



**DER KURIER**

Volume 15, Number 1, March 1997

## Come to the MAGS Spring Meeting April 26!

- When?** Saturday a.m. and p.m., April 26. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. (for details of day's schedule, see flyer insert).
- Where?** Blob's Park hall, Jessup, Maryland, south of Baltimore, Maryland, and north of Washington, D.C. (see flyer backside for map & instructions.)
- What?** Presentations by Mr. Roland Paul, a German expert direct from the Rheinland-Pfalz (Palatinate). (see flyer insert for program details).
- Food?** Definitely! Full buffet luncheon, with a Germanic beverage on tap.
- How to get there?** Come by car! Plenty of free parking! (see flyer insert for map and details on how to get there)
- Where to stay?** Lodging at the **Swiss Chalet Motel**, west of Blob's Park on Route 175 at US (see flyer insert for details, phone number, and how to get the special rate).
- How to sign up? Cost?** Read the flyer insert, fill out the registration form, and send it with your check Joan Sheviak at the address indicated!

**Are you overdue with your membership payment?** You are overdue if your latest copy of the Newsletter carries the number 96 to the right of your name and you have not yet sent in your dues. The membership year began on January 1. Please send your dues (\$10 single, \$12 family) to Dorothy Jackson Reed, 14710 Sherwood Drive, Greencastle, PA 17225-8403. If you have questions, please phone Dorothy: (717) 597-1747.

## Der Kalender

**April 26.** MAGS Spring Meeting, Blob's Park hall, Jessup, Maryland (see inserted flyer).

**May 2-3.** Maryland Genealogical Society seminar at Seafarers Harry Lundberg School, Piney Point, St. Mary's County.

**May 7-10.** National Genealogical Society Conference in the States, Valley Forge, PA. Host society: Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. Write NGS'97 Conference Registration Brochure, 4527 - 17th St. North Arlington, VA 22207-2399, or telephone (703) 525-0050 or FAX (703) 525-0052.

**June 11-13.** National conference of Palatines to America, Fort Wayne, Indiana

**Sep. 3-6.** Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, Dallas, Texas.

**If you would like your organization's event or program placed on Der Kalender, please send the information to the MAGS Acting Editor: Merl E. Arp, 20 Kinsman View Circle, Silver Spring, Md 20901, by the first of the month prior to *der Kurier* publication.**

## Order Your MAGS Lapel Pin Now!

The MAGS lapel pin is a beauty: black, white and gold, with the new MAGS logo! Each pin costs \$5.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling charges. Send your order and check, payable to MAGS, to Joan Sheviak, 3519 King Arthur Road, Annandale, VA 22003. Allow at least two weeks for delivery!

## The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society was founded on July 10, 1982, by a group of dedicated persons having a common interest in learning more about the Germanic genealogy in the mid-Atlantic region. The term "Mid-Atlantic" describes the general area into which our early German ancestors came when they arrived in America, and for the Society's purposes includes New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, and the Carolinas. The Society holds two meetings annually, in the spring and in the fall, open to members and the interested public, featuring speakers expert or knowledgeable in various aspects of relevant genealogical research and knowledge. The Society publishes a quarterly Newsletter for distribution during the months of March, June, September, and December. In addition to the meetings, the Society offers a wide range of other services, such as a lending library, query service, professional referral and advice, and a surname exchange (see back page of Newsletter for listing and contacts for further information). The Society does not perform research for individuals or other organizations.

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society is a non-profit organization whose officers serve on a voluntary, pro bono basis.

Membership in the Society is \$10.00 per year for a single membership and \$12.00 for a family membership (for further details see back page of Newsletter). The membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Membership is based upon the individual's interests common to the Society and not on place of residence or ethnic affiliation.

## Table of Contents

Ahnentafel .....	10
Buchbesprechung/Book Review .....	13
Fraktur Forum .....	5
Our German Heritage: Hager House .....	6
der Kalender .....	2
MAGS Spring Meeting .....	3
People and Events .....	4
Suchanzeigen (Queries).....	14

## Added Comments on the Coming Spring Meeting

### **Blob's Park: Part of Our German Heritage**

As noted on the lead page and on the flyer insert, the MAGS Spring Meeting will take place on Saturday, April 26, in the main hall at Blob's Park. Actually Blob's Park is not a park nor just a beer hall. Rather, it has become a well known local institution which is part of our German heritage. The story of Blob's Park begins with Max Blob, who at age thirteen emigrated with his parents and siblings to the US from Vogenberg, near Passau in Bavaria, Germany. They settled on 150 acres of open farm land and woods in Jessup, Maryland. In 1925 a small building containing a bowling alley and a few tables was added to the property, and on Sundays Max would take a truck to Baltimore and bring back friends from the city's German community for dancing, dining, and bowling at Blob's. In 1933, after prohibition had ended, Max Blob opened "Blob's Park" as a business venture: a German beer garden.

In 1942 Katherine and John Eggerl, Max's niece and her husband, moved in with Max to help him run the farm and the business. The Eggerls had five children, and as the children came of age, they too became involved with the business. They married and had children, and today the third generation of Eggerls is engaged in running the Park. Uncle Max, as most people called him, died in 1969.

In 1958 fire destroyed the interior of the old hall, but within six weeks a newly renovated Blob's Park was open for business. This hall was used until 1980, when it was destroyed to clear the area for an outdoor pavilion. Meanwhile, a new hall, currently in use, was built in 1976. With its Bavarian half-timber facade it has become a landmark in the area.

Blob's Park holds several traditional German celebrations each year: May Day, Sonnenwendfeier (the longest day of the year), Bavarian Day in September, Octoberfest, a children's Christmas Party, and a gala New Year's Eve party. The dining and dancing continues every week-end at Blob's Park. The Eggerl family welcomes all MAGS members and guests, and wishes them success in their spring meeting, April 26.

