



DER

KURIER

MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

A GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Est. 1982

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 4

JUNE - 1985

PRESIDENT'S FINAL MESSAGE

As our Constitution states, the new slate of officers shall take office at the next regular meeting following the first meeting of the year. This would mean that ✓Anne Tenny, our next president, would not be in office until our Fall meeting. However, in view of placing things in their proper order, I have decided this column will be my instrument for bidding you adieu. In this way, ✓Anne will be allowed to address you, as your new president, in the September newsletter. Regarding our nomination and election of officers, we did not follow the Constitution to the letter, in as much as we officially nominated our officers at the Spring meeting. We should have elected them at that time. Our intention was to allow the membership to vote by mail. There is a ballot in this issue of Der Kurier which may be detached for voting. Please send ballots to the treasurer by August 31. New officers upon which the membership will vote are: ✓Anne Tenny, president; ✓Nancy H. Mossburg, first vice-president-membership

chairperson; ✓Mary K. Meyer, second vice-president-program chairperson; ✓Ardyce E. Harrison, recording secretary; ✓Phyllis Lott, corresponding secretary; and ✓Robert J. Miller, treasurer. These officers will be installed in office at the Fall meeting in Towson, MD.

Elsewhere in this issue of Der Kurier, you will find an article explaining the "German Locality Index." PLEASE READ THIS ARTICLE CAREFULLY, as it pertains to a facet of German ancestry that could prove most valuable. We are participating in this venture as a society, rather than as individual members. Why? Because it reduces the cost of the program to the Chicago Genealogical Society, through whose sponsorship we are participating. PLEASE DO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM BY COMPLETING THE FORM AND MAILING TO ✓PHYLLIS LOTT (See corresponding article for her address).

In this issue of Der Kurier there are several items which are new and different. One item is an article by an anonymous guest editor who will comment upon the queries that have previously

been presented.

A second feature of interest is the discussion concerning resource material and organizational sources where one can obtain information regarding German ancestors.

✓Elsie Lewis Swartwood, our Query Editor, will be moving to California in the Fall, but will continue as Query Editor. Her new address will appear at a later date.

I'll take this final opportunity to wish all of you the best both personally and genealogically in the coming days. It has been my pleasure to be your president since the inception of MAGS. Always fun and games, even though there were many hours of hard work to see that everything was performed to the best advantage of the members. Auf Wiedersehen.

GERMAN RESEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY FILE

Der Kurier for December 1984 contained a request for members to submit contributions to the Research Committee's Bibliography File, to supplement the excellent list compiled by ✓Norman Emerick (See Der Kurier, Aug. 1984) and the book reviews by ✓Dr. Boyd-Rush. These were to be books which members had found to be especially helpful in their research. The Research Committee will maintain a file of the references as a resource for answering Stumped Roots letters.

The bad news is that to date our proposed bibliography contains the name of only one book. The good news is that the submission by ✓Virginia Wise of Tiffin, Ohio, is an excellent example of what we were hoping to receive. Since a good example is worth a thousand explanations, her letter is reprinted in part below. If you can contribute similar information about a favorite research book, please send it to ✓Anne Tenny, 10807 Montrose Ave., Garrett Park, MD 20896.

VIRGINIA WISE LETTER EXCERPT

"A book that has been helpful to me in searching our German roots...is "The Tenmile Country and Its Pioneer Families," by ✓Howard L. Leckey (reprinted 1977 by Greene County Historical Society, Waynesboro, PA 15370)...Tenmile creek borders Washington and Greene counties in southwestern Pennsylvania. The move into Tenmile country began in 1763-65 and twenty years later families were migrating to Kentucky, Ohio, and further west. Many families that settled in Tenmile country were from New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. This book contains 775 pages with about 100 pages of indexed names (however I found the index to be not quite complete, finding family names in the text that were not in the index). The book...gives...many interesting facts and legends...history as well as

fascinating reading...."

