try to identify which ancestor and what mutual segment the group shares with each other. The clusters represent genetic networks that can be exploited to gain knowledge about your ancestry. Analysis is afforded in a couple ways. One way is to find a known relative in a cluster. These would include your closer relatives whose relationship is defined or previously unknown matches with whom you have already traced kinship to a common ancestor. Many times, you can quickly identify a cluster with the known relationship. For example, the clustering of paternal second or third cousins may indicate the grandparent who is common to all of them. The clusters can be labeled by grandparent or ancestral couple. The unknown matches in the group can be correlated and researched with a focus on this ancestor's family.

Analyzing the results can be difficult. You must revert to traditional sleuthing to find common ancestors. Family trees are the key to identifying shared family lines. Refer to family trees of matches to find common surnames or ancestral locations. As everyone has experienced, many trees are absent, incomplete, or erroneous. Many family trees do not provide adequate information, which forces you to contact the tree owner or match. This may require building someone else's tree to find the connection.

Ethnicity can also inform on ancestral identity. I can find my German cousins in some clusters. They can appear in two different clusters: one that aligns with my paternal grandfather and another with my paternal grandmother's line. By reviewing the other unknown matches in the cluster, I have the advantage of the knowledge that we share German roots. If any of them have family trees, I can see which side of them have German surnames or locations.

Ancestry's restrictions on allowing downloading of shared match data has introduced hurdles to correlating information from their family trees. One device that I use is to maintain a spreadsheet of my matches from all the test companies to cross reference match data, family trees, and records. If I find that a match at FTDNA also tested at Ancestry, I can use their more dynamic family trees, Thrulines, or Hints to identify common ancestors. Indeed, this becomes a necessary but laborious process.

Step 4b: Identify the common DNA Segment from the Ancestor

Clustering sites also send additional documents generated with the clusters. Genetic Affairs includes **Autocluster Cluster Information** (a spreadsheet with details), **Chromosome segments from DNA matches in clusters** (Chromosome browser view), and **Chromosome segment statistics per AutoCluster cluster** (identifying segments for each cluster). The spreadsheet provides details of each match. This will facilitate identification of the DNA segment(s) associated with the groups of genetic cousins. This information may also be shown as pop-up data when scrolling over the clusters in the graphic view. Data can be "painted" on chromosomes at many sites. DNA Painter has a useful tool called **Cluster Auto Painter** that works with Genetic Affairs, MyHeritage, GEDmatch, and DNAGedcom. You can produce a chromosome map of your clusters from these sources, create notes, label paternal or maternal clusters, recognize pileups, and inspect cluster segments. The value of identifying a segment with an ancestor is that future unknown matches who share the same segment can be associated with that ancestor.

Some Additional Points

- The gray ungrouped boxes represent how people match others outside the cluster. This occurs when matches are related to more than one set of ancestors and the match can belong to more than one cluster. A shortfall of clustering is that it limits a match to a single cluster membership. The gray box indicates that one of the matches can belong in both clusters.
- You should experiment with additional parameter settings besides the default in order to optimize clusters.
 - Setting the minimum to less cMs will increase the number of shared matches and add more clusters.
 - Setting the maximum can add known close relatives who define identified relationships and ancestors.
 - Reducing the range between the minimum and maximum will reduce the number of clusters.
 - Some clustering tools limit your parameter reset options. Genetic Affairs has incremented selections that will not allow finer gradations. Their dropdown menu offers increments in fixed amounts, such as 250 cM or 300 cM but not 275 cM. MyHeritage automatically sets the parameters based on your individual matches to

maximize the cluster results. Shared Clustering and GEDmatch allow you to type in any value.

- Identify each grandparent group. Then proceed to earlier ancestors. Employ Jim Bartlett's methodology of "Walking the Clusters Back" at:

<https://segmentology.org/2019/12/01/walking-the-clusters-back/>

Jim expertly explains the process and emphasizes the iterative steps required to readjust as you go.

- Pick a Clustering threshold high enough to give us four Clusters—one for each grandparent.
 - Tag each Match in these Clusters to the appropriate Ancestor (grandparent).
 - Adjust the threshold to get (roughly) 8 Clusters (one for each Great-Grandparent).
 - These Clusters would include all the Tagged Matches who would indicate which grandparent line each new Cluster was in; as well as new, generally more distant Matches, who would then separate these Clusters into Great-Grandparents.
 - Tag or re-Tag each Match in these Clusters to the appropriate Ancestor (Great-Grandparent).
 - Lower the threshold to get 16 Clusters and repeat the process.
- Each shared-match cluster is represented by a color. Some sites provide a "heat map" to indicate the strength of the match. Cluster members are interrelated and likely share a common ancestor. But the common ancestor may vary between members because of differences in the generational levels. So, one cluster may represent a paternal grandparent, but another skips to a maternal second-great-grandparent.

Clustering adds a valuable automated and visible process to identifying relationships in your genetic network. These tools are constantly improving as they are revised and expanded, and they may be just the thing you need to break through a brick wall in your genealogy.

Andrew Hochreiter, MEd, MIS, is a genetic genealogist who manages multiple DNA surname projects and has successfully applied DNA to trace several related family branches overseas. He is an experienced genealogist and has 12 years involved with genetic genealogy. He instructs continuing education courses in basic and advanced genetic genealogy at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. He is a facilitator for the genetic genealogy module of the on-line Genealogical Research Course at Boston University.

Finding Ancestors in *Taufscheine*

As promised last issue, we are continuing to run the *Taufscheine* submitted to *Der Kurier* by Dr. Jonathan Acker. If you are of Pennsylvania German heritage, German-American heritage, or just a fan of Pennsylvania folk art, membership in the Pennsylvania German Society at the “patron” level or higher includes a copy of the annual volume, <https://www.pgs.org/Membership.aspx>.



This form was done for Anson Peter Stern, son of Jeremiah Stern and Hettieann Folk. He was born 27 March 1893 in Wessnersville (now Stony Run) in Berks County and was baptized on 9 April 1893 by Pastor Benneville Smoll. This form was completed by noted scrivener J.G.E. Franck.

