



Der Kurier

Volume 26, Number 3, September 2008

Time of change for MAGS Society looking for new officers

By John T. Humphrey

For the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, the past year has been an active one. The Society sponsored an essay contest as part of the celebration of Four Hundred Years of Germans in America this past April in Williamsburg, VA.

MAGS participated in that celebration in conjunction with the Society for German American Studies and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The speaker at the fall meeting was Dr. John Colletta, and this past spring attendees had an opportunity to hear Dr. Roger Minert. Both speakers offered attendees some valuable insights and information on researching German ancestors.

The four issues of *Der Kurier* provided our members with information designed to help genealogists looking for information on ancestors who came from Germany or who were a part of German-speaking communities in the Mid-Atlantic.

The benefits that members receive from seminars, *Der Kurier* or the serendipity that happens when genealogists meet and exchange information through an organization

such as MAGS are the direct result of input from all society members, but especially from those members who hold leadership positions and/or who help various board members with their respective duties.

Officers of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society hold office for two-year terms. The current Board was elected in 2007, which means the Society needs to hold an election in 2009.

Several members of the current Board have indicated they will not stand for re-election in 2009 as they have served the society in their respective capacities for several terms.

They include the President, the First Vice President, the Second Vice President and the Treasurer.

This means the 2009 election is an opportunity for members of the society to take the initiative in order to build on the successes of the past. It is an opportunity for members to volunteer so that MAGS can continue to move forward. Thus we are going to need your help.

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MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

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

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) is a non-profit genealogical society founded 10 July 1982. Annual dues are only \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. Benefits of membership include:

- **Spring and Fall Meetings** featuring expert speakers
- **Quartermly journal, *Der Kurier***
- **MAGS Lending Library**
- **Ahnentafels** published in *Der Kurier*
- **Queries**

A membership application appears on the back cover of *Der Kurier*.
Contact information for MAGS special services appears on the inside back cover.

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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. Any material published becomes the property of MAGS. Deadline for submissions: the first of January, April, July and October. Submit to: James M. Beidler, PO Box 270, Lebanon, PA 17042. E-mail: james@beidler.us

New officers needed for MAGS

(Continued from cover)

The primary responsibility of the President is to manage or oversee the other functions of the society; it is his/her job to see that operations run smoothly. The President presides at all Board meetings, usually two per year, and over the annual business meeting held at either the fall or spring seminar. The president who is leaving office continues as a member of the Board serving in the role of past-president. Thus I am not leaving the MAGS Board I will simply be serving in a different capacity.

The First Vice President is responsible for handling membership. Those tasks include maintaining the membership database, electronically sending the mailing list to the printer for each issue of *Der Kurier*, and mailing dues notices to those who have not renewed their membership. The First Vice President is required to have a computer with a basic database or spreadsheet program and have internet access (MAGS provides an e-mail account through its web site). Janice Seabolt has assisted the First Vice President by preparing and mailing all new member packets.

The Second Vice President is responsible for the spring and fall seminars. The person holding this office has the opportunity to choose meeting locations, work with the hotel staff and select speakers and/or program content.

The Treasurer handles the society's finances – depositing checks, paying bills, preparing an annual budget and report, and keeping the society's financial records in order.

This election will result in some major changes for the society and at the same time present new opportunities. One of MAGS major strong points has always been its membership: people who belong to the society who have always been willing to help with the various duties and functions that are vital to keeping MAGS functioning.

I will repeat what I noted in the last issue of *Der Kurier*:

We need more help in managing the society. If you would like to get more involved please contact me at PaGenealogyBooks@aol.com or call (202) 577-7572. We really do need your help.

ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

German Musicians in the Post-Civil War South, Part 2

By Pam Dennis, Ph.D.

Utermohlen's legacy continued through his children. Frieda Utermohlen was an accomplished artist at MCFI. After her marriage to Garnet Carter, she created magnificent Bavarian gardens at her home, a place called Fairyland. An entrepreneur, Carter

developed Tom Thumb golf (a precursor of Putt-Putt golf), but when economic times became bad, he looked for another financial outlet. Recognizing the commercial appeal of his wife's gardens, he hired a painter and traveled throughout neighboring states painting "See

Rock City” on barns. Rock City remains a major tourist attraction near Chattanooga, long after the deaths of the Utermoehls. Son, William, began his career at Southwestern Baptist University (now Union University) as its first salaried music professor. He went on to teach in Columbia, South Carolina, was staff arranger for the Howard Theatre Orchestra in Atlanta, and finally became organist at the Olympia (now Gussman) Theatre in Miami where he wrote silent movie and vaudeville music.¹

Utermoehlen was followed for one year by Max G. Wittman, born in 1868 in Germany. Wittman taught at the Southern Normal University in Huntingdon, TN, before teaching at MCFI, and was formerly married to Zoe Carnes Coman, of Huntingdon, who became a commercial artist in New York. Wittman’s music, published mostly by Nashville and Memphis publishers, included war-related songs of the Spanish-American War and World War I. His graded teaching pieces were advertised in promotional catalogs published by E. Witzmann & Co. of Memphis in 1903, with his most difficult piece earning a gold medal if performed perfectly by an advanced student.²

Erwin Schneider, a piano and violin graduate of the Royal Music School in Nassau, Germany, arrived in New York in 1871 and met Dr. G.W.F. Price of Huntsville,

Alabama, at the Teacher’s Agency at Steinway Hall in New York. Interviewed in German, Price hired the young musician and sent him to Huntsville, his name and destination written on a card and pinned to the inside of his coat.³

Schneider’s brothers joined him in Huntsville, teaching and building organs, many of which served the churches for fifty years or more. After a brief time as head of the music department at Washington Seminary in Atlanta, Schneider again worked with Dr. Price in Nashville. Schneider moved to his new position at MCFI in 1898 under the presidency of A.B. Jones, also a former president of the Huntsville school.

Thus, the president-professor network continued. After MCFI, Schneider taught at Virginia College (in Roanoke), Lewisburg Seminary and Conservatory of Music (later Greenbrier College for Women), and finally at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, where he lived two doors from fellow faculty member, Georgia O’Keefe. Coincidentally, O’Keefe was “discovered” while teaching at Columbia College (S.C.) where she was on the faculty with William Utermoehlen.⁴

³ Excerpt from a typed family history shared with this author by Schneider’s grandson, Thomas Erwin Schneider II of Atlanta by telephone interview.

