



# Der Kurier

Volume 22, Number 3, September 2004

## Subscription lists

Perhaps Your Elusive German Ancestor Is Hiding Here!

By John T. Humphrey

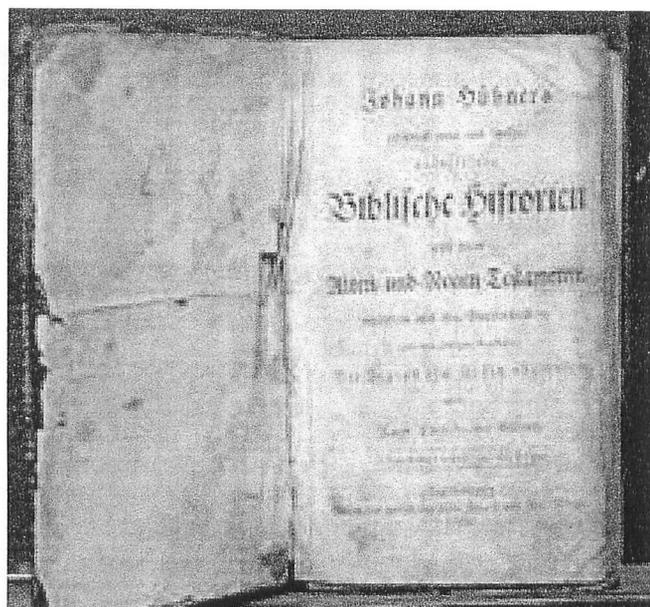
During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, authors and publishers frequently solicited money from individuals who had an interest in the publication to help defray the costs of producing the book.

The names of the subscribers to the publication were then printed someplace within the book itself, most often at the back.

An interesting example of one such list can be found at the back of the 1877 *History of Northampton County, Pennsylvania*. The list of persons who helped to underwrite the cost of this particular book runs through five pages.

The subscribers are listed alphabetically according to the township where they were living when the book was published. The entries in this particular publication can be very useful to genealogists as many of them note the name of the subscriber, the township where he was living, and

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The subscription list to the 1826 printing of Johann Hübner's *Twenty-fifth Exquisite Bible History* appears in the back of the book, which was found several years ago by MAGS member Ken Craft.

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## MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

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<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

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

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

MAGS reserves the right to edit submissions for length and style. Any material published becomes the property of MAGS. Deadline for submissions: the first of January, April, July and October. Submit to: James M. Beidler, PO Box 270, Lebanon, PA 17042. E-mail: [jmbeidler@comcast.net](mailto:jmbeidler@comcast.net)

## Welcome to the 'New' *Der Kurier*

It's a new DER KURIER!

Members of MAGS have probably already noticed several changes that have been made to *Der Kurier* in this issue. These changes are part of an ongoing effort to provide MAGS members with better services.

The modifications that have been made to *Der Kurier* are both stylistic and substantive. In case of style the editor, Jim Beidler, has chosen a typeface that is more appealing and hopefully easier to read, and there has been the obvious repositioning of articles. For example what you are reading now traditionally appeared on the first page of *Der Kurier*. We have moved "the President's comments" inside the journal in order to make room on the front of *Der Kurier* for the lead article. In addition you will notice more graphics and photographs.

The other change involves content — we are increasing the number of pages in order to provide more space for additional articles and material that may be of use to MAGS members. You have undoubtedly noticed the lead article in this issue deals with Subscription Lists — a potential source of information that is probably overlooked by many genealogists. The actual list, which has approximately 900 names, also appears in this issue of *Der Kurier*.

I want to thank Ken Craft, a long timemember of MAGS, for bringing this material to my attention; and I want to encourage other members to follow Ken's example. When you find lists, stories or new resources such as Johann Hubner's subscription list please consider putting together a short article for *Der Kurier* about the material. If you are not comfortable writing then please mention something to the editor of *Der Kurier*, and we will see what can be done so it can be published.

I want to say thanks to Jim Beidler for his suggestions, ideas and hard work in making these changes come about and I also need to say thanks to the MAGS Board for enabling us to make this happen.

**John T. Humphrey**  
President

## Subscription Lists (Continued from Page 1)

his dates of birth and marriage along with the name of his spouse. A typical example is the entry for Edwin Engler, a teacher and farmer who was living at the time in Easton, Pennsylvania. The entry noted Engler was born in Forks Township on March 15, 1837, and he married Sabina Shafer on Christmas Eve, 1861.

A subscription list of interest to *Der Kurier* readers was found several years ago by MAGS member Ken Craft. While en route to the NGS Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Ken and his wife stopped in Chicago where they discovered the book in an antique secretary in a downtown department store. Ken purchased the book and gave it to me with the understanding at an appropriate time the subscription list at the rear of the book would be published in *Der Kurier*.

The book was printed in 1826 in German by a Harrisburg, Pennsylvania printer — William White and William Boyer. The title of the book was translated to read *Johann Hübner's Twenty-fifth Exquisite Bible History from the Old and*

*New Testaments Providing 104 Copper Engravings and the Register; the Best Composition Together with a Preface of the Authors.*

As with the Northampton County book, the subscription list for this particular publication can be found at the back of the book. The 15 pages list the names of the subscribers by surname according to the county where they were living. Of note, this particular subscription list includes the names of men and women—something that is rare for the time period. The lists shows the majority of subscribers to John Hübner's Biblical History were living in Lebanon, Lancaster and Dauphin counties, Pennsylvania, but perhaps that should not be too surprising as the book was printed in Harrisburg.

The author's origins and biography have not been found but he probably has some connection to Philip and Bernhard Hübner whose children were baptized at the Hain's Reformed Church in Lower Heidelberg Township in Berks

County. Of note the only Hübner who was a subscriber to this particular publication was a Daniel Hübner who was listed as a resident of Heidelberg Township in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

A random check of surnames appearing on this subscription list with surnames found in the *Pennsylvania Births Series* suggests Hübner's *Biblical History* was not supported by members of only one denomination as men and women are named on these lists who were members of both the Lutheran and Reformed churches. Subscribers with the following surnames were listed in Tupehocken Township in Berks County: Diefenbach, Engelhardt, Lechner, Ried, and Zeller. All of these family names can be found in the registers of Christ Lutheran Church, Stouchsburg, Marion Township, and Altalaha Lutheran Church in Tulpehocken Township, Berks County. In Donegal Township, Lancaster County, the following surnames appear among the 76 men and women who were listed in that township: Hachenberger, Vogelsang, Mumma, Eschelbach, Gillman and Lindemuth. Many of the family names appearing on this list can be found in records of Reformed churches located in Donegal Township but not exclusively so as the surnames of others appear in the registers of the Lutheran church in the same county and township.

Lists such as this one can become useful when working on troublesome ancestors, because they offer family historians an opportunity to use another kind of record to fix an ancestor to a certain place and time.