### **Tourism and Research in the Area**

There is plenty to see and do in the Blob's Park area. For example, the city of Baltimore, with its sparkling Inner Harbor, is just a few miles north of Blob's. To the south, off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway on Route 32 is Fort Meade with the National Cryptologic Museum, open weekdays 9 am - 3pm and Saturday 10 to 2. For more information, phone (301) 688-5849. Also to the south is the town of Savage with its Historic Savage Mill. For more information, phone 1-800-788-MILL. And our nation's capital, with all of its many monuments and historical buildings, is awaiting your visit!

Of course, if you are coming from afar and have the time, why not take advantage of the research sites in the area. To name a few, in nearby Washington, D.C., there are the Library of Congress (Genealogical Section), the National Archives (microfilms and more), and the DAR Library.

### **MAGS Planning to Sell German Road Atlases**

If all goes as planned, MAGS will have one or more kinds of German road atlases on display at the Spring Meeting. The road atlases, with their lists of locations, can be very useful to researchers who are looking for a particular town or village. MAGS hopes to make these atlases available for sale to its members and friends. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Spring Meeting should you be interested in purchasing an atlas. For those of you unable to attend the Spring Meeting, there will be further details about the German atlases in the next issue of the newsletter.

### **Door Prizes and Vendors**

Door prizes will be given at the Spring Meeting. Participants will also be able to purchase the MAGS pin and the MAGS library list. And there will be vendors offering their wares for perusal and sale!

\*\*\*\*

## People and Events

### MAGS Members to Play Major Roles at NGS Conference

Two members of the MAGS board of directors are scheduled to make presentations at the 1997 Conference of in the States of the National Genealogical Society (NGS). The conference will take place May 7-10 at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

John T. Humphrey, MAGS board member, will speak at 2 pm on May 7 on "The Genealogists' Handbook for Baptismal Records and Practices". His presentation will explore the beliefs and baptismal practices of several major religious denominations and show how this knowledge can assist with research. On Friday, May 9, he returns to the podium with a presentation on "Early Church Records: Identifying Problems and Exploring Solutions". He will explore the process of how church records were kept in colonial America and how recording procedures often determined the records' content. John is also serving as chairman of exhibits at the NGS Conference and is assistant program chair for this conference.

On May 7 at 11 am, MAGS President Corinne Earnest illustrates the kinds of genealogical information found in German-American *fraktur*, those uniquely decorated manuscripts. On the following day, May 8, at 11:30 am, MAGS President Corrine P. Earnest will make a presentation titled "Self-Publishing a Family History without Going Bankrupt".

Former MAGS editor Barbara Vines Little will speak on May 9 at 8:30 a.m. on the subject "Recreating Your Ancestor's Neighborhood". In her first presentation, Barbara outlines a methodology using land plats, taxes and other records to put an ancestor on the land and identify his neighbors. On Saturday, May 10, at 11 a.m., Barbara speaks on "Interpreting Virginia Records: What's There That You Don't See", an examination of specific records in light of Virginia laws, customs and practices and how the information should be evaluated. \*\*\*\*

### We Welcome the Following New Members to MAGS

Kay Ahrens of Yorkville, IL  
Norma A. Barnes of Onancock, VA  
William R. Belton of Gaithersburg, MD  
Virginia Bergey of Lower Gwynedd, PA  
Bonnie Mellinger Bingaman of Greencastle, PA  
Charles A. Blake of Millersville, MD  
Charlotte R. and Henry Blum of Baltimore, MD  
Charles J. and Rita M. Braun of Baltimore, MD  
Brigitte Burkett of Richmond, VA  
Robert C. Carpenter of Bessemer City, NC  
William D. and Elizabeth W. Carr of Rydal, PA  
Louise Sullivan Carrigan of Silver Spring, MD  
Dan Fantore of Alexandria, VA  
Elizabeth Felton Fox of Petersburg, VA  
Laura Danennza Georigi of Marlton, NJ  
Timothy Heerd of Frederick, MD  
Rosalie C. Hykes of Greencastle, PA  
Francis D. and Marianne H. Kline of Robesonia, PA  
Frank J. Kuhn of Royal Oak, MD  
Alverta Mae Johnson-Sullivan of Burtonsville, MD  
Ted Lahner of Levittown, PA  
Dennis and Mary Martinez of Baltimore, MD  
Charlotte and Fred C. Mattern, Jr., of Warrenton, VA  
Anne Morris of Tampa, FL  
Robert R. and Carolyn Oltjen of Laurel, MD  
Jack F. Ritter, Jr., of Austin, TX  
James E. Rogers of Hanover, MD  
Albert Saenger of Alburdis, PA  
Francis M. Sharp family of Arlington, VA  
Robert Shaub of Shrewsbury, PA  
Shirley A. and Robert N. Sheets of Denver, CO  
Kimberly Shiffgens-Lorenz of Woodbridge, VA  
John C. Stauffer of Mercersburg, MD  
Ken Steeber of Luray, VA  
Carl Treff of Pasadena, MD  
Daniel H. and Scott D. Zimmerman of Bethesda, MD

and

the Colorado Chapter of Palatines to America, Denver, CO

## FRAKTUR FORUM

### GLOCK/KLOCKS - GLÜCK/KLÜCKs ON FRAKTUR



by Corinne Earnest

In a previous issue of *der Kurier*, Sue Cromwell had asked about the name GLOCK and KLOCK on fraktur. She suggested variant spellings including GLÜCK and KLÜCK. A Taufschein (birth and baptism certificate) was made for Michael GLÜCK, son of Ludwig and Barbara (DÜRKES) GLÜCK. Michael was born January 6, 1789, in Hanover Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized by Ludwig LUPP [no date given]. Sponsors at his baptism were Johannes and Susanna HANDSHU. This Taufschein is pictured in *Check List of Pennsylvania Dutch Printed Taufscheins* by Alfred L. Shoemaker, published in 1952 by The Pennsylvania Dutch Folklore Center, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster (p.8).

