



DER KURIER

Volume 21, Number 4, December 2003

MAGS Members Demonstrate their Research Capabilities Once Again

The knowledge gained from extensive research on the part of MAGS members is quite remarkable, as was evidenced once again—this time at the fall meeting. Family historians who attended that meeting had an opportunity to hear an interesting mix of presentations that explored records genealogists seldom use. Two of those presentations were given by MAGS members, Susannah Brooks and Joseph Neville.

The subject of Joseph Neville's presentation was letters sent from Germany to residents of Wilmington, Delaware, during the First World War. The letters were published in the *Lokal Anzeiger*, Wilmington's German newspaper. The letters for the most part provided an interesting perspective of the War from the other side. From the perspective of the family historian, the letters were particularly interesting because they provided information on places of origin in Germany for the recipients. In other words descendants of the families mentioned in the letters can use them to find additional information on their ancestors in Germany.

Bank records are another equally important and overlooked source. Personally I have never given them much consideration; that is up until this past meeting. Susannah noted banks have created a number of kept records kept independently, such as records deposits or signature cards, but the key to finding those records are the account numbers. They are vital to your research once you gain access to these records. Susannah's presentation was especially insightful on records maintained for German depositors. For example, through records maintained for a bank in Washington, DC she was able to link several members of the Gertman family who once lived in my Capitol Hill neighborhood.

I want to extend special thanks in this issue to John Bieber for all of the outstanding work he has put into *Der Kurier*. This issue is John's last as the editor. He has helped to significantly improve the quality of this publication and we owe him many thanks!

John T. Humphrey
President



MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 2642
Kensington, MD 20891-2642

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~usmags/>

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

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) is a non-profit genealogical society founded July 10, 1982. Annual dues are only \$10 (individual) or \$12 (family). Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. Benefits of membership include:

- Spring and Fall Meetings featuring expert speakers.
- Quarterly newsletter, *Der Kurier*.
- MAGS Lending Library
- Ahnentafels published in *Der Kurier*.
- Queries
- Surname Exchange Index
- Stumped Roots

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

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Submissions to *Der Kurier*. Articles concerning Germanic genealogy and heritage in the Mid-Atlantic region are welcome, as are "Letters to the Editor." Research articles should document conclusions with appropriate citation of primary sources.

MAGS reserves the right to edit submissions for length and style. Any material published becomes the property of MAGS. Deadline for submissions: the first of January, April, July and October. Submit to: John W Bieber, 25 Rolling Road, Claymont, DE 19703. E-mail: long.hair@att.net Phone: 302-798-7210.

der Kalender

2004

January 24-25. National Genealogical Society, GENTECH – 2004. St. Louis, Missouri. For further information contact www.ngsgenealogy.org

February 28. Germanic Special Interest Group of the Genealogical Society of Sarasota, Florida. German Workshop. Speaker: Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G. Theme: "Advancing Your German Research." Sahib Shrine Center, 600 North Beneva Rd, Sarasota, Florida. Contact GSS-Germanic SIG, PO Box 1917, Sarasota, FL 34230-1817. E-mail: gssgenealogy@comcast.net

April 24. Pennsylvania Chapter, PalAm Spring Conference. Yoder's, New Holland, Pennsylvania. Contact PA Chapter, PO Box 280, Strasburg, PA 17579-0280.

May 19-22. National Genealogy Conf. in the States. Convention Center, Sacramento, CA. E-mail: www.ngsgenealogy.org or www.sacvalleygenes.org

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June 24-26. Palatines to America National Conference. Theme: Palatine Footprints. Holiday Inn Turf, Albany, New York.

If you would like your event or program placed on der Kalender, please send the information to the MAGS Editor by the stated deadline (see inside front page).

Hagley Museum and Library

Did your father or grandfather work for the Reading Railroad? Did your mother or female relative work for Avon? The Hagley Museum and Library in Delaware has an extensive collection of Reading Railroad personnel records (1200 boxes) that have been partially indexed. They have the Avon Company records on a national level. Go to their website at www.Hagley.org and click on library and view a partial list of their holdings. They also give a list of their hours and rules for access to their materials. Don't be discouraged if you do not see Avon or Reading Railroad listed. Their online library list is a work in progress at the moment. You must visit the library to access the above mentioned companies. You may call the librarian with any questions at (302) 658-2400 ext. 227. This is another untapped resource for us to access information for tracing our ancestors. (Reprinted from the Fall 2003 issue of *Branches of Berks*, the newsletter of the Berks County Genealogical Society.)

MAGS Fall Meeting

The Fall Meeting of MAGS was held October 18, 2003 in Arsht Hall at the University of Delaware Wilmington Campus. Four speakers were featured:

- Max Moeller, Director of Public Services for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, spoke on *Conducting Research at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania*.
- Joseph B. Neville, Jr., a Ph.D. in European history with specialization in modern Germany, presented a talk entitled *From the Old Fatherland to the New: German-American Letters from Germany and World War I*.
- Marge McNinch, librarian for the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, gave an accounting of *Commercial Records at the Hagley Museum and Library*.
- Susannah E. Brooks, MAGS First Vice President, addressed the topic of *Family History on Deposit: 19th Century Bank Records*.

Dr Neville and Ms Brooks are members of MAGS. Further details of their presentations can be found in the President's message on the front cover of this issue of *Der Kurier*.