And, genealogists searching for information on their German ancestors should pay special attention to lists that were created by Germans because the names on that list will appear as the ancestor spelled his name and not in the form the name was spelled by an English-speaking clerk. A good example is Christian Boltz

who shows up on this list as a resident of Derry Township in Dauphin County. A descendant of Christian Boltz trying to find him in the U.S. Censuses that were taken both before and after this list was created will not find Christian with any ease. In 1820 he was enumerated as a resident of Derry Township under the name of Christian Keltz. In 1830 he was listed as Christian Fultz, Sr. The 1830 entries also show a Christian Keltz, Jr.

Lists similar to this one can help in other ways as well—they offer genealogists an additional set of names. A search of the 1820 U.S. Census for Londonderry Township in Dauphin County will disclose four men with the surname Shenk: Christian, John, Jacob and a another Christian. Ten years later, not surprisingly, there are more men listed with that family name, among them an Adam Shenk. The question for the genealogist working on the Shenk family becomes who is Adam Schenk and when did he first appear in records?

Lists such as this one can help answer those sorts of questions. A search of the subscribers who helped to pay for the publication of Johann Hübner's book will notice Adam Schenk was a subscriber along with Christian and Jacob. By 1830 Adam had clearly left the home of his parents and started a family of his own. His presence on a list created in 1826 suggests he was probably coming of age about the time this list was created.

Lists can be very useful to the diligent family historian and this is especially true of lists that were created for people whose ethnic origins were different.

If the list was created by someone who spoke the language of an immigrant ancestor or his children, then that list will offer anyone researching that family an opportunity to determine how your ancestor really spelled his name.

## Subscribers Who Paid to Publish Johann Hübner's Biblical History

Some of the wording has been changed from the original. For example Lebanon Township in Lebanon County was recorded in the original as Libanon Taunship in Libanon Caunty – or Jonestown in Lebanon County was recorded as Jonestaun. Lehigh County was written as Lecha Caunty and Lower Paxton Township in Dauphin was recorded as Niederpaxton Tauschp.

Abbreviations follow the names of a number of individuals on this list. One abbreviation in particular, Ehrw. refers back to the German word Ehrwürden or Reverend suggesting the men where this abbreviation appears were ministers. Esqr. is the other abbreviation used. It is a designation used in this country to note the person so designated was a lawyer.

**Verzeichniss der Namen der Geehrten Unterstutzern dieses Buches**  
**(List of names of the honored patrons who supported this book)**

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 M. Wolf, South  
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 Johannes Hess  
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 Samuel Drescher  
 Johannes Krner/Kroer [?]  
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 David Eschlem, an  
 Joseph [??]tz  
 Johannes Ferling

Heinrich Frankford  
 George Zigler  
 Johannes Closs  
 Michael Keller  
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 Johannes Bobb  
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 Jacob Schenk  
 Christian Stiebich  
 Christian Schenk  
 Johann Lebmann  
 Christian Ho[?]man  
 [Hoffman?]  
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 Johannes Satezahn  
 Johannes Schuy  
 Johannes Wittemeyer  
 Theobald Fessig  
  
**Heidelberg Township**  
 Georg Pfeiffer  
 Jacob Wegl[?]  
 Jacob Schramm  
 Johannes Stumm  
 Johannes Schork  
 Benjamin Reims  
 Leonhard Holstein  
 George Preiss  
 Georg Bollman  
 Johannes Meier  
 Johannes Steinmetz  
 Samuel Steinmetz  
 Nickolas Miller  
 David Krammer  
 Jacob Kleim  
 Johannes Schenk  
 Joseph Schenk  
 Johannes Schnebly  
 Isaac Schnebly  
 Johannes Meyer  
 Johannes Miller  
 Elisabeth Brubacher  
 Jacob Gokley  
 Gottfried Kohl  
 Wilhelm Wunderlich  
 Christian Riehm  
 Heinrich Westenberg  
 Johannes Brubacher  
 Heinrich Hackmann  
 Jacob Schnebely  
 David Schnebely  
 Peter Moor  
 Peter Brubacher  
 Christiana Keim  
  
**Bethel Township**  
 Ehrw. Johannes Gring  
 Heinrich Lehman  
 Martin Meyle  
 Isaac Groh  
 Michael Weber  
 Heinrich Hautz  
 Abraham Neukommer  
 Johannes Stehly  
 Jacob Lentz  
 Heinrich Lötter  
 Georg Giesey  
 Christian Tobias  
 Samuel Goschert

Johannes Ervitt [?]  
 Johannes Uller  
 Martin Göttel  
 Michael Kohr  
 Rudolph Schenk  
 Jacob Hunsiker  
 Johannes Wolf  
 Johannes Seltzer  
 Christian Schulze  
 Samuel Stöver  
 Samuel Meyer  
 Jacob Löster  
 Elisabeth Braun  
 Heinrich Hunsiker  
 Samuel Felty  
 Friedrich Schäffer  
 Heinrich Haver  
 Abraham Licht  
  
**Schäfferstown**  
 Wilhelm Mellinger  
 Jacob Becker  
 Wilhelm Christ  
 Jacob Grob  
 Philip Albrecht  
 Christian Ramler  
 Samuel Correy  
 Heinrich Miller  
 Ludwig Schott  
 Hr. Rex. Storhalter 12  
 Samuel Gärret  
 Johannes Mess  
 Johannes Miller  
 Johannes Schmith  
 Christian Göttel  
 Georg Steiner  
 Heinrich Eba  
  
**Millerstown [Annville]**  
 Dr. J. T. Ekert  
 Johannes Marquret  
 Johannes Achenbach  
 Jacob Henning  
 Johannes Lutz  
 David Fortney  
 Conrad Schmith  
 Abraham Schenk  
 Philip Stein  
 Andreas Ulrich  
 Joseph Sellers  
 Rudolph Herr  
 Joseph Keiter  
  
**Annville Township**  
 Joseph Schenk  
 Benjamin Meier  
 Abraham Welmer

Georg Streher  
Jacob Heilmann  
Johannes Scheuer  
Anna Huber  
Michael Schnug  
Samuel Carper, Jr.  
Johannes Scheuer  
Adam Heilmann

**Jackson Township**  
Jacob Hammer  
Johannes Christman  
Johannes Bassler  
Johannes Groff  
Johannes Schaffer  
Joseph Emrich  
Johannes Wolf  
Isaac Miller  
Martin Gerhard  
Johannes Löffler  
Johannes Bassler

**Londonderry Township**  
Johannes Greider  
Johannes Wissler  
Benjamin Brubacher  
Jacob Langenecker  
Christian Baumann  
Michael Schneider  
Peter Schnebley  
Jacob Meyer

**Stumpstown**  
**[Fredericksburg]**  
Johannes Krumbein  
Martin Meyle  
Philip Desch  
Johannes Walborn

**Lehigh County**  
**Whitehall Township**  
Jacob Dillinger Esq.  
Jacob Scheirer  
Peter Ruch  
Nikolas Scheirer  
Peter Gorss, Esq.  
Isaac Sell  
Peter Wotring  
Georg Koch  
Heinrich Heck  
Michael Frack  
Johannes Scheirer  
Georg Scheirer  
Johannes Rumble