⁴ Brown, J.D., “A Dream House Passing,” *The Nashville Tennessee Magazine*, 3 August 1947; Washington Seminary advertisement, *Atlanta Constitution*, 12 July 1883; correspondence from Alan Anderson, Archivist, Sumter Historic Trust, Inc., 7 August 2006 (one of Schneider’s brothers was a professor at the Furlow Masonic Female College in Americus, GA); Eliza Price, “Nashville College for Young Ladies (Price’s School),” April 1954, Tennessee State Library and Archives; correspondence, Ann L. Southwell, Manuscripts Cataloger, University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Virginia, June 2006; “Lewisburg Seminary and Conservatory of Music, Lewisburg, W. Va, 1911-1912,” housed at Presbyterian Historical Foundation, Montreat, NC; Lisa Mintz Messinger, *Georgia O’Keefe* (London: Thomas & Hudson, 2001), 8-11.

¹ “W.G. Utermoehlen Burial Set Today,” *Chattanooga Times*, 11 November 1949; Tim Hollis, *The History of Rock City Gardens* (Lookout Mountain, GA: See Rock City, Inc., 1997), 3-5; “Mrs. Carter Dies at Residence: Designed Rock City and Other Attractions on Lookout Mountain,” *Chattanooga Times*, 21 July 1924.

² “Wittman-Carnes,” *Carroll County Democrat*, 4 January 1895; “Complimentary,” *Carroll County Democrat*, 18, January 1895; notes by great niece of Zoe Coman, available at www.askart.com/askart/c/zoe_coman/zoe_coman.asp; “Musical Novelties, Fall of 1903” (Memphis, TN: E. Witzmann & Co., 1903).

By 1898, the Memphis Conference Female Institute had grown in its mission to provide a quality musical education to its students. In addition to private lessons, harmony, composition, and music history were emphasized. The catalog complimented Herr Schneider for returning to Germany in recent years to “make himself acquainted with the latest music and the progress made in teaching.”

It was evidently Schneider who insisted that successful music teaching must involve music history and not just “fragmentary and unconnected extracts for the piano or piano arrangements.” Public recitals were also allowed of students who could play at least at the fifth grade level with “sufficient musical knowledge.” In addition, all music students were required to participate in concerts, play for examinations, attend lectures on music history and biography, and sing in general singing classes.⁵

Nearby Southwestern Baptist University (SWBU) also had German music faculty though its program began much later since it had previously been a male institute (music to this point was considered an ornamental branch by some schools). Rudolph Richter, immigrated to Milwaukee in 1872 but returned to Germany to study at the Kullak Conservatory in Berlin. He then taught at a series of Baptist schools, including the Baptist Female College for Women in Lexington, Missouri, Southwestern Baptist University in Jackson, and the San Marcos Baptist Academy in Texas (where he remained for twenty years).

⁵ “Annual Catalogue of the Memphis Conference Female Institute and Conservatory of Music and Art for Girls and Young Ladies” (Jackson, TN: Daily and Weekly Whig Print, 1898), 33-36.

His daughter, Marguerite (Peggy), also taught on the faculty at San Marcos as well as at the Blind Institute in Austin, where she was the music teacher and career launcher of Fred Lowery, the famous “blind whistler.” No music has been found composed by Richter, but he was beloved by his students and was responsible for creating the music programs in San Marcos and Austin that still exist today.⁶

Between Jackson and Memphis lay Brownsville, Tennessee, where another Germany musician served as Director of Music at the Brownsville Baptist Female Academy. Born in 1890 in Kirch-Brombach, Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, John Paul Wendel immigrated to the United States by 1853, when his known pieces were published by Cincinnati and New York firms. He moved to Brownsville in 1856 where, in addition to his teaching position, he became the organist at Zion Church (now Christ Episcopal Church), a role he assumed until his death in 1893. He, like the professors in Jackson, was a Mason.⁷

The Brownsville Female Academy was established in 1851 by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and was one of three female colleges in the small town. Its music program was considered vital to every young woman’s

⁶ SWBU began as Jackson Male Academy and was merged into West Tennessee College. It became Southwestern Baptist University in 1875, a name it carried until 1907 when it became the present Union University (see articles in *West Tennessee Historical Society Papers* [2003-2006]) by Pam Dennis and Jimmy Davis; Fred Lowery, *Whistling in the Dark* (Gretna, LA: Pelican Publishing, 1983).

⁷ Information from correspondence with Bernie Hirsch, great-great-grandson of John Paul Wendel, 2007; Charles Whitlock Moore, *The Freemasons’ Monthly Magazine* (1846): 60, digitized 26 February 2007 by Google Books and available online at <http://books.google.com/books?id=aSMsAAAAMA-AJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=editions:06laxK-BHxpDr#PPA59,M1>.

“moral and intellectual” education, breaking “into the monotony of every-day life with a kindling enthusiasm, and drawing “us up to the canopy of the free and unbounded heaven.” The conservatory included piano, organ (reed and pipe), violin, viola, violincello, double bass, flute, guitar, banjo, mandolin, vocal culture, thorough bass, harmony, practical composition, counterpoint, canon, fugue, instrumentation, and orchestration by 1903.⁸ After his death, Wendel’s daughter, Minna, assumed his organist position at the church, continuing the fine tradition that he had begun.

The German people literally “melted” into the new society, adapting the new ways and combining them with their own. In fact, it appears that they assimilated so well that, though they were a large immigrating group, their importance has been overlooked, a factor which may be due to negative attitudes toward them during the two world wars.

In 1910 there were approximately nine million German-speaking Americans. All had been reared in homes where German was natively spoken and a large percentage had been educated in schools where German was the medium of instruction. Very few descendants of those German speakers can speak the language today. . . . [They] were linguistically eliminated within a mere fifty years. . . . It seems unlikely that any other nationality group of equal numerical strength has ever been so completely and so quickly absorbed in any country on the globe.⁹

⁸ “Fifty-First Annual Announcement of the Brownsville Female College, Brownsville, Tennessee, Session 1903-1904” (Nashville: Press of Boylin Printing Company, 1903), 22-23.

⁹ Lavern J. Rippley, *The German-Americans* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1984), 128.