Door Prizes

The always popular Door Prize drawing was held at the conclusion of the meeting. Prizes, donors, and winners were:

- *American Loyalist Claims* donated by National Genealogical Society - winner Charles Glick.
- *In Search of Your British & Irish Roots* donated by Genealogical Publishing Company - winner Don Umberger.
- *In Search of Your German Roots* donated by Genealogical Publishing Company - winner Patricia Suter.
- *The Truth About the Pilgrims* donated by Genealogical Publishing Company - winner Marilynne Ocando.
- *Write the Story of Your Life* donated by Genealogical Publishing Company - winner Elizabeth Leebel.
- One Year Subscription to Ancestry Magazine donated by Ancestry.com - winner Kitty Frick.
- *The Atlantic Bridge to Germany Volume IX* - winner Dorothy Jackson Reed.

MAGS Welcomes New Members

A maximum of four surnames being researched by each new member appears *in parentheses and italics* following the new member's name. Space does not permit more than four surnames or most spelling variations. MAGS encourages all members to submit their research names to the Surname Exchange Index and to have the Index searched to determine if others are also researching the same family.

Frederick Borath of New Windsor, NY
(*Borath, Henke, Haas, Streuven*)

Joseph C. Browne of Washington DC
(*Cluss, Metzertien, Faisst, Boecklin*)

Judy Burgan of Hagerstown MD
(*Decker*)

Carol Campion of Scranton PA
(*Resch, Glor, Sack, Schloarr*)

Robert E. Cleary of Bethesda MD
(*Bien, Stock, Metzler*)

Ann Clutts of Cantonment FL
(*Klutz, Bullock, Fultz, Smart*)

Ruth Curfman of Midland MI
(*Curfman/Korffmann, Young, Grissinger, Rorar*)

Philip & Diane Drajeste of Munster IN
(*Drajewski, Felien, Helm, Suemnicht*)

Laurel Gafke of Cooksville MD
(*Gafke, Rodau, Giegerich*)

Rita F. Gerardine of York PA
(*Ruckstubl, Schroeder, Kramer, Lachman*)

Henry W. Gittings of Middle River MD
(*Scheidt, Becker, Volkman, Esch*)

Debbe A. Hagner, AG of Port Richey FL
(*Hagner, Waldschmidt, Braun, Strobel*)

Suzanne Aul Jeffery of Corning NY
(Aul, Eyerty, McCollum, Jeffery)
 Robert B. Jenson of Bethesda MD
(Guttmann, Rosenburg, Sigmann, Kahn)
 Greg Kleist of Columbia MD
(Kleist, Weber, Mayer, Kratzenberg)
 Jane Y. Lahey of Kenilworth IL
(Bickel, Ruff, Yohe)
 Ronald H. Limbaugh of Gualala CA
(Limbach, Ritter, Leinbach)
 Elsa A. Logan of Peachtree City, GA
(Amelung, Irion, Hausman, Ramey)
 Jeane H. Lyons of Hilliard OH
(Henry, Shaeffer, Kapp, Stauffer)
 Marjorie McNinch of Wilmington DE
 Suzanne Miller of Tiburon CA
(Dannenfeldt, Kollmaier, Weissleder, Zeller)
 Max Moeller of Philadelphia PA
 Rodney Myers of Albany NY
 David W. Neermann of Falls Church VA

Margaret A. Potteiger of Newport PA
(Potteiger, Cassel, Schraedley, Pankake)
 David Rencher of Riverton UT
(Deisinger, Carman, Copeland, Swords)
 Ann Harrell & John Roeder of Glen Burnie MD
(Roeder, Zeidler, Tamm, Trampish)
 Doris I. Rohrbach of Germantown OH
(Metzger, Beeghley, Rohrbach, Riley)
 Glen Schmiesing of Newark DE
 Laurine Schneck Williams of Waynesburg PA
(Schneck, Willig)
 Margaret Schorah of New Castle DE
(Scherman, Schlegel/Slagle, Trone, Fiscel)
 Mary Ann Shoemaker of Oakton VA
(Snyder, Stigler, Shuechen, Shehan)
 Stephen Ullrich of Rockville M
(Ullrich, Platzer)
 Joseph N. Weber of Newark DE
(Weber, Knapp, Pfeuffer, Henzler)
 Marianne Wokeck of Indianapolis IN
 Family History Library in Salt Lake City UT

OHNMACHT FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from a German-language Bible printed in 1813 by Friedrich Goeb of Somerset, Pennsylvania. No date. Handwritten family register on back flyleaf. Written in German script. (Private collection)

Adam and Elisabeth (Paff) Ohnmacht, had a son named Amos on June 16, 1821 at about nine o'clock in the evening. Amos was baptized by Pastor Milenberg [Muhlenberg] on August 5, 1821. The sponsors were Gorg and Cadarina Noll. [Amos] was born in Exeter Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Adam and Elisabeth (Paff) Ohnmacht had a daughter named Sara on May 13, 1824 at about three o'clock in the morning. Sara was baptized by Pastor Milenberg on August 22, 1824. The sponsors were Daniel and Scharloda Beäer. [Sara] was born in Exeter Township, Berks County.

Adam and Elisabeth (Phaff) Ohnmacht had a daughter, Maria, on June 6, 1830 in the morning about one o'clock. [Maria] was baptized by J. Miller on September 19, 1830. The sponsor was the widow Maria Peder Rodenberger. [Maria Ohnmacht] was born in Exeter Township, Berks County.

[On a loose sheet in German script:] Friederich Ohnmacht was born December 26, 1753 and died April 7, 1821. [On reverse:] Aged 67 years, 3 months, and 11 days.