Isaac Kohler  
Georg Ringer

**Upper Saucon Township**  
Joseph Frey, Sr.  
Wilhelm Landes  
Heinrich Yotter  
Georg Levan  
Michael Landis  
David Struck  
Daniel Bickel  
Johannes J. Bachman

**Lower Saucon Township**  
Jacob Salade

**Heidelberg Township**  
Conrad German  
Christian Weber

**Allentown**  
Peter Neuhard, Esq.

**Bethlehem**  
Joseph Bauman 12

**Mifflin County**  
**Mifflin City**  
Daniel Kessler  
Johann Freyberger  
Samuel Neumond  
Emanuel Weis

**Fermanagh Township**  
Wilhelm Pennebecker  
Christian Kaufman  
Johannes Kaufman  
Johannes Saceyman  
Johannes Kaufman  
Conrad Schneider  
Michael Meyers  
Benjamin Penebecker  
Philip Kaufman  
Isaac Kaufman  
Daniel Kaufman  
Heinrich Thominan  
Christian Sieber  
Hannah Buschey

**Millford Township**  
Abraham Guss  
Jacob Burkner  
Samuel Heime  
Johannes Kiefner

Georg Weitman  
F. A. Melsheimer,  
Lewistaun

**Perry County**  
**Liverpool**  
Jacob Huggins Esq.  
Wilhelm Arbogast  
Christian Stehly  
Peter Lenhart  
George Charl  
Peter Schumacher  
Johannes Farber  
Johannes Bume

**Tyrone Township**  
Solomon Felty  
Philip Fasselman  
Johannes Bressler, Juniata  
Taunschip  
Daniel Yoh, Rey  
Taunschip

**Union County**  
Georg Miller New Berlin  
Middleburg  
Johannes Schmick  
Samuel Bayer  
Michael Stuck  
Samuel R. Beyer  
Johannes Blett

**Washington Township**  
Philip Meyer  
Christian Beyer  
Peter Bistel  
Jacob Menges  
Peter Hagenberg  
Valentin Miller  
Daniel Schneider  
Andreas Rausch  
Peter Hilbisch

**Penn Township**  
Johannes Ritter  
George Laudenschläger  
Heinrich Laudenschläger  
Philip Kantz  
Valentine Laudenschläger

Johannes Schäffer East  
Buffalo Township

**Washington County**  
Wilhelm Mos, Schersburg

**York County**  
York  
Wilhelm Wagner  
Johannes Andrews  
Valentine Manch Manor  
Township

**Heidelberg Township**  
Nickolas Miller  
Heinrich Miller  
Daniel Frey, Manchester

**Baltimore County, MD**  
Adam Markel  
Jacob Walter

**Center County**  
Ehrw. Johannes F., Abete  
Arensburg  
Jacob Herring, Esq., Penns  
Valley

**Bucks County**  
**Durham Township**  
Jacob Uhler  
Michael Fackenthall, Jr.  
Joseph Resslin  
Johannes Fackenthall  
Thomas K. Adams  
Johannes E. Jud  
Heinrich Miller, Esqr.  
Nockamixon Township  
Heinrich Funk, Springfield  
Township

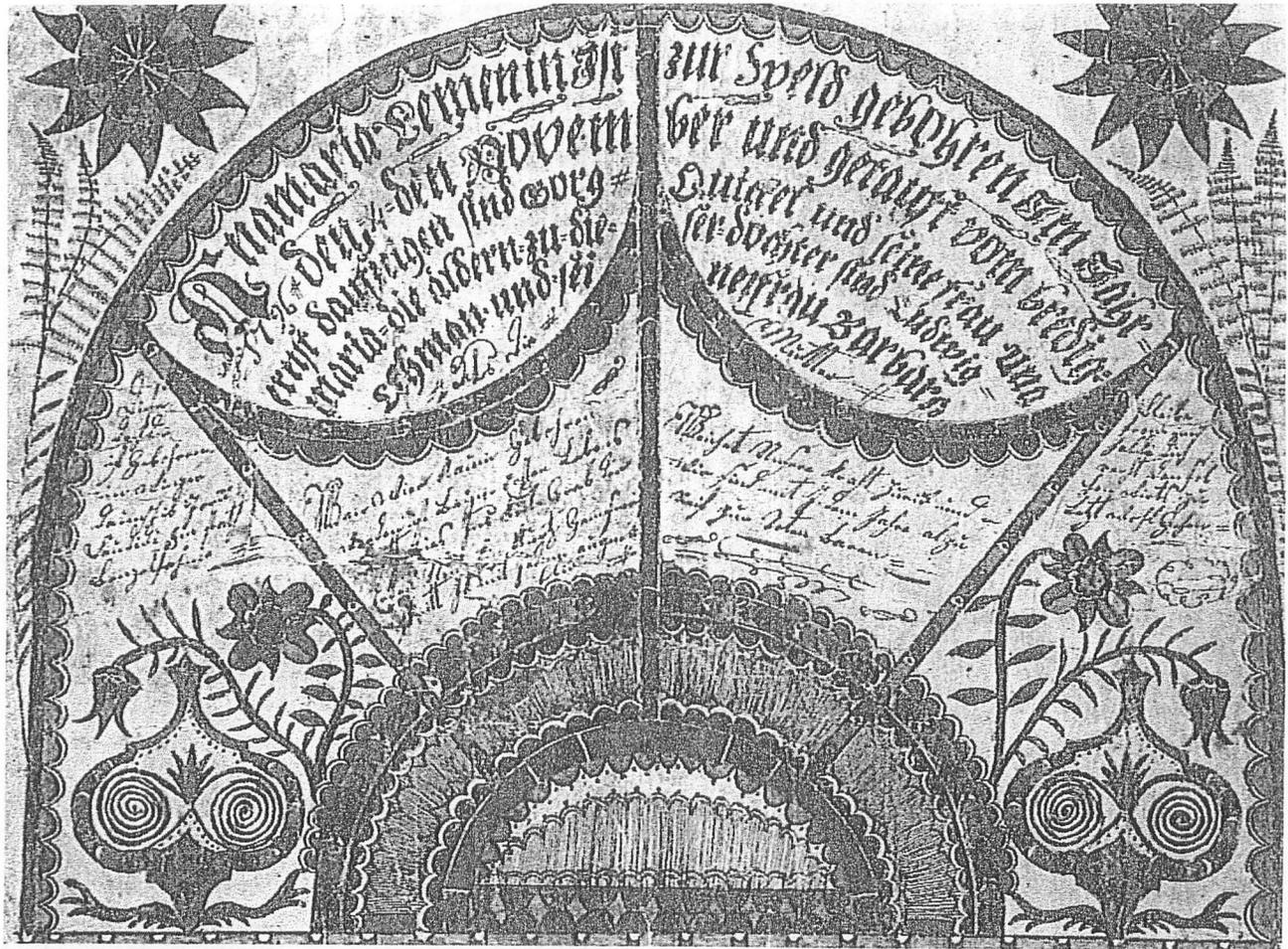
**Franklin County**  
Johannes Lantz  
Abraham Lantz  
Peter Becker  
Christian Frantz  
Johannes Funk

**Northampton County**  
Jacob Adams, Williams  
Township

**Ohio State**  
**New Lancaster**  
Johannes Schmit  
David Böshor, Ritschland  
Township

## FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest



This taufschein, which mentions a Quickel as a sponsor, is from the collection of the York County Heritage Trust, PA, and is attributed to the 'Swirly Flower Artist.'