COMMENT ON THE QUERIES

(Ed. Note: Beginning this issue, we will have an anonymous guest editor who will comment on various queries in previous issues. This time our editor has given answers to queries from the March 1985 Query section of Der Kurier. Our editor points out that sometimes queries are unjustified in seeking information. This column will only answer randomly posed questions from previous query columns, SO DO NOT SEND SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO THE QUERY EDITOR. The editor wishes to remain anonymous, because he/she does not have time to answer individual questions.)

Many queries never receive an answer because they ask for too much, or for information the researcher could just as well find for himself/herself. This column will answer some types of queries with advice that is more generally applicable, and others with specific replies. Comments here refer to queries printed in Der Kurier, March 1985.

WHERE IS MY EUROPEAN VILLAGE LOCATED? This is a question better sent to Stumped Roots, where the person who looks it up for you at least gets an SASE. The answer requires a zip code directory and a good atlas or gazetteer, both available in major libraries. (Offer to

pay for photocopying maps.) When one has a record that names several places, these may be state, smaller jurisdictions (like our counties), and actual villages. ✓SCHWARZMANN: There are two villages called Tailfingen, both near Stuttgart, state of Wurttemberg. Since you know the date of your Andrew's birth (Andreas in German), why not write for a civil record of his birth? Addresses: Standesamt, Tailfingen, Kr. Bobingen=, D-7031 Gaufelden, Federal Republic of Germany or Standesamt, Tailfingen b. Ebingen =, D-7470 Albstadt 2, Federal Republic of Germany.

WHAT IS THE CORRECT SPELLING OF...? For villages, again a zip code directory or gazetteer. For surnames, there are three books (all in German) which list German surnames. Authors are ✓Bahlow, ✓Brechenmacher, and ✓Heintze (ed. ✓Cascorbi). ✓Bahlow lists ✓DOEPKE (Dopke). The variant ✓DOEPKIN may be a feminine; "-in" is added in German to the surnames of all women. For surnames garbled in this country, try "A Guide to the Spelling & Pronunciation of German Names," by ✓Arta F. Johnson, 153 Aldrich Rd., Columbus, OH 43214, \$7.80. You may not know you have a misspelled name or village. ✓John & Eva SCHERER were born in the town of Aschaffenburg, Bavaria, NOT Abschaufenburg.

IF YOU KNOW THE NAME OF THE EUROPEAN VILLAGE, YOU CAN GET INFORMATION, but not by a query. You may want to write to the civil office

(Standesamt) or to the church office (Pfarramt). For good advice on that send for "Writing to Germany," by Kenneth L. Smith, 523 S. Weyant, Columbus, OH 43213, \$3.80. The records of your village may have been micro-filmed by the Mormons. This is true of Enzheim, where Sophia PFANNENSCHMIDT was born in 1829. Her marriage to Johann E. Otto would have taken place in her parish church, and the marriage record should name his father and his place of birth. Microfilms are from 1817-1875. (There is also an Ensheim, but it is not in Hessen.) If you want to write for the marriage record, address is: Standesamt, Enzheim, D-6472 Altenstadt, Hess. 2, Federal Republic of Germany. You should not write unless you have a good idea of the date of the marriage.

SO WHERE IS AN LDS BRANCH LIBRARY? In Maryland, only in Silver Spring, to my knowledge. Also in York and Philadelphia, PA. In Virginia, there are eight of them. In West Virginia, in Huntington. LDS branch libraries will not have the records you want, but you can order the records through them from Salt Lake City.

WHERE IN EUROPE WAS MY ANCESTOR BORN? This is often the most difficult problem to solve. For ancestors who came in the 1700s, there may be a document that gives the village of origin. One good place to look is the church records: the first record

of the family in the church or the burial record. The KIEFHABER name is found in both Frederick Reformed and Lutheran church books, but not helpfully. Try for the burial record of Philip in "The Report," No. 38. This includes a checklist of the surviving German church records of Maryland and where they are located. For other suggestions, send for a copy of "Locating Your Pennsylvania German Ancestor in Europe," by Annette K. Burgert, AKB Publications, P.O. Box 93, Worthington, OH 43085, postpaid, \$2.80. It is excellent for other states as well as Pennsylvania. Watch for other publications. Many experts are working and publishing in this field. For immigrant ancestors born after 1800 there is almost certainly some document in this country that gives this information. Try first for a civil death certificate and a newspaper obituary. (More on this subject in the next issue.) Unless you luck out and find a long-lost cousin, there is really not much hope of getting an answer to "where was he born" from a query.

