



DER

KURIER

MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

A GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Vol 5 No 3

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For some time, we have been trying to identify our members' basic research interests. It seems to me our German-American ancestors fall into three groups: those who immigrated before the Revolutionary War and settled in rural frontier areas; those who came between around 1780 to 1850; and the late 19th and early 20th century immigrants. MAGS and other German-related genealogy organizations tend to give a great deal of attention to the first group, leaving the others somewhat neglected. Another rather neglected set of ancestors, regardless of time period, is the urban ethnic groups: there were large numbers of Germans in early Baltimore, Philadelphia and other mid-Atlantic cities. Researching them can be just as fascinating -- and frustrating -- as looking for the farmers who moved west every generation or so. Of course we all share the hope of learning more about our ancestors in their Germanic places of origin, once we've traced them to the shoreline.

Fortunately, I'm happy to note, the speaker scheduled for our Spring meeting, Herr Friedrich Wollmershäuser, will have something of value for all of us. His subjects include hints on finding records of both 18th and 19th century German emigrants; passenger lists up to 1914; and practical "how to's" for visiting and writing. (See flyer at the back of *Der Kurier*.) I certainly hope that many of you will be able to take advantage of this opportunity.

Some members outside the Mid-Atlantic area have inquired about obtaining tapes of the talks or copies of handouts from this meeting.

On the subject of tapes, response to past offers has been rather disappointing, and so the Board decided not to tape meetings. [Ed. note: The person taping the past meetings barely met expenses of supplies and the cost of postage. Requests for only two or three copies of tapes could not justify his investment in time and equipment.] As to the handouts, it is perhaps feasible, subject to the wishes of the speaker, to make copies available. In 1985, we published a questionnaire about your interests; one of the questions asked whether local members would be willing to act as "pen pals," sharing their lecture notes or copies of handouts with out-of-area members. While total response to the questionnaire was rather sparse, many of those who did reply expressed willingness to help. So, if you write to me before the meeting, I'll try to line up somebody to help you out in that respect.

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**MAGS sends condolences to the families of Cathleen B. Czarnecki and Helen Seubold.**

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### CHURCH RECORDS WANTED

If you know of church records in Maryland which have not been published or reported to the Maryland Church Records Committee, please get in touch with Charles Wolf, 2152 Blue Ridge Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740. He is our representative on the Maryland Church Records Project sponsored by the Genealogical Council of Maryland.

## MAGS MEMBER PUBLISHES BOOK

*Monocacy and Catoctin*, edited by MAGS member C. E. Schildknecht, has 465 pages and is hardbound. This is a regional study of Western Maryland and neighboring Pennsylvania from Indians and Indian traders to European settlers and families to the mountain and Hagerstown, MD. This region, northwest of Washington, D.C., has been a crossroad of western and north-south travel and migration. Settlers and descendants have been emphasized in Frederick and Carroll Counties, MD and Adams County, PA. From original records the book contributes to histories of a number of notable families including two U.S. presidents, authors, educators, pastors and philanthropists.

Steelman, Eisenhower, Hoover, Poe, Clem, Clingan, Delaplaine, Keller, Kemp, Leatherman, McCardell, Musselman, Scholl and related families have been studied by authors directly familiar with the names. The book has 22 pages of detailed bibliography and sources including available church records.

Early English, Scotch-Irish, French and Germanic settlers are emphasized. A map representing the area about 1800 shows dwellings of prominent settlers, churches, mills and other features.

To order this book send \$24.95, plus \$1.50 shipping and handling (PA residents please add 6% sales tax) to: Beidel Printing House, Inc., P.O. Box 152, Shippensburg, PA 17257.

### THE SIGMONS OF VIRGINIA

In the early 1700's, many immigrants came to America. The father of Peter Sickman, Sr. was among those people who were hoping for better opportunities and land on which they could farm in peace.

It was soon evident that they must face the rigors of entering the wilderness to open it for settlement. Peter accepted this challenge and he is first found in Henry County, Virginia, in 1785, when he was among the petitioners who asked that another county be formed out of Henry and Bedford Counties. This area became

Franklin County, Virginia, and Peter made his permanent home here.

He fathered 13 children who intermarried with others who were children of these early, adventuresome individuals who braved this difficult life to carve a niche for themselves in this beautiful, virgin wilderness. Among these pioneers are the names of Hale, Willis, Griffith, Richards, Brumley, Shivley, Moore, Gibson, Jones, Hill, Foster, Burdette, Adams, Sloane/Sloan, Peters, Bridges, Wade, Janney, Sledd, Ferguson, Snead, Workman, Brogan, Keys, Winfrey, et al.

Yet the time came when the children of Peter Sickman and others needed to move on to "greener pastures." Two of Peter's children went farther into the wilderness, helping to open the gate to the west, and made their permanent homes in Indiana. Two of his children moved into the Kanawha Valley in the early 1800's and settled in Kanawha County, Virginia (West Virginia). A grandson and great-grandson settled in Putnam County, having obtained land grants in 1858. Other grandchildren and great-grandchildren went to Boone and Lincoln Counties in West Virginia. Peter's other children remained in Franklin County, but their descendants have scattered all over the United States and the world.