FRAKTUR FORUM

by Corinne Earnest

PAFF / POFF ON FRAKTUR

Logan Jennings asked about the names PAFF/POFF and PFAFFENBERGER/POFFENBERGER on fraktur. Logan mentioned his family immigrated through the Port of Philadelphia and migrated down the Great Wagon Road to Floyd County, Virginia. While fraktur were made in Virginia, most fraktur were made in southeast Pennsylvania. However, probably more southern fraktur exist than anyone previously thought. Unfortunately, with some exceptions such as the work done by MAGS's historian, Beverly Repass Hoch, who has been researching the Wild Turkey Artist of Wythe County, few have taken time to record and publish known examples. That problem might soon be resolved, for Gene Comstock of Winchester is currently researching southern fraktur in anticipation of publishing on the subject. If you know of fraktur from Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the Carolinas, Gene would like to hear from you. Send information to Gene Comstock, 242 Merrifield Ln., Winchester, VA 22602.

Along the same line, June Lloyd of the York County Heritage Trust in York, Pennsylvania, published her book, *Faith and Family: Pennsylvania German Heritage in York County Area Fraktur*. Families traveling the Great Wagon Road from Philadelphia into the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia passed through York County. Some PFAFFs apparently stopped on their way south, for June provided data from a taufschein (birth and baptism certificate) made for Mary PFAFF, daughter of Johannes and Magdalena (DAHRON) PFAFF. Mary PFAFF was born August 3, 1833 in Hellam Township. She was baptized by Pastor GRÄBER, but no date of baptism was given. The only sponsor at her baptism was Polly DAHRON. June continues to collect data from fraktur for her database. If you know of fraktur from York and Adams Counties, write June at the York County Heritage Trust, 250 E. Market St., York, PA 17403.

On January 16, 1998, Christie's Auctions in New York sold a taufschein made for the Peter and Elisabetha (UMBERGER) HECKART family of Lower Paxton Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. The taufschein does not mention PFAFF or POFFENBERGER, but in its description of this fraktur, Christie's included data about Margaretha HECKART for whom the certificate was made. According to Christie's, Margaretha HECKART (August 13, 1808-March 8, 1889) married Daniel POFFENBERGER on May 12, 1832. Daniel POFFENBERGER was born on February 7, 1805 and died March 6, 1872. The fraktur descended through Daniel and Margaretha's son, Louis Rutherford, who was born September 14, 1837 and died March 31, 1906. He married Agnes SHAW (January 17, 1839-November 3, 1907) on October 9, 1860. Louis and Agnes had a daughter, Anna, who was born July 29, 1866. She married Frederick SCHNEIDER on December 15, 1886. The fraktur descended in the family through Anna.

A Bible record made for Adam and Elisabeth (PAFF) OHNMACHT of Exeter Township, Berks County, says Adam and Elisabeth had a son, Amos, born on June 16, 1821. He was baptized by Pastor MILENBERG [MUHLENBERG] on August 5, 1821. Gorg and Cadarina NOLL were sponsors. The next child was Sara, born on May 13, 1824, and baptized by Pastor MILENBERG on August 22, 1824. Daniel and Scharloda [Charlotta] BEÄER were sponsors. Next came Maria, born on June 6, 1830, and baptized by J. MILLER on September 19, 1830. The widow Maria Peder RODENBERGER sponsored her baptism. This Bible record appears in fuller detail on page 65 of this issue of *Der Kurier*.

As customary, I am forwarding Logan Jennings additional information from fraktur. If you have names you wish me to research on fraktur, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, PO Box 1007, East Berlin, PA 17316. Please be patient for a reply.

SUCHANZEIGEN

Please mention at least one time, one place, and 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, 511 FOREST GLEN CIRCLE, MURFREESBORO, TN 37128. E-mail: ehoffmillar@netscape.net

BIEN

#21-19 Casper BIEN stated on mar cert in Newark NJ in 1863 his pl origin was Bavaria. He my great-grandfather. A Casper BIEN imm to New York on Jan 6, 1863. He declared from Wienhausen. This is Lower

Saxony. Both 29 years old. Are they same man? If so, why the discrepancy?

Robert E. Cleary, 7503 Elmore Lane, Bethesda, MD 20817. Ph: (301) 229-0138

OBERHOLZER FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from a German-language Bible printed by Gottlob Jungmann in Reading in 1805. German-language family register bound between Old and New Testaments. (Private collection)

Births:

Ester Oberholserr was born May 23, 1805.
Froneca Oberholserr was born June 26, 1806.
Daniel Oberholser was born June 21, 1807.
Elisabeth Oberholserrr was born May 14, 1809.
Abraham Oberholser was born July 20, 1811.

[Next page written in English with ballpoint pen:] "Could be Oberholzer."

Deaths:

Elisabeth Oberholzer [sic], their mother, died September 10, 1828, aged 58 years, 1 month, and 11 days. [The number of months given here might read "4 months."] Their father died August 31, 1834, aged 65 years.

[A loose page in this Bible has English script that says:] Benjamin Kessler was confirmed by Freadric [Frederich] Herman in the year 1820. Susanah Kessler was confirmed by Henry A. Muhlenberg, Lutheran, on April 16, 1825. Benjamin Kessler married Susannah Warner on December 16, 1830.

Surfing the 'net

by Jeff Hughes

Here's a list of some interesting research sites on the web:

Cyndi's list; <http://www.cyndislist.com/germany.htm>

Every internet user doing genealogy is probably familiar with Cyndi's site but it's useful to check back occasionally as her site is always growing. There are currently links to over 1000 sites in the German category alone, not inclusive of related sites.

Ellis Island; <http://www.ellisland.org/>

This is a site that I reviewed previously and continue to use as needed. An interesting fact that you may not know, only steerage class immigrants went through processing at Ellis Island. If your immigrants paid for first or second class tickets they were not processed.