The advent of World War I brought an end to the welcome shown by Americans to their German newcomers and caused fear and mistrust of anything German. Towns such as Germantown, Tennessee, changed their names. Schools that had offered German dropped the program from their curricula. A Nebraska law of 1919 stated that “no person, individually or as a teacher, shall, in any private, denominational, parochial or public school teach any subject to any person in any language other than the English language.”¹⁰

One state representative went so far as to state that “if these people are Americans, let them speak our language. If they don’t know it, let them learn it. If they don’t like it, let them move. . . .”¹¹ Though the law was repealed in 1923 by the U.S. Supreme Court as unconstitutional, the damage was done.

German faculty no longer appeared on the rolls of the local schools. While these musicians virtually reshaped the musical culture in the American South through civic societies and religious institutions and established many of our existing college music departments, they are all but forgotten. Through efforts such as the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, these fine German-Americans will be remembered. In the words of Jewish concentration camp survivor, Elie Wiesel,

What does it mean to remember?
It is to live in more than one world,
to prevent the past from fading,
and to call upon the future to illuminate it.¹²

¹⁰ Ibid., 125.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Esther Goldberg, ed., *Holocaust Memoir Digest: Survivors' Published Memoirs with Study Guide and Maps* (London and Portland, OR: Vallentine Mitchell, 2004), v.

FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest

Readers find ancestors on fraktur

Soon after publishing the September 2007 issue of *Der Kurier* in which an article about KOHRs on fraktur appeared, another example having the name KOHR became known. It was made for a direct ancestor of the MAGS member, Alan Kohr, who had requested research concerning KOHRs on fraktur.

This fraktur was made for Johan Heinrich KOHR, son of Johannes and Catharina (MAYER) KOHR. Johan Heinrich was born February 11, 1806, in York Township, York County, Pennsylvania. The image I have of this fraktur is too small to read additional data. Alan Kohr is currently attempting to locate the original, which was sold at auction. If successful, he will have more information from the fraktur, including being able to read additional notes written at the top in German script. Normally, such added notes include data concerning confirmation, marriage, and/or death.

In addition, Lee James Irwin saw names of his ancestors on a fraktur mentioned in the March 2008 issue of *Der Kurier*. That article detailed fraktur having the name CHRISTMAN. The fraktur Lee James Irwin referred to was made for Philip KNAPPENBERGER, who was born March 7, 1776. The sponsors at Philip's baptism were Philip and Margaretha CHRISTMAN. (See the March 2008 issue of *Der Kurier* for more details about this fraktur.)

Another fraktur that mentions the CHRISTMANs and KNAPPENBERGERs is in a private collection. It is a *Taufschein* (birth and baptism certificate) made for Maria, daughter of John Adam and Chatharina (MEIER) KNAPPENBERGER. Maria KNAPPENBERGER

In that same volume, Stopp lists data from a *Taufschein* made for Emmeleina, daughter of Isaac and Catharina (KRESMAN) ZIEGENFUSS. Emmeleina was born December 14, 1838, in Durham Township, Bucks County. She was baptized March 10, 1839, but no other information concerning her baptism is available.

Also in the first volume, Stopp lists data from two other *Taufscheine* that mention

was born about eleven o'clock at night on February 7, 1795 in Macungie Township, Northampton [today's Lehigh] County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized by Pastor BUSKIRG [Jacob van BUSKIRK], but no date of baptism was given. The sponsors at Maria's baptism were Henrich and Barbara CHRISTMAN. Readers interested in the name KNAPPENBERGER should watch for more about KNAPPENBERGERs on fraktur in the next issue of *Der Kurier*.

Returning to CHRISTMANs on fraktur in response to a request by MAGS member, Ken Christman, a handful more examples are listed here. They show various spellings of CRESSMAN. A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Elisabeth, daughter of Thomas and Mary Thorothea [Mary Dorothy] (CROMER) RIESS. Elisabeth RIESS was born about nine o'clock in the evening on September 4, 1775. She was born in Pine Run Hundred, Frederick County, Maryland. Elisabeth was baptized October 6, presumably in 1775, but the name of the pastor was not given. The sponsors at Elisabeth's baptism were Friederich and Elisabetha KRESMAN.

In the first volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*, Klaus Stopp lists data from a *Taufschein* made for Joseph CRESMANN, son of Nathan and Abelona (HESS) CRESMANN. Joseph CRESMANN was born January 19, 1837, in Springfield Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized June 18, 1837, by Pastor MILLER. Jonas and Maria CRESSMAN sponsored Joseph's baptism.

CRESSMAN. They were made for the children of William S. and Hannah S. (CRESSMAN) NICHOLAS. George Lazarus NICHOLAS was born August 29, 1874, in Haycock Township, Bucks County. He was baptized December 17, 1874. His younger sister, Annie Agnes, was born October 11, 1876, in Bedminster Township, Bucks County. She was baptized in

February 1877. No other information concerning baptism is given for either certificate.

In his third volume, Stopp lists data from a *Taufschein* made for Catharina, daughter of Paul and Sarah (CRESSMAN) HERTZEL. Sarah CRESSMAN's father was Isaac CRESSMAN. Catharina HERTZEL was born May 4, 1834, in Rockhill Township, Bucks County. She was baptized by Pastor STRASSBERGER on July 15, 1834. The sponsors at Catharina's baptism were her grandparents, Isaac and Charlotte [CRESSMAN]. Added notes on this certificate say that Catharina HERTZEL was confirmed in 1851 by Johann Andreas STRASSBERGER, Reformed. She married Tommas (?) LAIDY on November 26, 1853. They were married by J. Andreas STRASSBERGER.

Stopp's third volume pictures a *Taufschein* made for Daniel, son of Johann Fried. and Barbara (HOFMAN) SCHUMACHER. Daniel SCHUMACHER was born April 15, 1805, in Lehigh Township, Northampton County. He was baptized May 19, 1805 by Pastor DIEHL. The sponsors at Daniel's baptism were Peter KRETSCHMANN, which may be a spelling of KRESSMAN, and Magdalena BUSCH, both single.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Lidia "Sr." STIERLE. Lidia was the daughter of Joseph STIERLE and his wife, whose first name is not given, but whose maiden name was WALD. Lidia was born August 6, 1819, in Rockhill Township, Bucks County. No information concerning Lidia's baptism was given other than the names of the sponsors, Samuel and Margretha GRESMAN.