## Quickel certificates show up from York County, western Maryland

Beverly Tabak asked about the name QUICKEL on fraktur, especially fraktur from York County, Pennsylvania, and from western Maryland.

Examples of fraktur having that name include a taufschein (birth and baptism certificate) on which Adam and Barbara QUICKEL are mentioned as sponsors. This taufschein was made for Anna Barbara DEIS, daughter of Johannes and

Gertraut (SCHMIDT) DEIS. Anna Barbara DEIS was born on April 6, 1774 in Maryland. No specific location was recorded.

She was baptized May 20, 1774, but the pastor's name was not given. This certificate is in the collection of the Free Library of Philadelphia, and is pictured in the two-volume set of *The Pennsylvania German Fraktur of The Free Library of Philadelphia*.

A taufschein made for Anamaria LEHMEN mentions Gorg [George] and Ana Maria QUICKEL as baptismal sponsors. Anamaria LEMEN [sic] was born November 4, 1796, in Windsor Township, York County, Pennsylvania.

Her parents were Ludwig and Barbara LEHMAN. Anamaria was baptized by Pastor ERNST, but no other information was given. This example is at the York County Heritage Trust in York, Pennsylvania.

In her book on York County area fraktur, June Burk Lloyd noted that another fraktur by the same "Swirly Flower Artist" was made for Israel HERRES, born in 1822.

According to Lloyd, Israel HERRES may have been Anamaria's son. Lloyd pictured Anamaria's fraktur in color in her book, called *Faith and Family: Pennsylvania German Heritage in York County Area Fraktur*.

The York County Heritage Trust has a taufschein made for Henry Monroe QUICKEL, son of Jesse and Anna (BARENTS) QUICKEL. Henry Monroe was born May 1, 1855, in Weigelstown, Dover Township, York County. He was baptized by Daniel ZIEGLER, but no date of baptism was given. Henry Monroe's parents were sponsors at his baptism.

On December 23, 1905, Annie May QUICKEL was confirmed in the Shiloh Evangelical Lutheran Church at Weigelstown. The pastor who confirmed Annie May was E. LENHART. Annie May's confirmation certificate is in a private collection.

In *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans* (vol. 2), Klaus Stopp lists data from a taufschein made for Johann Georg QUICKER.

Very likely, the scrivener who wrote this name meant to record QUICKEL. Johann Georg was the son of Philip and Eva Catharina (KLEIN) QUICKER. He was born February 26, 1777, in Newberry Township, York County, and baptized

October 26, 1777. No other information is available.

A taufschein made for Mehalah QUICKEL, daughter of Gideon and Susanna (SCHINDEL) QUICKEL, says Mehalah was born March 16, 1851, in Manchester Township, York County.

She was baptized by Pastor LOCHMANN, but no date of baptism was recorded. Mehalah's parents were sponsors at her baptism. Information from this taufschein is listed by Stopp in his third volume.

*If you have names you want me to research on fraktur, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, P.O. Box 1007, East Berlin, PA 17316. Please be patient for a reply. I research names on fraktur at no charge for MAGS members. When I find numerous examples, please be sure I will send you everything even though not all may appear immediately in Der Kurier. Continue to watch Der Kurier for additional information.*

## ATTENTION

**MAGS is now accepting dues for the year 2005.**

**Still the same low price:  
\$10 for individual membership  
\$12 for family membership**

If the membership number following your name on the address label of your *Der Kurier* ends in "-04" (i.e.: John Doe 2107-04) you must pay next year's dues before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mail your check made payable to **MAGS** to:  
S. E. Brooks, Membership Chairman  
2010 Bermondsey Drive  
Mitchellville, Maryland 20721

You do not need to complete a membership form, if your name & address are printed on your check. Include your membership number on the check.

## New Members for MAGS

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

Kathyn L. Brown of Lake Ozark MO  
*(Alexander, Brown, Sturgeon, Oaks)*  
 Carol C. Budinger of Westford MA  
*(Budinger, Cover, Buehler, Heck)*  
 Patricia J. Frank of Tall Timbers MD  
*(Frank, Fesler, Fowler, Stewart)*  
 Ron Graham of Cleveland GA  
*(Bittner, Busse, Krause, Stumpf)*  
 Bob & Margie Greiner of Laurel MD  
*(Greiner, Quickle, Harenstein, Bitner)*  
 Steven J. Lemken of Chevy Chase MD  
*(Lemke, Zabell)*  
 Robert Lodder of Trumansburg NY  
*(Eulinberger)*  
 Anna L. McLean of Roanoke VA

*(Leineweber/Lineweaver, Kober/Cover)*  
 Gem E. Nelson of Coopersburg PA  
*(Cressman/Cris(s)man/Chrisman)*  
 Patricia Padian of Scottsdale AZ  
*(Aumen, Anders, Motter, Creager)*  
 Eileen M. Rodgers of Alexandria VA  
*(Greenwal, Museehl, Lessey)*  
 Joan Rogers of Sparks MD  
*(Heller, Fecht, Suer, Engels)*  
 John M. Schercinger of Huntingtown MD  
*(Scherzinger/Schertzinger, Fanger/Fenger)*  
 Ellen Shatzer of Laurel MD  
*(Bixler, Heilman, Homan, Peterman)*  
 Betty van Order of Ellicott City MD  
*(von Habighurst)*

## DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

### 2004

**September 18. Frederick County Genealogical Society and Historical Society of Frederick County, Maryland.** "Researching in German and Swiss Records" by Annette K. Burgert. Homewood at Crumland Farms Retirement Community, 7507 Willow Road, Frederick, MD. Contact Pepper Scotto, 301-834-9907

**September 25. Pennsylvania Chapter Palatines to America.** Fall Conference. Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, PA Contact PA Chapter, P.O. Box 280, Strasburg, PA. 17579-0280

**September 26-28. National Genealogical Society.** Genealogy Seminar in Historic Places. Salem, MA. Contact [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)

### **October 16. Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society.**

"Researching German Ancestors: Church and Civil Records in Germany; Marriage and Courtship in Germany 1500-1800; Introduction to German Phonetics as it Applies to Spelling of Personal Names" Speaker, Roger Minert, Ph.D. Best Western Gettysburg Hotel, Gettysburg, PA Contact Diane Kuster, Registrar, 251 Serpentine Drive, Bayville, NJ 08721 phone 732-606-6032 e-mail [dmkuster@comcast.net](mailto:dmkuster@comcast.net)

### 2005

**April 23. Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Spring Meeting.** Fredericksburg, VA. Ramada Inn Speakers Dorothy Boyd-Rush, Susannah Brooks, John Humphrey. Contact Diane Kuster, 251 Serpentine Drive, Bayville, NJ 08721 phone 732-606-6032 e-mail [dmkuster@comcast.net](mailto:dmkuster@comcast.net)

*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).*

## FAMILY REGISTERS

### Schmidt / Kauffman and Snyder / Smith

Two family registers were found in a German-language Kimber and Sharpless Bible printed in Philadelphia in 1833. The first of the two registers is bound into the Bible between the New and Old Testaments. The second register was removed from another, unknown Bible and inserted with the bound-in register. The families on the two registers were related. These registers and the Bible are in a private collection.