Wann wir kaum geboren werden,
Ist vom ersten Lebensritt
Bis zum letzten Grab der Erden,
Nur ein kurz gemess'ner Schritt.
Ach! mit jedem Augenblick
Gehet unsre Kraft zurück;
Und wir sind mit jedem Jahre,
Alle reif zur Todten Bahre.

O, wer weiß, in welcher Stunde,
Uns die letzte Stimme weckt;
Denn Gott hat's mit seinem Munde
Keinem Menschen noch entdeckt.
Wer sein Haus nun wohl befestigt,
Gehet mit Freuden aus der Welt:
Da die Sicherheit hingegen,
Ewiges Sterben kann erregen.

Geburts- und Taufschein.

Diesen beyden Ehegatten,
Als: *Daniel Brobst* und seiner
ehelichen Hausfrau *Maria* eine geborne
Brobst ist ein *Jesus* zur Welt
gebohren, den *22* Tag *Januar* im Jahr
unsers Herrn, *1824* Diese *Knabe* ist
gebohren in *Lynn* in *Lehigh*
County, im Staat *Pennsylvania* in Nord-Amerika,
und ist getauft worden und erhielt den Namen *Reuben*
Brobst den *7* Tag *März*
im Jahr unsers Herrn *1824* von Hrn. *Pastor Dering*
Die Taufzeugen waren *Misael Brobst*
Samuel Brobst *John Brobst*

Ich bin getauft, ich steh' im Bunde,
Durch meine Tauf, mit meinem Gott!
So sprech ich stets mit frohem Munde,
In Kreuz, in Trübsal, Angst und Noth.
Ich bin getauft, des freu ich mich,
Die Freude bleibt mir ewiglich.

Ich bin getauft, ob ich gleich sterbe,
Was schadet mir das kühle Grab?
Ich weiß mein Vaterland und Erbe,
Das ich bey Gott im Himmel hab:
Nach meinem Tod ist mir bereit,
Des Himmels Freud und Feyer-Kleid.

Ich bin getauft in deinem Namen,
Gott Vater, Sohn und heiliger Geist!
Ich bin gezählt zu Deinem Saamen,
Zum Volk, das Dir geheiligt heist.
O! weich ein Glück ward dadurch mein,
Herr, laß mich dessen würdig seyn!

Alentau,
Gedruckt und zu haben bey
Ebner und Co.
1821.

This form was done for Reuben Brobst, son of Daniel Brobst and Maria Brobst. He was born on 22 January 1824 in Lynn Township in Lehigh County and was baptized on 7 March 1824 by Pastor Dering. It is not known who completed this form.

Wenn wir kaum geboren werden,
Ist, vom ersten Lebenstritt,
Bis zum letzten Grad der Edele,
Nur ein kurzgekaufter Schritt.
Ach! mit jedem Augenblick
Gehet auf're Kraft zu rück,
Und wir sind mit jedem Jahre,
Allnäher zur Todendagere.

Had' wer weiß, in welcher Stunde
Uns die letzte Stunde weicht,
Denn Gott hat's mit seinem Munde
Keinem Menschen noch entdeckt.
Wer sein Haus nun wohl bestellt,
Gehet mit Freuden aus der Welt;
Da die Sicherheit hingegen,
Ewig's Erben kann erregen.



Geburts- und Tauf-Schein.

Diesen beiden Ehegatten, als:

Herr Friederich Hill, und seiner ehelichen
Hausfrau Sarah, geborene Hill,
ist ein Tochter, zur Welt geboren, 8. Tag
Februar, im Jahr unser's Herrn, 1821. Die
Tochter, ist geboren in Richmond Township,
in Berks County, im Staat Pennsylvania.
in Nord-Amerika; und erhielt durch die Heilige Taufe den Namen
Philippina, den 17. Tag, Junius,
im Jahr, 1821, von dem Ehrw. Hrn. Harver, C. Hermann.
Die Taufzeugen waren: Friederich Hill, und seine Ehe-
frau Catharina. Des Kindes Großeltern.





Ich bin getauft, ich hab' im Bunde,
Durch meine Taufe, mit meinem Gott!
So sprech' ich stets mit frohem Munde,
In Frey, in Trübsal, Angst und Noth.
Ich bin getauft, des Frey' ich mich,
Die Freude bleibt mir ewiglich.

Ich bin getauft, ich hab' gleich Frey,
Das schadet mir das kalte Frey!
Ich weiß mein Vaterland und Erbe,
Das ich des Hells im Himmel hab'.
Nach meinem Tod' ist mir bereit
Des Himmels Frey und Heiligkeit.

Erreding,
Gedruckt und zu haben
bey
Daniel Meeks.




This form was done for Philippina Hill, daughter of Friederich Hill and Sarah Hill. She was born 8 February 1821 in Richmond Township in Berks County and was baptized on 17 June 1821 by Pastor C. Hermann. This form was completed by an unknown scrivener that has been given the name of Dotted One Artist.



This form was done for Herman Samuel Levan, son of Peter Levan and Maria Herman. He was born 9 March 1832 in Maxatawny Township in Berks County and was baptized on 24 May 1832 by Pastor Jaeger. This form was completed by an unknown scrivener that has been given the name of Footed Letter Artist.



NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY®

National Genealogical Society Invites Nominations for its 2021 Awards & Competitions

FALLS CHURCH, VA, 19 October 2020—The National Genealogical Society (NGS) invites individuals, societies, and organizations to participate in its [2021 Awards and Competitions](#) program. NGS annually recognizes excellence in the field of genealogy. This year it has expanded its program to reflect its merger with the Federation of Genealogical Societies. **The deadline for submission of nominations is 15 December 2020.**

The [NGS Awards](#) program recognizes scholarship, service, excellence, and achievement in the fields of genealogy, history, and biography by presenting awards to individuals, societies, and organizations. The Society's [competitions](#) challenge individuals and societies!

“We encourage you to nominate an organization or an individual you work with, research with, or admire for an award. We hope you will also consider participating in one of our competitions,” said Janet L. Bailey, chair of the awards committee. “There are so many outstanding individuals, societies, and organizations that deserve national recognition. We hope their peers will consider nominating them before December 15.”