German Passenger lists; <http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/ei.html>

This site contains links to online records of ship passenger lists, both those traveling from various German related ports (Departure Records) as well as those arriving at various American ports (Arrival Records). They are broken down by port of entry and years. This site is a subset of the German Roots website; <http://germanroots.com>.

Neuhausen Immigrants; http://mitglied.lycos.de/Eberhard_Fritz/neuhausw.htm

This site is very specific in scope but also very well detailed. It's also in German but has English notes. The site is well maintained and Eberhard has been prompt and courteous in our few email exchanges.

When it comes to questions regarding German immigration, language or customs, I head to one place on the web, a discussion group that first started out on prodigy and has survived the migration to the internet. Apparently this group was started by descendents of immigrants that traveled on the *Samuel*, a ship that made three voyages in the early to mid 1730's. Currently they'll let anyone "onboard", including Magdalena the watchcow. Yep, watchcow. There is a pervasive quirky humor that is not found on a lot of discussion groups where any posting off topic will get you "noticed" from the moderator. Yet, for all that the people onboard are very knowledgeable and friendly. Check them out at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ShipSamuel/>. Apparently the gang plank is always down.

Next time around we'll link up to a few general resource sites that are nice to have bookmarked.

FAGELY FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from an English-language Bible published by Bradway & Andrus, Danville, Pa. in 1873. Family register bound between Old and New Testaments, plus a tipped in family register also between the Old and New Testaments. Both registers are written in English script. (Private collection)

George Klase Fagely, son of Solomon and Eve Fagely, was born in Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, Pa., November 24, 1845.

Mary Ann, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Yoder, was born in Middle Creek Township, Snyder County, Pa., February 17, 1849.

Annie Elizabeth, daughter of Eli and [blank] Keeler, was born in Freyburg, Snyder County, Pa., April 11, 1846.

George Klase Fagely and Mary Ann Yoder were married in Selinsgrove, Snyder County, Pa. on November 17, 1867 by Reverend Leshar.

George Klase Fageley and Annie E. Keeler were married in Selinsgrove, Snyder County, Pa. on January 27, 1871 by Luther M. Shindle.

Next page:

Mary Ann Nora, daughter of George K. and Mary Ann Fagely was born April 3, 1869 in Middle Creek Township, Snyder County, Pa.

Solomon Grant, son of George K. and Annie E. Fagely was born December 11, 1871 in Shamokin, Northumberland County, Pa.

Deaths:

Mary Ann, wife of George K. Fagely, died September 1, 1869 in Middle Creek Township, Snyder County, Pa.

Mary Ann Norah [sic], daughter of George K. and Mary Ann Fageley, died September 19, 1870 in Middle Creek Township, Snyder County, Pa.

[The register that is tipped in reads:]

Solomon Fagely was born June 14th, 1802 in Maiden creek Township, Berks County, Pa.

Eve Klase was born December 20, 1803 in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County, Pa.

Solomon Fagely and Eve Klase were married on December 7, 1823. Their children were born in Shamokin Township, Northumberland County, Pa.

Children:

Eliza Fagely, born October 4, 1824.

Valentine Fagely, born July 3, 1826.

Rosanah Fagely, born March 17, 1828.

Catharine Fagely, born August 28, 1830.

William Fagely, born November 20, 1833.

Carolina Fagely, born January 26, 1832 [sic].

Henry Fagely, born March 15, 1836.

Harriet Fagely, born April 7, 1838.
Ellen Fagely, born January 8, 1840.
Mary Eve Fagely, born March 9, 1843.
George Klase, born November 24, 1845.

Deaths:

Harriet Fagely died July 18, 1839.
Catharine Fagely, wife of J.S. McWilliams, died October 31, 1854.
William Fagely died August 5, 1856.
Mary Eve Fagely died March 21, 1860.

Next page:

Curtis Quintillion, son of John Scott and Catharine McWilliams, was born September 10, 1852 in Shamokin, Northumberland County, Pa.

WIELAND FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from a German-language Bible published by Der Nationalen Publications Gesellschaft, Philadelphia, Pa., Chicago, Ill, und St. Louis, Mo. No date. English-language family register bound between Old and New Testaments. (Private collection)

Marriages:

John G. Wieland of West Cocalico, Lancaster County, Pa. and Sarah M. Wenrich of Reinholds Station were married March 25, 1880 by Christian Aug. Fetzer. [Witness:] Mrs. A. W. Fetzer.

Births:

John G. Wieland was born November 17, 1858.
Sara M. Wieland was born March 10, 1860.

Birth of children:

Elizabeth W. Wieland, October 9, 1880
John W. Wieland, December 3, 1881
Daniel W. Wieland, October 1, 1884.
Emma W. Wieland, September 13, 1886.
Amanda W. Wieland, December 2, 1887.
Ada W. Wieland, September 11, 1889
George W. Wieland, December 18, 1891.
Jacob W. Wieland, March 11, 1895.
Ida W. Wieland, September 20, 1896.

Deaths:

Emma W. Wieland died July 19, 1889, aged 2 years, 10 months, and 6 days.
Daniel W. Wieland died January 1, 1891, aged 6 years and 3 months.
George W. Wieland died October 6, 1894, aged 2 years, 9 months, and 18 days.
Sara M. Wieland died October 13, 1917, aged 57 years, 7 months, and 3 days.
Fannetta Wieland died September 1, 1925, aged 2 years, 9 months, and 23 days.
John G. Wieland, born [sic] November 17, 1858; died September 3, 1939, aged 81 years, 8 [or 5] months, and 13 days.