The history of this family is now published under the title of *The Sigmons of Virginia*, by Juanita Sigmon Halstead, a great-great-granddaughter of Peter Sickman, Sr. This book is in hard cover, indexed, has 48 family pictures, maps, and contains data on all 13 of Peter Sickman, Sr.'s children. There are 301 pages in the volume, including the index. It sells for \$35.00 per copy, plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling. Those living in West Virginia add 5% West Virginia sales tax. Those interested may write Mrs. Halstead at: 6 Saunders Addition, Scott Depot, WV 25560.

### MAGS IN NEW SOCIETY

MAGS has officially joined the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Delegates to FGS are Ardyce Harrison and Gwen Read.

## FAMILY NEWSLETTER INDEXES

Charles Wolf, a MAGS member from Hagerstown, MD has completed computerized indexes to each issue of the following family newsletters or histories which have been donated to MAGS.

*The Caquelin Chronicle  
Crowl Connections  
Dohner Family Newsletter  
Graybill Newsletter  
Lucas Family History*

The number of individual names found was so large that Mr. Wolf's computer could not handle the task of merging them. Nevertheless, the individual indexes will provide a very useful finding aid for MAGS members. They will be available at the Spring meeting.

## LDS FAMILY REGISTRY

The Mormons now offer the Family Registry, a list of alphabetized surnames, together with the names and addresses of those who registered them. You can search the Registry to find if others are searching your lines and you can also register so that you may be contacted. Both registration and inquiry are free, but as a common courtesy, please include SASE when corresponding with others and offer to reimburse for any photocopying.

For more information on the Family Registry, write Genealogical Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 35 North West Temple St., Salt Lake City, UT 84150.

## ADOPTION AND ORPHAN RESEARCH

All of us run into a brick wall or two searching for our roots, but one of the hardest walls to get over is when you encounter an adoption in your family line.

There are two different types of adoption research. The searching done by adoptees looking for their families is one type. The other is the digging done when an orphaned pre-1900 ancestor is discovered.

To the British, bloodlines were so important that legal adoption was not accepted until the Adoption of Children Act of 1926. A kind of non-legal adoption existed for many centuries in Great Britain, in the form of apprenticeship. Between the 13th and 17th centuries this practice spread in Britain to all social and economic classes.<sup>1</sup>

Apprenticeship dealt with orphaned children without the need for adoption laws. It spread to America with the Puritans.

"There are many ships going to Virginia with them 1,400 or 1,500 children which they have gathered up in diverse places."<sup>2</sup>

America was glad to get the labor and welcomed these children until the population grew to the point that orphaned children couldn't be readily accommodated in New England.

In the mid-1800's various homes and hospitals were opened in the New England states to care for orphaned children. One of these was the New York Foundling Hospital, founded in 1869. Records of orphan asylums are often found in the County Commissioners' Office. These can include Board of Directors' Minutes and Registers of Inmates. Apprenticeship records or indentures in the U.S. are filed in the county civil court records.

The Children's Aid Society (105 E. 22nd St., New York, NY 10010) was founded in 1853. They handled legal adoptions and sent over 100,000 children to rural areas of the Midwest on what are known as orphan trains.

The New England Home for Little Wanderers (161 S. Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02190) was organized in 1865. By 1900 they had sent 9,000 children to Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. Unfortunately they have no lists of the dates or destinations of the trains, or the names of the children placed on these trains.

One way to find these children is to check pre-1900 newspapers as the arrivals of the trains (and the names of the children) were considered newsworthy.

If these children were orphans and not foundlings, finding where they came from can

eventually lead to their birth certificates. But after 1900 things changed. States began to replace a child's birth certificate with one amended to name the adoptive parents and the original sealed, until by 1940 this practice was nearly nationwide.

Many reasons were given for the sealings, including the elimination of possible blackmail, bad publicity and child retrieval by the natural parents.

Orphan Voyage was formed by Jean Kittson Paton in 1953, an adoptee who saw flaws in the system and spoke out about them.

In the 1960's and 1970's more adoptees began to complain about the elimination of their right to search for their roots and additional groups were founded to help.

Today adoptees can get their original birth records in Alabama, Alaska, Kansas, Montana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. In South Dakota they can see the court records, while in Connecticut, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and Tennessee court records can be seen at the discretion of the court. (In Scotland, Finland and Israel adult adoptees can see the original birth certificate, while in England and Wales a law passed in 1975 means adults are able to see original certificates after counseling.)

Adoptee's Liberty Movement Association (National Office, P.O. Box 154, Washington Bridge Station, New York, NY 10033) was founded by Florence Ladden Fisher of New York in 1971. They have a pamphlet "Handbook for the Search" compiled by Emma Vilardi.

A current list of organizations nationwide that can aid adoptees in searching for their roots (either through actual research or through emotional support) can be obtained from Triadoption Library Inc., 7571 Westminster Ave., Westminster, CA 92683, Attention: Referral Service. Include a legal size self-addressed stamped envelope with your request.

Other sources of help include:

*The Adoption Searchbook*, by Mary Jo Rillera, 1981 Triadoption Publications, Huntington Beach, CA.