Founded in 1903, the [National Genealogical Society](#) is dedicated to genealogical education, exemplary standards of research, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Arlington, Virginia-based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, and guidance in research. It also offers many opportunities to interact with other genealogists. On 1 October 2020, NGS and the Federation of Genealogical Societies merged, making support for genealogy societies, family history associations, and other organizations an important part of the NGS mission. We welcome your organization to the new NGS.



2021 INTERNATIONAL German Genealogy Conference

INTERNATIONAL GERMAN GENEALOGY PARTNERSHIP

Virtual Conference, 17-24 July 2021

**Details
to
come!**

RESEARCHING
TOGETHER
WORLDWIDE
**WELTWEIT
GEMEINSAM
FORSCHEN**

Registration beginning January 2021!

www.iggp.org or
www.PlaybackIGGP.com

UNSERE SPRACHBLÄTTER

OUR LANGUAGE LEAVES

Mit dem Seeschiffe...

As a descendant of an early German immigrant (sometimes called a Palatine) in the 18th Century, I have read numerous accounts of similar early travelers to American soil. The route is typically down the Rhine to Rotterdam, board a ship that stops briefly in England to meet legal requirements and then head across the Atlantic to the port of Philadelphia, passengers spending up to two months on a sailing vessel.

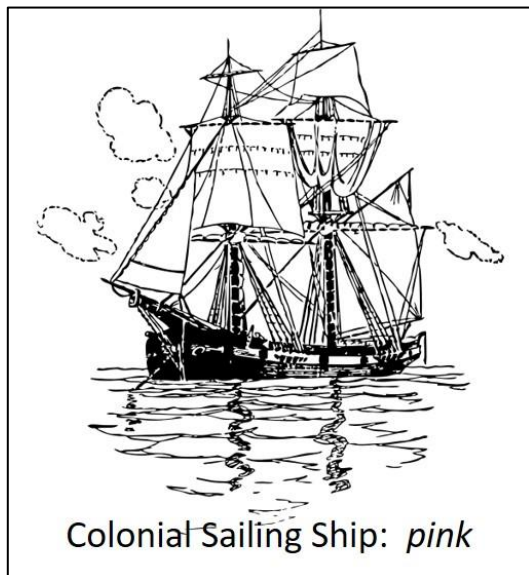


Ken Weaver

What does all that have to do with German genealogy language issues, you ask? Perhaps it is not as critical an issue as being able to read and decipher entries in an old German baptismal record or decoding a marriage record from the *Standesamt*, but I believe it is important for German researchers to get the name of the vessel on which their ancestors were passengers correct! And that involves a language issue; not a German one necessarily, but an English one.

I recently read an account of a German researcher who claims his ancestor arrived in Philadelphia in the 1800s on the *Bark Pendleton* and seeing just one more inaccurate naming of the ancestral ship made me decide that it was time to do something to correct the situation.

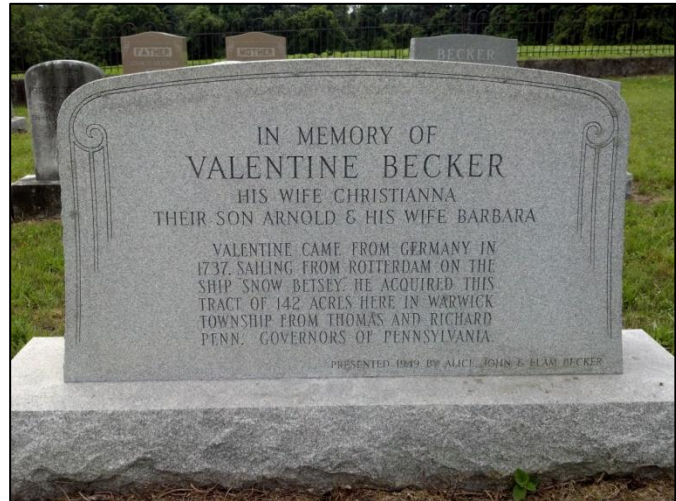
As I am hopeful that readers fully understand, language is an ever-changing issue and words and concepts that we use today were not necessarily in use in the 1700s and vice versa. I highly doubt that any of our 18th Century ancestors would understand the term “computer programmer” any more than we have a handle on the many, many names in German for a farmer. That said, the names of the various types of sailing vessels used in the 18th and 19th Centuries are not used in modern language and in some cases, are no longer defined in modern dictionaries as sailing ships.



Colonial Sailing Ship: *pink*

The types of various 18th Century sailing vessels include “pink,” “snow,” “bilander,” and “brig;” the “bark” appeared in the early 19th Century. Each of these has spelling variations, but they name types of sailing ships and are not part of the ship’s official name. It is difficult for me to tell one colonial-era ship from another but suffice it to say that these sailing ships vary according to size, number of masts, and the types of sails attached to those masts. I discovered a unique website that explains the differences among all of the “era of sail” type ships and if you visit this informative site, you will see that the ones that I have named above are but a small handful of all the many ships sailing the seas years ago: http://www.thepirateking.com/ships/ship_types.htm.

But how did it happen that modern-day genealogy researchers think their ancestors arrived aboard the *Pink Mary*, *Snow Enterprise*, *Bark Pendleton*, or *Bilander Townsend*? My own family believed for years that a German immigrant ancestor on my mother's side arrived on a ship called the *Snow Betsey* in 1737 thanks to the published family history written by my great-grandmother's half-cousin in 1901. The family so believed her story that they erected a cenotaph in the family burial plot in Lancaster County that tells the story of Valentin Becker arriving on the *Snow Betsey*.



(Sadly, it took years of further research to discover that our Valentin did not arrive on the *Betsey*, as it should have been called, but on another vessel named the *Allen* in 1729. Our family historian of 1901 did not check all of her facts; the *Betsey* didn't even arrive in Philadelphia until 1739, not 1737!)

But in spite of all of her errors, why did my cousin believe the ship was named the *Snow Betsey* and so many others tie the type of sailing vessel to the actual name of the ship?

For some logical answer to that question, I turned to the seminal work about 18th Century German immigrants sailing into the Port of Philadelphia, penned by I. Daniel Rupp: *A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French and other Immigrants in Pennsylvania from 1727 to 1776*, published in 1927. This extensive volume contains the passenger lists from numerous ships that arrived in the Port of Philadelphia in that fifty-year span and is written in both German (in Fraktur) and English.