On February 1, 2003, Horst Auction Center in Ephrata sold a *Taufschein* made for Tobias CRESSMAN, son of Abraham and Susana (WALD) CRESSMAN. Tobias CRESSMAN was born February 1, 1814 in Rockhill Township. He was baptized in February 1814 by Pastor RELLER. The sponsors at Tobias's baptism were Peter and Elisabeth (BERENGER) ZELLNER. An added note on this certificate says that Tobias CRESSMAN married Hanna BÄYER on March

24, 1839. They were married by Pastor HOFFMAN.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection is probably related to the above. It was made for Boyer CRESSMAN, son of Tobias and Hanna (BAYER) CRESSMAN. Boyer CRESSMAN was born November 5, 1853 in Upper Salford Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized on March 24, 1854 by Pastor HOFFMAN. Boyer's parents sponsored his baptism.

LDS microfilm 0940445 shows a marriage record made for Mahlon H. and Minerva (CRESSMAN) MUMBAUER, both of Quakertown, Pennsylvania. Mahlon and Minerva MUMBAUER were married on Christmas day in 1909 in Spinnertown. They were married by James O. OSWALD, Reformed. The witnesses at their wedding were Lettie N. OSWALD and Charles PETERS. Charles PETERS' name has a word before it, but that word falls within the printed decoration and is difficult to read. It appears to be "student."

On October 14, 1999, Alderfer Auction Company in Hatfield, Pennsylvania, sold a *Taufschein* made for Sarah, daughter of Johannes H. and Anna Margaretha (MANN) CRESSMAN. Sarah CRESSMAN was born March 5, 1862 in Rockhill Township, Bucks County. She was baptized July 6, 1862 by Engelhard PEIXOTTO. The sponsors at Sarah's baptism were Jacob and Sarah SCHELLENBERGER.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection is related to the above. It was made for Sarah's younger brother, Jacob. Jacob CRESSMAN was born October 26, 1865 in Rockhill Township. He was baptized January 7, 1866 by Friedrich WALTZ. Jacob's parents sponsored his baptism.

Readers are urged to watch for additional mentions of family names previously published Der Kurier. If you have names you wish me to research on fraktur, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, PO Box 1132, Clayton DE 19938. There is no charge to members of MAGS for this service.

3 mysterious family Bibles and their registers

By Gunter Schanzenbacher

During the process of settling the estate of a recently deceased Family Patriarch, three old Family Bibles were discovered in the attic. The first, has since been called the “Friedrich Hess Bible”, the second the “Daniel Schneberger Bible”, and the third the “Henry Grove Bible”. The first two Bibles were printed at Philadelphia Pennsylvania in 1828 in the German Language. The Henry Grove Bible was printed in English at Philadelphia Pennsylvania in 1853. Each of the Bibles has an extensive family register which will be thoroughly discussed later in this article. However, there is a bigger story to tell.

The Friedrich Hess Bible showed a great deal of wear and tear. It indicated that it had been extensively used by its past owners. The leather binding was coming apart and the spine backing was coming loose. The edges of many pages were frayed, torn and showed discolorations. However, the wear and tear gave no indication of what was to be found inside. Opening the Bible, there on the second page and in brilliant color was a heart shaped Fraktur and in bold Fraktur the lettering “Friedrich Hess Bibel” (fig 1).

Closer investigation revealed the Bible was purchased in May 1828 for the price of 7-1/2 Thalers (dollars). In even smaller text were the words “Fr. Wilh. Meyer” who is being assumed as the seller of the Bible. Three of the Family Register pages consisted of Family name entries all in similar, beautiful, colorful Fraktur lettering (fig 2). Each generation had a little smaller size



Figure 1

text than the previous. All the name entries up to September 1828 were in the original style lettering, indicating that the Bible was possibly purchased shortly after that date.

It was amazing looking at these original Fraktur pages. Imagine then when the Daniel Schneberger Bible was opened and the same heart-shaped style of Fraktur appeared with the words “Daniel Schneberger Bibel” (fig 3). The Family Register pages in this Bible, although not quite as elaborate as the Hess Bible, also contained an identical style of Fraktur Register entries. Here now is not just one Fraktur find but

two and by all indications accomplished by the same artist.

Now here is the mystery; who was this artist that made these beautiful Frakturs? Research revealed very little and having even less knowledge of Fraktur it was impossible to truly comprehend them. Help was needed. Having read several articles regarding Fraktur by Corinne Earnest she was contacted and pictures of several of the Bible pages were sent to her. The mystery became even more intriguing when she responded that she had never seen this artist before, but she was very interested and would continue to research it. The mystery has now turned into a challenge to find this artist.

The Henry Grove Bible did not contain any Fraktur but had a tragic story to tell in itself. Henry Grove was married to Susanna Singer on 14 December 1848. They had three children Ann Elizabeth, Sarah, and David. All three children died before they reached the age of 2. Less than 4 months later on January 1855 Susanna passed away. Some say due to the grief of the loss of her children. Two years later Henry Grove married Barbara Brandt. They had 6 children; Aaron, Catherine, Daniel, Sarah, Anna Belle and Mary Rebecca. Henry Grove died December 1867, about two weeks after the birth of his last child, Mary Rebecca. That left Barbara with 6 children to care for. Barbara married a Fisher (presently unidentified) sometime late 1869 or early 1870. Note: There is no record of her Husband, in the 1870 U.S. Census. The Bible indicated that Barbara had a child, Julia Belle Fisher who was born October 1870. Barbara passed away on June 1873, leaving the children homeless.

The Bible Family Registers

The Complete Family Registers of all three Bibles follows. All of the Bibles are in a private collection.



Figure 2

Friedrich Hess Bible records

The Friedrich Hess Bible indicated that it was well used however its register showed entries by several generations. Most of the family entries are in German with some entries having been translated into English. The original spelling of the names was used.

The register is as follows: Friedrich Hess and Anna Sängers (Singer) were married by the pastor Ruthrauf on 20 May 1813.