NEED PARENTS, SIBLINGS, DATES, PLACES, ETC. Don't do this! This is not a query; it is a platter held out for someone's research, presumably at the expense of the researcher. I wouldn't even answer the etc. part.

POSTSCRIPT ON NAMES. When you write, make out a query, fill in your generation charts, give the full name. Most Germans had two given

names, and were known by the second one. Many, many German men were Johann something; your ancestor may have been known here as John H., but in Germany, he was Johann Heinrich.

INDEXER WANTED: COMPUTRIX
PREFERRED

All genealogists know how frustrating it is to find a good publication without an all name index. We owe it to our fellow researchers-and ourselves-to index Der Kurier. It would be an interesting task for someone with a personal computer. If interested, please get in touch with Anne Tenny, 10807 Montrose Ave., Garrett Park, MD 20896.

LIMITED OFFER!!!

Do you need to look at a specific month in a given year, yet can't find old calendars? For a limited time Der Kurier is offering yearly calendars from 13 A.D. (yes, we do mean that) to 9999 A.D. Find the day your ancestors were born, their wedding day, the day they died. For fun, see what day your birthday falls on in the year 7823 A.D. Calendars are \$1.00 + \$.50 postage per year. Send your orders to Editor, Der Kurier, 207 N. Duke Dr., Sterling, VA 22170.

Contributors: Anne Tenny,
Norman Emerick, Virginia
Wise, German Interest Group
News.

GERMAN LOCALITY INDEX PROJECT

The Chicago Genealogical Society (CGS) has invited MAGS to participate as a society in the German Locality Index project. PLEASE PARTICIPATE AS PART OF MAGS AND NOT INDIVIDUALLY. At present, there are four participating societies; the German Research Association, San Diego, CA; Die Pommer-schen Leute, Oshkosh, WI; South Suburban G and H Society, South Holland, IL; and the Illinois Chapter of the Palatines to America.

The German Locality Index is a computer project to pinpoint and record the vil-lages of origin of our Ger-man ancestors and to preserve this data for his-torians and genealogists. It is an attempt to identify not only where a specific surname is found in the "old country," but also to iden-tify other researchers who have access to data on that surname and/or locality. The project will focus on localities in Germany. The major benefit is to become aware of other individuals searching the locality or surname, thus avoiding duplication of effort and cost. A published version is being assembled by the German Interest Group of the Minnesota State Genealogical Society. The Chicago Genea-logical Society data may be published by the Minnesota Society group at a later date.

For the information of our members, a form sheet on

which to enter your German ancestors' surnames, as well as a "Bismarck Empire" map of Germany (1871-1918) are included as part of this newsletter. The latter is to be used as the "standard" map on which to locate your "General Locality" as called for on the form. It is suggested that each member make a photocopy of the above two items for use in sending the necessary information to the MAGS coordinator for transmittal in one large group to CGS. This way no one will mutilate their copy of Der Kurier. Phyllis Lott, our corresponding secretary, is the MAGS coordinator to whom completed forms are to be sent. (Phyllis Lott, Co Sec have new ma., 12111 Mt. Albert Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21043). Phyllis must have completed forms from at least 100 members before she can forward them to Chicago.

CGS will furnish one copy of the computer printout (including MAGS submissions) to MAGS at no cost. Additional copies, including updates, will be furnished at cost of materials plus postage. These printouts will either be published in Der Kurier or will be transmitted to each member by separate mailing.

NO COMMERCIAL USE OF THE INDEX OR ANY PART THEREOF WILL BE ALLOWED BY MAGS. This includes information concerning printouts.