I went through the book page by page looking for ships that were indicated as snows, brigs, bilanders, or pinks. I found fifty such vessels and was not sure that the issue was totally related to Rupp's listing. About half of the English entries for these types of ships were written with the words snow, brig, pink or bilander not capitalized, and were used in a prepositional phrase, that the immigrants were imported "in the snow *Molly*". In German, the phrase used in Rupp's book was "*mit dem Seeschiffe Molly*". I was sure that the issue was related to the fact that all German nouns, like *Seeschiff*, are capitalized (the -e was added to *Seeschiff* in older German in this type of prepositional phrase), but it appears, at least for the entries up to 1750, that the types of ships in the English version were not capitalized.

Listings in the Rupp book after 1750 shortened the English entries and got rid of the narrative using complete sentences, beginning each entry with the type of ship and its name: *Snow Rowand*, *Brig Dolphin*, etc. I became more certain that these later entries were the reason that researchers today think their ancestor's vessel's name included the type of ship.

I moved on to the other definitive books about early German ancestors written by Ralph Beaver Strassburger and William Hinke, entitled *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, and looked up the fifty vessels that I noted from the Rupp volume. It is this three-volume set that I am relatively sure

is the cause of capitalized type of ship being included in the actual name. Strassburger and Hinke fairly consistently capitalized the type in their narratives before each of the passenger lists: “in the *Snow Thistle*,” “in the *Brig Mary*,” “in the *Bilander Oliver*.”

What is most interesting, however, is that in both the table of contents and the index to the volume, the type of ship is not included with the actual name (with one exception). So, Strassburger and Hinke knew that snow, bilander, brig, pink, etc. were not part of the ship’s name, but rather the type of vessel each was.

In the Rupp volume, he included in his German narratives the actual words for the various types of ships. A snow is indicated as a *Seeschiff*; a brig is a *Brigg*; a brigantine, a *Schnellfegler* or *Rennschiff*; a bilander, a *Lastschiff*. As I stated earlier in this article, the language of yesteryear is not necessarily the language of today. Only *Seeschiff* and *Brigg* can be found in a modern German-English dictionary. In fact, *Schnellfegler* is not even in older German dictionaries and I could find only one reference in an old German text that used the word at all. That said, I want to remind readers that German words used centuries earlier are not necessarily going to translate well using 21st Century tools such as Google Translate or current German-English dictionaries, not to mention that your early German immigrant ancestor came on the *Betsey*, not the *Snow Betsey*!

As a native Pennsylvania Dutchman, Weaver can trace most every line of ancestors to a German immigrant in the 18th century, so it was only natural that he learn to speak German and did so under the tutelage of a very inspiring immigrant high school German teacher. Majoring in German at Millersville University, he studied at Philipps-Universität as a junior and upon graduation began a career as a German teacher and later became a principal. Upon retirement from the public schools, he taught at the college level until moving to Florida. Feel free to e-mail suggestions for this column to kenneth.n.weaver@gmail.com.

VORSCHRIFT IST VORSCHRIFT**STICK TO THE SCRIPT**

Online Translation Tools: To Use or Not to Use?

**Katherine Schober**

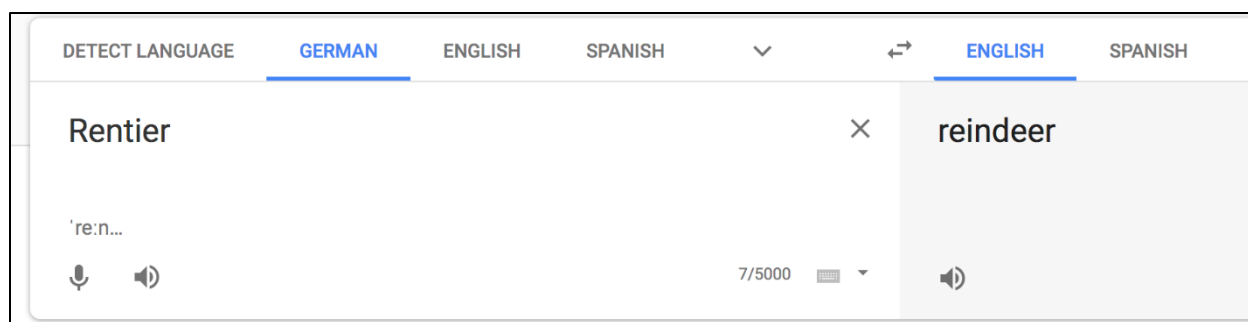
One of the most common questions I get asked as a translator is, “Can’t I just put the entire document in Google Translate?” I get it. If you do not speak German, puzzling out the information in your ancestors’ records can be tough, and you want an easy fix. The answer to this question is a bit more complicated, however. While it is not advisable to put your entire document in Google Translate, you can certainly use online translation tools to assist you in your work. Below are four popular online translation tools and my thoughts on each.

Google Translate

Google Translate is perhaps the most well-known online translation tool. While Google Translate can work well for individual words (such as *Bruder* for “brother”) or very short phrases, you do need to be cautious when using it for anything else. Why?

1. Genealogy documents contain many old-fashioned words and idioms that this machine has not been programmed to recognize. Google Translate will either translate these old-fashioned words incorrectly or not translate them at all—leaving you stumped as to what that important word or phrase in your document means.
2. Google Translate cannot always infer the correct meaning of the word for the context of your specific document. Take the English word “run”, for example. Run can mean “jog quickly” (She runs in the park.), “manage” (She runs a business.), “a tear” (a run in your stockings), and so on. How is Google to know which definition your document requires for your German word?
3. Google Translate sometimes translates German grammar incorrectly. German grammar is complicated. I have translated German sentences, for instance, that are almost half a page long (not fun!). With all of these phrases within phrases, Google Translate often gets confused, leaving you with a jumbled up meaning of what your author was trying to say.

That being said, Google Translate is continuing to improve, so feel free to use this tool—just try to stick to individual words or short phrases to give the site more margin for error. If you can, verify the definition provided with a second source.