The International Soundex Reunion Registry, P.O. Box 2312, Carson City, NV 89701.

New York Foundling Hospital, Public Relations Dept., 1175 Third Ave., New York, NY 10021.

Roots and Reunions, P.O. Box 121, L'Anse, MI 49946.

Adoption Identity Movement, P.O. Box 20092, Detroit, MI 40220. (This all volunteer adoptee search group is one of 138 such organizations throughout the U.S. Search assistants are available.)

ASK - Adoptees Search for Knowledge, 4227 S. Belsay Rd., Burton, MI 48519 and Box 762, East Lansing, MI 48823.

Adoption: Search & Research, 2310 Pinecrest, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Yesterday's Children, P.O. Box 1554, Evanston, IL 60204 (nationwide).

Search for Tomorrow, Inc., P.O. Box 441, New Haven, IN 46774.

LINK, 1700 W. 76th St., Apt. #1-C, Minneapolis, MN 55423.

Adoptees Anonymous, 1410 Field Pl. NW, Canton, OH 44709.

Orphan Voyage, 2141 Road 2300, Cedaredge, CO 81413.

Parent Finders, Headquarters, 1408 W. 45th Ave., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6M 2H1.

Orphan/adoption research may pose a few problems, but it is definitely possible. It's a brick wall that can be climbed over.

Sources:

1. *The Adoption Triangle* by Arthur D. Sorosky, M.D., Annette Baran, M.S.W. and Reuben Pannor, M.S.W. 1978 Doubleday, New York, NY.

2. Ibid.

(Written by Victoria Wilson and reprinted with permission from *Antique Week/Tri-State Trader* (March 10, 1986).)

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make their computer and their copy of the Personal Ancestral File more genealogically useful and enjoyable. C-PAF-UG publishes a quarterly newsletter, *ABT-PAF*, has monthly meetings, a software library, small group meetings for specialized interests and a remote computer bulletin board system.

*ABT-PAF* usually contains hardware reviews, software enhancements, explanations of the mysteries of operating systems, genealogical tidbits and the like. It is distributed at meetings and mailed to members who cannot attend.

Meetings are scheduled on the third Saturday of each month at the LDS Genealogical Library next to the Mormon Temple at 10000 Stoneybrook Drive, Kensington, MD. The short business meeting is held at 2:00 PM and is followed by a presentation or program.

The software library contains valuable programs, utilities patch codes, forms, etc., to aid in the use of the Personal Ancestral File and your computer for genealogical purposes. All software is public domain or "user supported." Copies of disks are sold at very reasonable prices.

The bulletin board system, BBS, will be operated soon on a trial basis for the exchange of messages, genealogical data, and public domain software to members. Access will be available to members and non-members alike by means of password controls, to leave messages and to up-load and down-load software and patches. There is no charge for the use of the bulletin board; however each user must bear his own phone charges.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the Personal Ancestral File and computers. Members are encouraged to take active roles in any of the regular functions of the group. In fact, the continued success of C-PAF-UG depends upon lively participation of the members. Dues are \$15.00 per year.

For further information, write to: Capital PAF User's Group, P.O. Box 177, Bowie, MD 20715.

## COLONIAL DISEASE GLOSSARY

[Ed. Note: Often in our searches, we find that an ancestor died of "Palatine fever" or "biliary plague," but upon further research we can find no more information on what exactly these diseases were. By knowing more about the daily lives of our ancestors, hopefully we can find out more about them in terms of genealogy.

The following is a glossary of some diseases known and feared by our ancestors. All information has been taken from *Epidemics in Colonial America*, by John Duffy, Louisiana State University Press, 1953, and *Medicine in Virginia in the 17th, 18th and 19th Century* (3 volumes), by Wyndham B. Blanton, William Byrd Press, 1930; AMS Press, 1980 (reprint); Garrett & Massie Press, 1933.]

**Asiatic Cholera** - Long endemic in India, Asiatic cholera spread to Russia and northeastern Germany and by 1831 was in England. It entered the U.S. through Canada c. 1832. It was particularly debilitating to blacks. At one point people thought watermelons, cabbages and cucumbers were carriers.

**Beriberi** - History: Early colonial settlements (c. 1600s).

Cause Dietary deficiency disease caused by "common pot" which everyone shared, that usually had bad food in it to begin with. Preventative was eggs, vegetables and fruit, which of course was unavailable.

Symptoms: Swelling due to fluid under the skin and in the body cavity.

**Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever** - Common Names: throat disease; throat distemper; throat ail; canker ail; malignant quinsies; putrid, malignant or pestilential sore throat; malignant sputum; cynanche trachealis; angina suffocativa; malignant angina.

History: During the mid-1700s colonists could not tell the two apart, although we know today that diphtheria is caused by a bacillus and scarlet fever by a strep infection.

Diphtheria was considered a "frontier disease" because it seemed outbreaks on the frontier were worse than in metropolitan areas. There were no major outbreaks recorded in any of the heavily populated port cities as there was for smallpox. The only correlation for this was that the high pioneer birthrate probably introduced

new nonimmunity and therefore diphtheria spread. Epidemics of diphtheria occurred in New Hampshire, 1735-1738, 1744-1745, 1754-1755; Virginia, 1686; South Carolina, 1724, 1750-1751, 1770; New York, 1737, 1740, 1744-1745, 1750-1755, 1769; Massachusetts, 1659, 1736-1740, 1744-1745, 1750-1755, 1766-1769; Connecticut, 1689, 1736, 1739; New Jersey, 1736; and Pennsylvania, 1746, 1763.