The Free Library of Philadelphia pictures a Taufschein in the first of its two-volume set published by the Pennsylvania German Society in 1976. This Taufschein (#99) was made for Georg, son of Conrad and Elisabetha (WITTEMEYER) GLÜCK. Georg was born May 13, 1812 in Heidelberg Township, Dauphin County. He was baptized by Pastor THIEDEMAN (no date given), and sponsors at his baptism were Henrich and Barbara LÖHNIXH. An added note says that George KLICK [sic] died August 9, 1884 at age 72.

Judith Fryer lists a Taufschein (#66) in an article she wrote for the Autumn 1978 issue of *Pennsylvania Folklife*. This certificate was made for Herrietta LOSZ, daughter of Peter and Lusetta (GLÜCK) LOSZ. Herrieta was born August 28, 1852, in Bethel Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized by Johanes STEIN (no date given). Her mother was sponsor at the baptism.

In 1962, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston published the collection of M. & M. Karolik, a collection of early American watercolors and drawings. Item #1377 in that catalog lists a Taufschein made for

John Peter KLUCK, born 1820 or 1822 in Pine Grove Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. John Peter was son of Peter and Margreda KLUCK. No other genealogical data from this fraktur is given in the catalog description.

Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania has a Taufschein made for Lusetta GLÜCK, daughter of Peter and Elisabetha (ALWEIN) GLÜCK. Lusetta was born August 27, 1829 in Bethel Township, Lebanon County. She was baptized November 15, 1829 by Reverend ERNST. Sponsors were Heinrich and Anna GLÜCK.

A Taufschein made for Ira Werner KLICK had an accompanying confirmation certificate. Ira Werner KLICK's parents were Jonathan and Sarah (WERNER) KLICK. Ira was born December 3, 1868 in East Hanover Township, Lebanon County. He was baptized by Pastor GIESS. No date for baptism was given, and Ira's parents stood as sponsors. Ira was confirmed by Pastor S.B. STUPP on June 13, 1886 in Salem Lutheran Church. The confirmation certificate gives Ira's birth date as December 9, 1868. The whereabouts of these certificates is unknown.

About 1800, a writing example was made for Johannea GLÜCK. Writing examples were made by schoolmasters to be given to their students. They include religious texts and the alphabet, but they are of limited value to genealogists, for often just the name of the child appears on them. This example was sold at Pennypacker Auction Centre on October 29, 1973 (Lot # 198). I will continue the list of fraktur made for the GLOCK/KLOCK/GLÜCK family in a future issue of *der Kurier*. If you have names you wish me to research on fraktur, simply write Russell D. Earnest, P.O. Box 1007, East Berlin, PA 17316-0507. Be sure to mention MAGS and *der Kurier*.

## Our German Heritage: Jonathan Hager and the Hager House

by  
Gary C. Grassl

Jonathan Hager was the first American of German birth to occupy a seat in the Maryland Colonial Legislature; he was in fact the first naturalized citizen in that legislative body. As an American patriot, Hager also took a leading role in the events leading up to America's independence. Earlier he had laid out the Maryland town that carries his name, although he called it *Ellsabeth-Stadt* after his wife. A street named Jonathan still bears witness to the founder of Hagerstown, the seat of Washington County. Hager's home in Hagerstown, about 75 miles northwest of Washington, D.C., has been preserved as an historical shrine. In the adjacent Hager Museum, the visitor may see memorabilia associated with the German-American pioneer as well as German books, glass and other artifacts.

### The Hager House

In 1739, the 25-year-old German immigrant Jonathan Hager<sup>1</sup> built his house on the American frontier on a 200-acre tract of land he called "Hager's Fancy." *The Hager House* brochure by the Washington County Historical Society describes it as follows:

Situated in Hagerstown's City Park, the Hager House is built of uncut fieldstones carefully fitted by the young German immigrant who had traveled to the wilderness of Western Maryland in search of adventure and possible fortune. Jonathan Hager had arrived on the shores of the new colonies in 1736, debarking at the Port of Philadelphia. Eventually, he chose to make his home in Maryland, where Charles Calvert, proprietor of the colony, was offering cheap land to those willing to settle in the western frontier.... In 1740 Hager married a German neighbor, Elizabeth Kershner, and presented her with the new house.... Structurally impregnable, with a protected water supply, Hager's home would have served as a frontier fort in case of Indian attack.

The 3½-story Hager house is constructed of solid stone walls nearly 2 feet thick. It is built in the German style around a single chimney in the middle of the house that radiated heat throughout the building. According to the Historical Society, "the large central chimney added warmth to the stone structure, while

a fill of rye straw and mud between floors and partitions served as insulation against the cruel winters."

Two natural springs in the cellar assured a dependable, indoor supply of fresh water. Since the temperature of the springs is always 40 degrees Fahrenheit, they provided a convenient place to chill and preserve food. This basement area receives sun light through splayed windows and is accessible from ground level through a Dutch door placed beneath the front porch. This door was wide enough to bring in cattle for slaughter. A room in this area with a large hearth served as the principal kitchen. The water emerging from the twin springs near the kitchen and flowing in a stone channel out of the house provided natural air-conditioning in the summer.

The Hager house is so constructed that both the basement floor and the main floor is accessible from ground level. A few steps lead up to the porch that runs along one side of the main floor. The principal entrance to the house is from this porch, and it leads to the parlor. This room features an exhibition of furs, including buffalo hides. Hager was a prominent fur trader, and his house served as an Indian trading post. The hides remind the visitor that mountain buffaloes roamed Maryland in Hager's days. The visitor is also shown samples of wampum-Indian money that Jonathan exchanged with the natives for furs. Hager and his family also farmed the land, and it appears that they relied on themselves alone, because there is no evidence that they had slaves. Hager also ran a sawmill on nearby Antietam Creek.

His chief source of income, however, was from his real estate business; he would own more than 10,000 acres of land.

This main floor of the house also accommodates the dining room, which is equipped with a smaller hearth for warming the food or for cooking in the winter. On the back wall of this hearth is a heat-reflecting iron plate cast in Manheim, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

On the next floor is the master bedroom with a small fireplace plus smaller, unheated bedrooms. From there, stairs lead to the attic floor. The house is furnished throughout with authentic period furniture, including a German *Schrank* and a Dutch *Kast*.

