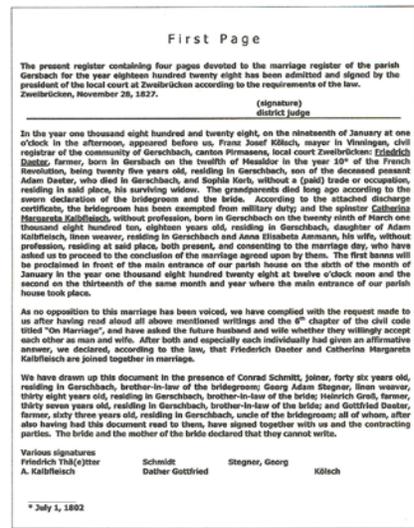
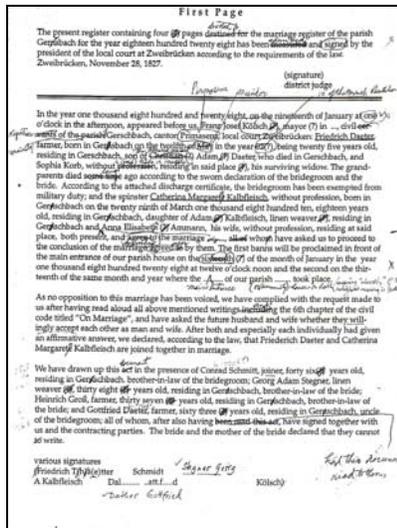
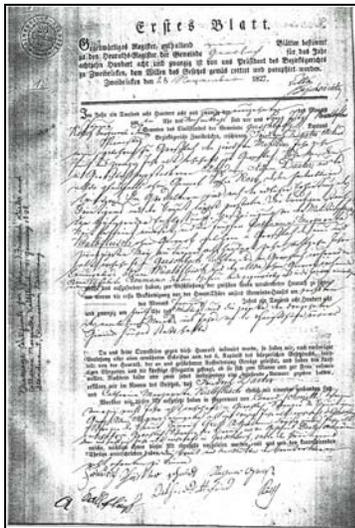




Der Kurier

Volume 23, Number 3, September 2005



Original marriage record (left) requires translation (center) & deciphering (right). Larger copies inside.

Translating or deciphering: A big difference

By Marilynne Ocando

Correspondence with Dr. Edward R. Brandt, one of the luminaries of the field of German research, developed into this article that contrasts the skills and pitfalls of both deciphering and translating.

On his World Wide Web Internet site (www.tc.umn.edu/~brand050), Dr. Brandt makes

the following statements about this contrast:

“The *big* difference between translating material and deciphering documents, mostly in the Gothic script, is that many of the letters bear little resemblance to what they look like on the model letter chart. Many translators either are not decipherers or are not very interested in the hard, time-consuming work of solving the puzzle as to what all those “crow’s feet” really stand for. Deciphering may bear a greater resemblance to code-breaking than to translation.”

“You have to realize, of course, that deciphering one word which seems totally illegible at first, second or third glance can take a lot longer than translating a page of clearly written material in extreme cases.

(Continued on Page 55)

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Translating or deciphering: A big difference

(Continued from Page 53)

“Years of reading hastily scribbled college exams, as I have done, probably represent the best training you can get in deciphering, although the amount of experience a person has had in dealing with semi-legible records also makes a difference. In this case, practice may not make perfect, but it is a distinct advantage, since certain kinds of variations in writing do recur among various writers, despite the uniqueness of each one.”

The following letters were received from Dr. Brandt, Minneapolis, MN. They explain various aspects of three marriage documents that I obtained. In Letter #1, Dr. Brandt translates the 1828 marriage document of Friedrich Daeter and Catherina Margareta Kalbfleisch in the parish of Gersbach, in the Rhineland area of Bavaria (Germany). In Letter #2, Dr. Brandt revisits the 1828 marriage document and translates two additional documents: (a) the 1826 marriage of Gottfried Däter and Catharina Knörr; and (b) the 1889 marriage of Heinrich Dather and Henriette Weber.

Dr. Brandt’s services had been requested in order to complete a translation of these early documents because a previous translator, although competent, could not decipher some of the words. Deciphering poor handwriting can take much longer than simply translating. Dr. Brandt explains in the letter the skills, knowledge and abilities needed when translating old and difficult documents and the information a requester can furnish to facilitate a translation (Dr. Brandt has given permission to use these letters as part of this article.

Letter #1: Excerpt of letter from Edward R. Brandt, Minneapolis, MN, to Marilynne Ocando, November 12, 1998.

“The *translation* you have is an example of the difference between translating and deciphering material. Although I might have chosen slightly different words in a few cases, the translation is competent. What the translator obviously did not have is my decades of

experience in deciphering unclear handwriting. In most cases, I could correct or confirm the translation rather quickly, although I have to admit that if I had started from scratch, it would have taken quite a bit longer.

“Except for those translators who have handled a lot of documents from the Rhineland area of Germany during the period in question, such knowledge comes only with reading, research, and such experiences as taking accreditation exams or seminars with a pertinent content, or in preparing such books as *Germanic Genealogy*.

“The unclear and very stilted language just below the middle of the page (original translator: ... where the ... of our parish ... took place) did puzzle me for a while, because a few words do require some deciphering skill and effort. Had the language been less stilted, it might have been clearer as a result of the context.

“One problem is that ‘Gemeinde’ means both ‘community’ and ‘congregation’. Since this is a civil document, I first thought that the reference (*Gemeindehaus*) was probably to the town hall. After rechecking the document a few times, I concluded that the civil marriage had taken place on 19 January 1828, preceding the church marriage which may have been that day, but more likely was on January 20 since it usually occurred a week after the last banns had been read. Moreover, church marriages were usually on Sunday, when the civil office would have been closed.

“It is my understanding that the civil marriage must now precede the church marriage in Germany (which is optional, but traditional, just like here), somewhat in the same way that you have to get a marriage license in the United States before marriage, whether it is a civil or a religious ceremony.

“The bridegroom was born during the French Revolution, when the Revolutionary calendar (see Jensen’s *Germanic Genealogy*, p. 403) was in effect, although with a slight delay in Germany since the calendar was instituted before French forces invaded Germany. The area west of the Rhine was annexed by France, but the calendar was also instituted in other German

states which were allied with or dominated by France.

“The document actually refers to the *canton* of Pirmasenz, but since I taught at military bases in the area, I immediately recognized it as Pirmasens. It is a little unusual to see this term still used in 1828, since there are no such jurisdictions as cantons in Germany, although there are in Switzerland and Luxembourg. I assume that the French terminology must have remained in use for longer than I would have thought after 1815, but it would require considerable research to determine which provisions of French law were kept for how long.

“The document refers to the mayor of Dinninge (possibly Dieninge) as the civil registry official, but there is no such place. Theoretically, it could have been annexed by Pirmasens since then but in such cases there is usually some sign left such as a street name or a section of the city bearing that name. The German postal code book, which includes an outline map with the names of the various parts of the city listed, has no such references in it. It could possibly be a French word, or a Germanized version of one, serving to qualify the term, mayor. Dinninge is not a word of German origin, unless it is a badly mangled version of ‘Dienst’ (service). The ‘B’ in ‘Bergermeister’ (should be *Bürgermeister*) bears little resemblance to what a ‘B’ should look like, but there is no possible alternative and the mayor was and is, in fact, the civil registrar (literally ‘official of the civil registry office’) in small localities.

“Incidentally, the Germans frequently used ‘e’ and ‘a’ interchangeably at the end of a woman’s first name and the name is often scribbled in such a way that the writer could have intended either. In traditional German, the ‘a’ ending would have been more appropriate. Likewise, in olden days Germans were often careless as to whether they wrote ‘t’ or ‘th’, since both are pronounced the same. A spelling change around 1900 eliminated the “h” from many words, e.g., ‘Tal’ (valley), but names usually (but not always) retained the old spelling.