Symptoms of Diphtheria: Swelling, redness, and tenderness of throat, followed by appearance of grayish-white specks or patches and gradual formation of yellowish colored false membrane over all mucous surfaces of the throat. As membrane thickens and spreads down the larynx and trachea, breathing is difficult and sometimes suffocation occurs. Under certain conditions, acrid fetid discharge and sometimes bleeding from the nostrils occurs.

Cause: Human contact was the chief cause and principle victims were children under puberty.

**Scarlet Fever:** - Often mistaken for diphtheria, smallpox or measles.

History: First epidemic in the colonies occurred in Boston in 1702 and again in 1735-1736. Other epidemics included Newport, Rhode Island in 1736; Philadelphia, 1763; and New Haven, Connecticut in 1773. There were no major outbreaks again until 1783, when cases appeared in South Carolina and all of New England.

Symptoms: Sore throat and fever, a violent red rash on the skin, and a characteristic strawberry color of the throat and tongue. In the severest form of the disease, scarletina anginosa, the throat becomes ulcerated, resulting in death.

**Dysentery - Common Names:** flux; bloody flux; mountain cholera (only in southwestern Virginia); epidemic diarrhea.

History: One of the most common occurrences in colonial America. An epidemic in Braddock's troops that seriously hampered his campaign during the Revolution is believed to be one reason for the British defeat at Pittsburgh.

Symptoms: Fever, diarrhea, cramps, bloody, mucous evacuation. Victim subject to long periods of incapacitating illness, which drained their vitality and reduced their resistance to other fatal disorders. Ranks with malaria as a prime cause of death.

Cause: Either bacillary or amoebic infection. Although found in both warm and cool climates, there is a higher death rate in warm ones.

**Insanity** - The first insane asylum in America opened at Williamsburg in 1773. The violent were chained or caged; the harmless were allowed at large. Patients were usually drugged with camphor, opium, or belladonna; purged, vomited and bled; kept in prison-like cells and mechanical restraints. Colonial society believed that insanity was due to yellow and black bile and the heat of the dog days.

**Malaria - Common Names:** quartan ague; tertian ague; fever; marsh fever; intermittent fever; paludism.

History: Small bouts in the colonies 1657-59 and 1677-95, but not a terrible threat until later. One of the commonest complaints in the English colonies.

Symptoms: Regular alternations of chills and fever. One attack became the beginning of recurring sickness and often left the victim helpless to other infections.

Cause: Transmitted by a specific mosquito. Origin unsure, whether in the colonies or imported from Europe or Africa.

**Measles - History:** One of the most contagious diseases. Epidemics in 1713 in New England, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania and in 1717 in Virginia. Widespread in the colonies in 1729 but in a much milder form.

Symptoms: Acute inflammation of the mucous membranes, sneezing, watery discharge from nose, hoarseness, cough, fever, headache, thirst and restlessness. On the fourth or fifth day, eruptions appear consisting of small dusky red or crimson spots grouped in patches. Many types, but the worst case is less pronounced and is usually a dark purple color.

Cause: Filter-passing virus communicated by human contact. Incubation lasts 8-12 days followed by the first symptoms.

**Respiratory Diseases** - [Ed. Note: Influenza, Pneumonia and Pleurisy are lumped under this one category.] Common Names: winter disease; winter epidemic; winter fever; epidemic influenza; catarrhal fever; catarrhal quinsy; typhus pleurisy; bastard pleurisy; bilious pleurisy; spotted fever; pneumonia typhoides; peripneumonia notha; cod plague; Tyler's Grippe

(1846 only--because of President Tyler); old-fashioned break-bone fever, Russian gripe (used in the late 19th century).

History: Widespread in the colonies by 1732-33.  
Cause: Combination of poor food, drafty and badly ventilated, overcrowded housing. Relapses common.

**Influenza** - A respiratory disease occurring in successive waves. Prolonged debility and nervous depression follow an attack, usually paving the way for another infection.

Symptoms: Mild inflammatory changes in the throat and ears associated with adenitis and a tendency to suppuration. Characteristic pains in chest, back and limbs.

**Pneumonia** - Inflammation of the lung itself.

**Pleurisy** - Inflammation of the membrane lining the lung.

**Smallpox** - Common Names: Often confused with syphilis in symptoms, but once distinction was made, syphilis was called "French pox" or "large pox" as opposed to "small pox" or "variola."

History: Plagued Europe from 1600-1775. Usually brought into North America from Britain or West Indies through harbor ports. Epidemics in Boston 1722, 1764; Philadelphia 1730, 1736, 1737, 1756, 1774; South Carolina 1738. New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania had epidemics within any five-year period after 1730. Inoculations were first used in the colonies in Boston in 1721 with great results. However, they did not catch on and inoculations were gradually phased out between 1723-1730. By 1750, inoculation or "variolation" was practiced in all the colonies, but some colonies thought that inoculation would bring about the epidemic and prohibited its use.