Dates on the first register are confused. The data for the first five children were changed in many cases by someone other than the original scrivener. The entries for the first five children are attributed to Karl Friderich Theodor Seybold (active circa 1813-1846), a fraktur artist and scrivener who completed and decorated many family registers in Bibles. Russ and Corinne Earnest translated and abstracted the genealogy portions. Original spellings of family names, which appear in variant forms, are maintained. All locations are in Pennsylvania. Written in German and beginning with a date of 1840 (probably the date Seybold began the register), the first register reads:

*Benjamin D. SCHMIDT, son of Christian and Elisabeth (DEISS) SCHMIDT, was born May 8, 1808 in Manor Township, Lancaster County. He married Maria KAUFFMANN on March 19 (no year recorded). Maria KAUFFMANN was the daughter of "the late" Abraham KAUFFMANN and his wife Magdalena, born NEFF. Benjamin and Maria SCHMIDT were married by Pastor BECKER, Lutheran preacher in Lancaster.*

*Maria K. SCHMIDT, wife of Benjamin SCHMIDT and daughter of Abraham and Magdalena (NEFF) KAUFFMANN, was born September 26, 1803 in East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County.*

The SCHMIDTs had the following children:

*Lydia K. SCHMITH was born January 16, 1831 in the sign of Aquarius in Manor Township, Lancaster County. [Note: An English-language entry follows that said Lydia K. SMITH [sic] was born January 16, 1831. However, the year was changed in the English version to 1834.]*

*Veronica K. SCHMITH was born June 13, 1834 in the sign of Virgo in Manor Township. [Note: An English-language entry that follows said "Fany" K. SMITH was born on June 13, 1834 but, again, the year was changed. The year written over the original is illegible.]*

*Elisabeth K. SCHMITH was born December 19, 1832 in Manor Township. [Note: The original year was written 1832, but someone changed the year to 1835. No sign of the zodiac was recorded.]*



**Lydia K. Schmith entry from Schmidt / Kauffman Bible (Private collection)**

*Benjamin K. SCHMITH was born January 9, 1838 in the sign of Cancer in Manor Township.*

*Anna Maria K. SCHMIDT was born September 30, 1839 in the sign of Cancer in Manor Township.*

*Emely [Emily] K. SCHMITH was born October 14, 1841 in the sign of Libra in Manor Township.*

Additional entries for births read:

*Benjamin S. SNYDER was born November 16, 1852 in the sign of Aquarius.*

*Abraham KAUFFMAN was born September 1, 1779.*

*Magdalena NEFF, wife of Abraham KAUFFMAN, was born March 8, 1778.*

Death entries read:

*Benjamin D. SCHMITH died November 17, 1845 at age 37 years, 6 months, and 9 days.*

*Abraham KAUFFMAN died March 7, 1826 at age 46 years, 6 months, and 6 days.*

*Magdalene KAUFFMAN died October 17, 1853 at age 75 years, 7 months, and 9 days.*

*Benjamin K. SCHMITH died October 4, 1852 at age 14 years, 8 months, and 26 days.*

*Benjamin S. SNYDER died April 30, 1853, at age 5 months and 12 days.*

*Maria K. SCHMITH died November 21, 1861 at age 56 years, 1 month, and 25 days.*

Two newspaper death notices are pasted on the death page. One says, "Mrs. Lydia K. SNYDER died at her home, 346 Main street, last evening at 8:40 o'clock. Funeral services will be held in the Main Street Church of God, Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock." This is followed by another clipping that reads, "The Rev. James WAGGONER, assisted by the Rev. W.S. STURGEN, of Etters, and Rev. G.W. GETZ, will officiate. Interment will be made at Washington Borough on Friday. She is survived by one son, Isaac SNYDER, Philadelphia; two sisters [sic], Mrs. Jacob OHMIT, of York, and Mrs. H.B. SNYDER, of Steelton." A newspaper clipping attached to the second register gives more information about Lydia K. SNYDER's death. It said her address was 346 Main Street in Steelton, and it gives a date of May 1, 1916 and her age of "82 years and 16 days." She was to be buried in Washington Borough.

The second register, written in English, begins with two births. One was for Christian SNYDER, born March 14, 1830; the second for Lydia SNYDER, born January 16, 1834. Christian and Lydia (SMITH) SNYDER married December 18, 1851. Their children were:

*Benjamin SNYDER, born November 16, 1852. Died April 28 [sic], 1853, aged 5 months and 12 days.*

*Ephraim SNYDER, born June 29, 1854. Died September 30, 1854, aged 3 months and 1 day.*

*Isacc [sic] S. SNYDER, born January 21, 1856.*

*Lillie May SNYDER, born April 21, 1873. Died May 14, 1873, aged 3 weeks and 2 days.*

"Husband" Christian SNYDER died August 23, 1876, aged 48 years, 5 months, and 9 days. From a handwritten note found on a loose sheet tucked between pages in the Bible, we learn that on January 16, 1853, Christian SNYDER had the "ti fawd" [typhoid] fever, but was recovering again and that "Grandmother she is still compaining more so this winter than ever."

## Schindel / Hamm

A one-page German-language Bible record (removed from the Bible) was made for the SCHINDEL/HAMM family of York County, Pennsylvania. This record, which is stained and has paper loss, was once in the "estate" of Mary J. SHINDEL and the data from it was abstracted on August 25, 1938 by H.J. YOUNG. The typed abstract and the original record have remained together. The following information comes from the original record and the abstract. Names are recorded here as they appear

in the original. Note that signs of the zodiac do not correspond to today's signs of the zodiac. No location appears on this register, but a taufschein that remained with this register places the family in Manchester Township, York County (see below).

*Georg Friederich SCHINDEL married Maria Barbara HAMM on January 22, 1750. They had the following children:*

*Johan Jacob was born January 12, 1751 (Old Style) in the sign of Saggiarius. [The abstract says the date of birth in the New Style was January 23, 1751.]*

*Johan Jerg [George] was born January 28, 1753 in the sign of Saggiarius.*

*Ana Maria was born February 19, 1755 in the sign of Gemini.*

*Ana Lizabet was born October 30, 1757 in the sign of Gemini.*

*Johan Lüdwick [Ludwig] was born May 22, 1759 in the sign of Aries.*

*Georg Friederich was born August 27, 1760 in the sign of Pisces.*

*Johan Philip was born April 3, 1762 in the sign of Leo.*

*Isack was born February 28, 1765 in the sign of Gemini.*

*Susana [paper loss and staining in the original] was born October 28, 1769*

[remaining information written at the bottom edge is illegible. H.J. YOUNG wrote on the abstract that he believed Susana's name was Sarah.]