Explanation of terms:

"General Locality" refers to the German state, province, principality, etc. in which a specific village, town, or

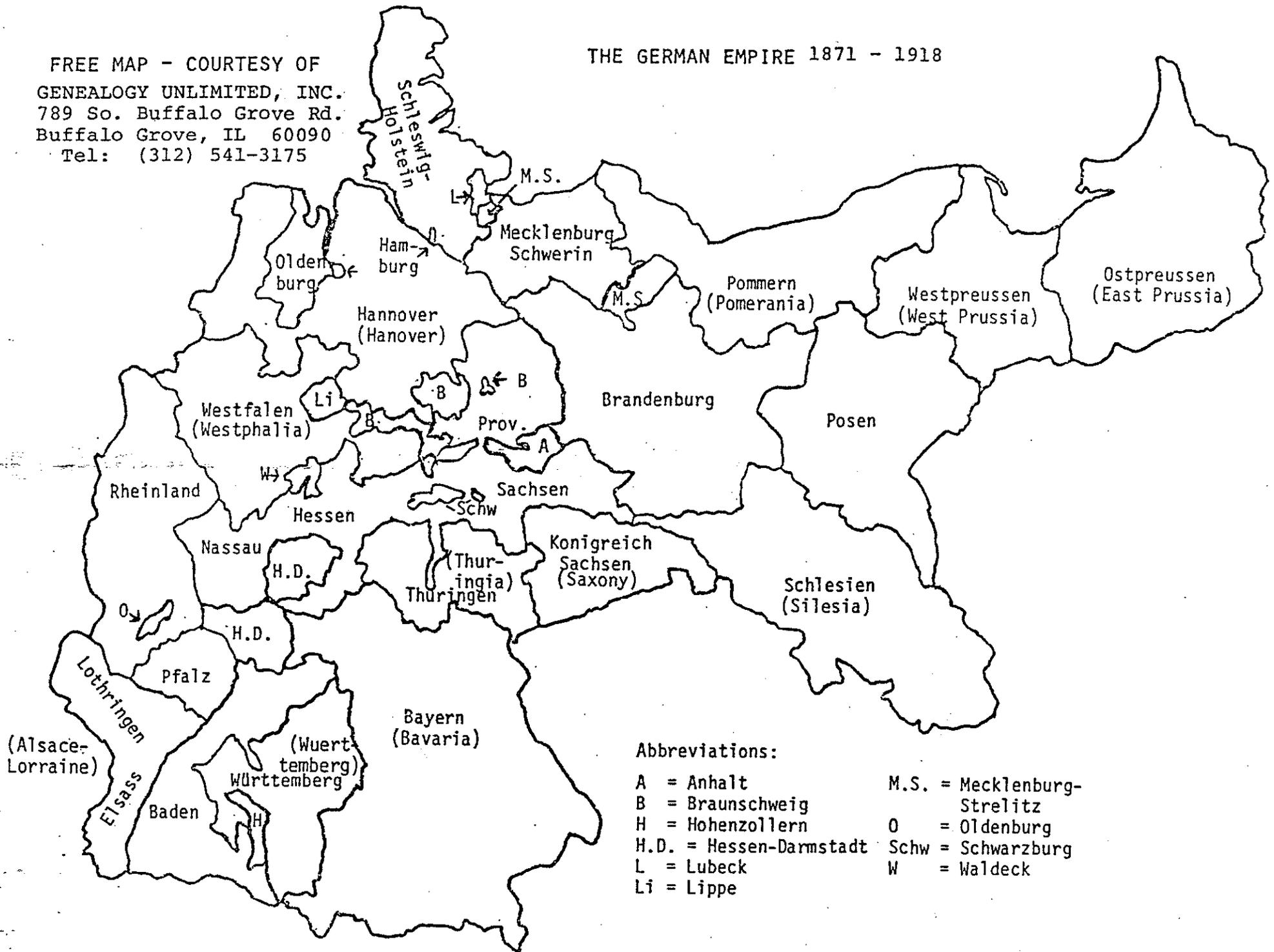
city is located, including former provinces no longer under German administration (see map). The map will provide the exact general locality which must be placed in the proper place on the form. References to "Prussia" for example, will not be useful since Prussia in 1871 consisted of more than ten of the general localities by which data is sorted. To determine the general locality of a specific village, reference should be made to a gazetteer found in a regional library or LDS Branch Library.