During the Revolutionary War (1776-1781) there was a greater prevalence of smallpox throughout the colonies, especially among the troops of both armies. British soldiers would take infected slaves and leave them at certain places to infect colonial troops. This also prevented the colonials from chasing the British for fear of catching smallpox.

Symptoms: Temperature of 103°F or higher, quick pulse, intense headache, vomiting, pains in the loins and back for the first three days. On

the third or fourth day eruptions appear, usually coming first on the forehead and the roots of the hair and gradually spreading all over the body. Eruptions are dark red spots which eventually develop into papules or pimples.

Cause: Not really known, but noticeably unsanitary conditions and overcrowding act as a catalyst. Once a person had it, he or she usually didn't get it again. Most people did not retain "pits" or pock-marked faces as suggested by colonial literature.

**Spotted Fever** - Common Name: cerebrospinal meningitis

Symptoms: Usually attacked those between the ages of 12 and 20. Exhaustion, lethargy, chills, tearing of eyes, prostration, headache, stiff neck, spotting or eruption on skin, stupor, delirium, coma. Death often followed in 3-36 hours.

**Typhoid Fever** - Common Names: slow fever; nervous fever; continued fever; burning fever; long fever; putrid bilious fever; bilious remitting fever; periodic fever.

Symptoms: Fever, cramps, diarrhea, and bloody discharge of dysentery, plus a mild skin eruption of typhoid. Chief distinguishing characteristic is a constant high fever, which lasts from two to three weeks.

**Typho-Malarial Fever** - Common Names: In Shenandoah Valley of Virginia only, called remittent bilious fever (see similarity to name under typhoid fever above). In Fauquier County, Virginia and possibly other areas called typhus pneumonia between 1814-1815.

History: Thought to be a form of typhoid, but largely disclaimed later when quinine was used to treat malaria, but had no effect on typhoid.

Symptoms: Continuous fever with constipation, headache, debility, anorexia, emaciation and slow convalescence.

**Typhus** - Common Names: gaol or jail fever; military fever; hospital fever; camp fever; contagious fever; putrid fever; ship fever; petechial fever; Palatine fever.

History: The Germans and Scotch-Irish are thought to have brought over the first cases of typhus in the 18th century; probably the reason it appeared in seaport towns. Became the scourge of European armies, but not endemic in the colonial military until the outbreak of the Revolution.

Symptoms: Acute, infectious and highly contagious. Lasts about 14 days, during which prostration, nervous symptoms and a peculiar eruption of the skin occur.

Cause: Overcrowding, poverty, filth. Transmitted by lice and is more frequent in temperate and cold climes than warm. A common disease aboard ships.

**Venereal Disease** - New Englanders thought the Dutch and other foreigners were responsible for bringing it to the colonies. Presence of European soldiers from 1740-63, plus social and moral disruptions probably explain frequent appearance, but no serious epidemics. The only major attack in North America in colonial times occurred in Lower Canada in 1773.

**Whooping Cough and Mumps - History**: Neither prevalent in the 17th century, but whooping cough appeared in Boston in 1659. No further mention of whooping cough until 1738, when an epidemic broke out in South Carolina. Other epidemics include New England, 1758-1759 and 1765-1766. Mumps epidemics occurred in South Carolina in 1744 and 1768, but it was usually not a serious disease.

Cause: Both result from filter-passing virus, usually innocuous.

**Worm Fevers** - Hookworms and similar parasites were responsible for many fatalities and much sickness and suffering by colonial children.

**Yellow Fever - Common Names**: American plague; bilious plague; malignant infectious fever; calenture; Barbadoes distemper; bilious yellow fever; bilious remitting yellow fever.

History: At no time was yellow fever epidemic during the winter months in the eastern colonies. Nurses and midwives who were in constant contact with the disease never got it. Yellow fever largely disappeared from British North America between 1763-1793. A great epidemic began in Philadelphia in 1793, followed by others in Virginia (Norfolk 1795, 1797-98, 1800-03, 1821; Hampton Roads 1822; Norfolk/Portsmouth 1826, 1852, 1855; Winchester 1802, 1804).

Symptoms: Flushed face, scarlet lips and tongue and high temperature are early symptoms. After a few days, temperature falls below normal and skin assumes a lemon-yellow tint.

Vomiting (first colorless, then mixture of clear and blood) is a principal symptom. Vomited blood is usually partially digested and is dark brown or yellow. Amount of blood in vomit and urine is a measure of the intensity of the attack. Death results in irreparable damage done to the liver and kidneys.

Cause: Transported by a specific mosquito, probably caused by a filter-passing virus. Incubation is four to five days, sometimes less. Probably originated on the western coast of Africa or in the West Indies and was brought over in slave ships into the port cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Charleston.