Friedrich Hess was born on 8 September 1790 and Anna Sängers was born on 26 January 1796. The Hess family had 14 children. They are: Friedrich Hess who was born on 30 March 1814; Anna Maria Hess who was born on 8 November 1815; Anna Hess who was born on 20 June 1817; Johannes Hess who was born on 3

March 1819 and died 16 August 1820 at the age of 1 year, 5 months, 13 days; Elisabeth Hess who was born on 25 March 1821; Hannah Hess who was born on 28 November 1823; Johannes Hess who was born on 10 February 1826 and died on 27 January 1892; Jacob Hess who was born on 8 July 1827; Sara Hess who was born on 17 September 1828 and was buried 10 February 1910; Jeremia Hess who was born on 5 October 1830; Catharina Hess who was born on 2 December 1832; Dina Hess who was born on 28 August 1834 and died 1 November 1834 at the age of 2 months, 4 days; Israel Hess who was born on 29 March 1836; and Barbara Hess who was born on 18 May 1839.

Also inside the Bible was a loose slip of paper written in German which said, "Isak Utz was born in the year of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on 5 October 1835. Barbara Utz born Hess was born on 18 May 1839 and married Isak Utz on 3 December 1861. Elisabeth Ana Utz was born in the Year of Christ 1862 the 11th September. Jacob Utz was born the 28 October 1869."

Also pasted on the inside cover of the Bible, written in German was a short obituary which said, "Fridrich Hess moved out of his old home on the 26 of March 1857 and died at 2 o'clock in the morning on 14 March 1859". Below that in English were these words, "Fred Hess departed this life March the 14th, 1859.

There were also several loose items found inside the Bible. It was reported that one of the items, a piece of cloth, was the sample for a wedding dress. Another item was a completely dried Fern leaf.

Daniel Schneberger Bible records

The Daniel Schneberger Bible did not indicate much usage but the leather closing straps were torn off. The original spellings of the names

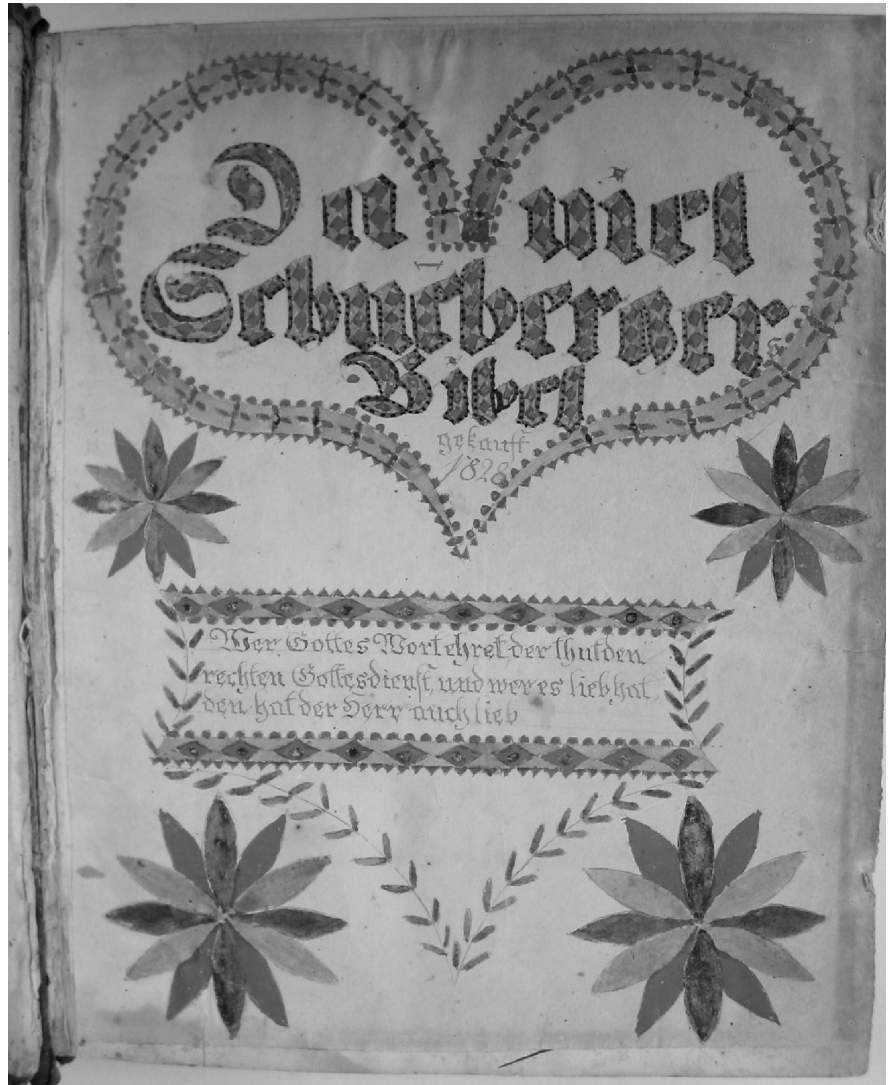


Figure 3

in the Bible have been used. The register of this Bible follows:

Marriages; Daniel Schneberger and Maria Fuhrman were married on (day not recorded) October 1800 by the venerable Mr. Rahausen. Jacob Schneberger and Magdalena Schacky were married on 4 March 1824 by the Reverent Scholl. David Hess and Barbara Schneberger were married on 29 October 1826 by Jacob Holsinger. Friedrich Schneberger and Elisabeth Schacky were married on June 1828 by the Reverent Scholl.

Births: Daniel Schneberger was born on 1 October 1774 and Maria Fuhrman was born on 1 May 1782. The Schneberger family had 12 children. They are: Jacob Schneberger who was born on 29 September 1801; Friedrich Schneberger who was born on 24 April 1803;

Barbara Schneberger who was born on 9 March 1805; Johannes Schneberger who was born on 14 December 1807; Georg Schneberger who was born on 30 March 1810; Daniel Schneberger who was born on 4 August 1812; Susanna Schneberger who was born on 31 October 1814; Elisabeth Schneberger who was born on 14 January 1817; Abraham Schneberger who was born on 13 March 1819; Elias Schneberger who was born on 3 April 1822; Christina Schneberger who was born on 1 January 1825; and David Schneberger who was born on 11 July 1826 and died 9 February 1827.

Dates of death: Ulrich Schneberger (the father of Daniel) died on 21 May 1811 at the age of 75 years, 6 months. Barbara (wife of Ulrich) died on 10 January 1829 at the age of 86 years, 4 months. Daniel Schneberger died 15 November 1845 at the age of 71 years, 1 month, 15 days.