"Specific Locality" is the village, town, or city in which the surname is found. The "Kreis," or district in which the village is located should also be listed on the form if known. The listing of the "Kreis" is very important as it helps to differentiate between villages of the same name in a general locality. Please try to determine the correct spelling of the locality in question. If the specific locality is found in present day West Germany or the DDR (East Germany), consult the German postal directory, "Verzeichnis der Postleitzahlen" which is available in large regional libraries, LDS Branch Libraries, or by purchase from book vendors.

"Time Period" in the last column on the right of the form refers to the time period when the immigrant left Germany for America.

FREE MAP - COURTESY OF
 GENEALOGY UNLIMITED, INC.
 789 So. Buffalo Grove Rd.
 Buffalo Grove, IL 60090
 Tel: (312) 541-3175

THE GERMAN EMPIRE 1871 - 1918



Abbreviations:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A = Anhalt | M.S. = Mecklenburg-Strelitz |
| B = Braunschweig | O = Oldenburg |
| H = Hohenzollern | Schw = Schwarzburg |
| H.D. = Hessen-Darmstadt | W = Waldeck |
| L = Lubeck | |
| Li = Lippe | |

TIDBITS, MORSELS AND CRUMBS

Did your ancestors emigrate from Pomerania? If so, you will be interested in "Die Pommerschen Leute," an 8-page monthly newsletter devoted to Pommern genealogy and history. For more information write Myron Gruenwald, 1260 Westhaven Dr., Oshkosh, WI 54901. Also recommended is "Pommerscher Verein Freistadt Rundschreiben," published quarterly. Freistadt was a community just north and west of Milwaukee settled in the mid 19th century by Pomeranians. Write to LeRoy Boehlke, 13102 W. Mequon Rd., Germantown, WI 53022.

Several scholars are currently researching the approximately 25,400 German women who married U.S. soldiers and came to the U.S. between 1942-1952. Interested parties or members of this war bride group should contact Barbara Scibetta, 1101 Rainier Ave., Pacifica, CA 94044.

Looking for maps of Europe? Genealogy Unlimited, Inc. offers for sale a most complete collection of Europe including detailed maps of current East and West Germany. For details, write (SASE please) Genealogy Unlimited, Inc., 789 S. Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove, IL 60090.

German-American scholars are currently seeking information on areas and locations in the U.S. where Hessians settled. Write to Chatto-Hans Hoos-Rinningsland,

Giersbergstrasse 164, 5900 i Siegen 1, Fed. Rep. of Germany.

The Otto Family Association is made up of descendants of Dr. Bodo Otto (1711-1787) who served George Washington at Valley Forge. Those with Pennsylvania and eastern states Otto interests, contact Margot Birks Fruehe, 511 W. Maple, Lombard, IL 60148.

The Quarterly of the Illinois Genealogical Society (Vol. 16, Winter 1984) contains an article listing ship passenger lists of New York arrivals from Bremen. Eleven ships with mostly German passengers arrived July 1855 and Aug. 1857. Only drawback is only those passengers who stated Illinois as their destination are listed.

DIE BUCHS

If your area of genealogical interest includes the state of Virginia, there is a very inexpensive series that you might want to add to your personal library: "Virginia Historic Marriage Register," by John Vogt and T. William Kethley, Jr. The western part of the state in particular was heavily settled by Germans. Each volume in this series indexes all the family information found in the original county registers, and contains both an appropriate map and a chart denoting the genealogical descent of the county in question. Counties that are currently available include:

Clarke, 1836-50; Fluvanna, 1781-1849; Frederick, 1738-1850; Greene, 1838-50; Lee, 1830-36; Loudoun, 1760-1850; Madison, 1792-1850; Nelson, 1808-50; Powhatan, 1777-1850; Rappahannock, 1833-50; Roanoke, 1838-50; Rockingham, 1778-1850; Shenandoah, 1772-1850; Smyth, 1832-50; Warren, 1836-50; and Wythe, 1790-1850. They range in price from \$3.50 to \$15.00, plus .50 per volume to cover postage and handling. Available from the compilers, c/o The Iberian Press, 548 Cedar Creek Dr., Athens, GA 30605.