## COMMON NICKNAMES OF OUR ANCESTORS

### Girls

Name	Nickname
Agnes .....	Neysa
Alice .....	Elsa
Amelia .....	Amy or Mellie
Ann.....	Annie, Nita, Nan or Nancy
Benedicta .....	Dixie
Bridget .....	Birdie
Deborah .....	Dee
Delores .....	Lola
Dorothy .....	Dolly
Gregoria .....	Greer
Hannah .....	Annie or Nancy
Julia .....	Jill
Jane .....	Netta or Jeanie
Margaret .....	Gretchen, Rita and Megan
Margareta .....	Meta
Martha .....	Pat or Patsy
Mary .....	Mame, May, Molly or Polly
Millicent .....	Lissa
Olive .....	Nola
Paula .....	Polly
Sarah .....	Sally
Theresa .....	Zita

### Boys

Name	Nickname
Christopher .....	Kit
Conrad .....	Cort or Curt
Douglas .....	Duggie
Henry .....	Harry
Jacob .....	Jack or Cob
John .....	Jenkin
Lawrence .....	Lon

Nicholas .....	Cole or Claus
Philip .....	Pip
Robert .....	Hob, Bert, or Rab
Thomas .....	Tam or Massey
Walter .....	Wat

### TIDBITS, MORSELS & CRUMBS

Spraying newspaper clippings on both sides with hair spray will keep them from turning yellow.

§

Photo albums with sticky backs can be harmful to newspaper clippings. The chemical reaction from the backing and plastic plus moisture entrapment, could cause clippings to disintegrate over time.

§

A yellow sheet of cellophane placed on the reading surface will make a difficult microfilm much easier to read.

§

The Huguenots published lists of other protestant emigrants along with their own. In the center of the volume, *Publications of the Huguenot Society of London, Volume 24, Naturalization of Foreign Protestants in the American and West Indies Colonies, Pursuant to Statute 13, George II, (1921)* are found thousands of immigrants that went to North and South Carolina, Virginia, New York and Pennsylvania between 1740 and 1772. Usually listed are the immigrant's name, county, township and state of settlement.

§

If you can't find traces of your German ancestors before the revolution, maybe they were mercenary (hired) soldiers.

Many Hessians fought for the British and then decided to stay after the war. German troops also fought under the French flag for the American cause.

The Royal Allemend de Deux Ponts, commanded by Prince Christian of Zweibruchen-Birkenfeld,

was actually a German regiment that served in America from 1780-1783. German troops also served as "French soldiers" under Rochambeau.

§

The Ohio Genealogical Society Convention will be held in Perrysburg, Ohio on April 24-25, 1987, at the French Quarter Holiday Inn. For more information send an SASE to: OGS Convention, P.O. Box 1128, Bowling Green, OH 43402.

§

*Switzerland County, Indiana Cemetery Inscriptions, 1817-1985* is a 512-page book covering 72 cemeteries in this southeastern Indiana county. Included are East View, New Liberty, Shaw, Carver, Nelson, Campbell, Vevay, St. Paul's German Lutheran, Gullion, Oatman, Bocock and Keith. Caledonia and Brushy Fork cemeteries, located in Jefferson County are also listed. To order, send check or money order for \$32.00 (postage included) to Wanda L. Morford, P.O. Box 118734, Cincinnati, OH 45211.

§

The Ostertag/Easterday Family Association of America is interested in persons searching the Ostertag/Easterday surname. The Association publishes a quarterly newsletter for society members. Those interested may contact Mary Easterday Shields, 6916 North Michele Lane, Peoria, IL 61614.

§

Anyone with ancestors in western New York may want to join the Historical Society of North German Settlements in WNY. For more information on the Society, write, Mrs. Paul J. Cannamela, 97 Cleveland Dr., Kenmore, NY 14223.

§

*Every Name Index to History of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, Ohio* by Joseph G. Butler, Jr. Vols. 1-3. 1921 \$7.00 + .39 Ohio sales tax and .95 postage and handling. Total: \$8.34. [Ed. Note: Contributor does not say if this is an

original set or a reprint.] Order from Mrs. Bernice H. Simon, 625 Blueberry Hill Dr., Canfield, OH 44406.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Those who contributed to this issue of *Der Kurier* are: *Brant County (Ontario) Genealogical Society Newsletter*, *Ancestry Trails* (Trumbull Co., Ohio Chapter O.G.S. Newsletter), *Antique Week/Tri-State Trader*, Anne Tenny, C. E. Schildknecht, Juanita Sigmon Halstead, Howard G. Lanham, Catherine Dippo and Bernice H. Simon.

## ATTENTION MAGS MEMBER

Who sent corrections to a query in the last issue of *Der Kurier*? Sorry, we lost your corrections and your name and address. If you will send them to the editor again, they will be printed next time.



## BOOKS FOR SALE

The following items remain from the book auctions and are available for direct purchase. Just send a check for the stated price, which includes postage, to Mags treasurer, Robert J. Miller, 347 Scott Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904. First request gets it; if the book has been sold, your check will be returned.