Memoranda: George B. Wealand died October 1901.

KOLB FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from a German-language family register written on blank pages at back of a 1748 Martyrs Mirror, Ephrata. Written in plain German script. Possibly written by Jacob Kolb about 1748. (Private collection)

Jacob Kolb was born May 21, 1685 at about twelve o'clock at night. He married Sarra Van Sintern in Germantown [Pennsylvania] on May 2, 1710. [Jacob and Sarra Kolb] were married by "Diener" Dirick Keisser. [Note: The word "Diener" is translated by various authors as instructor, teacher, minister of the word, and deacon.]

[Children:]

Isaac was born on March 28, 1711 about ten o'clock midday.
Agnes was born on October 7, 1713 about twelve o'clock at night.
Elisabeth was born on June 23, 1716 about four o'clock in the morning.
Neltige was born on March 4, 1719 about eleven o'clock at night.
Henrich was born on September 20, 1721 about twelve o'clock at night.
Maria was born on February 28, 1724 about eleven o'clock midday.
Dielman was born on September 2, 1725 about two o'clock at night.
Magdalena was born on April 22, 1729 about nine o'clock in the morning.
Sarra was born on June 22, 1732 about six o'clock in the morning.

JACOBI FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from a German-language Bible printed and published in 1834 by Kimber and Sharpless, Philadelphia. Nro. 8, S. 4th Street. Except where noted, this family register was written in German. (Private collection)

[On front flyleaf:]

"This Bible was bought in the year of our Lord 1838 the 10th day of October and belongs to the lawfully married couple known as Johannes Jacobi and his wife Maria, born Weikel.

"The above-mentioned were married in the year of our Lord 1828 on the 10th day of January by the Honorable Jacob Descombes."

[Family register bound between Old and New Testaments, written in German script with translation written on same page in English script:]

Children of Johannes and Maria (Weikel) Jakobi:

Daniel, born April 18, 1829.

Salomonn, born September 12, 1830.

Elisabetha, born February 13, 1832.

Susanna, born February 9, 1834.

Maria, born December 25, 1835.

Franziessges [Franciscus], born February 6, 1838.

Katharina, born December 4, 1839.

Lusÿnda, born April 17, 1842. [Baptized] by Rev. Descombes.

[The English translation repeats the above, but Salomonn's name is mistranslated as Sahra. Also, the children's names are Anglicized. Thus, Franziesges is listed as "Frank."]

Deaths [written in English]:

Catharine Marker died May 25, 1868, aged 29 years, 3 months, and 1 day.
Elieabeth [sic] Fisher died January 13, 1871, aged 39 years and 1 month.
John Jacoby died September 20, 1880, aged 77 years, 11 months, and 28 days.
Mary Jacoby died June 27, 1893, aged 85 years, 9 months, and 26 days.
Daniel Jacoby died February 26, 1900, aged 71 years, 10 months, and 8 days.
Mary Karn died February 28, 1906, aged 71 years, 2 months, and 3 days.

HARTMAN FAMILY REGISTER

Information abstracted from German-language Bible printed in Zurich in 1755 by Conrad Orell und Comp. English-language family register pasted between Old and New Testaments. (Private collection)

First in America:

1. George Hartman landed in Philadelphia. Settled in Exeter Township, Berks County, Pa.
2. Valentine Hartman, son of George Hartman.
3. Henry Hartman, son of Valentine and Christina Hartman.

[Blank pages with handwritten family register in German by G[ottlieb] Schmid. Signed G. Schmid. This register was bound into the Bible probably about 1859. It begins:]

Family register of Benjamin H. Hartmann. Written August 24, 1859 by G. Schmid.

[At the bottom of this page, written by an anonymous scrivener in English script:] "John Hartman, father of Benjamin H. Hartman, was born March 28, 1777. Died July 9, 1843, aged 66 years, 3 months, 11 days. Elizabeth Hartman, mother of Benjamin H. Hartman was born July 18, 1782. [She] died August 5, 1857, aged 75 years, 18 days."

Marriages:

Benjamin H. Hartmann and Sara Schmeck were married August 28, 1842 by A. C. Hermann in Reading, Pa.

Births and deaths of the parents:

Benjamin H. Hartmann, son of Johann and Elisabetha (Hassler) Hartmann, was born March 8, 1821. Died May 13, 1895, aged 74 years, 2 months, and 5 days.
Sara Hartmann, daughter of Daniel and Sally (Hoch) Schm[e]ck, was born July 5, 1823. Died April 6, 1902, aged 78 years, 9 months, and 1 day.

Births and deaths of the children:

1. Sara Hartmann was born June 7, 1844. Died June 22, 1899, aged 55 years and 15 days.
2. Emilie Hartmann was born July 19, 1846. Died August 2, 1916, aged 70 years and 13 days.
3. Mary Ann Hartmann was born December 1, 1848. Died August 13, 1929, aged 80 years, 8 months, and 12 days.
4. Ellemina Hartmann was born January 1, 1850. Died November 17, 1913, aged 63 years, 10 months, and 16 days.

5. Isalinda Hartmann was born July 28, 1853. Died November 13, 1913, aged 60 years, 3 months, and 15 days.
6. Jefferson Hartmann was born September 14, 1856. Died August 10, 1931, aged 74 years, 10 months, and 26 days.
7. Henrietta Hartmann was born December 24, 1858. Died April 8, 1863, aged 4 years, 3 months, and 15 days.

The birthplace of the parents and children was Alsace Township in Berks County, Pa.