**NATION'S TANGLED ROOTS MAY
BE UNEARTHED ON RENOVATED
'ISLE OF TEARS'**

Ellis Island, a way station for the immigrant ancestors of nearly 100 million Americans, will be renovated as a major museum, with computers visitors can use to trace relatives back to the ships on which they arrived and find out what they brought with them and whether their names were changed.

National Park Service Director J Russell E. Dickenson predicted that the refurbished 27-acre island with its massive Great Hall, new exhibits and spectacular view of New York Harbor will attract at least 2 million visitors a year by 1986.

"It will be one of the biggest cultural-historical sites in the country," he said.

The \$128 million renovation

is being funded entirely by corporate and individual donations raised by the presidentially appointed Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission. Contributors now total \$75 million toward the \$230 million cost of refurbishing Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty.

After the island closed as an immigration station in 1954 it was abandoned to weeds and vandals. It was taken over by the Park Service and opened to the public in 1976 as a Bicentennial tribute, but apart from about \$8 million to bolster the sea wall, no funds were appropriated to rebuild its crumbling structures.

"The Statue of Liberty was the symbol of freedom and Ellis Island was where the symbol stopped and reality started," said Commission Chairman ✓Lee A. Iacocca, whose Italian father passed through Ellis Island in 1902.

✓Iacocca, chairman of the Chrysler Corp., said his father took him to the Statue of Liberty as a child, but not to Ellis Island.

The huge, white-tiled Great hall, where as many as 5,000 immigrants a day were processed, will be restored, and historical exhibits are to be mounted in rooms where passengers fresh off the boats from Europe dropped their baggage, waited in long lines for legal and medical examinations and, in many cases, bought railroad tickets to travel west.

Ellis Island was known as the "Isle of Tears" to many immigrants because of the rough examinations and their fear that they might be turned away.

"The immigrants remember the passage spiritually, rather than physically, for it represented entry into the land of opportunity," New York Gov. Mario M. Cuomo, whose mother came through Ellis Island.

"Momma said there was terror and tears, sick people and crying," Cuomo said. "The people who went through Ellis Island were offended by the mechanics of it: names were distorted and they were treated like cattle."

The first \$40 million phase of the restoration includes rebuilding the large stairway immigrants climbed, unaware that doctors were watching them for signs of physical disability. Sound effects may be piped in to reproduce the confusing babbling of foreign tongues and the cries of children exhausted and often sick after a long ocean voyage.

The museum will include theaters to show movies about immigration, as well as a research library and an oral history center to record remembrances.

© Reprinted with permission of the Washington Post.

(Ed. Note: If you would like to contribute to the refurbishing of the Great

Hall on Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, please send your tax-free contributions to Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., 101 Park Ave., NY, NY 10178.

QUERIES

Please mention at least one time, one place, one German surname with known variant surname. Limit each query to one family and use no more than fifty words, not counting your name and address. More than one query may be sent at a time, but each should be clearly written or typed on a separate sheet of 8-1/2 x 11 clean, white paper. Please indicate desired priority for printing. MAGS reserves the right to edit. Neither MAGS or Der Kurier assumes any responsibility for accuracy. Send your queries to: Query Editor, MAGS, 9421 Warfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20879.



Reprinted with permission of Jim Baker, from "How Our Counties Got Their Names."

✓SIFRIT/
✓SEIFERT/
✓CIPHERT/
✓SIPHERT
✓SCHROCK
✓MARREL

#3-63 ✓Andrew SIFRIT, enlisted in Captain Waggoner's/Co., of the 8th VA in 1775. He served until after Yorktown. About 1786 he married ✓Susan SCHROCK and lived near Winchester, VA. Later he married ✓Hannah MARREL and moved to Ohio. ✓Jack Quinn, 4021 Sullivant Ave., Columbus, OH 43228

✓BERG

#3-64 ✓John BERG b 1838 m ✓Anna. Emigrated in 1849 from Hamburg, Germany. Lived in Brooklyn, NY. Seek info. on his parents, what religion and any other info available. ✓Mrs. Jeannette Novacek, 648 Hyslip Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090