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1. <b>VIRGINIA APPALACHIAN NOTES</b>   | \$18.00 |
| Quarterly of the S.W. VA Genealogical Society for 1979-83, with yearly indexes in sturdy binder.   |         |
| 2. <b>REGISTER, PA SOCIETY OF COLONIAL DAMES</b>   | \$ 6.00 |
| Contains an ancestor index as well as listing of members. Old book, 500 pages.   |         |
| 3. <b>COLONIAL HISTORY OF VIRGINIA</b> , by Harold Gill and Ann Finlayson, 1971  | \$ 5.00 |
| Covers 1607 to 1788. 175 pages.  |         |
| 4. <b>HISTORIC HAMPSHIRE</b> . Bicentennial pub of West Virginia; county history, including copy of 1782 census enumeration. 516 pages, hard bound, with jacket.                             | \$ 5.00 |
| 5. <b>JOURNAL OF THE ALLEGHENIES</b> , vol. XIX, 1983.   | \$      |
| Regional journal, includes article "The Great Wagon Road," by MAGS members Frederick and Maxine Newbraugh.   |         |
| 6. <b>FOUR PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN STUDIES</b> . Vol. III of PA German Society Publications, 1970. Includes parochial registers of Indian Creek Reformed Church, 1753-1851. Indexed. Hard bound. | \$12.00 |
| 7. <b>INDEX TO GOOD SPEED'S HISTORY, FOR LINCOLN COUNTY, TENNESSEE</b><br>18 typed pages.  | \$ 1.50 |
| 8. <b>GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE OF NEW JERSEY</b> , issue for January, 1986.<br>Includes name index to 1985 issue.   | \$ 2.50 |
| 9. <b>INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY</b> , 1979-1983. Ten issues included, some missing.  | \$      |

## **QUERIES**

Please mention at least one time, one place, one German surname with known variant surnames. Limit each query to one family and use no more than fifty words, not counting your name and address. More than one query may be sent at a time, but each should be clearly written or typed on a separate sheet of 8 1/2" X 11" clean, white paper. Please indicate desired priority for printing. MAGS reserves the right to edit. Neither MAGS nor *Der Kurier* assumes any responsibility for accuracy. Send your queries to: **Query Editor, MAGS, 121 S. Juanita Ave. #4, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.**

**KETTEMAN/  
KEDDERMAN/  
KITTERMAN/  
KIDDERMAN**

#5-11 Christian Ketteman came to the US from Germany in 1750. In 1761 he arrived in Frederick Co., MD with his wife and several children. He probably lived in PA or MD during those 11 yrs? Where was he for 11 yrs? Where did he live in Germany? **Frank Ruff, 2924 Kilkenny Ct., Davidsonville, MD 21035.**

**ASTOR**

#5-12 Looking for info. on Felix, Johann, Jacob, Nicolaus, or Stephen Astor. All were born in Walldorf, Germany. Would like to contact someone doing research on the Astor family, or find location of existing info. **Frank Ruff, 2924 Kilkenny Ct., Davidsonville, MD 21035.**

*Der Kurier*, the newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, is published four times a year, in September, December, March, and June. Deadline date for copy is the first of August, November, February, and May. Send all copy to **Deborah M. Showalter, 8645 Tower Dr., Laurel, MD 20707-1244.**

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Editor - Deborah M. Showalter  
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 Corresponding Secretary - Phyllis Lott

### **WHEN WRITING TO US:**

**INFORMATION ON MAGS:** Send SASE to Corresponding Secretary, **Phyllis Lott, 12111 Mt. Albert Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21043.**

**MEMBERSHIP:** \$7.50 single, \$10.00 family per year (Sept. 1 - Aug. 31). **Nancy H. Mossburg, 233 Meadows Ln., NE, Leesburg, VA 22075.**

**SURNAME EXCHANGE INDEX:** Follow directions set up for this program or send SASE for information to **Sue S. Smyser, 6266 Rose Hill Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310.**

**QUERIES:** Follow directions set up for this program or send SASE for information to **Elsie Swartwood, Queries Editor, 121 S. Juanita Ave., #4, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.**

**SPRING AND FALL MEETINGS:** (Information) Send SASE to **Mary K. Meyer, 5179 Perry Rd., Mt. Airy, MD 21771.** (Registration) Send SASE to **Paul E. Fogle, 12 Locust Blvd., Middletown, MD 21769.**

**STUMPED ROOTS & PROFESSIONAL REFERRAL:** For information on **STUMPED ROOTS** send SASE to **George Billingslea, 1229 Wine Spring Ln., Ruxton, MD 21204.**

**SUGGESTIONS OR ASSISTANCE:** **Anne T. Tenny, 10807 Montrose Ave., Garrett Park, MD 20896-0141.**

# THE MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

## A GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

**Saturday, April 18, 1987**  
at

The Colesville United Methodist Church  
52 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, Maryland  
(See map on Reverse Side)

Members.....\$17.50  
Non-members.....20.00  
New Members..... 25.00  
(includes first  
year's dues)

Registration fee  
includes luncheon.  
  
Late Registration  
\$3.00 extra.