Several loose items were also found inside the Bible. They are: Two pieces of paper which took the German Verse from the Fraktur page and translated it into English; a paper receipt indicating that a Elizabeth Snowberger made a payment of \$10 for carpet on 4 May 1861, signed by J.W. Miller: A receipt that Georg Snowberger paid Washington Township School tax of \$31 on 15 October 1884, signed by I. S. Rogers, Tax collector; two unidentified cloth samples and two Scherenschnitten snowflakes.

Henry Grove Bible records

The Henry Grove Bible showed very little wear. It had a beautiful embossed cover with a gold leaf design. The original spellings of the names in the Bible have been used. The family Records are:

Marriages: Henry Grove born May 24, 1822; Susana (Singer) Grove born January 1, 1828; Barbara (Brandt) Grove born February

20th, 1836. Henry Grove and Susana Singer were married December 14th, 1848; Henry Grove and Barbara Brandt were married February 17th, 1857.

Births: Ann Elisabeath Groves born November 6th, 1850; Sarah Groves September 13th, 1852; David Groves born February 17th 1854; Aranon B. Groves born January 9th, 1858; Catherine D. Groves born May 13th, 1860; Daniel Grove born March 18th, 1862; Sarah Elisabeath Grove born April 29th, 1864; Anna Belle Grove born March 4th, 1866; Maria Rebecca Grove born December 12th, 1867; Julia Belle Fisher was born October the 20th, 1870.

Deaths: Anna Elisabeth Grove died September 7th, 1852, aged 22 months and 1 day; Sarah Grove died March 30th, 1853, aged 6 months and 17 days; David Grove died September 1st, 1854, aged 6 months and 15 days; Susannah Grove departed this live January 12th 1855, aged 27 years 12 days; Henry Grove died December 27th, 1867, aged forty five years seven months and three days; Mary Rebecca Grove died February 18th, 1868, aged one year two months and eight days; Barbara Fisher died June the 13th, 1873, aged 37 years 3 months and 23 days.

Note: All Bible entries relating to Henry Grove and Susana Singer were entered in a light blue ink and is starting to fade. All entries relating to Henry Grove and Barbara Brandt were in a black ink and much more legible.

There were several loose items in this Bible: Three different pages containing pieces of hair. These were not small locks of hair but very large pieces, 4 to 8 inches long. A loose slip of paper dated Greencastle November 16, 1869 which said "Mr. Henry Grove your hog weight net 164 lbs." signed by D.B. Brant.

PS – Another Bible record attributed to ‘Fr. Wilh. Meyer’

By Russ and Corinne Earnest

We were delighted when Gunter Schanzenbacher shared information, including images, from his three Bible records. Much to our surprise, one of these records helped identify

a fraktur artist. Since most fraktur are not signed, it was thrilling to see that the HESS Bible record was. The images Gunter shared triggered our memories, for we had seen similar artwork on another Bible record.

This record was made for the STOLL/BECKNER family. The Bible having this record was printed in German in 1828 in Philadelphia by Kimber and Sharpless. It was bought, presumably by the STOLL family, in May 1828. The STOLL/BECKNER record was offered on eBay in October 2005 and again in December 2005. Our poor eBay image was difficult to read, but fortunately, June Burk Lloyd, Librarian Emerita at York County Heritage Trust, was able to get clearer images, some of which she could read.

The STOLL/BECKNER record says that Heinrich STOLL and Susanna BECKNER were married on October 28, 1794 by Thomas JOHNSON. Heinrich STOLL was born May 14, 1766. Susanna BECKNER was born April 22, 1769. Their children were Catharina, born September 10, 1795; Johannes, born in December 1796 [the day is illegible]; Ludwig, born February 4, 1798; Maria, born July 18, 17[99]; and Susana, Magdalena, and Heinrich, for whom the dates of birth are illegible. It is possible more children were born into this family and the pages showing their births were not pictured on eBay. Likewise, no pages listing deaths were shown.

In addition to the marriage of Heinrich STOLL and Susanna BECKNER, three other marriages were documented. Other than the name, Johannes STOLL, the first entry is illegible. The next entry says Heinrich STOLL, Jr. married Maria HOCK on August 7, 1829. They were married by Jacob HOLSINGER. Magdalena STOLL married Jacob STOLL on March 18, but the year is illegible. They were also married by Jacob HOLSINGER. The seller of the

STOLL/BECKNER Bible noted a loose slip of paper that said "Henry" STOLL died July 9, 1830, and was buried July 11. This information was written in English. No location was given.

Many correspondents are kind enough to share images they have of fraktur, and for that, we are especially thankful. Signed examples that identify fraktur artists and scribes are like icing on a cake. We always say every fraktur is unique and therefore teaches us something. To elaborate about how important it can be to find signed examples, the HESS, SCHNEBERGER, and STOLL Bibles suggest Fr. Wilh. MEYER may have been a Bible salesman. To date, we are certain of only one other scribe associated with fraktur who was a Bible salesman. He was Henry S. EISENHUTH (1830-96). EISENHUTH worked in Berks, Lebanon, Lehigh, and Schuylkill Counties, Pennsylvania. According to research conducted by Josh Reeder, EISENHUTH rode trains to reach destinations where he could find clients. Tragically, he was killed by a train on March 18, 1896 in New Ringgold in Schuylkill County.* With his skilled hand, EISENHUTH created colorful and detailed family registers in the Bibles he sold, but he also completed genealogy data on printed *Taufscheine* (birth and baptism certificates). If Fr. Wilh. MEYER was also a Bible salesman, he may or may not have completed *Taufscheine*, but now that his hand is recognizable, scholars will be certain to watch for and determine the complete scope of his works.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all readers who share fraktur with us.

*Josh D. Reeder, "Henry Eisenhuth, Victorian Frakturist," *Antique Review*, January 1997, pp. 12-13.

FAMILY REGISTERS

Troup / Troyer / Stouffar Bible Record

An English-language Bible record removed from its Bible was made for the TROUP/TROYER family of Adams County, Pennsylvania. This record also mentions John H. STOUFFAR.

According to this record, Abraham TROUP married Susanah TROYER on August 22, 1820. They were married in Adams County. Abraham TROUP, Sr. was born October 3, 1796 and died February 22, 1834.