In the Google Translate example above, the German word *Rentier* is translated as “reindeer.” While that is certainly a correct translation, in genealogy documents, the word *Rentier* actually means *pensioner*. A slight difference for a description of your ancestor!

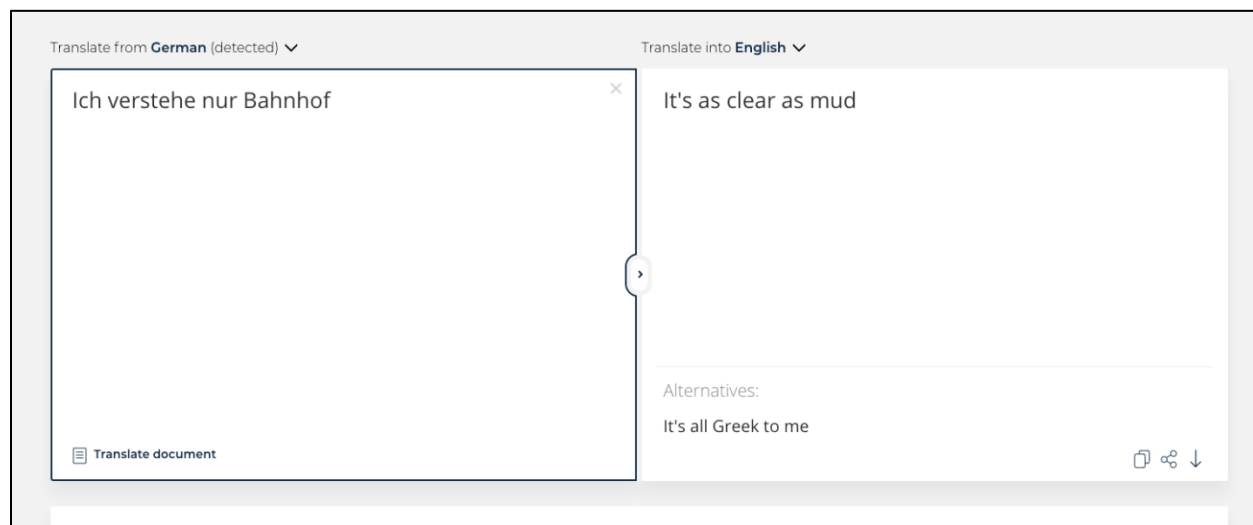
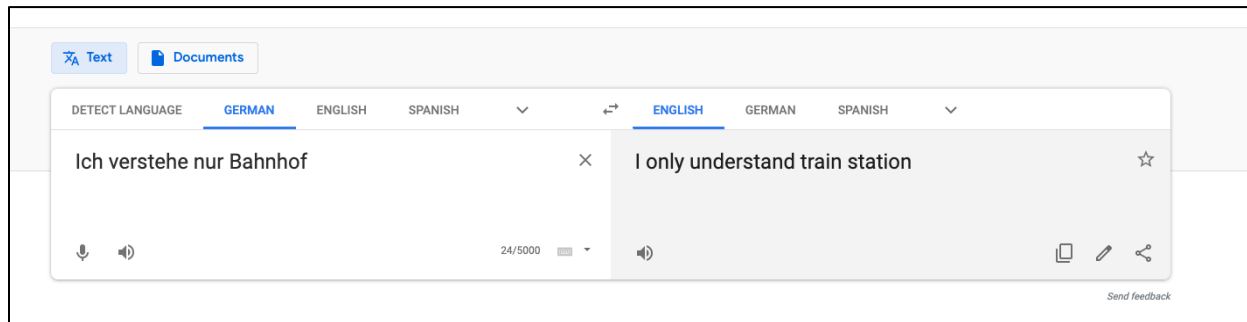
Deepl

Deepl.com is a relatively new translation tool. While it has similar shortcomings to Google Translate in terms of genealogy documents, it seems to be more accurate overall. It is helpful to use both tools together—copy and paste your phrase into Google Translate, and then copy and

paste the same phrase into DeepL. Do you get a similar result? Does one site give you a better translation than the other?

If you are dealing with idioms, I would advise using DeepL over Google Translate. While Google Translate still tends to translate idioms word for word, providing you with a literal translation (“cats and dogs are actually falling out of the sky” instead of “it’s raining very hard”), DeepL will often provide you with the actual meaning of the idiomatic phrase.

In the following example, I typed the German idiom *Ich verstehe nur Bahnhof* (“I don’t understand anything at all”) into both tools. Google translated the phrase literally, giving you the result “I only understand train station”. This would make no sense to you as an English speaker and could completely change what you think your ancestor’s document means. DeepL, however, recognized that the phrase was an idiom, translating it as “It’s as clear as mud” and providing you with an alternative below of “It’s all Greek to me.” This is the correct translation of the idiom. One point for DeepL!



Linguee

If you have a word or short phrase and want to be more certain of an accurate translation, Linguee is the site for you. This tool shows you your German word or phrase translated into English by actual translators instead of machines. Upon clicking search, the site provides you with

the word's definition, as well as various sample sentences that include your word or phrase in a specific context (in both German and English). Scroll through the examples and find which definition of the word best matches the context of your document.

Linguee English ↔ German ▼ ä ö ü ß

verlobt

Dictionary German-English

verlobt *adjective / past participle*

engaged

Wir waren vor unserer Hochzeit drei Jahre lang verlobt. We were engaged for three years before our wedding.
 Das verlobte Paar heiratet nächste Woche. The engaged couple is getting married next week.
 Sie waren ein Jahr lang verlobt, bevor sie heirateten. They had been engaged for a year before they got married.
 Wir sind verlobt und planen jetzt unsere Hochzeit. We are engaged and currently planning our wedding.
 Sie sind verlobt, aber noch nicht verheiratet. They are engaged but not married yet.

verloben *verb*

get engaged

Verloben *noun, neuter*

engagement

Examples:

verlobt sein v – be betrothed v · be engaged v

See also:

sich^{Akk} verloben v – get engaged v · become engaged v · plight v

© Linguee Dictionary, 2019

External sources (not reviewed)