The Hager house is surrounded by herbal and flower gardens. The Elizabeth Kershner Hager Herbal Gardens feature about 35 varieties of herbs of the type that she might have used for seasoning, as teas, as well as for medicinal purposes.

### Jonathan Hager

Jonathan Hager was born in 1714 in Germany, but his place of birth has not yet been determined. A letter on exhibit at the Hager Museum is addressed to him from Berleburg (now Bad Berleburg) in the Rothaargebirge, northeast of Siegen. It was written in 1773, 37 years after Hager's emigration; a former fellow apprentice tells him the news from home, including the death of their erstwhile master.<sup>2</sup> There is a good possibility that Hager was born in or near Berleburg.

We do know from her baptismal certificate that Jonathan's wife, Elisabeth Kirschner—as her name was spelled in German—was born in Hessen, specifically in Langenselbold, just outside Hanau (near Frankfurt-am-Main).

On 1 September 1736, at the age of 22, Jonathan Hager arrived in Philadelphia on board the *Harle*.<sup>3</sup> Soon after, he moved to western Maryland, which was then frontier territory with readily available land. *The Hager House* brochure describes him as follows:

Evincing leadership from the moment of his arrival in Western Maryland, Hager quickly became a leading citizen. He was involved in many activities – farmer, cattleman, even a gunsmith. Hager was a volunteer Captain of

Scouts during the French and Indian War. In 1762 he founded Hagerstown, and in 1771 and 1773 he was elected to the General Assembly at Annapolis....

Captain Hager led a company of 40 frontiersmen in the French and Indian War from 1756 to 1758. "When in 1762 George Washington presented his plan for making the Potomac navigable, Jonathan Hager and Thomas Cresap were elected as the Maryland representatives on the board of directors for the project," wrote Dieter Cunz.<sup>4</sup> In the same year, he staked out the town that would become the principal population center of Hagerstown Valley, which is a continuation of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. "Ten years after the city was laid out on paper, more than a hundred dwellings had been erected and an independent and vigorous community life had begun to develop," declared Cunz.<sup>5</sup>

When Hager was first elected a Delegate to the General Assembly of the Province of Maryland, his fellow Delegates discovered that British law prohibited his assuming his post, since he was neither British nor American born and had been naturalized in 1747. The Delegates promptly voted to change the law so that he could assume his seat. The new law gave full political rights to Jonathan Hager and with him to all "foreign Protestants who have already settled in this province."<sup>6</sup> Hager was re-elected in 1773.

In the period leading up to the American Revolution, Hager served on various patriotic committees championing U.S. independence. On 2 July 1774, 800 men assembled in Hagerstown and elected him a member of the Non-Importation Association that organized a boycott of British goods, especially tea, opened subscriptions for the relief of the Port of Boston and hung and burned British Prime Minister Lord North in effigy. On 18 November 1774, Hager was named a member of the Committee of Correspondence and part of a group that represented the county in carrying out the resolutions of the Continental Congress. On 24 January 1775, Hager was elected to the Committee of Safety and Observation whose task it was to carry out the resolves of the Continental Congress and the Maryland Provincial Convention. Hager's specific task was to collect money in Salisbury Hundred for the purchase of arms and ammunition.

Hager, who had begun to play an important role in the struggle for U.S. independence, died unfortunately just before the outbreak of the American Revolution. His life ended tragically on 6 November 1775 at the age of 61; he was crushed to death by a wooden roof beam while supervising the construction of the First German (now Zion) Reformed Church.<sup>7</sup> He is believed to have donated the land for this church, and the timber for the building was cut at his sawmill. Hager is buried in the graveyard behind this house of worship at North Potomac and Church Streets where a stone obelisk has been erected in his memory.<sup>8</sup> Except for his untimely death, he would no doubt have played a prominent role in the struggle for American independence.

Hager's wife Elisabeth had preceded him in death by nearly 10 years, having died in 1765, after 25 years of marriage. "We lived happily together until the 16th of April, 1765," he wrote in his Bible in German, "then it pleased the Lord to call her, after severe suffering, out of this world." His love for her is evident from the fact that he named in her honor the town that he had founded in 1762 and that he never remarried after her death. Elisabeth Kirschner Hager is buried alongside her husband.

Their only son, Jonathan Hager, Jr., who was born in 1755, was able to continue his father's patriotic tradition and participate in the American Revolutionary War.<sup>9</sup> Hager's only daughter, Rosanna (1752— 1810), married General Daniel Heister, Jr. (1747—1804).<sup>10</sup>

### The Hager Museum

In the adjacent Hager Museum may be seen items uncovered during the restoration of the Hager House in 1953. Also on display is a waistcoat of Jonathan Hager and his German prayer book. There is also a Lutheran Bible printed in 1743 by Christopher Saur in Germantown, Pennsylvania, a collection of sermons printed in Marburg, Germany, and a book of medicinal cures published in Frankfurt in 1718. In the Museum you may see samples of Stiegel Glass manufactured by Heinrich Wilhelm Stiegel, who operated a glass factory at Elizabeth Furnace and Manheim, Lancaster County, between 1763 and 1774. You may also see glass from the New Bremen

Glass Factory that was operated by Johann Friederich Amelung from 1784 to 1795 at New Bremen, near Sugar Loaf Mountain, Frederick County. Here German glass makers produced the finest glass made in the United States up to that time. The site of this factory and the Amelung Mansion are west of highway I-270, near Comus Road.

### Directions

The Hager House and Museum are located at 110 Key Street, City Park, Hagerstown. Tel. (301) 739-8393. Hagerstown is about 1 ½ hours driving time from Washington, D.C. Take I-270 north. At Frederick, continue on I-70 toward Hagerstown. Take Exit 32B (U.S. 40 West) into the city and continue on Franklin Avenue. Turn left on South Prospect Street and continue for three blocks. Turn right immediately after you cross railroad tracks and follow the road that parallels the tracks. This is Key Street. If you have reached a traffic circle, circle back around and go left on the street that parallels the railroad tracks. The Hager House is located next to the tracks.