Susanah remarried following Abraham TROUP's death. She married John H. STOUFFAR (born 8 Sep 1816) on December 20, 1838. They were married by "the Reverent of Tucker... in Wart township." Susanah TROYER, "wife of Abraham TROUP and John H. STOUFFER [sic]," was born in December 1799 near Littlestown, Adams County.

The children of Abraham and Susanah (TROYER) TROUP were Jacob TROUP, born August 17, 1821; Cornelius TROUP, born Sunday, October 5, 1823 in Latimore Township, Adams County; Joseph TROUP, born Saturday, November 25, 1826 in Reading Township, Adams County; Abraham TROUP, born Friday, October

30, 1829 in Menallen Township, Adams County. Isrel [Israel] TROUP, born December 1, 1832; and Kathrin TROUP, born December 14, 1833.

No children were reported for Susanah (TROYER) TROUP and her second husband, John H. STOUFFAR.

Deaths recorded in the record include: Jacob TROUP, died Tuesday, December 10, 1822; Isrel TROUP, died Tuesday, January 1, 1833; Catharine [sic] TROUP died August 11, 1835; Abraham TROUP [Jr.] died in 1888; Joseph TROUP died May 15, 1861; Cornelius TROUP died September 13, 1861; and Susanna TROUP died September 13, 1889 at the age of 89 years and 9 months.

An incomplete family chart that accompanies this record clarifies the death date of Abraham. Abraham TROUP, Jr. died July 27, 1888 in Lewisberry, York County, Pennsylvania.

Crew and passengers of the Humphrey's 1842 voyage

By Kenneth W. Heger

The *Humphrey*, a 277 ton merchant ship built in 1831, often sailed from Baltimore to northern Germany¹³. It began one such trip on February 4, 1842, with Captain Gustav E. Hillert of Baltimore at the helm. Hillert owned the ship with Charles G. Boehm, also of Baltimore. The *Humphrey* arrived at the port of Bremerhaven on March 15, 1842. The American consul in Bremen recorded the ship's arrival on March 21, noting that all but three of the ship's crew were "protected," meaning they held a seaman's protection certificate. There is no information about the ship's cargo. The following table contains personal information about the *Humphrey*'s crew.¹⁴

¹³ To research the construction and owners of the *Humphrey* see: Kim McKeithan. "Documenting America's Merchant Fleet: The Records of the United States Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, 1789-1907." *Maryland Genealogical Society Bulletin* Summer 2007 (Vol. 48, No. 3): 267-275. For documentation of the ship's crew in March-May 1841 see: Kenneth W. Heger "Documentation of the Crew of the Merchant Ship *Humphrey* 1841" *Der Kurier: Newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society* June 2008 2008 (Vol. 26, No. 2): 32.

¹⁴ March 21, 1842 crew list of the *Humphrey*, page 43 of *Arrivals and Departures of American Vessels, March 10, 1841 through June 3, 1843*. Records of the United States Consulate at Bremen, Germany (Volume 174). National Archives

TABLE I
CREW OF THE *HUMPRHEY*, FEBRUARY – JUNE 1842
 (* = PROTECTED SAILOR)

NAME	BIRTH PLACE	RESIDENCE	COUNTRY	AGE	HEIGHT	SKIN ¹⁵ TONE	HAIR
Wm. Young*	Baltimore	Baltimore	United States	21	5' 3 ½"	Bright	Brown
Wm. Clemson*	Baltimore	Baltimore	United States	16	5' 6 ¼"	Dark	Dark
James Deal*	Baltimore	Baltimore	United States	23	5' 9"	Dark	Black Curly
Weskum Lewis*	Baltimore	Baltimore	United States	22	5' 4"	Brown	Brown
James Rogers*	New Orleans	Baltimore	United States	23	5' 7 ½"	Dark	Dark
Jonathan Norton*	Maine	Baltimore	United States	21	5' 7"	Dark	Dark
George Solomon*	Baltimore	Baltimore	United States	16	4" 9 ¼"	Fair	Light
Henry Wilson*	Long Island	Baltimore	United States	20	5' 4"	Dark	Brown
Lewis Nicholson*	Baltimore	Baltimore	United States	38	5' 9"	Yellow	Grey
Christian Peterson	Europe	Baltimore	United States	25	5' 6"	Light	Light
Edward Johnson	Europe	Baltimore	Hamburg	24	5' 10"	Light	Brown
Abner Marky	Washington	Baltimore	Bremen	32	5' 8"	Light	Black

The American consul cleared the "Humphrey" to leave Bremerhaven on April 5, 1842. Captain Hillert noted that all twelve crew men who had made the voyage from the United States sailed with the ship on its homeward trip.

The clearance states that the ship carried ballast and a few passengers¹⁶. Although the clearance document does not mention the passengers' names, a Baltimore City list dated June 3, 1842, contains that information. The passengers consisted of thirty-seven year old Louisa Nortman, a seamstress from Sessenhausen in the Rhineland, and her five children: Caroline (thirteen years old), Helena (eleven), Doris (seven), Conrad (four), and Louisa (three). The list also mentions the family took five chests of belongs on the voyage with them.¹⁷

and Records Administration Record Group 84, Records of Department of State Foreign Service Posts. National Archives at College Park, MD. (Here after cited as Bremen, Vol. 174, NARG 84.)

¹⁵ Text in document reads "Complexion" rather than skin tone.

¹⁶ March 21, 1842 crew list of the *Humphrey* p. 43, Bremen, Vol. 174, NARG 84.

¹⁷ June 3, 1842 Passenger List, Ship *Humphrey*, (Ship #18), Roll 3 of *Passenger Arrival Lists for the Port of Baltimore, 1820-1891*. National Archives and Records Administration Microfilm Publication M255. National Archives and Records Administration Record Group 85, Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

2008

October 10-11. Orangeburgh German-Swiss Genealogical Society, Oktoberfest XXVIII Registration, First Baptist Church Family Life Center, 2855 Columbia Road, Orangeburg, SC. Meal reservations must be made by October 8 Phone: 803-534-1227.

October 11. Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Fall seminar: Genealogical Research in the Twenty-first Century. Comfort Inn Conference Center, 4500 Crain Hwy, Bowie, MD. More details at: <www.magsgen.com/fallmeeting.html>.