[From this point, the numbering for births of children becomes confused. The following entry was written in German by an anonymous scrivener:]

6. Benjamin S. Hartmann Jr. was born February 20, 1866. Died at 7:05 in the morning on November 23, 1931, aged 65 years, 9 months, and 2 days. Buried November 28, 1931.

[The following entries were written in English script:]

7. Whitney Ray S. Hartman [sic], son of Benjamin S. Hartman Jr. and wife Katie, nee Schlegel, [was] born in Exeter Township, Berks County, Pa. [on] May 20, 1892.

[No number] Sallie S. Hartman, daughter of Alvin and Hettie Reiff, born Seidel, was born in Oley Township [Berks County] on July 12, 1894. Was married to Whitney R.S. Hartman on January 1, 1914. [Sallie] died April 12, 1924, aged 29 years and 9 months.

[No number] Allen Benjamin R. Hartman, son of Whitney Ray and Sallie Hartman, was born on November 27, 1914 in Reading, Pa. [Allen Benjamin R.] died February 20, 1916, aged 1 year, 2 months, and 24 days.

8. Bruce Reiff Hartman, son of Whitney Ray and Sallie Hartman, was born on February 14, 1917 in Reading, Pa.

[Pasted in:] Kate H. Schlegel, wife of Benjamin S. Hartman, was born in Ruscombmanor Township, Berks County, Pa. [on] October 23, 1868. Died 3/4/39 [sic].

A two-page handwritten biography in English script was tucked in the Bible. It reads, "Benjamin S. Hartman, son of Benjamin H. Hartman, was born in Alsace Township, Berks County, Pa. on the 20th of February 1866 and was the youngest of eight children. [He] attended the public schools of the same township and later attended the Oley Academy for three terms. [He] took a course in D.B. Brunner's Business College, Reading, and graduated from the same February 12, 1886. Also took a course in plain writing , Penn Art Hall, Wooster, Ohio. In politics, Mr. Hartman was a Democrat having held the following offices in his native township: Inspector of Election, Auditor, and Judge. In later years, he moved to Reading, where he was appointed County Tax Collector for the years 1898, 1900, [and] 1908. [He] was appointed chief clerk for the City Assessor [in] 1900 and was reappointed to the same office in 1903. [He] was appointed County Assessor of the 13th Ward in 1916 and elected for four years more in 1917. Re-elected [in] 1919 for four years more [and in] 1923 for four years. Mr. Hartman was one of the original organizers of the Union Fire Company of which he still is a member. [He] was married to Kate H. Schlegel of Exeter Township, daughter of Amos Schlegel and his wife, Mary Haas. The union was blessed with one son, Whitney Ray S. Hartman, this city."

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN

Even More Palatine Families 18th Century Immigrants to the American Colonies and their German, Swiss and Austrian Origins

By Henry Z. Jones, Jr., FASG and
Lewis Bunker Rohrbach, CG

2002. Picton Press, PO Box 250, Rockport, Maine 04856. Hardcover, 3 volumes, 2,381 pages. Everyname index. ISBN 0-89725-454-6 Price: \$195.00 plus \$8.00 shipping/handling.

This three-volume set is a major contribution to our information on the immigration of Germans and Swiss to America during the 18th century. Particularly noteworthy is the vast amount of information presented, the meticulous scholarship of the presentations, and the many aspects of the subjects covered (destination, time period, etc). Due to this diversity details on the contents of these volumes are given below.

Volume 1 deals entirely with German immigrants to colonial New York from 1717 to 1776. The introduction to this volume by Henry Z. Jones, Jr. points out that this volume completes the series started with his earlier publications: *The Palatine Families of New York-1710* (1985) and *More Palatine Families* (1991). These two publications along with this volume present the results of over forty years of searching public and private records. This volume lists alphabetically several thousand immigrants from Johann Henrich AAAS to Wilhelm ZWIB. Each entry is followed by the available information on that person which ranges from a single sentence to over a page. Each statement is followed by a reference.

Most of the second volume was compiled by Lewis Bunker Rohrbach. His contribution is entitled "The 1710 Swiss and German Settlers of New Bern, North Carolina." The subject is the 752 Swiss and German families who came from Bern, Switzerland to found New Bern, North Carolina. Mr. Rohrbach

points out that there has been comparatively little research on this group and he explores in considerable detail what is known of the people and life in this colony. One of the largest sections of this volume (586 pages) is entitled "New Bern Families A-Z". The detailed discussion of these families is impressive, to say the least. The remainder of this volume consists of translations of two articles by Hans Ulrich Pfister, a Zurich archivist, on Swiss migration to America during the 1730s.

Almost half of the third volume is made up of an Everyname Index, compiled by Picton Press, of about "100,000 separate references." The remainder of this volume consists of the following: (1) two chapters of additional information on immigrants to New York and other colonies by Henry Z. Jones, Jr.; (2) a chapter by Klaus Petry (a German genealogist) on his further findings on the 1709 immigration to New York; (3) the first time publication of all surviving passenger lists to Nova Scotia (1750-1752); (4) "Occasional Findings on 18th Century German Emigrants" by the German genealogist, Friedrich R. Wollmershauser, which lists data identifying settlers who emigrated from Germany in the 18th century; (5) the Hunter lists of New York 1710-1713 (a list compiled by Col. Robert Hunter of subsistence payments paid by the British crown to the New York Palatine settlers); (6) a verbatim transcription by Marlene Groves and Lewis Rohrbach, both of Picton Press, of the 1709 Rotterdam First and Second Party Departure lists, the London arrival lists, and the list of the Five Parties of Palatines returned to Rotterdam from England between 1709 and 1717.