A taufschein accompanies the family register. It was made for Johannes SCHINDEL, son of Friedrich and Gertraut (WINTERMEYER) SCHINDEL. Johannes was born about four o'clock in the morning on May 10, 1799, in Manchester Township, York County. He was baptized by Pastor GÖRING, Lutheran. No date of baptism was given. The only sponsor at Johannes' baptism was Jacob HÖCK.

## Bollinger / Shaeffer

A two-page English-language family register was found in a German-language Bible published in 1839 by Georg W. Mentz and Son in Philadelphia. This register mentions BOLLINGERS and SHAEFFERS, but the family relationship, if any, is unclear. As is typical of many family registers, no location of the family was given. An abstract of the register reads:

*Emanuel BOLLINGER was born October 14, 1825.*

*Joel BOLLINGER was born December 16, 1827.*

*Cornel[i]us BOLLINGER was born January 22, 1830.*

[In another hand:]

*Rebecca [sic] SHAEFFER was born December 21, 1840. She was baptized March 23 by REINNECCA.*

*Elizabethe SHAEFFER was born November 4, 1842 and was baptized January 2, 1843 by REINNECCA.*

*Catharina SHAEFFER was born June 8, 1845 and was baptized August 3, 1845 by A. DEININGER.*

*George SHAEFFER was born August 24, 1847 and was baptized October 23, 1847 by H. REINNECCA.*

*Jacob SHAEFFER was born October 9, 1849 and was baptized February 13, 1850 by J. DEININGER.*

## People Associated With Ephrata Cloister

*Editor's note: In the June 2004 issue of Der Kurier, MAGS launched a new series concerning people who came into contact with Ephrata Cloister. The following article continues that series. Once again, MAGS wishes to thank Michael Showalter, Museum Educator at Ephrata Cloister, for his assistance in providing materials for these articles.*

While Ephrata Cloister in northern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is not a repository for genealogical materials per se, it does have in its possession "People Files" containing information about Cloister members and contemporaries who had association with the Cloister. A database developed by John Parmer and Clarence Spohn offers information concerning these people, and some of what appears on the database is supported by what is in the "People Files." Conversely, information can be found in the "People Files"

that does not appear on the database. Researchers who have reason to believe their ancestors had contact with the Cloister might plan a trip to the Cloister grounds, which in and of themselves are historically unique.

While some "People Files" at Ephrata Cloister contain considerable information concerning individuals who came into contact with the Cloister, other files contain scant information. Selected at random, the files include that of John GERBER (ID #1052), who died in 1798. His relationship to the Cloister is listed as "Miscellaneous," but his file mentions an inventory of "Goods and Chattles Rights and Credits," the original of which is at Lancaster County Historical Society Archives. The inventory from this document was abstracted (probably by Clarence Spohn) and placed in the "People Files" at Ephrata. John GERBER, deceased, lived in Cocalico Township. His household goods were appraised September 25, 1798. According to the inventory, GERBER did well for himself. He had several pigs, horses, and cattle, three rifles, a wagon, tons of hay and other grains, half interest in a still and a cart, and more. Despite four beds and bedsteads, no wife or children are listed in the abstract. However, the names of other GERBERs (Peter and David) are included. David GERBER apparently owned half



**Special events at the Ephrata Cloister often feature re-enactors who don garb similar to that worn by the original inhabitants of the Cloister.**

interest in the still. People who owed John GERBER money were John KURTZ, Jno. BITZER, Abm. SOLEBARGER, Abm. GRAFF, and Jacob SHERK.

"People Files" are available for William and Maria HAGEMAN (ID #703 and #702, respectively), both of whom died in 1753. From these files, we learn that William and Maria were recorded in Brother Kenan's Notebook as having died young, "before the parents of both of them."

William and Maria HAGEMAN died just eleven weeks apart from one another. Maria's parents were associated with the Cloister. Her parents were Michael and Maria Catharina MILLER (ID #696 and #697, respectively). The files also include information about William. His parents were John Heinrich and Magdalena HAGEMAN (ID #229 and #230, respectively). The HAGEMANS were "householders" at the Cloister. That is, they were married rather than celibate members. Generally, householders lived in the vicinity of the Cloister and assisted in providing for the Cloister celibate members. William had a brother, Nathan, also at the Cloister. Nathan died in 1757. The inventory of William's property was filed on September 9, 1763, after having been translated to English by the then leader of the Cloister, Peter MILLER (circa 1709-96). Nathan was not mentioned in a related bond that was filed on September 1, 1763. Michael MILLER (probably William's father-in-law) was administrator of William's estate. Others mentioned in connection with William's will and the bond were Benjamin GORGAS (William's brother-in-law), Catharina HAGEMAN (William's "eldest sister"), and Salome (his "youngest sister" and Benjamin GORGAS's wife). Again, the "People Files" state that the originals of these documents are at the Lancaster County Historical Society.

A file on David and Dorothy MOONSHOWER (ID #788 and #478, respectively) show David as a laborer and tenant at the Cloister. Dorothy was a celibate member. The value of some of these files is that they lead researchers to other sources. For example,

*Ephrata Cloister is not a repository for genealogical materials per se, but it does have in its possession "People Files" containing information about Cloister members and contemporaries who had association with the Cloister.*

Dorothy's file says she was listed by Edward Morgan in the first volume of *Baptists in Pennsylvania, Both British and German* (pp.74-79) as one of 28 single sisters.

Some "People Files" at Ephrata continue to expand. For example, it is increasingly clear that the BOLLINGER family living in the area of Ephrata Cloister took advantage of the Cloister printing press, for they had several family records printed at the Cloister. In fact, the BOLLINGER

family commissioned Cloister printers to make what is the earliest known family register printed in the United States. It was printed at the Cloister in 1763 and includes the children of Rudolf BOLLINGER (died 1772). The BOLLINGERS had a second register printed in 1794 for the children of Abraham and Magdalena (NEES) BOLLINGER, and a register made about 1802 for the MOHLER/BOLLINGER family.\* About 1824, printers at Ephrata made still another register for the BOLLINGERS, a register that was only recently discovered at the Muddy Creek Farm Library in Ephrata. A photocopy of that register is now in the BOLLINGER file at the Cloister.

As contributors send photocopies and information from research as it relates to the Cloister, these materials are placed in the "People Files." Naturally, researchers are urged to send pertinent information to the Cloister. Send to Michael S. Showalter, Museum Educator, Ephrata Cloister, 632 West Main St., Ephrata, PA 17522. And if you suspect your family had contact with the Cloister and you would like us to check, let MAGS know. Send your request with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to *Der Kurier* editor, James Beidler, PO Box 270, Lebanon, PA 17042.

*\*These three registers are illustrated by Corinne and Russell Earnest in To the Latest Posterity: Pennsylvania-German Family Registers in the Fraktur Tradition (University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2003). Published as number 4 of the Pennsylvania German Society "Pennsylvania German History and Culture Series," Volume 37.*

# German Translators

MAGS assumes no responsibility for the services listed. Contact the service providers directly for prices, length of time to complete translation, etc. If you find that any of the information above is no longer valid, please contact MAGS (PO Box 2642, Kensington, MD 20891-2642) so that corrections can be made to this list.