### THE PROGRAM

9:00AM	Registration, coffee hour, exhibits, etc.
9:30AM	Opening session
9:45AM - 3:30 PM	Talks by Herr Friedrich Wollmerhäuser
12:30 PM	Lunch break

- **DETERMINING THE PLACE OF ORIGIN FOR 18TH CENTURY GERMAN EMIGRANTS** - Outlines German sources for this period with emphasis on name indexes to emigration and population lists.
- **THE BUREAUCRACY OF EMIGRATION AND ITS TRACES IN GERMAN ARCHIVES** - Procedures outlined for Württemburg, Baden, and the Prussian province of Hohenzollern. New sources for finding the 19th century emigrant.
- **PASSENGER DEPARTURE LISTS OF GERMAN EMIGRANTS, 1709-1914** - Survey of surviving and lost passenger lists for ports of Stettin, Hamburg, Bremen, Liverpool, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp and LeHarve.
- **GENEALOGICAL CORRESPONDENCE AND TRAVEL TO GERMANY** - Hints on how to write letters and make successful trips.
- **GENERAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

To avoid late fee, mail registration by April 4th to:  
Paul E. Fogle, 12 Locust Blvd., Middletown, MD, 21769, (301) 371-6466 .

### REGISTRATION FORM, MAGS SPRING MEETING

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ members at \$17.50;  
New Members at \$25.00; \_\_\_\_\_ non-members at \$20.00; and \_\_\_\_\_ late fees at  
\$3.00.

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

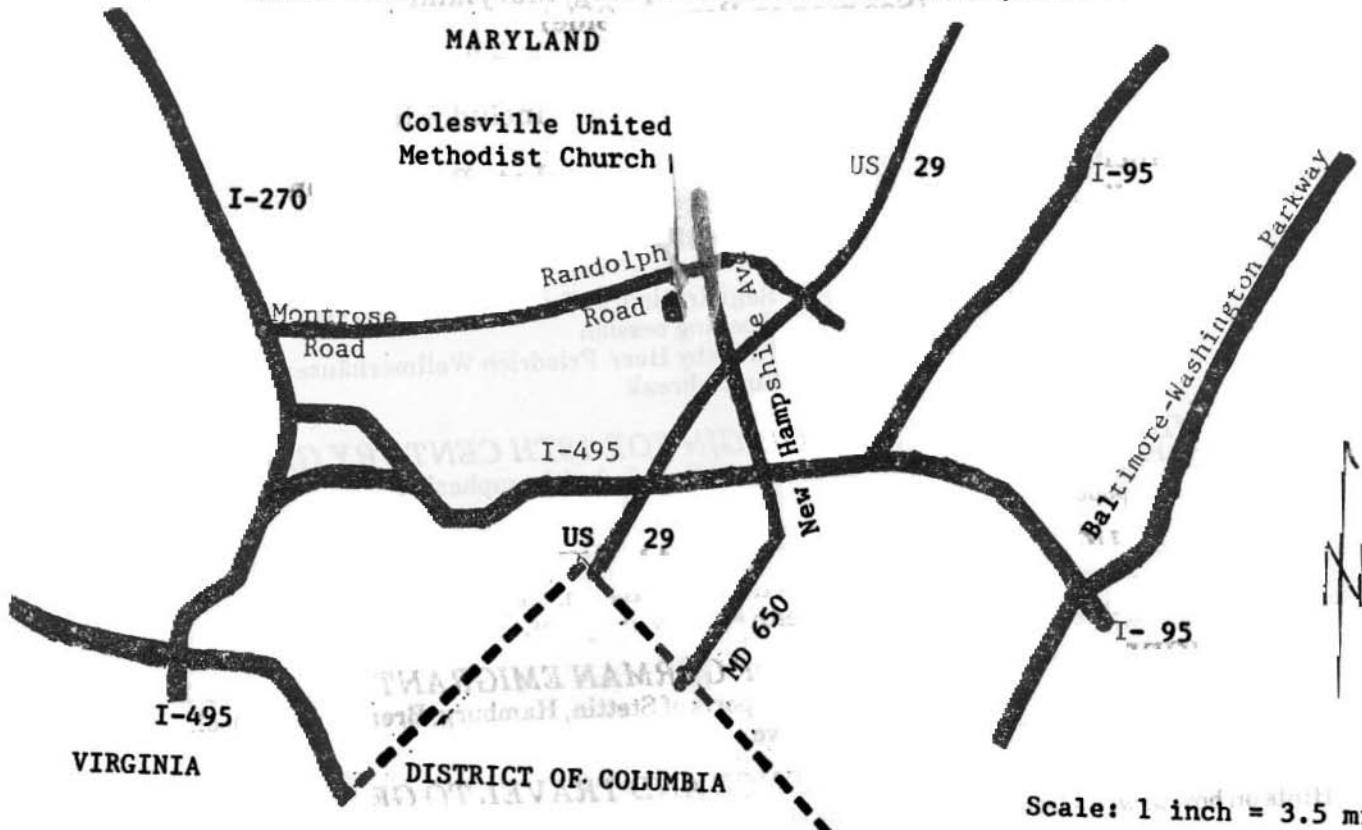
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Names of other attendees \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Our spring meeting will take place at the Colesville United Methodist Church,  
52 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, Maryland, just north of Washington, D. C.

1. Travel the Washington Beltway (I-495) to Exit 28, New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) northbound.
2. Go north 4.5 miles on New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650), pass under the overpass at White Oak, and turn left (west) from the center lane onto Randolph Road westbound.
3. Go west 0.4 miles on Randolph Road to our meeting place, a large red brick church on the left (south) side of Randolph Road.



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