“Some documents are much harder to decipher than yours and therefore take considerably longer, especially if the translator doesn’t receive information from clients as to the place names and personal names they expect to find. You can’t look those up in a dictionary, you

can’t always figure out what letter combinations might go together in a name, and even though I have many reference materials about German surnames and places, they are by no means comprehensive and checking them can be quite time consuming, especially when many places have similar names.”

Letter #2:

Excerpt of letter from Edward R. Brandt, Minneapolis, MN, to Marilyne Ocando, April 9, 2002.

“Regarding the marriage document for Friedrich Daeter and Catherina Margareta Kalbfleisch, I think I have finally figured out everything, including the uncertain place name on the previously translated first page. It must be Winnigen, now Vinningen. The reference is definitely to the mayor (no question mark.) Such an interchange of **W**, which sounds like **V** in English, and **V**, which sounds like **F** in English, is unusual, but I assume it is due to the influence of the French language on this border village.

“On the other hand, interchangeable use of the colloquial ‘sch’ for ‘s’ as in Gerschbach for Gersbach was common. So was usage of ‘t’ (in this case, ‘th’ on the previously translated signature) and ‘d’ in old records referring to names – also ‘b’ and ‘p’, although not applicable here.

“You are right in stating that the attachment does not refer to a document providing for release or exemption from military service, which would have looked entirely different. It should have been preserved, unless such documents were stored separately afterward, so that the less important one could have been lost or destroyed. That is not the way it was supposed to be. But this area was under the rule of the easy-going festive Bavarians, not under the strict Prussians, as would have been the case a little farther northwest, after 1815.

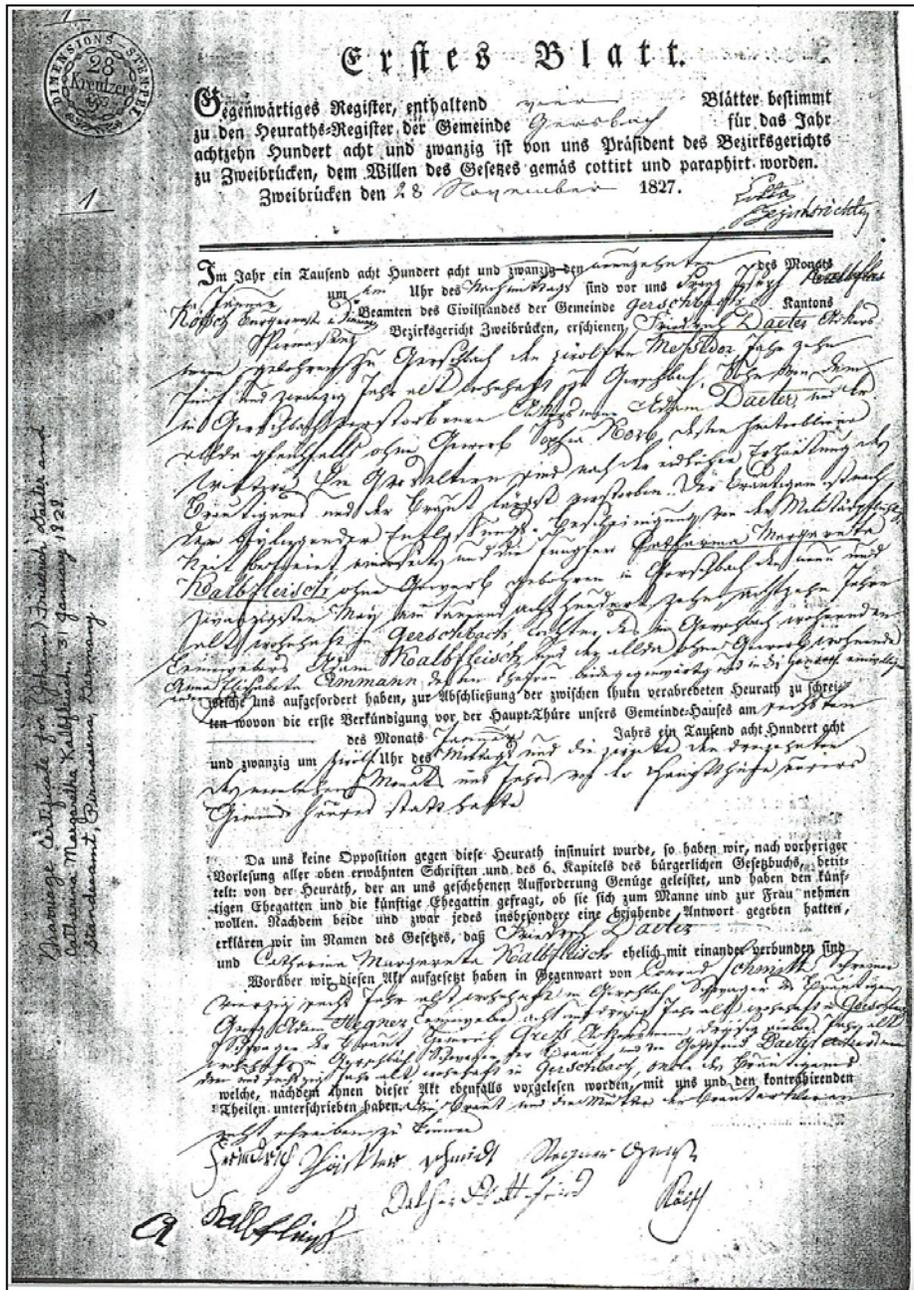
“What may have confused you about dates was the French Revolutionary Calendar that was used during the Napoleonic occupation of the Rhineland. I have enclosed an excerpt from *Germanic Genealogy* listing these months, an encyclopedic page describing the length of months and the effective date of the calendar more precisely, along with an area map of Pirmasens, Germany.

“After re-reviewing and re-analyzing all this material for about the fourth time, I searched for my copy of Jensen’s book to give you the exact date of Friedrich Daeter’s birth. The twelfth of Messidor in the year ten (of the French Revolution implied, not stated) was July 1, 1802. Because of the date, it would have been more appropriate to list Friedrich’s father as a farmer, rather than a peasant.

“I also re-examined the wording referring to Adam Kalbfleisch and his wife, the parents of the bride. It should have read ‘both present and consenting to the marriage’, not ‘to the marriage day’. Obviously the groom and bride asked the civil registrar ‘to proceed with the marriage,’ although the long convoluted German sentence-paragraph makes it sound as if the bride’s parents did. The document itself is woefully inadequate when it comes to punctuation –which is not all that unusual in Germany even today.

“I made extensive use of my huge 1868 German-English dictionary in this review, so you would at least have the best possible translation of the document that really matters. In one particular place, it seems to me that ‘both and each one in particular (had given an affirmative answer)’ would sound more natural than ‘both and especially each individually’, although the original translation is not actually wrong.

“Most people who made their living from agriculture--in this area, chiefly grain, in contrast to viticulture or dairying in some other areas--would most properly be referred to as peasants before the French liberation, whereas later farmers would be a more appropriate term. It was



Original marriage document of Friedrich Daeter & Margareta Kalbfleisch.

a liberation for the ordinary people. I used the term ‘field farmer’ in the translation of the new document to make this clear, although most dictionaries just say “farmer.”

“The actual documents refer to women (except widows who were usually temporarily left with a farm and therefore listed as heads of households) as having no occupation. My reference to ‘no (paid) occupation’ on the previously translated page was just my way of recognizing that being a homemaker is an

occupation, although it was not viewed that way in Germany, at least not until very recently.

“The German word for occupation, trade or profession literally means ‘status’, which for people making a livelihood from agriculture--as most did before the twentieth century--could have meant one of as many as nine different statuses in some parts of Germany before the abolition of serfdom and only a slightly lesser number, from day laborer to large estate owner, thereafter. That the wife often helped with the farming, if she was not busy with a brood of small children (as she usually was from 20 to 45 or even 50), was considered irrelevant.