- **Ann C. Sherwin**, 1918 Medfield Rd., Raleigh, NC 27607-4732  
(919-851-9281 or e-mail: asherwin@aol.com) *Accredited by the American Translators Assoc. for German-English & Spanish-English*
- **Trudy Schenk**, 8983 Daybreaker Dr., Park City, Utah 84098-5819  
(e-mail: tschenk@sisna.com) *Professional genealogist and translator of genealogy-related items (will not do other translations), special skill reading old German scripts, experience reading and translating German, Latin, and French*
- **American Translators Association**, 1800 Diagonal Rd., Alexandria, VA  
(703-683-6100) *Based on your needs they will assign a translator.*
- **Dr. Monika Edick**, 3249 Cambridge CT, Fairfax, VA 22030  
(703-591-3656 or e-mail: toedick@aol.com) *She offers a professional translation service for German script, Middle High German, German for all documents & papers.*
- **Andrew Witter**, 1056 255<sup>th</sup> St., Donnellson, IA 52625-9069  
(E-mail: ajwitter@juno.com or FAX: 319-835-3960) *He is a freelance translator from German to English. He has translated books, articles, letters, etc for various types of researchers. He can read older typefaces, handwriting, and documents.*
- **Dr. Helga R. Shay**, 363 Mansion Ave., Morgantown, WV 26505  
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- **Karen Ell**, HCR 3, Box 8A, Killdeer, ND 58640  
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# Surf 'n Search

By Russell D. Earnest

On looking back at having started my German-related family history research forty years ago while living on the West Coast, I realize now how disadvantaged I was. After many years of living on the East Coast where early records remain, I feel I have a perspective about family history research that others may not have. That perspective leads me to believe that those who rely heavily, if not totally, on the Internet for research are setting themselves back forty years to where I was when I started. Simply put, most records are not on the Internet. In fact, some estimate only about ten percent of what is available to researchers is on the Internet. I would even put the figure at less than ten percent. When you consider all the historical and genealogical societies and libraries located throughout the nation, these institutions (not to mention families themselves) are sitting on mountains of primary source materials they are unable to publish in books or on the Internet or any other way. These societies simply lack the resources in terms of volunteers and funding to make their holdings widely available.

Researchers are slowly overcoming those limitations. Due to an admirable determination by many family and local historians, books and Internet resources are becoming more plentiful. Concerning these published sources, I recently discovered information that assisted me. This information came from recently published books and the Internet, and both sources led me to the primary sources. Yet, as publications and the Internet expand research, family historians should ask themselves what else is out there. If I am right, and less than ten percent of documented sources, are widely available, think of what societies, public and private libraries, and other holdings have in their collections that researchers are not aware of.

Naturally, it will take armies of researchers to make information from collections available. We are already seeing some results of their work, and they should be applauded. But until they achieve even greater success, researchers should continue to look for primary

sources and watch for data that came from primary sources. To do that, researchers need to research the old-fashioned way — the way Mrs. Charles M. Coldren described in an article she wrote in 1938 about researching the Eby family of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. According to Mrs. Coldren, “Two automobiles, a tank car of gasoline, a barrel of oil, and many dollars are tied up in the following [three-page!] genealogy chart.”\* Today, some of us would add a computer, a copy machine or two, and hundreds of reams of paper to our expenditures. Yet, researchers should do as the Eby family historians did. They should visit historical and genealogical societies and libraries, and they should join societies that focus on their special interests. The newsletters, journals, and other publications these societies publish often contain nuggets of data that came from primary sources such as Bible records, indentures, and other original documents. Some of the published findings in newsletters (such as *Der Kurier*) can be found nowhere else. In fact, some information came directly from documents still held by original families.

While many novice researchers believe the Internet is the “best” resource, they should treat the Internet as just one resource among many. In fact, veteran researchers would advise beginners and those who rely heavily on the Internet that the “best” resource is and always has been the primary source. Anything beyond the primary source is subject to error, omission, and interpretation. While it sounds almost too simple to say “dig deeper,” that is still sound advice. Dig deeper by remembering that societies and institutions continue to have special relevance to your research. They often are the repository of or the necessary lead to original documents concerning your family history.

\*Mrs. Charles M. Coldren, “The Eby Family Bible,” *Papers Read Before the Lancaster County Historical Society*, 42, no. 1 (1938), 13-16.

## BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN

### *Book Reviews*

**Genealogical Abstracts  
From The Brunswick Herald:  
Brunswick, Maryland 6 Mar 1891 to 28  
Dec 1894**

By Patricia B. Duncan

2003. Published by Heritage Books, Inc., 1540 Pointer Ridge Place #E, Bowie, MD 20716, or available from Willow Bend Books, 65 E. Main St., Westminster, MD 21157-5026. [Editor's note: Reference number D0867 when ordering from Willow Bend Books.] Softcover, 344 pages. Everyname index. ISBN 1-58549-867-X. \$28.50 plus \$4 shipping. (Maryland residents, add 5% sales tax.)

Patricia Duncan abstracted considerable genealogical data from several years of the four-page weekly *Brunswick Herald Newspaper* of Brunswick, Maryland. The *Brunswick Herald* included news from areas that straddle the Potomac River.

Because surrounding areas include northern Virginia, Washington, D.C., West Virginia, and western Maryland, researchers looking for ancestors in areas beyond Maryland should be aware of this book. Duncan covered the period of March 1891 through December 1894 but, of course, obituaries give significant genealogical information dating to before 1891.

To Duncan's credit, she abstracted more than names, dates, and locations, giving additional information that has special interest to genealogists and local historians. In fact, Duncan kept the flavor of the times.

For example, the death of four-year-old Johnnie RUNKLES includes the sentiment, "A few more moments and death, with that dread malady, membranous croup, as his instrument, had won another victory."

Another passage says, "The matrimonial fever, which has been raging throughout Loudon Co for some time past spread on till it took Morrisonville by surprise," resulting in the double wedding on December 29, 1893, of P. CRIM to

Ada EAMICH and John SLENTZ to Lou CRIM. A passage mentions Millard F. CLAPPER of Rohrsersville, Washington County, Maryland, who visited a fortune teller that said he would die before age 45. CLAPPER died in 1893 at age 43.

Duncan even savored much of the flowery language by including articles in their entirety, or abstracting especially interesting portions of articles.

Some entries help genealogists whose ancestors disappeared for a brief period. We learn that Henry FOX had been in Ohio for four years before returning to Burkittsville in May of 1892.

Readers can learn what ancestors wore on their wedding days, the weather on certain days, or that William GRAUL, a native of Germany, arrived in October of 1891 on "Saturday night and will occupy the tenant house of Mr. J.P. BLESSING."

This is followed by, "Mr. GRAUL has been in the U.S. nearly 2 years and can speak English fairly well, but the rest of the family just landed and can not speak a word of English."

Physical descriptions are noted as well. Young Robert H. SHERMAN of Alexandria, Virginia, eloped with Maud S. FRANKS in 1892. This account says Maud's parents "strenuously opposed" the marriage, but "smooth-faced and quite boyish looking" SHERMAN had a "look of deep determination about his mouth."