Simona war verlobt und wollte eine Familie gründen, doch sollte sie nicht heiraten, wollte sie Mutter Teresa von Kalkutta [...] ↳ simonaservadidio.org	Simona was engaged and would have formed a family but had she not got married she would have imitated Mother Teresa of Calcutta, [...] ↳ simonaservadidio.org
[...] der Energieerzeugung ist die Leistung aufrechterhalten, indem sie Aminosäuren aus den Muskeln, die sind nicht verlobt. ↳ best4muscle.com	[...] because energy production is maintained by taking amino acids from the muscles that are not engaged in the performance. ↳ best4muscle.com
[...] falsch beschuldigt, Ehebruch begangen zu haben, während sie verlobt war (vor der Hochzeit), falls sie zu der Zeit zwischen zwölf [...] ↳ hasidicuniversity.org	[...] accuses his wife of having committed adultery while she was betrothed (before marriage), if she was between twelve years and [...] ↳ hasidicuniversity.org
Ja, war es denn nötig, so könnte man fragen, dass Maria verlobt war, so dass sich der Verdacht ergab, etwas sei passiert? ↳ misia.sk	Was it really necessary, one could ask, that Mary was engaged, thus allowing the suspicion to come up that something might have happened? ↳ misia.sk

Usually, the translation that occurs the most on the right side is the accurate translation but be sure that it makes sense within the context of your own genealogy document.

Word Reference

married

LISTEN:

US

UK: * /'mærid/ | US: /'mærid/ , (mar'ēd)

[Definition](#) | [auf Spanisch](#) | [Englische Synonyme](#) | [englische Kollokation](#) | [Conjugator \[EN\]](#) | [Im Kontext](#) | [Bilder](#)

From the verb **marry**: (⇒ [conjugate](#))

married is: [i](#)

[v past](#)
[v past p](#)

WordReference

WR Reverse (8)

Auf dieser Seite: [married](#), [marry](#)

WordReference English-German Dictionary © 2020:

Wichtigste Übersetzungen

Englisch	Deutsch
married <i>adj</i> Is he married or single? Ist er verheiratet oder single?	verheiratet <i>V Part Perf</i> vermählt <i>V Part Perf</i>
married (with/to [sth]) <i>adj</i> <i>figurative</i> (joined closely) In his view, technology should be married with pleasing design. So gesehen sollte Technologie mit schönem Design verheiratet sein.	verheiratet mit [jmd] <i>Adj + Präp</i>
married <i>adj</i> (conjugal) How is married life treating you? Und, wie bekommt dir das Eheleben?	Ehe- <i>Präp</i>
be married to [sth] <i>adj</i> <i>figurative</i> (be dedicated to [sth]: job, idea) My boyfriend is married to his job, but I'm a workaholic as well! Mein Freund lebt für seine Arbeit, ich jedoch genauso.	sehr für etwas engagiert sein <i>VP</i> (übertragen) für etwas leben <i>Präp + Vi</i>

Word Reference is a great online dictionary that often provides sentence examples for the word in question. Again, this helps you to understand if your word is being translated correctly to match the context of your own document. Notice how the site provides various meanings and examples for the word “married” in the above example.

We are lucky we live in an age where there are so many translation tools available on the Internet. However, it is important to understand how each tool works, as this will allow you to ensure you are translating your German words as accurately as possible. Otherwise, you may end up with a reindeer for an ancestor!

Schober is the author of the book, *Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting*, and creator of the online course, *Reading the Old German Handwriting*. Her business is SK Translations, found on the web at www.SKTranslations.com.

The Frankfurt Consulate Came to the Rescue: Helping Americans in Need in 1902

BY KENNETH W. HEGER, PH.D.

Over the past several years, MAGS has actively described and indexed many records of American consulates in German and explained how the records benefit family historians. Those articles and guides often contain references to the steps consulates took to help Americans in need, especially Americans who ran afoul of local laws. Because of the high-profile nature of these legal activities, it is easy to overlook the actions consular employees took to aid others. That is especially true for destitute Americans, people who needed money, lodging, or help with transportation to return to the United States. This short article gives you a great overview of work the American Consulate-General in Frankfurt-am-Main did in 1902 to help needy Americans, a good topic for the Christmas season. It also illustrates how a single document can hold a tremendous amount of data.

Instruction from Washington¹

To evaluate the level of assistance its employees were providing directly to American citizens abroad, on 16 January 1903, the State Department issued a Circular Instruction, ordering each consulate to provide the Department with an accounting of the special assistance it had provided to needy American citizens in the previous year. Frankfurt replied on 24 February 1903 with that list,

¹ Frankfurt sent this list as an enclosure in Despatch No. 218, 24 February 1903 from Frankfurt-am-Main to the Department of State in Washington, D.C. National Archives Record Group 59, General Records of the Department of State. You can find the text of this despatch on Roll 29 of National Archives microfilm publication M161, *Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Frankfurt on the Main, Germany, 1829-1906*.

reporting that the consulate general had expended 206.10 Marks aiding 26 needy American citizens. The report included the date the staff helped the citizen, the citizen's name, the type of assistance the staff provided, and the funds the consulate general provided. The consulate general helped two men on multiple occasions.