“The German feminine ending, ‘-in’, refers equally to a female (doctor, farmer, etc.) and to the wife of a doctor, farmer, etc. This may be changing, but it was still that way the last time I worked in Germany. (In some records, it is added to the surname of a woman, but not in this case.)

“On second thought, I probably would not have used the word ‘spinster’, because to us this connotes an old unmarried woman, whereas the actual prefix means ‘young’. ‘Spinster’ really referred to a previously unmarried woman, in contrast to a widow. A young widow was actually much more common than an old unmarried woman, as a general rule, although there were exceptions. In terms of law, it was translated as ‘spinster’, but that would mean an unmarried

First Page

The present register containing four ~~pages~~ ^{desired to} pages destined for the marriage register of the parish Gerssbach for the year eighteen hundred twenty eight has been ~~measured~~ ^{advised} and signed by the president of the local court at Zweibrücken according to the requirements of the law. Zweibrücken, November 28, 1827.

(signature)
district judge
10 of the same kind

In the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight, on the nineteenth of January at one o'clock in the afternoon, appeared before us, ~~Franz Josef Kölsch~~ ^{Primasenz}, mayor (?) in ..., civil-~~er~~ ^{erants} of the parish Gerssbach, canton Primasenz, local court Zweibrücken: Friedrich Daeter, farmer, born in Gerssbach on the twelfth of May in the year 1792, being twenty five years old, residing in Gerssbach, son of ~~Christian~~ ^{and} Adam Daeter, who died in Gerssbach, and Sophia Korb, without profession, residing in said place, his surviving widow. The grandparents died ~~some time~~ ^{some time ago} according to the sworn declaration of the bridegroom and the bride. According to the attached discharge certificate, the bridegroom has been exempted from military duty; and the spinster Catherina Margarete Kalbfleisch, without profession, born in Gerssbach on the twenty ninth of March one thousand eight hundred ten, eighteen years old, residing in Gerssbach, daughter of Adam Kalbfleisch, linen weaver, residing in Gerssbach and Anna Elisabeth Ammann, his wife, without profession, residing at said place, both present, and ~~agree to the marriage~~ ^{agree to the marriage}, all of whom have asked us to proceed to the conclusion of the marriage ~~agreed to~~ ^{agreed to} by them. The first banns will be proclaimed in front of the main entrance of our parish house on the ~~sixteenth~~ ^{sixteenth} (?) of the month of January in the year one thousand eight hundred twenty eight at twelve o'clock noon and the second on the thirteenth of the same month and year where the ~~Assembly~~ ^{main entrance} of our parish ~~took place~~ ^{community house to call religious meeting is held}.

As no opposition to this marriage has been voiced, we have complied with the request made to us after having read aloud all above mentioned writings ~~including~~ ^{including} the 6th chapter of the civil code titled "On Marriage", and have asked the future husband and wife whether they will-ingly accept each other as man and wife. After both and especially each individually had given an affirmative answer, we declared, according to the law, that Friederich Daeter and Catherina Margarete Kalbfleisch are joined together in marriage.

We have drawn up this ~~act~~ ^{document} in the presence of Conrad Schmitt, joiner, forty six years old, residing in Gerssbach, brother-in-law of the bridegroom; Georg Adam Stegner, linen weaver, thirty eight years old, residing in Gerssbach, brother-in-law of the bride; Heinrich Groß, farmer, thirty seven years old, residing in Gerssbach, brother-in-law of the bride; and Gottfried Daeter, farmer, sixty three years old, residing in Gerssbach, uncle of the bridegroom; all of whom, after also having ~~been read this act~~ ^{been read this act}, have signed together with us and the contracting parties. The bride and the mother of the bride declared that they cannot write.

various signatures
 (Friedrich Th) ~~Daeter~~ ^{Daeter} Schmidt ^{Stegner Georg}
 A Kalbfleisch Dal..... att.f..... Kölsch)
Daeter Gottfried

had this document read to them

Marriage document as 1st translated, with Dr. Brandt's handwritten corrections.

woman (in contrast to a minor) and would be used in such court records as probate proceedings.

“I have started using the term ‘civil registrar’ for ‘civil registry official’, as I used to. In smaller localities, there was only one person, the mayor, in charge of this. In big cities, there would, of course, be more than one civil registry office, with staff to help the registrar with the paperwork, but the term is considered accurate by the dictionaries.

“Now that I have completed the translations and compared the two carefully, the second document obviously refers to a different marriage, probably that of the grandson of the

First Page

The present register containing four pages devoted to the marriage register of the parish Gersbach for the year eighteen hundred twenty eight has been admitted and signed by the president of the local court at Zweibrücken according to the requirements of the law. Zweibrücken, November 28, 1827.

(signature)
district judge

In the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight, on the nineteenth of January at one o'clock in the afternoon, appeared before us, Franz Josef Kölsch, mayor in Vinningen, civil registrar of the community of Gersbach, canton Pirmasens, local court Zweibrücken: Friedrich Daeter, farmer, born in Gersbach on the twelfth of Messidor in the year 10* of the French Revolution, being twenty five years old, residing in Gersbach, son of the deceased peasant Adam Daeter, who died in Gersbach, and Sophia Korb, without a (paid) trade or occupation, residing in said place, his surviving widow. The grandparents died long ago according to the sworn declaration of the bridegroom and the bride. According to the attached discharge certificate, the bridegroom has been exempted from military duty; and the spinster Catherina Margareta Kalbfleisch, without profession, born in Gersbach on the twenty ninth of March one thousand eight hundred ten, eighteen years old, residing in Gersbach, daughter of Adam Kalbfleisch, linen weaver, residing in Gersbach and Anna Elisabeta Ammann, his wife, without profession, residing at said place, both present, and consenting to the marriage day, who have asked us to proceed to the conclusion of the marriage agreed upon by them. The first banns will be proclaimed in front of the main entrance of our parish house on the sixth of the month of January in the year one thousand eight hundred twenty eight at twelve o'clock noon and the second on the thirteenth of the same month and year where the main entrance of our parish house took place.

As no opposition to this marriage has been voiced, we have complied with the request made to us after having read aloud all above mentioned writings and the 6th chapter of the civil code titled "On Marriage", and have asked the future husband and wife whether they willingly accept each other as man and wife. After both and especially each individually had given an affirmative answer, we declared, according to the law, that Friederich Daeter and Catherina Margareta Kalbfleisch are joined together in marriage.

We have drawn up this document in the presence of Conrad Schmitt, joiner, forty six years old, residing in Gersbach, brother-in-law of the bridegroom; Georg Adam Stegner, linen weaver, thirty eight years old, residing in Gersbach, brother-in-law of the bride; Heinrich Groß, farmer, thirty seven years old, residing in Gersbach, brother-in-law of the bride; and Gottfried Daeter, farmer, sixty three years old, residing in Gersbach, uncle of the bridegroom; all of whom, after also having had this document read to them, have signed together with us and the contracting parties. The bride and the mother of the bride declared that they cannot write.

Various signatures			
Friedrich Thä(e)tter	Schmidt	Stegner, Georg	Kölsch
A. Kalbfleisch	Dather Gottfried		

* July 1, 1802

Gottfried 'Dather' in one document and Gottfried 'Däther' for the same person about a year apart shows.

"The signatures, of course, could be explained by limited schooling. But that close relatives in the same village appear as 'Daeter' and 'Däther', respectively, in documents written by the better educated mayor seems a bit more unusual. However, we have to recognize that complete standardization of names came at a relatively late date.

"In this case, the apparent differentiation of brothers occurred in the eighteenth century, when serfdom, although no longer as widespread as in earlier centuries, had not yet been abolished. That is why Napoleon was greeted as a liberator by poor Germans.

"The third document – the 1889 marriage of Heinrich Däther and Henriette Weber – appears to be that of the marriage of another apparent relative, who presumably did not marry his first

cousin. This document was written at a much later date when forms had been simplified and handwriting had generally improved due to better education."