Of course, obituaries are especially full of facts, figures, sometimes graphic descriptions of deaths, and information concerning family relationships.

The B&O railway runs along the Potomac River and through Brunswick. Consequently, several fatal accidents regarding railroad employees appear in the *Herald*. Charges of bigamy, suicides and attempted suicides, freak accidents, and even mundane visits by relatives and friends appear in Duncan's abstracts. Not only does this book provide detailed genealogical clues, it describes the rich tapestry of everyday life in and around western Maryland.

Significant numbers of families in this volume appear to have German heritage.

Surnames include ALBAUGH, BAER/ BEAR, BILLMEYER, BISER, BOWERSOX, BOYER, CRONE, CRUM, DERR, DEVILBISS, DOUB, EICHELBERGER, ESCHBAUGH, FINK, FLOOK, FOGLE, FREY/FRY, GEORGE, GRIMM, GROSSNICKLE, GROVE, GRUBB, HIMES, HOFFMAN, HOUCK, HOUGH, KARN, KELLER, LEATHERMAN, MARTIN, MILLER, MOLER/MOHLER, OBENDERFER, REEDER, RICE, RINKER, ROHRER, SHAFER, SLIFER, SOUDER, STEINER, UмбаUGH, WENNER, YINGLING, and ZIMMERMAN.

**Reviewed by Corinne Earnest**

**Supplement to The Derr Family 1750-1986 With Allied Families**

By Roy H. Wampler

2003. Roy H. Wampler, 4620 North Park Ave., Apt. 1006E, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-4560. Softcover, 106 pages. Indexed. \$10 postpaid. (Maryland residents, add 5% sales tax.)

The June 1987 issue of *Der Kurier* included a review of Roy H. Wampler's *The Derr Family: 1750-1986 With Allied Families of Baker, Flook, Hoover, Koogle, Long, Metzger, Smith, Templing, Toms, Yaste and Youtsey*.

Last year, Wampler published a supplement that has additional information on Philip DERR and his father, John, plus the families of YASTE, TEMPLING, HOOVER, BECKER, and more. With the assistance of various correspondents, Wampler added considerable information to what is known concerning ancestors mentioned in the original *Derr Family*, including information about family origins in Europe.

Many members of the DERR family covered in the *Supplement* settled in and around Mount Joy Township in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; in York County, Pennsylvania; and in western Maryland.

The 1987 publication focused on Philip and Barbara (KOOGLER) DERR of Frederick County, Maryland. Philip DERR (1750-1821) and his wife had nine children.

In the *Supplement*, eighteenth century land records of John DERR in Mount Joy Township (previously Donegal Township) are detailed; additional information concerning several branches of the DERR family is provided; earlier information is corrected or expanded upon; obituaries of recently deceased family members are included; and special memorials are written for family members including a tribute to the talented 22-year-old Anna EILERS of Corvallis, Oregon, who died of a brain tumor in 2001.

Excerpts from EILERS' incredible writings, some of which concern her own death, are found in the book.

Wampler includes maps and photographs of family members. He cross-references the *Supplement* to the 1987 *Derr Family*. Besides listing many sources, Wampler offers contacts for further information, and includes an everyname index. Readers who have the well-researched 1987 *Derr Family* will find the *Supplement* useful, and readers who do not have the 1987 publication, but who are interested in the DERR family and allied families, may want to add both books to their libraries.

**Reviewed by Corinne Earnest**

**Nineteenth Century Emigrants from Baden, Volume 2: Graben, Linkenheim, Spock, and Staffort**

By Brigitte Burkett, CGRS

2001. Picton Press, Rockport, ME 04856. Hardcover, 362 pages including an every-name index plus an introduction. \$39.50

This is the second book by Brigitte Burkett in what one hopes to be a long series on 19<sup>th</sup> century emigrants from Baden.

In this volume she documents 619 families (10,197 individuals) from Graben, Linkenheim, Spock, and Staffort, which are located immediately north of Karlsruhe. The book is arranged by town and then the emigrants and their families are listed alphabetically.

There is a brief (one or two paragraphs) history of each town. Burkett transcribed entries from the Kirchenbücher and/or Familienbücher of

each village and then grouped the entries by immediate family. If the entry in the Kirchenbuch or Familienbuch for an individual noted that the person immigrated to America, the entire immediate family of that individual is listed in this book.

In some cases she also cross-references the emigrant to an entry in Glazier and Filby's *Germans to America* series. Some of the most prevalent surnames in this volume are Becker, Bickel, Braun, Ernst, Fetzner, Gamer, Heilmann, Herman, Heselschwerdt, Heußer, Kammerer, Lang, Nagel, Ratzel, Rösch, Scholl, Süß, Werner, and Zimmermann. These are by no means the only families in the book.

**Reviewed by Susannah E. Brooks**

**How to Read & Understand Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs-Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs (Meyers Geographical and Commercial Gazetteer of the German Empire)**

By Wendy K. Uncapher

2003. *Origins*, 1521 E. Racine Street (Hwy. 11), Janesville, WI 53546. Paperbound, 24 pages. \$8 plus \$3 shipping & handling for the first book, \$1 for each additional copy.

I can truly say that Wendy Uncapher used the KISS (Keep it Simple Sally) principle when writing *How to Read & Understand Meyers...* and it's more to her credit that she did so. For any of use who have used Meyers and do not have a grasp of the old German script plus nonexistent translation skills Uncapher's publication makes it all the more fun in employing Meyers in our genealogical research.

Though small in the number of pages don't let that deter you from acquiring this

research guide for your own library or from borrowing it from the MAGS library. It is rich in detail and is an invaluable tool to have.

I used this publication to start translating one of my own ancestral villages in the eastern part of Germany especially since this ancestral name does not appear on any current maps that I have. It turns out that Leschwitz (the village that my great-grandmother was born in) was a knight's estate. This small little paragraph in Meyers also contained the government district and state. Now I can begin to write for records.

What else does Uncapher's publication contain? Let me begin from the start – *How to Use* explains the type of information that can be found specifically place names, the kind of community, German states, government districts, churches, maps plus other information generally found in a gazetteer. Then there are some important tips regarding punctuation, word endings and repeated names. Uncapher also explains the order of information contained in each listing.

The things I really liked about Uncapher's research aid were the full page that showed the gothic script with its English counterpart. This helped me tremendously in the translation process.

Not to be outdone are translations from Gothic script to normal script for Settlement Terms, Government Districts and German States. A glossary of common words and abbreviations used in Meyers is also included as is a listing of all maps printed in Meyers plus their volume and page numbers. Lastly, is a listing of all Districts or Kreise by German State.

If you're going to employ Meyers in your research, and you should, this is the aid that you want to hold your hand. What are you waiting for.

**Reviewed by Diane Kuster**

## MAGS Officer Honored With Award

Deyerle Atkins, Recording Secretary for Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, received the Jane Roush McCafferty Award of Excellence from the Prince George's County Genealogical Society for her outstanding service to the Society. The award was presented to her at the June 2004 meeting by President Dr. Thomas Shawker, MD.

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