### Hours

The Hager House and Museum are open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM and Sunday from 2 to 5 PM. They are closed January through March and from the last week of November through the first Tuesday of December to prepare for Christmas. A Christmas celebration featuring German customs is held throughout December.

### Dining Opportunities

You may enjoy German food and *Gemütlichkeit* at the nearby *Schmankerl Stube*, a Bavarian restaurant at 58 South Potomac Street (corner of Antietam Street) Telephone (301) 797-3354.

John Nelson, curator of the Hager House and Museum, kindly corrected the original draft of this leaflet.

- Gary C. Grassl, Vice President,  
German Heritage Society of Greater  
Washington, D.C., June 1996

**Footnotes (slightly edited)**

<sup>1</sup> Hager was spelled with an *umlaut* in German; that is, *Häger*. The name appears in this form in a letter that was sent to Jonathan in 1773 by his former fellow apprentice Heinrich Wetter from Berleburg, Germany. A parish register of 1771 refers to Hagerstown as *Hägers Stadt*. A catechism printed by John Gruber in Hagerstown in 1817 in German calls the place *Hägerstaun*. (Gruber, 1768–1857, originated the well-known *Hagerstown Town and Country Almanac*.)

<sup>2</sup> Heinrich Wetter wrote to Jonathan Häger on 16 May 1773 from Berleburg informing him of the death of their erstwhile master, Rudolf Scheurer. He also told Jonathan that his own father, Johannes Wetter, had passed away. He expressed his desire to immigrate to America and asked for Häger's help on the basis of their former friendship. He didn't name the trade they had been learning under Master Scheurer, but it may have been metalworking; Jonathan was a practicing gunsmith in Maryland.

<sup>3</sup> *Pennsylvania Archives*, Second Series, Vol. XVII, p. 122.

<sup>4</sup> Dieter Cunz, *The Maryland Germans: A History*. Princeton University Press, 1948, p. 83.

<sup>5</sup> Cunz, p. 82.

<sup>6</sup> Cunz, p. 84.

<sup>7</sup> According to a report with which Hager's descendants seem to concur, "the accident happened at the site of the church building, probably within the confines of the stone walls, when he stepped forward to steady with his cane, a heavy log being hoisted to place, evidently high in support of the roof. The log slipped, falling on the Proprietor who sustained injuries resulting in his death shortly thereafter" (Frank and Rachael Schwartz, *Old Zion: A History of the First German Reformed Church in Hagerstown, 1770–1970*. Published by the Consistory of Zion Church and printed by The Craft Press of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, 1970, p. 46).

<sup>8</sup> Hager is buried in the graveyard to the west of Zion Church, which is the same limestone building he helped erect in 1775 and inside of which he is believed to have suffered his fatal injury. The first parish register of this congregation, dated 1771, is entitled *Kirchen Buch Von Die Reformirte Gemeinde In Hägers Stadt oder Elisabetha Stadt In Canageschik* [Conococheague Creek] *Fridrich County In der Province Mereland*. The obelisk in memory of the founder of Hagerstown bears on its east side the inscription,

"Here lieth the remains of Captain JONATHAN HAGER Founder of HAGERSTOWN Born 1719, Died Nov. 6, 1775 – His only son JONATHAN HAGER, Jr. Proprietor of HAGERSTOWN, Born Dec. 1755, Died Dec. 1798– *Was Gott thut ist wohl gethan.*" (John Nelson, the curator of the Hager House and Museum, believes that Hager was actually born in 1714 and not in 1719 as his tombstone indicates. This is in line with the immigration records in the *Pennsylvania Archives*, according to which he was 22 when he landed in 1736.) In the same grave are buried the wife of Jonathan Hager, Sr., namely Elisabeth Kirschner Hager, and the wife of Jonathan Hager, Jr., namely Mary Magdalena Ohrendorff Hager (1767–1845). Also Elizabeth Hager (1785–1867), the only child of Jonathan and Mary Magdalena, as well as her husband, their son and their three daughters.

<sup>9</sup> Jonathan Hager, Jr., enlisted in 1775 at the age of 20 in Captain Henry Hartmann's company of the famous Flying Camp. On 27 August 1776, he took part in the Battle of Long Island, N.Y., the first engagement after the declaration of independence. The Americans were defeated. Jonathan Hager, Jr., was captured, along with General John Sullivan, and transported to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Here he was imprisoned in a dungeon under the ramparts of the fort. After his release at the end of the war, Hager, Jr., returned to Hagerstown and married Mary Magdalena Ohrendorff (1767–1845). She was the daughter of Major Christian Ohrendorff, who lived near Sharpsburg, Md. Jonathan's former commander in chief, who was now President of the United States, stayed overnight in Hagerstown in 1790 and attended a banquet in his honor. As "Proprietor" of the town, Hager, Jr., would in all likelihood have attended George Washington's reception. Hager, Sr., would certainly have been proud of this visit by the Father of the Country to the town he had carved out of the wilderness only 30 years earlier.

Hager Jr. and his wife Mary Magdalena had an only child, Elizabeth Hager. (She would marry Upton S. Lawrence, a leading member of the Hagerstown bar, and one son and three daughters would emanate from her marriage.) Hager, Jr., died at the age of 43 in December 1798. His relatively early death has been attributed to a disease that he is believed to have contracted during his long imprisonment during the war.

<sup>10</sup> General Heister, who was also of German descent, took part in the American Revolution and was elected three times to the U.S. Congress beginning in 1798. He died in Washington, D.C., in 1804 and is buried alongside his wife in the same cemetery as his father-in-law.