Dr. Brandt's final (corrected) document, deciphered and translated.

Gottfried Daeter who was a witness at Friedrich's marriage. Although 'a' and 'ae' are otherwise interchangeable, they are not supposed to be interchangeable in personal names. However, spelling was often inconsistent in old records, as

Here's your chance to get involved with *Der Kurier*

Marilynne Ocando's inspiration to use her correspondence with Dr. Edward R. Brandt as the jumping off point for this issue's cover story is just the most recent example of MAGS members helping make the content of *Der Kurier* more relevant. I'm always looking for ideas and articles from the membership – my address and e-mail are listed in the box on the inside cover.

- James M. Beidler, Editor, *Der Kurier*

AHNENTAFEL / Dather

Submitted by Marilynne G. Ocando, 7949 18th Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20783-4531

I

1 **Leonard DATHER**, b 7 Dec 1869, Horton, Bremer Co IA; m Mary M. STORING, 10 Dec 1894, Waverly, Bremer Co IA; d 28 Nov 1938, Sibley, Osceola Co IA.

II

2 **Henry George DATHER**, b 17 Dec 1832, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; m 3 Feb 1857, Waverly, Bremer Co IA; d 18 Mar 1880, Horton, Bremer Co IA.

3 **Salenia JACKSON**, b 12 May 1833, Guernsey Co OH; d 12 Jul 1914, Horton, Bremer Co IA.

III

4 **Johann Friedrich DATHER**, b 1 Jul 1802, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; m 31 Jan 1828, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; d 15 Jan 1851, Naperville, DuPage Co IL.

5 **Katharina Margaretha KALBFLEISCH**, b 29 May 1810, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; d 1 Aug 1898, Naperville, DuPage Co IL.

6 **William JACKSON**, b 19 Oct 1810, Guernsey Co OH; m 8 Dec 1831, Guernsey Co OH; d 17 Feb 1882, Plainfield, Bremer Co IA.

7 **Lydia KIRKPATRICK**, b 7 Oct 1812, OH; d 4 Jun 1899, Plainfield, Bremer Co IA.

IV

8 **Johann Adam DAETHER**, b 10 Mar 1756, Erlenkopf Farm, Bavaria; m 14 Mar 1786, Pirmasens, Bavaria; d 24 Apr 1809, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria.

9 **Maria Sophia KORB**, b 8 Dec 1766, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; d 28 Apr 1815, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria.

10 **Adam KALBFLEISCH**, b abt 1750, Eulersdorf, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany; m 13 Sep 1785, Pirmasens, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria.

11 **Anna Elisabetha AMMAEN**, b 24 Jun 1766, Pirmasens, Bavaria.

12 **Jacob JACKSON, Sr.**, b abt 1786, Washington Co PA; m 1809/10, PA or OH; d 17 Jan 1863, Benton Tp, McHenry Co IL.

13 **Margaret SHRIVER**, b 9 Sep 1789, Washington Co PA; d Dec 1866/70, IL.

14 **Alexander KIRKPATRICK**, b 4 Jul 1784, Sussex Co NJ; m 8 Feb 1810, Muskingum Co OH; d 24 Jan 1849, Jackson Tp, Morgan Co OH.

15 **Susanna STIERS**, b 19 Oct 1794, Bedford Co PA; d 20 Mar 1845, Seneca Tp, Guernsey Co OH.

V

16 **Johann Adam DAETHER**, b 7 Oct 1707, Herschberg, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; m (1) Maria Katharina LINN, 15 Sep 1739, Herschberg, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria, m (2) Maria Margaretha MULLER, abt 1760/61, Bavaria; d 2 Dec 1776, Herschberg, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria.

17 **Maria Katharina LINN**, b 1718, Krickenbach, Bavaria; d 16 Aug 1758, Erlenkopf, Bavaria.

18 **Johann Heinrich KORB**, b 8 Feb 1740, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; m 17 May 1763, Bavaria.

19 **Maria Elisabeth WERNER**.

22 **Johann Philipp AMMANN**, b abt 1733, Gunderhausen, Hesse-Darmstadt; m 30 Jul 1765, Bavaria.

23 **Maria Katharina WEBER**, d 8 Feb 1772, Pirmasens, Bavaria.

24 **Henry JACKSON, Sr.**, b 1742, MD or VA; m abt 1768/69, VA or MD; d abt 23 Jun 1824, Guernsey Co OH.

25 **Elizabeth STUMP**, b 1745; d 4 Apr 1824, Guernsey Co OH.

26 **Jacob SHRIVER**, b 1759; m 2 Dec 1783, PA; d 29 May 1815, Waynesburg, Greene Co PA.

27 **Elizabeth SHULL**, b 1761; d 1803.

30 **Rudolph STIERS**, b abt 1775, PA; d bef 1860, Franklin Tp, Clermont Co OH.

31 **Margaret ---**, b abt 1775; d bef 1860, Franklin Tp, Clermont Co OH.

VI

32 **Christoph THAETER**, b 1680, Herschberg, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; m abt 1700; d abt 1729/30.

34 **Johann Peter LINN**, b 1687, Trippstadt, Bavaria; m 16 Oct 1714, Trippstadt, Bavaria; d 14 Jan 1775, Krickenbach, Bavaria.

35 **Maria Margaretha THAETER**.

36 **Johann Jakob KORB**, b 2 Aug 1687, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; m 26 Apr 1718, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria; d 16 Sep 1756, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria.

37 **Anna Maria KNERR**, b abt 1691; d 28 Feb 1758, Gersbach, Kr. Pirmasens, Bavaria.

38 **Daniel WERNER**, b abt 4 Dec 1716; d 4 Mar 1775, Pirmasens, Bavaria.

39 **Christina Juliana OTT**, d 7 Apr 1773, Pirmasens, Bavaria.

48 **John JACKSON**, b abt 1685, England; m abt 1719, VA or MD; d abt 27 May 1761, Frederick Co MD.¹

49 **Ruth BEALL**, b abt 1686, Prince Georges Co MD; d aft 27 May 1761, MD.¹

50 **Thomas STUMP, Sr.**, m bef 21 Sep 1759, VA; d abt 6 May 1807, Loudoun Co VA.

51 **Jane BOOTH**, d bef 6 May 1807, Loudoun Co VA.

52 **Adam SHRIVER**, b abt 1736; m abt 1759, prob VA.

53 **Christina STROSNIDER**.

¹ Proof of relationship requires further research.

Chicago German-American newspaper obituaries

Debbe Hagner, AG, of PO Box 1142, Port Richey, FL 34673-1142, was inspired by the articles in the March 2005 *Der Kurier* to submit this index of obituaries from the Chicago area German-American newspaper, *Illinois Staats Zeitung*. Hagner says she found a lot of her ancestors' obituaries in this publication that could not be found in English-language newspapers such as the *Chicago Tribune* or *Sun Times*. Hagner has transcribed all of the obituaries from 1871; the first half of the year is printed here. Hagner can be contacted at dhagner@attglobal.net.