✓MUHLEISEN/
✓MUEHLEISEN/
✓MILLIOON/
✓MELIZER/
✓MELISE/
✓MELISA/
✓MELIZA
✓ORBOUGH

#3-65 ✓Adam MUHLEISEN b ca 16 June 1779. Where? d 25 July 1846 Henry Co. IN. m ✓Susannah ORBOUGH 26 Oct 1802 Rockingham Co. VA. Ch: ✓Elizabeth, ✓John, ✓Mary, ✓Susannah, ✓Sarah, ✓Anna, ✓Margaret, ✓Lydia, ✓Jacob. Who were Adam's parents and where was he born? ✓Robert Meliza, 7th & Cedar, Garnett, KS 66032

HISTORICAL CALENDAR

- APRIL 7--1775 The Assembly at North Carolina endorsed the Continental Congress.
- 23--1784 Congress considered a plan to organize the Northwest Territory.
- 26--1783 7,000 Loyalists sailed from New York City to Canada.
- MAY 1--1784 King's College was officially named Columbia College (Today it is Columbia University.)
- 19--1784 ✓John Jay departed Paris for America.
- 22--1775 American Gen. ✓Benedict Arnold reported victory in action at St. Johns, NY.
- JUNE 6--1778 British peace commission arrived at Philadelphia.
- 15--1784 Newspaper accounts warned American shippers of customs harassment.
- 28--1784 ✓James Madison proposed a gift of land for ✓Thomas Paine.

SANDHILL CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>DIED</u>	<u>AGE</u>		
			<u>Y</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>D</u>
✓Dove, Allen L.	1936	May 2, 1937	1	5	14
✓Dowhower, Infant Child of Elias & Sarah		May 28, 1910			
✓Dowhower, Earl P.	1900	Nov. 17, 1962	62		
✓Dowhower, Eli Miller	Feb. 15, 1866	Oct. 27, 1931	65	8	12
✓Dowhower, Mary E. Wife of Ralph R.	1895	1960			
✓Dowhower, Eva M. Wife of Earl P.	1901	Feb. 17, 1973	71		
✓Dowhower, Ralph R.	1897	July 22, 1960	63		
✓Dowhower, Sarah A. Wife of Elias	Jan. 31, 1869	Oct. 31, 1923			
✓Duey, Sarah Wife of Simon	Jan. 16, 1789	Nov. 29, 1863			
✓Duey, Sarah Ann	Jan. 8, 1828	Feb. 9, 1846	18	1	1
✓Duey, Simon	Dec. 11, 1784	Oct. 12, 1867			
✓Earrick, Adam		May 7, 1910	70	0	4
✓Earrick, Albion P.	Mar. 14, 1873	Sept. 6, 1916			
✓Earrick, Catherine Dau. of Adam & Elizabeth	Feb. 3, 1859	Feb. 18, 1860	1	0	15
✓Emerich, Catherine	Aug. 17, 1834	May 14, 1918			
✓Earrick, Eli Son of Adam & Elizabeth		Feb. 18, 1860	1	0	5
✓Emerick, Ellen B.	Nov. 11, 1869	Nov. 5, 1941			
✓Earrick, J.B.					
✓Earrick, Jacob	May 2, 1837	June 11, 1915			
✓Earrick, Jonas	Sept. 5, 1841	Sept. 1, 1916	74	11	26
✓Emick, Samuel	Mar. 3, 1806	Mar. 5, 1888	82	0	2
✓Earrick, Susan	Apr. 25, 1805	Feb. 26, 1889	83	10	1
✓Eppler(Epler), John J. Son of Abraham & Mary Ann	Feb. 18, 1836	Mar. 13, 1837	1	1	5
✓Eppler(Epler), Mary Ann Wife of Abraham	Dec. 11, 1809	Oct. 30, 1839	29	10	21
✓Espenshade, Anna Wife of Jacob	Jan. 6, 1848	Mar. 24, 1879	31	2	18
✓Etter, Elisabeth		Apr. 16, 1880	41	4	1
✓Etter, Jacob	Dec. 31, 1820	Apr. 7, 1865	44	3	6

--Continued next issue--

H A V E A H A P P Y S U M M E R