\*\*\* END\*\*\*

## Ahnentafel

Richard Eugene Hay  
1605 Summit Drive  
Waynesboro, VA 22980-5231

-----I

1 Richard Eugene HAY: b 6 Jul 1927 Ottawa, KS

-----II

2 Ernest Roy HAY: b 23 Feb 1884 Norwood, Hayes Twp, Franklin Co.,KS; m 17 Jun  
1906 Pomona, KS; d 3 Apr 1939 Kansas City, KS

3 Flora Bell ROBISON: b 24 Sep 1886 Coles Co.,IL; d 22 Apr 1966 Ottawa, KS

-----III

4 Daniel C. HAY: b 1 Jan 1831 Beaver Co.,PA; m 17 Feb 1859 Fulton Co.,OH; d 24 Oct  
1914 Ottawa, Franklin Co, KS

5 Nancy Jane CLARK: b 21 Jan 1843 Fulton Co.,OH; d 11 Nov 1920 Fullerton, CA

6 William Albert ROBISON: b 11 Mar 1863 IL; m 25 Oct 1885 Bride's Home, Coles Co,  
IL; d 30 Nov 1938 Ottawa, KS

7 Frankie Alice CHILDRESS: b 30 Apr 1868 Coles Co., IL; d 29 Jul 1940 Ottawa,KS

-----IV

8 Valentine (Felta) HAY: b abt 1806 Woodberry Twp, Bedford Co, PA; m abt 1826 Ohio  
Twp, Beaver Co, PA; d aft 1887 Franklin Co, KS

9 Christina BIDDLE: b 1806 East Sharpsburg, Bedford Co, PA; d Jul 1886 York Twp,  
Fulton Co, OH

10 Ebenezer CLARK II: b 15 Sept 1801 PA; m 22 Jan 1829 Allegany Co, MD; d 18 Sep  
1887 Fulton Co, OH

11 Mary DYE: b 11 Nov 1809 Allegany Co, MD; d 2 Oct 1893 Fulton Co, OH

12 Frederick (Frank) ROBISON: b 18 Apr 1825 Clark Co, IN; m 6 Feb 1849 Clark Co,IN;  
d 30 May 1915 Pomona Twp, Franklin Co, KS

13 Elizabeth Ann ROE: b abt 1832 Clark Co, IN

14 Benjamin Franklin CHILDRESS: b 5 May 1828, TN; m 26 Jan 1851 Edgar Co, IL; d 27  
Mar 1891 Coles Co,IL

15 Sarah MOCK: b 25 Mar 1826 Orange Co, IN; d 18 Mar 1881 Coles Co, IL

-----V

16 Johann Valentin HOH/HAY: b 27 Apr 1745 Mittelbrunn, Palatinate (Germany); m bef  
1799 Bedford Co, PA; d bef Aug 1813 Woodberry Twp, Bedford Co, PA

17 Catherine : b bef 1784 PA d 24 Jan 1851 Morrow Co, OH

18 Jacob BIDDLE: b abt 1769/1770 Frederick Co, MD; m abt 1792 Bedford Co, PA;

19 Rachel TODD: b abt 1770 Frederick Co, MD; d 7 Aug 1842 Wooster, Wayne Co,OH

20 Ebenezer CLARK: b abt 1770; d aft 1842

(continued on next page)

(AHNENTAFEL - HAY - continued)

- 22 William DYE, Sr: b 1774/1775 NJ; m 30 Sep 1795 Allegany Co, MD; d 18 Oct 1845 Holmes Co, OH
- 23 Rachel WELLS: b 9 Nov 1776 MD; d 5 Jun 1853 Holmes Co, OH
- 24 Joseph ROBISON: 1783 Ireland; d Clark Co, IN
- 25 Christena: b 1790/1800; d Clark Co, IN
- 28 Richard CHILDRESS:
- 29 Rebecca WHITE: b abt 1798 IL
- 30 George MOCK: b 1802 Rowan Co, NC; m 4 Mar 1819 Orange Co, IN; d 21 Dec 1881
- 31 Lucinda PIPPIN: b abt 1801 Edgecombe Co, NC; d 28 Oct 1883

-----VI

- 32 Johann Valentin HOH: b 18 Jan 1708 Gerhardsbrunn, Palatine Germany; m 1 May 1730; d 16 Nov 1802 Mittelbrunn, Palatine Germany
- 33 Maria Margaretha MONTZINGER: b 25 Jan 1712 Gerhardsbrunn, Palatine Germany; d 31 May 1760 Mittelbrunn, Palatine, Germany
- 36 Andrew BIDDLE: b abt 1735 Hesse-cassel, Palatine Germany; m abt 1766; d bef 24 1812 Bedford Co, PA
- 37 Mary Christina COVER: b 1745 Germany; d aft 14 Nov 1800
- 38 Alexander TODD: b 7 Sept 1736 Pr Georges Co, MD; d abt 1806 Frederick Co, MD
- 39 Rachel BROWN(E): b 1752 MD; b abt 1808 Frederick Co, MD
- 46 James WELLS: b 23 Dec 1751 Frederick Co, MD; d 23 Feb 1826 Ripley Ywp, Holmes Co, OH
- 47 Rachel Laticia/Letitia LEEDOM: b 1 Jan 1756 MD; d 20 Sept 1840 OH
- 48 ROBISON: b Ireland; d KY
- 60 John MOCK
- 61 Catherine GRAVES
- 62 A. PIPPIN

-----VII

- 64 Johann Simon HOH: b 21 Oct 1682 Hokeinod, Germany; m 1 May 1704; d 24 Feb 1757 Gerhardsbrunn, Germany
- 65 Anna Margaretha KEFER: b 15 Jan 1685 Zeselberg, Germany
- 66 Hans Michael MONTZINGER:
- 67 Anna Margaretha HAHN:
- 72 Andreas BUTTEL: b Germany; m Germany
- 73 Anna Barbara: b Germany
- 74 Daniel KOBER/COVER: b Germany; d 1769/1770 Frederick Co, MD
- 75 Maria Eva (Eve) EVERHART: b Germany; d 1790/1800 Frederick Co, MD
- 76 Lancelot TODD: b 16 Aug 1713 Westminster, MD; m 13 Nov 1735 Queen Anne Park Elk Ridge, MD; d 1738 Baltimore Co, MD
- 77 Rachel WARFIELD: b abt 1712; d bef Jun 1745 Anne Arundel Co, MD
- 78 Benjamin BROWN: b 1724/1725; d 1768 MD
- 79 Susanna (h) RANDAL(L):
- 92 William WELLS: b 3 Apr 1729 America
- 93 Rachel: b 23 Sep 1732
- 120 Peter MOCK
- 121 Barbara MARTIN:

(Continued on next page)

(AHNENTAFEL - HAY - continued)

- 122 Conrad GRAVES:
- 123 Mary FRASER/FRAZIER:

-----VIII

- 152 John TODD: b aft 1672 MD; m abt 1710 MD; d 11 Jul 1733 MD
- 153 Katherine (Keatreaan) SMITH:
- 154 Alexander WARFIELD: b 1677 So River Hundred, MD; d 1740 MD
- 155 Sarah PIERPOINT: b aft 1665 MD; d aft 1752 MD
- 156 Joshua BROWN:
- 157 Margaret CHEW:
- 158 Christopher RANDAL(L)
- 159 Ann CHEW
- 184 David WELLS: b Wales; d America
- 246 Philip Jacob FRASER

-----IX

- 304 Lancelot TODFF: b bef 1650 MD; m bef 1683 MD; d abt 1691 MD
- 305 Sarah PHELPS:
- 308 Richard WARFIELD: b abt 1640 England; m abt 1670 MD; d 1702 Anne Arundel Co, MD
- 309 Elinor BROWNE:
- 310 Henry PIERPOINT:
- 311 Elizabeth:
- 312 Thomas BROWN :
- 313 Katherine HARRIS:
- 314 William CHEW:
- 315 Sydney/Sidney WYNNE:
- 316 Christopher RANDAL(L):
- 317 Joanna:

-----X

- 608 Thomas TODD: b abt 1610 England; d abt 1671 MD
- 609 Elizabeth:
- 610 Thomas PHELPS:
- 618 John BROWNE, Captain: b England; d abt 1702 MD
- 620 Amos PARPOYNT:
- 628 Samuel CHEW:
- 629 Anne AYRES:
- 630 Thomas WYNNE:
- 631 Martha:

-----XI

- 1216 Robert TODD:
- 1256 John CHEW:
- 1257 Sarah:
- 1258 William AYRES:
- 1259 Sarah

\*\*\* END \*\*\*

## Buchbesprechungen

### **Experienced - Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Accounts of Swiss Immigrants to the United States**

Selected and edited by Leo Schelbert, documents translated by Hedwig Rappolt.  
Published by Picton Press, Camden, Maine, 1996.

Reviewed by Gail Komar, treasurer of MAGS, treasurer of National Capital Area  
Buckeye Chapter of Ohio Genealogy Society, Editor of "Crowl Connections" since  
1985, and professional researcher.

American Experienced is printed on acid-free, heavy sixty weight paper with Smyth sewn bindings, case bound, hard cover, and covered with quality linen. It is a beautifully produced book with an Every-Name Index and a Place Index with excellent documentation. The price is \$39.00 post paid.

If you have no Swiss ancestors, don't pass by this book! These letters from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries give wonderful accounts of travel during those periods, the conditions found in different regions of America, and thoughts on other immigrants as well as the Americans who were already settled.

However, of greatest interest is the way the different personalities saw their lot in life and how they tried to influence those in the home country either to come to America or to stay home. Several writers were astonished by the freedoms here, especially those of speech and how Americans could disdain their political leaders with no fear of retaliation. Disliking politicians and verbally expounding on the fact is nothing new in America!

Anyone who has an interest in the general history of America or in trying to understand your ancestors will want to read this book. The reading is easy and most enjoyable. I count myself lucky to have had a chance to read this book.

- Gail Komar  
January, 1997

## SUCHANZEIGEN

Please mention at least one time, one place, one German surname with known variants. Limit each query to one family. Use no more than fifty (50) words, not counting your name and address. There is no charge for members of MAGS. Non-members please include \$1.00 (check payable to Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society) per query with your submission. More than one query may be sent at a time, but each should be clearly written or typed on a separate sheet of 8 1/2 by 11 inch clean, white paper. Please indicate desired priority for printing. MAGS reserves the right to edit. Neither MAGS nor Der Kurier assumes any responsibility for accuracy. Send your Queries to Edythe H. Millar, Queries Editor, MAGS, 760 Lake Caroline Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546-5304.

### SOLOMON BACH SCHEURER

#15-36 Seek info Joseph SOLOMON b 6 May 1838 (\_\_\_where?), Germ. J. SOLOMON at Harisonville, KY mar Eva I Bach of Isaac BACH (b ca 1820) in Heppenheim au der Vier and mar Mariana SCHEURER)

Marilyn J. Vineyard 7713 Glenister Dr. Springfield, VA 22152

### WINTER

#15-37 Seek info Joseph WINTER fr Schwarzach, Baden. Seek year of birth & death. Where buried? W-Barbara. Sons; Charles b 1862, Germ. d 1935 PA; Frank X. b 1860 Germ, d 1926 San Diego CA.

Dorothy L. Eiser 1700 George Ave. Bensalem, PA 19020

### EISER

#15-38 Seek info John William EISER b 1850 in Bohemia; Immig 1887; occupation-Shoemaker. CH: William, Antonia, Martha, Charles; all b Germany. Seek name of wife.

Dorothy L. Eiser 1700 George Ave. Bensalem, PA 19020

### HITE/HEYDT BOWMAN/BAUMANN CHRISMAN/CHRISTMAN FROMAN/FROHMAN

#15-39 Seek mar info dau of Jost HITE. Mar @ 1729-31 - @ time Jost HITE led grp settlers fr Perkiomen/Skipack, PA (now Montgomery Co. PA) to new settlement upper Shenandoah Valley (old Frederick Co. VA area). Seek mar dt and pl: "Mary" Marie Elizabeth HITE b 1708 Germ, d 1768 VA, m George BOWMAN (b ca 1709, d 1768 VA); Magdalena HITE b 1713 NY, d ca 1767 VA, m Jacob CHRISMAN (b 1710 Germ, d 1778 VA); (3) Elizabeth HITE b 1711 NY, d 1783 KY, m John Paul FROMAN b 1708 ? d 1783 KY).