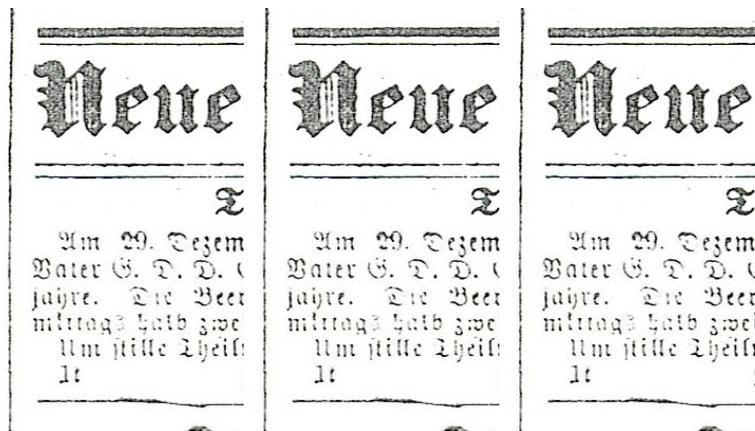
Last name, First name	Date		
Trauscht, Katharine	2 Jan 1871	Fey, John	17 Jan 1871
Schurz, unnamed	4 Jan 1871	Wolff, Adolph	17 Jan 1871
Salomon, Abraham	5 Jan 1871	Barmm, Ralph	18 Jan 1871
Bahl, Heinrich	6 Jan 1871	Van Duzer, Mary Elisabeth	19 Jan 1871
Heinze, Emma	7 Jan 1871	Beizert geb. Ernst Christina	19 Jan 1871
Bartels, John	9 Jan 1871	Fischer Geb, Wagner, Katharina Elisabeth	19 Jan 1871
Brünner, Edward Louis	9 Jan 1871	Fischer Geb, Wagner, Katharina Elisabeth	20 Jan 1871
Giese geb. Diehl Elementine	10 Jan 1871	Schurz, Oscar	21 Jan 1871
Rosenblatt, Henrietta	10 Jan 1871	Heyde geb. Eichner, Martha	25 Jan 1871
Jäger, Joseph	10 Jan 1871	Wilhelm, John Nicolaus	26 Jan 1871
Stutz, Gustav	10 Jan 1871	Guthier, George	26 Jan 1871
Goldschmidt, Rosina	10 Jan 1871	Wilhelm, John Nicolaus	27 Jan 1871
Bucher, John	11 Jan 1871	Kaufmann, Franz Henry	28 Jan 1871
Zitt, Friedrich	11 Jan 1871	Marr, Helene	28 Jan 1871
Priester, Ellen	11 Jan 1871	Jeggle, Alois	30 Jan 1871
Holz, Franziska	11 Jan 1871	Stueven, Carsten	30 Jan 1871
Schick, Carolina	11 Jan 1871	Feffemer, George	1 Feb 1871
Priester, Ellen	12 Jan 1871	Grün, Andreas	1 Feb 1871
Holz, Franziska	12 Jan 1871	Hiu, Johann Carl	2 Feb 1871
Giese, Emil	14 Jan 1871	Schell, daughter	2 Feb 1871
Stadtfeld, Joh. Math.	14 Jan 1871	Heffmer, George	2 Feb 1871
Jäger, Joseph	14 Jan 1871	Fisher, C. C.	3 Feb 1871
Wolff, Adolph	16 Jan 1871	Steffens, August	3 Feb 1871
Piper, Catharine	16 Jan 1871	Last name, First name	Date
Weber, John Joseph	16 Jan 1871	Hang geb. Schieferstein, Martha	4 Feb 1871
Last name, First name	Date		

Siebelt, Albers (ESTATE)	4 Feb 1871	Helwig, Christine	14 Mar 1871
Ehlers, Fredrich (ESTATE)	4 Feb 1871	Carqueville geb. Koerner, Carrie	15 Mar 1871
Uchtman, Herman George	4 Feb 1871	Evermann, Jacob	15 Mar 1871
Heinze, Ernst August	6 Feb 1871	Meslein geb. Schultheis, Elisabeth	15 Mar 1871
Liefegang, Heinrich	6 Feb 1871	Helwig, Christine	15 Mar 1871
Heidegger, Catharina	7 Feb 1871	Cohen, Sim.	16 Mar 1871
Heidegger, Catharina	7 Feb 1871	Winsauer, Frank	17 Mar 1871
Stute, William	10 Feb 1871	Müller, Barbare	17 Mar 1871
Indermühle, Friedrich	10 Feb 1871	Sandhagen, Heinrich	18 Mar 1871
Hill, Hermann Albert	10 Feb 1871	Winsauer, Frank	18 Mar 1871
Clacius, Monimia Lee (ESTATE)	10 Feb 1871	Elbe, Franz	20 Mar 1871
Stute, William	11 Feb 1871	Ulbricht geb. Schmitt, Fredericke	20 Mar 1871
Relson, Heinrich	13 Feb 1871	Miehle, unnamed	20 Mar 1871
Shimp, Martha C.	14 Feb 1871	Reinhardt, William	20 Mar 1871
Derler, John	16 Feb 1871	Kanney, Michael Wilhelm	20 Mar 1871
Reick, Louise	16 Feb 1871	Krüger, C. W.	21 Mar 1871
Schultz, Wilhelmine	16 Feb 1871	Hez geb. Halbauer, Anna Katharina	21 Mar 1871
Zielinski, Rosina	17 Feb 1871	Weick, Katharina	21 Mar 1871
Reick, Louise	17 Feb 1871	Weitze, unnamed	22 Mar 1871
Schultz, Wilhelmine	17 Feb 1871	Weitze, Dr. Fr.	22 Mar 1871
Fahlbusch, Frederich (ESTATE)	17 Feb 1871	Krüger, C. W.	22 Mar 1871
Zielinski, Rosina	18 Feb 1871	Weick, Katharina	22 Mar 1871
Schwarz, Peter	21 Feb 1871	Lauer, J. Joh.	25 Mar 1871
Ribbe, Henry	21 Feb 1871	Kooke, Hermann Georg	25 Mar 1871
Schultz, Carl	21 Feb 1871	Schaaf, Gotthart	27 Mar 1871
Böreführ, Fritz	22 Feb 1871	Wendt, unnamed	27 Mar 1871
Wernicke, Carl	22 Feb 1871	Scheidig geb. Schendel, Ernestine	27 Mar 1871
Kunreuther, Harry	22 Feb 1871	Schäfer geb. Zinngräber, Caroline	28 Mar 1871
Schwarz, Peter	22 Feb 1871	Wendt, unnamed	28 Mar 1871
Böreführ, Fritz	23 Feb 1871	Scheidig geb. Schendel, Ernestine	28 Mar 1871
Bracher, Joseph	24 Feb 1871	Schönemann, Albertine	29 Mar 1871
Fahlbusch, Frederich (ESTATE)	24 Feb 1871	Fuchs, George Edward	29 Mar 1871
Klimt, Frank	25 Feb 1871	Raditz, Ernst L.	29 Mar 1871
Zenker, Emilie	25 Feb 1871	Möllinger geb. Winterhalter, Karoline	30 Mar 1871
Bleser, Louis Wilhelm	1 Mar 1871		
Pencie, August	2 Mar 1871	Schaefer, Barbara	31 Mar 1871
Kretlow, Katherina	2 Mar 1871	Weidling, Julius	31 Mar 1871
Kuetemeyer geb. Maatz, Emma Ida	3 Mar 1871	Waker, M.	31 Mar 1871
Pencel, August	3 Mar 1871	Kohn, Abraham	31 Mar 1871
Kuetemeyer, Emma Ida	4 Mar 1871	Boger, Louise	31 Mar 1871
Ulbrich, FR. Joseph	6 Mar 1871	Fischer, Karl	1 Apr 1871
Jürgens, Friedr. Wilhelm	6 Mar 1871	Boger, Louise	1 Apr 1871
Ulbrich, FR. Joseph	7 Mar 1871	Sperry, unnamed	3 Apr 1871
Jürgens, Friedr. Wilhelm	7 Mar 1871	Vogel, Joseph	4 Apr 1871
Baus geb. Jopper, Louise	8 Mar 1871	von Wethern, Hans Karl Albrecht	5 Apr 1871
Toph, Heinrich E.	8 Mar 1871	Niederberger, Johann	5 Apr 1871
Knoke, Walter	8 Mar 1871	Henne, Fritz	5 Apr 1871
Deibel, Wm. H.	8 Mar 1871	Vogel, Joseph	5 Apr 1871
Schurz, Carl	9 Mar 1871	Niederberger, Johann	6 Apr 1871
Knoke, Walter	9 Mar 1871	Henne, Fritz	6 Apr 1871
Czmock, Joseph	10 Mar 1871	Huhn, Jacob	7 Apr 1871
Fusz, Martin	10 Mar 1871	Full, John	Apr 1871
Dähler, unnamed	11 Mar 1871	Hoff, Theresia	11 Apr 1871
Giu, J. Alexander	13 Mar 1871	Günther, Elisabeth	11 Apr 1871
Bodenschatz, Rosina	14 Mar 1871	Kuhl, Heinrich	11 Apr 1871
Last name, First name	Date	Last name, First name	Date
Blisz, John	14 Mar 1871	Zuttermeister, Ernst	12 Apr 1871