For those interested in any of the above subjects this is a valuable reference source.

Reviewed by William S. Cramer

**The Annotated Life and Times
of James W. Lantz
Carroll County, Maryland 1857-1891
By Trudie Davis-Long**

2002. Paw Prints, Inc., PO Box 52, Dept. 5, Monrovia, MD 21770-0052. Softcover, 231 pages. Indexed. ISBN 0-9642239-4-5. \$35.00 plus \$3.00 shipping.

Knowledge of time, place, and events is essential to the genealogist. One of the best sources for these is a diary. How fortunate we are that some of our ancestors had a passion for recording the events of their life and their community. James W. Lantz, a farmer in New Windsor, Carroll County, Maryland was such a person.

He began his recordings on April 1, 1857 indicating that it was "cloudy and rained until noon...." He ended on February 4, 1891 stating that it was "Fair cold and very blustery all day..." It is interesting that he begins each of his daily entries with an account of the weather. He regularly mentions his health, his farming chores, and trips to the market in Baltimore to sell his produce. He records visits from family and friends, and events in the Westminster area—murders, hangings, accidents, bank robberies, and deaths, along with marriages, births, and religious and social gatherings.

Lantz usually makes these entries in concise one or two sentence statements; however, for some events he writes more in detail, such as the earthquake in Charleston, South Carolina in September 1886, but writes less than a sentence on the hanging of John Brown, the Battles of Manassas and Gettysburg, a Union Army encampment on his farm, and a cavalry fight between the North and South at Westminster.

This book is research friendly. There are two indexes—one made by Lantz and the other by the compiler, Trudie Davis-Long. Within the text surnames are capitalized and place names are in bold thereby making it easy to find names from the index. An essential part of this book is the annotations at the bottom

of each page which lend more interest and information to the diary. Ms. Davis-Long has done an outstanding job in researching each event named by Mr. Lantz, and then presenting her findings, often quoting from original sources. Under Guidelines Ms. Davis-Long states that, "Mr. Lantz's book is more important as a research guide than it is a day to day history, or narrative....."

This book is a vignette of late 19th century farming and community life in a middle Maryland rural area, populated by both Germans and non-Germans.

Reviewed by Patricia Cramer

**Faith and Family: Pennsylvania
German Heritage In
York County Area Fraktur
by June Burk Lloyd**

2001. York County Heritage Trust, 250 East Market Street, York, Pennsylvania 17403. Softcover, 132 pages. Includes an extensive bibliography, maps, quality color illustrations, and an everyname index. \$29.95 plus \$4.50 shipping. (Pennsylvania residents, add 6% sales tax.)

Faith and Family: Pennsylvania German Heritage in York County Area Fraktur explores 18th and 19th century fraktur (decorated certificates) from York and Adams Counties in Pennsylvania, plus examples from western Maryland. Author June Burk Lloyd features *Taufscheine* (singular, *Taufschein*), which are birth and baptism certificates. There are many types of fraktur, but *Taufscheine* represent the majority of fraktur from the York County area, which includes Adams County as well as parts of Maryland. Most York County-area Pennsylvania Germans were Lutheran or German Reformed – denominations that commemorate the sacrament of baptism – so *Taufscheine* were especially important to them.

Taufscheine include data that can be crucial to family historians. Lloyd pictures in color almost sixty examples that give the child's name, date of birth, date of baptism, parents'

names, name of pastor who baptized the child, township and county where the child was born, and names of sponsors at the baptism. Such information is typical on *Taufscheine*, but Lloyd researched families mentioned on fraktur she illustrates, often giving additional information. For example, Lloyd illustrated a colorful family register made by fraktur artist, Adam Wuertz. This register was made for the Jacob and Catharina (Christ) Spengler family. Following data concerning Jacob's birth in 1785 and Catharina's birth in 1791, Wuertz listed their nine children, gave their dates of birth and the names of the pastors who baptized them, and the names of sponsors at their baptisms. Wuertz followed this with the location, saying that each child was born in York County. Lloyd's research revealed that at least when the last child, Elisabeth, was born in 1825, the family was living in Paradise Township. Elisabeth's *Taufschein* is also pictured.

In addition to genealogically significant details, Lloyd reviews religious and artistic merits of Pennsylvania German fraktur from York and Adams Counties. Concerning art, Lloyd examines what has been previously published about symbolism in the decoration of these colorfully illustrated manuscripts. Her discussion of symbolism is especially revealing to those looking for meaning in fraktur motifs. Even genealogists find themselves curious about -- if not captivated by -- these motifs, which include everything from imaginary birds and flowers, to trees of life, to angels, hearts, tulips, springing deer, and mermaids.

Lloyd further illustrates that *Taufscheine* from York County include rare examples of printed forms. These printed examples travelled west and south as they followed the Great Wagon Road that began in Philadelphia and went through Lancaster and York Counties in Pennsylvania through the Shenandoah Valley. York County printers served much of the Shenandoah Valley with printed *Taufscheine*, but they continued to underestimate their market. They printed too few copies so that when supplies were depleted, they set type for new editions.

Consequently, their prints show a great deal of variation and many are especially rare. Lloyd pictures examples in her book.

Lloyd discusses the historical and cultural context of fraktur and she reviews the artists and scribes who served York and Adams Counties as well as parts of Maryland. Lloyd correctly points out that the study of fraktur is multi-faceted. Fortunately, she stresses the genealogical significance of these early documents. In her words, "Artifacts must be studied in depth, from all angles, in their many layers of meaning." Concerning fraktur, she adds that we can "revel in the genealogical information inscribed by a hand of long ago."