Roquey Jobes 4520 Chateau Drive Metairie, LA 70002

### HAUG (HAUGH, HOUCK) LEONHAUSER

#15-40 Seek anc & bpl Johann Wilhelm Heinrich HAUG (HAUGH, HOUCK) b Apr. 1823, Wurtemberg. Taught Old Salem Luth Ch, Catonsville, MD. Bur there May 1865. Wife, Eva LEONHAUSER (1836-1915 fr Halsdorf, Hesse-Cassel. Two sons: Edward, Henry lvd Brooklyn, NY.

Lt Col Louise A. Eckhardt PSC 112, PO Box 414 APO AE 09717

**HAUG (HAUGH, HOUCK) MYERS LOTZ FINK**

#15-41 Seek info George Paul (or Penlock) HAUG (HAUGH, HOUCK) b Jul 1825, Wurtemberg; d Jan 1874, Baltimore, MD; m Christina MEYERS (b Mar 1835 Wurtemberg, d 1903, Baltimore. Two dau; Margaret LOTZ (1857-1921), Eva FINK (1860-1937).

Lt Col Louise A. Eckhardt PSC 112, PO Box 414 APO AE 09717

**LEONHAUSER HETTERICH**

#15-42 Seek info LEONHAUSER fam of Halsdorf, Hesse-Cassel. Believe par John W. LEONHAUSER and Margaret HETTERICH. Dau Eva L. HAUG (1836-1915) and s Conrad (1841-1882) emig 1850's; lvd Baltimore, MD.

Lt Col Louise A. Eckhardt PSC 112, PO Box 414 APO AE 09717

**LEONHAUSER**

#15-43 Seek desc/anc Conrad LEONHAUSER b 1841? Halsdorf, Hesse-Cassel. Imm ca 1855; butcher Baltimore, MD; d Jan 1882, Baltimore. Wife - Sophia. CH: Maggie, William, Henry.

Lt Col Louise A. Eckhardt PSC 112, PO Box 414 APO AE 09717

**FLUKE FLUCK FLUG OTT DUI SNIDER SNYDER STOVER**

#15-44 Seek info Johannes FLUCK (FLUG) and desc. Johannes emi to Philadelphia, PA 1744 with w Anna Mary DUI fr German Palatinate. Son, John, Jr. b Mar 8, 1750 m Dorothy OTT, Bucks Co. PA. Settled Bedford Co. PA. Seek info rel fam OTT, SNIDER, SNYDER, STOVER.

John Fluke P.O. Box 2045 Germantown, MD 20875-2045

**REAM**

#15-45 Wish to locate Forest V. REAM, President of REAM Family Association, Fair HAVen, PO Fairhaven, MD 20758.

Bernard W. Fatig 635 Binsted Rd. Glen Burnie MD 21060-7325 e-mail BemCarol@juno.com Bfatig@aol.com

**FARTIG/FATIG/FERDIG/FURTIG/FERDIGH/FERBAUGH/FERTE/FERTEY REAM STUKEY**

#15-46 Seek info par John FARTIG/FERTIG b 27 Oct.1799, d 10 Jul 1857. Mar Mary Barbara REAM/ REEM/ REIHM/ REIM (b 17 Aug 1805, d 4 Feb 1852), Sugar Grove/Home's Mill, Fairfield Co., OH. Mary Barbara dau of Sampson REAM & Anna STUKEY.

Bernard W. Fatig 635 Binsted Rd. Glen Burnie MD 21060-7325 e-mail BemCarol@juno.com Bfatig@aol.com

*Der Kurier*, the newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, is published four times a year: March, June, September, December. Deadline for copy is the first of February, May, August, August, and November. Send all copy to Merl E. Arp, 20 Kinsman View Circle, Silver Spring, Maryland 20901. *Der Kurier* is indexed in the PERiodical Source Index published by the Allen County Public Library and in GPAI published by Heritage Books, Inc.

**MAGS OFFICERS:** President: **Corinne P. Earnest** Past President: **Deborah M.S. Brown**  
First Vice President: **Dorothy Jackson Reed** Recording Secretary: **Deyerle R. Atkins**  
Second Vice President: **Frank Wisman** Corresponding Secretary: **Marilynne G. Ocando**  
Treasurer: **Gail Komar** At-large Board Members: **Robert Hull**  
**John T. Humphrey**

**MAGS SERVICES:**

Please direct your correspondence, including SASE, to the appropriate person & address below:

Information about MAGS..... Marilynne G. Ocando, 7949 - 18th Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20783-4531.

Spring & Fall Meetings: Registrar - Joan Sheviak, 3519 King Arthur Road, Annandale, VA 22003; (703) 560-7144.  
Program - Franklin O. Wisman, 141 Eisenhower Drive, Chambersburg, PA 17201

Lending Library ..... Carl M. Shrader, 10 St. Andrew Garth, Severna Park, MD 21146-1520; (410) 987-8284.

Membership/Change of  
Address ..... Dorothy Jackson Reed, 14710 Sherwood Drive, Greencastle, PA 17225-8403; (717) 597-1747

Queries ..... Edythe H. Millar, 760 Lake Caroline Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546-5304.

Ahnentafel ..... Shirley Forrester, 3804 Greenly St., Wheaton, MD 30906-4365.

Stumped Roots &  
Professional Referral..... Susannah E. Brooks, 2010 Bermondsey Drive, Mitchellville, MD 20721

Surname Exchange Index ... Edward G. Winner, 219 Whittler St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20012-2162; tel. (202) 723- 0330.



## The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

Post Office Box 2642  
Kensington, MD 20891-2642  
ISSN 1059-9762

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
New Market, MD  
Permit #13

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL - DELIVER IMMEDIATELY**