Zeh, Ludwig	12 Apr 1871	Frankenberger, Emma Magdalena	16 May 1871
Kölsch, Wilhelm	12 Apr 1871	Groskurth, Caroline	16 May 1871
Hanisch, Gustav	17 Apr 1871	Heuer, Catharine Maria	16 May 1871
Ley, Heinrich	18 Apr 1871	Becker, Christian	17 May 1871
Horner, Joseph	18 Apr 1871	Winglewsth, Ida	18 May 1871
Lietzman, Fr.	18 Apr 1871	Becker, Christian	18 May 1871
Hanisch, Gustav	18 Apr 1871	Schiefer, George	20 May 1871
Deutsche, Auguste	19 Apr 1871	Dausz, Joseph	20 May 1871
Huber, Peter Wilhelm	19 Apr 1871	Halsdorf, Theodor (2 obits)	24 May 1871
Wernecke, August	24 Apr 1871	Keilmann, Maria	25 May 1871
Walz geb. Brunner, Franziska	26 Apr 1871	Weckler, Adam	25 May 1871
Herwich, Benjamin	27 Apr 1871	Sniders, Henry	25 May 1871
Ganschow geb. Schulz, Louise	28 Apr 1871	Halsdorf, Theodor (2 obits)	25 May 1871
Jähringer, John Herrmann	29 Apr 1871	Snyders, Henry	26 May 1871
Meierhoff, unnamed	29 Apr 1871	Sniders, Henry	26 May 1871
Müller, unnamed	2 May 1871	Lichtenberger, unnamed	30 May 1871
Berlin, Wilhelm	3 May 1871	Jeger, Catherine	2 Jun 1871
Berlin, Wilhelm	4 May 1871	Schneider, Friedrich	3 Jun 1871
Schievelbein, Carl	8 May 1871	Bartels geb. Thürnau, Maria Elenore	5 Jun 1871
Burkhardt, Gustav	8 May 1871	Grosz, Andreas	5 Jun 1871
Bosz or Vosz, Louise Caroline	9 May 1871	Bartels, Maria Elenore	6 Jun 1871
Emmerich, Anna	9 May 1871	Birchmeier, unnamed	7 Jun 1871
Schievelbein, Carl	9 May 1871	Frey, Lucas	8 Jun 1871
Burkhardt, Gustav	9 May 1871	Leider geb. Klett, Borette	9 Jun 1871
Schmidt, John C.	10 May 1871	Severin, Louise	9 Jun 1871
Lauf, Johann	11 May 1871	Luckow, Karl Friedrich Wilhelm	10 Jun 1871
Hemmersbach, Peter Joseph	11 May 1871	Beck, Wilhelmine	10 Jun 1871
Reicherbach, Heinrich	11 May 1871	Wolf, Lina	10 Jun 1871
Herzog, Anton	11 May 1871	Peipers, Blanche	13 Jun 1871
Herzog, Anton	12 May 1871	McCaffrey, Philipp	14 Jun 1871
Krause geb. Pascher, E. Dorothea Sophie	12 May 1871	Ohlendorff, Albrecht	14 Jun 1871
Hübner, Charles	12 May 1871	Weber, Jacob	17 Jun 1871
Richard, Henry Peter	12 May 1871	Jansen, Johann Gottburg	21 Jun 1871
Krause geb. Pascher, E. Dorothea Sophie	13 May 1871	Raster, Gertrude Anna	24 Jun 1871
Schimmels, Anton	15 May 1871	Ruf, August	24 Jun 1871
		Fritz, John Georg	26 Jun 1871
		Müller, Bertha Paulina	27 Jun 1871
		Knust, Johann Arend	28 Jun 1871
		Knust, Johann Arend	29 Jun 1871

Last name, First name

Date



A December 1871 obituary from the *Illinois Staat-Zeitung*.

FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest

Many Steffy fraktur from Berks County

Donna Ristenbatt asked about STEFFYs on fraktur. Unless otherwise noted, examples listed here are from Pennsylvania. One is a *Taufschein* (birth and baptism certificate) made for Lisette, daughter of Johannes and Heddi (STEFFI) WETZEL. Lisette was born January 5, 1834, in Longswamp Township, Berks County. She was baptized March 9, 1834 by Pastor HELFFERICH. Sponsors at Lisette's baptism were Jonathan and Susanna STEFFI. According to the *Taufschein*, Heddi STEFFI was born Esther STEFFI. This *Taufschein* is pictured in the second volume of *The Pennsylvania German Fraktur of The Free Library of Philadelphia* published in 1976 by the Pennsylvania German Society and the Free Library.

Another example mentions a girl named Hetty STEFFY. Her *Taufschein*, in a private collection, says Hetty STEFFY was the daughter of Peter and Catharina STEFFY. Hetty's mother, Catharina, was the daughter of Daniel and Susanna WHITE. Hetty STEFFY was born in Brecknock Township, Berks County, on April 21, 1876. She was baptized by M.L. FRITCH on September 10, 1876, and her parents were sponsors at her baptism.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Christiana, daughter of Jesaias and Louise (STEFFI) SCHWEITZER. Christiana was born November 28, 1869 in Brecknock Township, Berks County. She was baptized in 1869 by Pastor HAMBERT. Her parents were sponsors.

On May 7, 1999, Pook and Pook Auctions in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, sold a *Taufschein* made for Joseph and Ana (KOHL) STEFFY's daughter, Lidia. Lidia STEFFY was born May 22, 1833 in Brecknock Township, Berks County. She was baptized by Pastor GULDY on

November 4, 1833. Catharina WERTZ, single, was the only sponsor at her baptism.

In the third volume of *German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition*, information from a *Taufschein* says that Ellen Jane STEFFEY was born to Ephraim and Sarah Anne STEFFEY. Ellen Jane was born August 13, 1867 in North Whitehall Township, Lehigh County. She was baptized September 15, 1867 by Alfred J.S. DUBBS. Sponsors at her baptism were Peter and Elizabeth ALBRIGHT. According to this *Taufschein*, Sarah Anne STEFFEY's father was Jacob ECK.

That same volume lists data from a *Taufschein* made for Henry Daniel STEFFI. According to this certificate, Henry Daniel was the son of Ephraim and Elisabeth (GEBHARD) STEFFI. Henry Daniel was born October 4, 1872 in Robeson Township, Berks County. He was baptized in 1873 by Pastor FRITSCH. His parents were sponsors at his baptism.

Still more *Taufscheine* (plural of *Taufschein*) are recorded in the third volume of *German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition*. They include one made for John Ephraim, son of Harry and Maggie STEFFY. John Ephraim was born April 24, 1901 in Angelica, Berks County. He was baptized August 10, 1901 by J.V. GEORGE. His parents were sponsors at his baptism. Another was made for John Ephraim's brother, Joseph Ralph. Joseph Ralph STEFFY was born in Alleghenyville, Berks County, on June 21, 1902. He was baptized by J.V. GEORGE on June 6, 1903. Again, the parents were sponsors.

Another *Taufschein* recorded in that volume was made for Susanna STEFFY, daughter of Heinrich and Fayette (STEFFY) STEFFY. Susanna STEFFY was born September 14, 1861 in Brecknock Township, Lancaster County. She was

baptized by Daniel HERZ on June 27, 1862. Her parents were sponsors. A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Susanna's younger brother, Johannes. Johannes STEFFE [sic] was born December 9, 1863 in Brecknock Township, Lancaster County. He was baptized by A.L. HERMAN, but no date of baptism was given. His parents were sponsors at his baptism.