Importantly, Lloyd set up a database from which to organize her study. She continues to add to this database, having now recorded more than 1,600 fraktur from the area. She continues to solicit information from readers who can assist in locating fraktur so she can record them. If you can help, contact Lloyd by writing the York County Heritage Trust at the address above.

Reviewed by Corinne Earnest

Davis Families of Montgomery County, Maryland

By William N. Hurley, Jr.

Heritage Books, Inc., 1540E Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie, MD 20716. Softcover, 306 pages. Every name index. Price \$26.00, plus \$4.00 shipping.

This volume, the twenty-second in William N. Hurley, Jr.'s "Our Maryland Heritage" series, presents "the ancestry and descendancy of the Davis families found primarily in Montgomery County, Maryland, with the usual 'spill-over' of families into Frederick County—and generally with origins in the older counties of Maryland." The main body of Hurley's study focuses on "at least four apparently different lineages from which are derived present-day Davis family members in Montgomery and Frederick Counties." Several chapters are organized around a particular Davis ancestor. The oldest of

those born in America, Thomas Davis (1613-1683), serves as the starting point for chapter 2. In addition, there are chapters devoted to "individuals and family groups, who have not yet been identified within any of the families discussed in earlier chapters." Thus, chapters 9, 12, and 13, respectively, treat the Davis families of Montgomery, Frederick, and Prince George's counties. There is also a chapter (14) on "Those Other Davis Families," which describes twelve additional Davis families, and a chapter (15) entitled "Miscellaneous Davis Family Members," which provides entries of varying length for an additional 199 persons with the surname Davis.

As with other titles in this series, Hurley has provided a wealth of information about the people whose lives he has described. In a cautionary statement, he indicates that he has gathered "available material into one convenient package, which should be accurate enough to provide the casual reader with an insight into their family history." At the same time, he mentions that "The serious researcher should verify the material with independent research."

The author's twelve-page bibliography, much like that included in other volumes, will be very suggestive to those doing genealogical research on their ancestors in Montgomery County.

The every name index lists some names (among them Ahern, Brandenburg, Vogelsang, and Wagner) suggesting that the volume includes people of German heritage, and page 5 mentions that "many German families" who traveled through Hagerstown eventually settled in "the fertile valleys of western Maryland."

For the most part, the author presents his findings in a narrative format, and some of the stories make for interesting reading. The primary beneficiaries of Hurley's book, however, are likely to be the many persons of Davis ancestry who at one time or another

lived in Montgomery County, Maryland, and its environs.

Reviewed by Joseph Neville

PERSI 2001. Periodical Source Index

CD ROM. Ancestry, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, UT 84604.

The Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana is the originator of the idea to index the contents of all genealogical and local history periodicals, both past and present. They created PERSI, an acronym for The Periodical Source Index. This is a catalog taken from about 5,500 periodicals, and lists articles according to locality, family (surname), and/or research method.

PERSI, a growing database, has become the largest dataset of its kind, and is renowned as a key to superior genealogical research. The June 2001 release has more than 200,000 new entries, raising the total number of fully searchable records to more than 1.7 million. Before computers and CD-ROMs these citations were only available in print and microform. Thus PERSI, the electronic version, spans many volumes and with this new quick access the data in PERSI is now on a single disc. The software, *Folio View*, makes retrieval accessible with a few clicks of the mouse. Once articles of interest are located in the Periodical Source Index, there are several methods a researcher can then employ to acquire a copy of the full text of the original articles. Follow the steps as outlined on the CD.

Each entry has the Locality; Record Type: i.e. Biography, History; Surname, etc; Article Title, Periodical name, Volume and Number, date and how to order the Article.

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Reviewed by Carl M. Shrader

AHNENTAFEL - CLOPPER

Submitted by Robert S. Fulghum, Ph.D., P.O. Box 20664, Greenville, NC 27858-0664

I

1 Frances Witcraft SCHMIDT, b 17 Apr 1909.

II

2 Alphons Robert SCHMIDT, m 20 Jun 1908, Frances Clopper WITCRAFT, NJ.

3 Frances Clopper WITCRAFT.

III

6 John Randolph WITCRAFT, m 5 Jan 1882, Mary Bennett CLOPPER.

7 Mary Bennett CLOPPER.

IV

14 John Crawford CLOPPER, Jr., m 17 Apr 1845, Frances DALTON.

15 Frances DALTON.

V

28 John Crawford CLOPPER, m 18 Apr 1816, Anna KAUCK.

29 Anna KAUCK.

VI

56 John CLOPPER, m 4 Apr 1790, Sarah NOBEL.

57 Sarah NOBEL.

VII

112 Cornelius CLOPPER, m 7 Mar 1757, Rachel Rossevelt LOWE.

113 Rachel Roosevelt LOWE.

VIII

226 Petrus LOWE, m 9 Aug 1721, Rachel ROOSEVELT.

227 Rachel ROOSEVELT.

IX

454 Nicholas ROOSEVELT, m Jannetje Samuels THOMAS.

455 Jannetje Samuels THOMAS.

X

908 Claes Martenzan van ROSENVELT.

[According to contributor, Robert S. Fulghum, information for this Ahnentafel came from Dr. Fulghum's mother and from John R. Witcraft, *Cornelius Jansen Clopper and his Descendants* (Philadelphia: Dispatch Press, 1912) and John R. Witcraft, *Origin of the Witcraft Family*, Parts I and II (Philadelphia: B. Hepworth & Co., The Dispatch Publishing House, n.d.)]

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