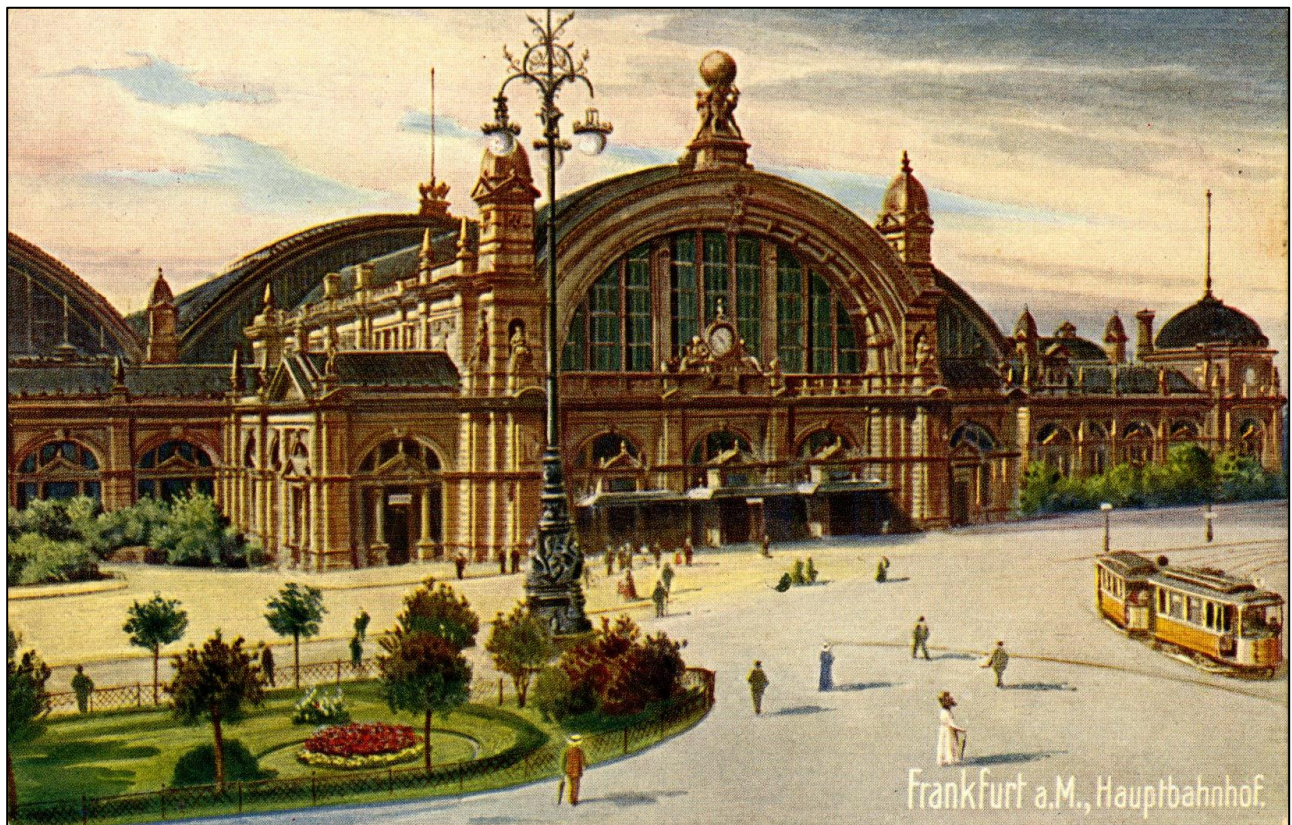
The list is chocked full of data. Note the diversity of services and amount of money provided, ranging from giving a few Marks for food and lodging to paying for transportation to a port and a ticket to return to America. Sometimes the list included a comment characterizing the person as a beggar, destitute, an alleged citizen, or in one case a convicted swindler. There can be a note about the person's health; the traveler's destination can provide clues as to where the citizen had friends or relatives. The following text reproduces the list.

Date	Name & Type of Assistance	Funds Expended
1 Feb	John Jordan , Colored. Food & Ticket to Seaport	15 Marks
3 May	Edwin T. Osbaldiston . Ticket to Antwerp	10 Marks
6 May	Sigmund Dreyfuss . Ticket to Strassburg	9.40 Marks
19 May	Karl Thomas . Money for food & lodging	3 Marks
19 Jun	Theodor Schock . Claimed to be ill	10 Marks
21 Jun	Ralph Doerr . Former DOS employee at Basel & Stuttgart. Now destitute	20 Marks
21 Jun	Ralph Doerr . (See entry above)	20 Marks
22 Jun	Conrad W. Wagner . Consumptive. Ticket To Basel where sister lives. 17 Marks. Promptly repaid.	17 Marks
2 Jul	Theodor Jansen . Beggar. Alleged Citizen	2.5 Marks
3 Jul	Pedro Sanchez . Destitute Cuban	3 Marks
3 Jul	Ralph Doerr (See entry above)	10 Marks
28 Jul	Otto Pluess . Alleged soldier in late war with Spain. Ticket to Hamburg & Food	13 Marks
11 Aug	L.P. Rettere . Alleged destitute citizen	2 Marks
22 Aug	Wm. Rehdert . Tramp. Destitute citizen	2 Marks
26 Aug	Michael Mayer . Ticket to Antwerp	10 Marks
27 Aug	Chas. Lang . Food, etc. & Ticket to Saarbrücken	20 Marks
1 Sep	Henry George . Tramp. Alleged Citizen	2 Marks
13 Sep	Leon Dick . Food	1 Mark
25 Sep	Theodor Schock . Destitute American.	10 Marks
17 Oct	Jacob Menasches . Alleged citizen	2 Marks
18 Oct	Carl Hauk . Ticket to Hamburg	11.60 Marks
24 Oct	Jos. Kruger . Alleged destitute citizen	2 Marks
24 Oct	Wilhelm Weingarten . Alleged destitute citizen	10 Marks
15 Nov	Irving Plotner . Alleged destitute citizen	2 Marks
15 Nov	John Doleji . Alleged destitute citizen	1.50 Marks

23 Nov	Jos. Dyson , colored. Ticket to Hamburg. Food	12.10 Marks
26 Nov	Mrs. May Smith . Proved to be a swindler	5 Marks
18 Dec	R. Lohnmueller . Food & lodging	3 Marks
20 Dec	Aug. Bobyzk . Alleged destitute citizen	10 Marks

Want to Learn More?

This short list is a fine example of the degree to which American consulates looked after citizens, regardless of need or social status. Before you move to the next page in *Der Kurier*, take a minute to look at the image of Frankfurt's main train station (*der Hauptbahnhof*). Match up the names of the people the consulate bought tickets for travel to elsewhere and imagine how that image adds value to the citizen's story. You can do the same with postcards, maps, and other visual images as you write your family's story. Why not access the MAGS website to see what the Society has posted for you on the members-only portion of the site?



MAGS Welcomes These New Members

A maximum of four surnames being researched by each new member appears *in bold parentheses and italics* following the new member's name. Space does not permit more than four surnames or most spelling variations. MAGS encourages all members to submit free queries to the queries editor regarding specific ancestors.