A Bible record made for Ellwood W. STUBER and Emma B. STEFFY is recorded in the third volume of *German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition*. It says Ellwood W. STUBER of Schoeneck [Lancaster County] and Emma B. STEFFY of Stevens, Pennsylvania, were married in Ephrata on October 13, 1888. They were married by E.S. BROWNMILLER. Ellwood W. STUBER was born July 21, 1866 in Cocalico Township, Lancaster County. He was baptized May 30, 1869 by Pastor HERBEL. Emma B. (STEFFY) STUBER was born October 29, 1869 in Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County. She was baptized by Pastor SWEITZER. The STUBERs had two children. Harry Miles STUBER was born April 17, 1891 and Alva S. STUBER was born December 9, 1899. Both children were born in Ephrata Township, Lancaster County, and both were baptized by S.S. SWEITZER.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Conrad SCHUH, son of Jorg [George] and Raechel (STEFI) SCHUH. Conrad SCHUH was born June 29, 1828 in Manheim Township, York County. He was baptized in 1828 by Pastor GEIGER. Sponsors at his baptism were Conrad NOLL and his wife.

June Burk Lloyd, Librarian at the York County Heritage Trust in York, provided a photocopy of a marriage certificate that mentions Jacob and Anna STEFFEY as witnesses at the marriage of Benjamin WENTZ to Sarah Anna MILLER, both of York County. The WENTZ's were married on June 11, 1848 by Samuel ENTERLINE of the United Brethren in Christ.

In the sixth volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*, Klaus Stopp pictures a *Taufschein* made for Magdalena STEFFE, daughter of Georg and Maria (SCHAEFER) STEFFE. Magdalena STEFFE was born about noon on August 5, 1831 in Perry Township, Union County. She was baptized by Daniel WEISER on September 25, 1831. Barbara SCHAEFER was the only sponsor at Magdalena's baptism.

The whereabouts is unknown of a *Taufschein* made for Saraemeleine [Sara Emeleine], daughter of Jacob and Catharina (STEFFI) GARR. Saraemeleine was born May 4, 1835 in Macungie Township, Lehigh County. She was baptized in 1835 by Pastor GERMAN. The sponsors at her baptism were Jacob and Maria MOHR.

A *Taufschein* in the collection of Martin Amt of Mt. Rainier, Maryland, was made for Clinton Marcus STEFFE, son of Jacob U. and Carleine (DONNER) STEFFE. Clinton Marcus was born April 25, 1863 in Lower Macungie Township, Lehigh County. He was baptized May 17, 1863 by Pastor DUBS. Clinton Marcus' grandparents, Jacob and Sophia STEFFE, were sponsors at his baptism. An added note says Clinton Marcus died October 18, 1863.

In the fourth volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*, Klaus Stopp pictures a *Taufschein* made for Charles STEFFY, son of John S. and Eliza B. (GRILL) STEFFY. Charles STEFFY was born in Denver, East Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, on June 9, 1897. On November 13, 1897, Charles was baptized by J.O. LEIBENSPERGER in St. John's Lutheran and Reformed Church in Denver. Charles' parents were sponsors at his baptism. A related certificate in a private collection was made for Charles' older brother, Harvey. Harvey STEFFY was born in Denver on July 27, 1894. He was baptized May 26, 1895 by J.A. WICKERT. No other information concerning baptism is listed.

An undated exhibit catalog from the Harry Shaw Newman Gallery in New York describes a fraktur made for Elisabeth

STEFFY, born in 1810 in Berks County. The catalog gives no additional genealogical information.

In *Kohl (Cole) Family History*, author Sue (Kohl) Soulliard pictures a *Taufschein* made for Beniamen [sic], son of Jonathan and Lidia (STEFFE) BLANKENBILLER. Beniamen was born February 16, 1859 in Brecknock Township, Berks County. He was baptized June 4, 1859 by Pastor WAGNER. Beniamen's parents were sponsors at his baptism.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Daniel SIMON, son of Daniel and Elisabeth (STEFFY) SIMON. Daniel SIMON, Jr. was born November 21, 1860 in Lower Heidelberg Township, Berks County. He was baptized August 30, 1861 by S.A PAULI. The only sponsor at his baptism was Hanna SIMON.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Phebe S. LUTZ, daughter of Martin and Eliza Ann LUTZ. Eliza Ann's father was Noah STEFFEY. Phebe S. LUTZ was born November 17, 1877 in Brecknock Township, Berks County. She was baptized August 25, 1878 by D. W. GERHARD. Phebe's parents were sponsors at her baptism.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Monroe Isaac, son of John K. and Mary Ann STEFFEE. Mary Ann STEFFEE's father was Ernstus KEGERISE. Monroe Isaac STEFFEE was born January 1, 1878 in Spring Township, Berks County. He was baptized August 25, 1878 by Stephen SCHWEITZER. Sponsors at his baptism were "his Grandparents & his mother."

In the fifth volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*, Klaus Stopp lists data from a *Taufschein* made for Mary Marie, daughter of Harvey and Jennie A. (STEFFY) LEIBENSPERGER. Mary Marie was born January 1, 1905 in Topton, Berks County. She was baptized April 2, 1905. No other information is available.

In the July 1999 issue of *Wythe County Historical Review*, Beverly Repass Hoch contributed an article called "Fraktur: Birth and Baptismal Records of the Early Germans." In that article, she listed data from several southwest Virginia fraktur. Most are attributed to the Wild Turkey Artist (active circa 1780-1822), who worked in and around Wytheville in Wythe County. One *Taufschein* attributed to the Wild Turkey Artist says Catharina (STEFFI) DATTINGER was the mother of Johanna DATTINGER, born September 31 [sic], 1807. Johanna's father was Adam DATTINGER. The Wild Turkey Artist gave no information concerning baptism other than the names of the sponsors – Jacob and Magdalena DOBLER. Also, as was typical of this artist, no location was mentioned on the fraktur.

Fraktur were occasionally pasted to the underside of lids of chests. One such example was made for Emmy BECHTLE, daughter of Andrew and Sarah (STEPEY or STEPHY) BECHTLE. Emmy was born February 20, 1849 in Washington County, Maryland. She was baptized by Pastor PROPST.

If you have names you wish me to research on fraktur, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, P.O. Box 1132, Clayton, DE 19938. Please be patient for a reply.

ATTENTION

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FAMILY REGISTERS

Ritter and Schneider

Four family registers were recently found that detail the RITTER and SCHNEIDER families from Exeter Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Members of these interrelated families became printers in Reading. Jacob SCHNEIDER (born March 22, 1763), mentioned in the fourth register, established Der Readinger Adler (The Reading Eagle) newspaper, which is still being published today.

Jacob SCHNEIDER's sister, Barbara, married Franz RITTER, who helped to build SCHNEIDER's printing press while still in Exeter Township. Franz and Barbara's son, John RITTER (born February 6, 1779) turned Der Readinger Adler into a major publication, and he became highly influential. He eventually served in Congress (1843-47), while other family members carried on the newspaper business. These four registers are in a private collection.

#1 – Daniel and Susanna (Schneider) Ritter

The first register was made for the Daniel and Susanna (SCHNEIDER) RITTER family. It is totally machine printed in German. Several dates of death were added in pencil and these are shown here in Italics. This register reads:

Parents:

Daniel RITTER was born February 9, 1776. *Died 1853.*

Susanna RITTER, born SCHNEIDER, was born July 28, 1790. *Died 1875.*

Children:

Benjamin RITTER was born February 14, 1811. *Died 1891.*

Esther RITTER was born April 13, 1814. *Died 1898.*

A little daughter was born June 6, 1816, and died June 21, 1816 at the age of 15 days.