October 18. Palatines to American, Pennsylvania Chapter Chapter, Annual Fall Seminar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. New Holland, PA. Yoder's Restaurant. Speaker: Roland Paul. Contact PA Chapter PalAm, PO Box 280, Strasburg, PA 17579; e-mail, james@beidler.us. Please note change in date

October 18, 2008. Palatines to American, Ohio Chapter, Annual Fall Seminar, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Location: Brookside Plaza Community Center, Brookville, Ohio. Guest speakers: Carrie Eldridge, Donald Bowman and Gale Honeyman. Tour of Brethren Museum following the meeting with the opportunity to research their genealogy records. Web site: <<http://www.oh-palam.org/>>.

November 1. Maryland Genealogical Society Fall Seminar, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. "DNA and Family History—Exploring the "Gene" in Genealogy." Comfort Inn and Conference Center, Bowie, MD. Deadline for reservations: October 20, 2008. Write to: MD Genealogical Society, 201 West Monument Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 or get registration form from <www.mdgensoc.org>.

November 1. Virginia Genealogical Society Fall Conference, "Hampton

Roads: Gate to Virginia". Place: Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA. Registration form at <http://www.vgs.org>.

2009

May 13-16. National Genealogical Society Conference, Raleigh, NC. Theme: "From Roanoke to the West." Reservations for the Conference hotel at the Raleigh Marriott City Center: Call 866-260-1270 There is a college graduation the same weekend, so rooms will fill early. Mention NGS 2009 when making reservations. For additional information: <http://www.ngs.org>

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MAGS Welcomes 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.

Erma A. Barco of Virginia Beach VA
(Heitman, Kneller, Buetner, Ficken)
 Christopher Conti-Vock of Glen Burnie MD
(Vock[e])
 Miles K. Dechant of Reading PA
(Dechant, Whitesell)
 Susannah H. Dillon of Carmel IN
(Haverstick, Harger, Albert, Bender)
 Robert H. Einhaus of McLean VA
 Christine D. Ellin of Virginia Beach VA
(Doering, Lorenzen, Ehrhardt, Loffert)
 Robert W. Hull of Philadelphia PA
(Schmidt, Odenwelder)
 Jerry T. Limbaugh of Winchester TN
(Limbaugh, Awalt/Ewalt, Speck, Hise)

Lois Marbert of Centreville VA
(Carper, Bund, Amend)
 Anne E. Saurbaugh of Lutherville-Timonium MD
(Seim, Stein, Wiechert, Huber)
 Barbara E. Selby of Tilghman MD
(Feldpush, Martin, Schenk, Zimmerman)
 Gerald H. Smith & family of Ocean Twp. NJ
(Schmidt, Schroeder, Pfeddersheim, Wissenger)
 Tresa Tatyrek of Flowermound TX
(Böhler, Koger, Wygant/Wiegand, Crum)
 Paul J. Trimbur of Catonsville MD
(Oswald, Stock, Trimbur, Wooensack)

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN *Book Reviews*

Exodus Unwanted

By Robert B. Kugel, M.D.

Available from Heritage Books, Inc., Publishing Division, 65 East Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157-5027. www.HeritageBooks.com Soft Cover, 141 pages. ISBN 978-0-7884-4076-4. \$22.50 plus shipping.

This novel is dedicated, by the author, to the “many thousands of immigrants who came from Europe to America seeking a new life.”

The fictional aristocratic von Damsgaard family came to America in the early 1850s not for the usual reasons, but for a matter of principal. Baron von Damsgaard, Chief of Forestry in the Court of Prince Franz, disagreed with the Prince's decision to sell a large portion of the forest.

The Baron viewed this action as destructive; the Prince saw it as a means to increase a depleted treasury. When neither

would relent, the Prince dismissed the Baron and told him to leave the country.

The family sailed from Bremen to New York and went by train to Wisconsin. They had survived the national and family upheaval caused by Napoleon's war and defeat, but could they survive the harsh farm life in a strange country without servants and money?

The Baroness and the children seized the opportunity to prosper; however, the Baron who was unable to face the changes in his life and occupation turned to alcohol – a problem which had its genesis in Germany when he faced the loss of his job and social standing.

Facts predominate in this historical novel. It is written mainly in dialogue with an emphasis on early to mid-Nineteenth Century European history; however, very little is written about the emotional depth and reactions of the characters as they faced life altering decisions and a family tragedy.

Exodus Unwanted is interesting. It is an historical review for the reader who is knowledgeable about Nineteenth Century Europe; and it may pique the curiosity of those who wish to learn more on this subject.

Reviewed by Patricia Cramer

Carved in Stone on Paper

Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Printed Family Registers Made for Pennsylvania Germans

By Corinne and Russell Earnest

2007. Available from Russell D. Earnest Associates, PO Box 1132, Clayton, DE 19938. 302-659-0730, REARNEST@aol.com Soft cover. 82 pages. Illustrated in black and white. Indexed. \$17.50 plus \$4.00 shipping.

This intriguing title describes another, but lesser known, method of recording family births, marriages, and deaths. We are familiar with hand decorated, written family registers, as well as printed registers with handwritten infill.

The authors, members of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, are introducing another form for keeping family records; documents which are completely printed by a printing press. They theorize that families may

have considered these documents to be “more permanent,” or prestigious, and thereby “treated with respect and thus preserved.” Many of these registers were printed by the Ephrata Cloister press.

All of the family information was set in type and printed on one side of the paper. Any decorations were also printed. This was an expensive method of preserving family history, and usually only a few copies were made for the immediate family.

It is noted that often the family had the registers printed after the death of the parents, but not always. In some cases handwritten information was added, but this was difficult to place between printed lines. Most of the family registers are in German; a few in English.

The book is easy to use. There is a full page copy of each register along with a full page of explanations, and comments by the authors. There is a complete index of all names recorded on the registers, with the surname of each of the twenty-nine registers printed in bold.

Carved In Stone On Paper is another useful resource for genealogical research. It is also for those who are interested in and collect information about the history and culture of the early Pennsylvania Germans.

Reviewed by Patricia Cramer

Thanks to MAGS members who helped at FGS booth

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society extends a big “thank you” to the four members who volunteered at the society’s booth at the recent FGS conference in Philadelphia. With the help of Diane Giannini, Debra Hoffman, Dorothy Reed, and Joan Shipley MAGS had a successful exhibit at the conference. It would not have been possible without them.

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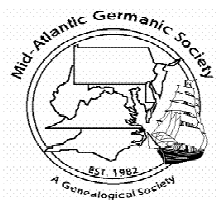
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