ELIZABETH BEMENT of BALTIMORE, MD
(*Tarrach, Strick, Ankewitz, Hinz*)

GALEN BLACK of WAYNE, PA
(*Barger, Schneider/Snider*)

THERESA BRASKO of MAPLE SHADE, NJ
(*Koechig*)

ROBERT BRUCKEN of LAKE HIAWATHA, NJ
(*Brucken, Ober, Katzenstein*)

LAURIE ERDMAN of INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, MN
(*Feisthammel, Gärtner, Peltzer, Hess*)

LORRAINE FAY of MERCHANTVILLE, NJ
(*Hildebrand, Salber, Glass, Bilte*)

JENNIFER FORD of FALLS CHURCH, VA
(*Veach, Barnum, Bywaters, Lewis*)

GEORGE FUDERER of CRIPPLE CREEK, VA
(*No Names*)

THOMAS GOSS of ELLICOTT CITY, MD
(*No Names*)

ANDREW HART of CHAMBERSBURG, PA
(*Graf, Hermann, Lachele*)

DEBORAH HAYNER of PHOENIXVILLE, PA
(*Repass, Sharitz, Braun/Brown*)

DAVID HERKNER of CHESTER SPRINGS, PA
(*Herkner, Schlichting, Henning*)

PAMELA McCLOSKEY of BELLEFONTE, PA
(*Gruber/Gruver, Bierman, Hering, Wormley*)

MARY McGOWAN of LUSBY, MD
(*Mehrle, Jaeger, Abt*)

JANELLE MUMMEY of PASADENA, MD
(*Michael, Zollickoffer, Ott, Owen*)

DORENE NOWATZKE of COLUMBIA, MD
(*Wedell, Bollmann, Lowenberg, Castendyck*)

RAYMOND RHOADS of HENDERSONVILLE, NC
(*Altpeter, Steeger, Schreiner, Messersmith*)

JUDY RUSSELL of AVENEL, NJ
(*Graumüller, Geissler, Sievers, Nuckel*)

LINDEN & RUTH SHOWALTER of WAYNESBORO, PA
(*Frey, Kreider, Sollenberger*)

LINDA SOHL of NEW YORK, NY
(*No Names*)

MICHAEL STARSINIC of BOWIE, MD
(*Spengler/Spangler, Hollinger, Schumacher, Musser*)

RICHARD WADE of STATE COLLEGE, PA
(*Kurtz*)

STEPHANIE WEST of LODI, CA
(*No Names*)

DER KALENDER

THE CALENDAR

2021

25-27 February. RootsTech Connect 2021, Virtual. For the first time ever, the world's largest family celebration event will be entirely virtual and completely free.

<https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

19-20 March. 2021 North Carolina Genealogical Society Virtual Conference. Eight speakers, two days, 90-day access to recordings. Featuring Jeanne Bloom, LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, J. Mark Lowe, Sunny Morton, Craig Roberts Scott, Diahann Southard, Jean Wilcox-Hibben, and Ari Wilkins.

<https://www.ncgenealogy.org/event/2021-ncgs-virtual-conference/>

14-17 April. Ohio Genealogical Society 2021 Virtual Conference, "Bringin' It Home", Nationwide Hotel & Conference Center, Lewis Center, OH. Featuring Peggy Lauritzen, D. Joshua Taylor, and Ari Wikins.

<https://www.ogsconference.org/>

19-22 May. National Genealogical Society Virtual Family History Conference, "Deep Roots of a Nation", Greater Richmond Convention Center, Richmond, VA. Learn new techniques, resources, and strategies to sharpen your family history skills.

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

4-5 and 11-12 June. Two separate virtual conferences hosted by the Southern California Genealogical Society—Genetic Genealogy, "The Genes in Your Family," and Jamboree, "The Stars in Your Family."

<http://genealogyjamboree.com/2021/>

2022

8-10 September. New York State Family History Conference, Albany, NY. Online components are planned as well.

Previews of *Taufscheine* coming in the next issue:



Translators

This list of translators is offered as a service to MAGS members. It is not intended, however, as an endorsement or recommendation of any translator's work. When requesting a translation, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the translator's reply, along with a photocopy of a sample page from the text to be translated so that the translator may understand your needs and estimate the charge for the translation. Do not send original documents.

1. Klaus F. Alt, 692 Carodon Drive, Ruckersville, VA 22968-3138

Phone: (434) 409-1582

Email: klaus@klaustrans.com

American Translators Association Certified Translator: German into English, English into German

2. American Translators Association, 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590, Alexandria, VA 22314-2875

Phone: (703) 683-6100

Website: www.atanet.org.

They have an online directory for individual translators and area of specialization choices.

3. Gen Collins

Phone: (301) 770-0683

Email: glcjpc@verizon.net

Specialization: Translates German and German script into English and English to German.

4. Uwe Jacobsen, Wilhelm-Spiegel-Str. 30, D-24145 Kiel, Germany

Email: uwejacobsen@gmx.de

Specialization: Genealogical research in Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg-Altona, Sonderjylland / Denmark. Transcription and translation of old documents.

5. Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G., PO Box 1845, Provo, UT 84603-1845

Phone: (801) 374-2587

Email: grtpublications@juno.com.

Specialization: German-English, English-German, German script, French, Latin

6. Katherine Schober

Phone: (314) 660-1061

Email: language@sktranslations.com

Website: sktranslations.com

Specialization: Genealogy and old German script, translates German to English

7. Ann C. Sherwin

Website: www.asherwin.com

Specialization: Genealogy, history, old handwriting.

American Translators Association Certified Translator: German into English

8. Andrew Witter, 2056 255th St., Donnellson, IA 52625-9679

Phone: (319) 835-3960

Email: andrewjwitter@gmail.com



The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
WAYNESBORO, PA
PERMIT NO. 19

PO Box 241
New Windsor, MD 21776
ISSN 1059-9762

Address Service Requested

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society – Membership Application

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Preferred method of contact: Phone _____ Email _____

Individual: \$15/year _____; \$20/year _____ with hardcopy *Der Kurier*

Family: \$20/year _____; \$25/year _____ with hardcopy *Der Kurier*

How did you hear about MAGS?

List four names you are researching.

Make checks or money order payable to
Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

Mail to: Gunter Schanzenbacher
725 Fir Spring Dr.

Waynesboro PA 17268-2914

New members joining anytime during the
calendar year receive all issues for the year.