Daniel RITTER was born December 9, 1817. *Died 1897.*

Reuben RITTER was born December 25, 1819 and died August 18, 1826 at the age of 6 years, 7 months, and 23 days.

Louisa RITTER was born February 5, 1823.

Ferdinand RITTER was born February 18, 1826. *Died 1898.*

Wilhelm RITTER was born September 13, 1828. *Died 1891.*

Franklin RITTER was born August 24, 1833.

#2 – Barbara (Schneider) Ritter and Franz Ritter

The second RITTER register begins with Barbara (SCHNEIDER) RITTER. Written freehand in German script, it has paper loss along the right edge so that dates are partially missing. However, an

accompanying clipping from a 1903 newspaper announcing a RITTER family reunion fills in blanks. Information taken from the newspaper clipping is shown here in *Italics*. This register reads:

Barbara SCHNEIDER was born the 9th [*October 1745. Her husband was Franz RITTER, born August 26, 1741; died July 24, 1825.* Their children were:]

A little son was born the 25th —.

Elisabetha RITTER was born the 17th of May 1770. *Died the 21st of November 1848.*

Catharina RITTER was born the 8th of November 1772 and [died] the 15th of January 1773 at the age of 9 weeks [*8 weeks and 3 days, according to the newspaper clipping.*]

Daniel RITTER was born the 16th of November 1773 and died March 16, 1775 at the age of 1 year and 4 months.

Daniel RITTER was born the 9th of February 1776.

Johannes RITTER was born the 6th of February 1779.

Susanna RITTER was born the 23rd of August 1781.

Jacob RITTER was born the 28th of February 1783. [According to the newspaper clipping, Jacob was born in January.]

Catharina RITTER was born the 23rd of February 1785.

Barbara RITTER was born the 31st of August 1787.

Samuel RITTER was born the 27th of March 1792.

#3 – Benjamin and Ester (Herpein) Schneider

The third register was written for the Benjamin and Ester SCHNEIDER family. It is written in German script and begins with Benjamin's parents:

Peter SCHNEIDER was born the — March 1723 and died the 27th of October 1796 at the age of 72 years, 3 months, and 27 days. Appellonia SCHNEIDER was born the 26th of December 1721 and died the 25th of April 1799 at the age of 77 years, 3 months, and 29 days.

[The following lists Benjamin SCHNEIDER and what appears to be his wife and children. Benjamin SCHNEIDER was Barbara (SCHNEIDER) RITTER's brother. The various spellings of the family name are consistent with the original.]

Benj. SCHNEIDER was born the 21st of December 1748 and died the 26th of October 1816 at the age of 67 years, 10 months, and 5 days.

Ester SCHNEIDER was born the 9th of November 1759 and died the 6th of May [no year given] at the age of 37 years, 5 months, and 27 days.

[An accompanying newspaper clipping in German mentions the marriage record of Benjamin SCHNEIDER, who married Esther [sic] HERPEIN, both of Oley Township, Berks County. The clipping says the marriage record, written in beautiful "*Frakturschrift*" was found by Jackson SNYDER, son of David SCHNEIDER, of Oley Township. The following are likely the children of Benjamin and Ester (HERPEIN) SCHNEIDER.]

Jacob SCHNEIDER was born the 24th of July 1781.

Daniel SCHNEIDER was born the 9th of February 1783 and died the 26th of August 1825 at the age of 42 years, 6 months, and 15 days.

John SCHNEIDER was born the 27th of March 1785.

Peter SNYDER was born the 18th of September 1787.

Sue [sic] SNYDER was born the 28th of July 1790. [Susanna SCHNEIDER became the wife of Daniel RITTER, shown on the first of these registers.]

Eli SNYDER was born the 8th of October 1792. [Following this entry, a date of death is written in pencil. It is difficult to read, but appears to be January (?) 18, 1859.]

Maria SNYDER was born the 2nd of March 1795 and died the 24th of March 1800 at the age of 5 years and 22 days.

David SCHNEIDER was born the 28th of March 1797.

Benj. and Ester SCHNEIDER gave themselves in holy matrimony on the 21st of March 1780.

#4 – 18th century Schneiders

The fourth register was written in German script. It reads:

Barbara SCHNEIDER was born the 9th of October 1745.

Johannes SCHNEIDER was born the 16th of February 1747.

Benjamin SCHNEIDER was born the 21st of December 1748.

Daniel SCHNEIDER was born the 8th of October 1751.

Peter SCHNEIDER was born the 21st of August 1752.

Catharina SCHNEIDER was born the 21st of October 1754.

Catharina SCHNEIDER was born the 19th of October 1758.

Elisabeth SCHNEIDER was born the 23rd of February 1761.

Jacob SCHNEIDER was born the 22nd of March 1763.

[The presumption from information in the previous register would be that these are the children of Peter SCHNEIDER Appellonia. Nothing in the 4th register directly confirms this presumption, however.]

DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

2005

September 11. South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. 30th Anniversary program. York County Heritage Trust, 250 E. Market St., York, Pennsylvania, 2:30 p.m. "They Traveled With Friends: The German and Swiss Origins of Some Early York County Families" by special speaker Annette K. Burgert, FASG, FGSP. For information, contact Marylyn M. or Robert R. Reisinger, 2515 Midpine Drive, York, Pennsylvania, (717) 764-3621.

September 17. Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center. Genealogical Conference. Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA. Speakers: Annette Burgert, Aaron S. Fogleman, John Humphrey. Contact Lucy

Kern, Heritage Center Library, P.O. Box 306 Kutztown, PA 19530, phone (610) 683-1589, e-mail pagermanlibrary@kutztown.edu

October 6 – Celebrating National German-American Day

October 22. Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society. Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Bowie, Maryland. Topics: Port of Baltimore, Naturalization Records, and Military Records. Speakers: Marian L. Smith, Craig Roberts Scott, Eva Slezak. Contact Diane M. Kuster, 251 Serpentine Dr., Bayville, NJ 08721, phone (732) 606-6032, e-mail dmkuster@comcast.net

October 22. Pennsylvania Chapter Palatines to America "2005 Fall Conference." Yoder's Banquet Room, New Holland, PA. Theme:

"Artifacts and Ancestry" with presenters Dr. Robert Kline ("PA German Material Culture: An Illustrated Presentation"), Jane L.S. Davidson ("Family History in Fabric"), followed by a panel discussion. Contact Pennsylvania Chapter PalAm, PO 280, Strasburg, PA 17579-0280; or by phone to (717) 507-7237.

November 20. American/Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society. Annual meeting. American Legion Hall, Walcott, Iowa.

Contact ASHHS, P.O. Box 506, Walcott, IA 52773-0506

2006

June 7-10, 2006. National Genealogical Society Conference in the States. Chicago, IL. Contact www.ngsgenealogy.org

Aug. 30-Sep. 2, 2006. Federation of Genealogical Societies. Boston, MA. Contact www.fgs.org

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 nor most spelling variations. MAGS encourages all members to submit free queries to the queries editor regarding specific ancestors.

Elizabeth A. Adams of Dundalk MD
(*Schmidt, Mueller, Eldringhof, Ramsel*)

Dorothy A. Boyd-Bragg of McGaheysville VA

Margaret Cass of Lower Gwynedd PA
(*Koons, Bender, Swartz, Bone/Boone*)

Margaret Cole of Laurel MD
(*Focht/Vogt, Mattern, Spohn, Lanz*)

Donna Di Giacomo of Philadelphia PA

June F. Fezie of New Carrollton MD
(*Dodson, Rock, Grabill, Shown*)

Gary & Cindy Hahn of Luray VA
(*Hahn, Duerr*)

John Haines of Rockvill MD
(*Haines, Elosser, Fagan, Bach*)

Mary Hill of Bloomsburg PA
(*Gearhart, Barrall, Rupert, Witchey*)

George Lahm of Damascus PA
(*Lahm, Deighton, Kuhn, Granger*)

Michael R. Leahy of Knox PA
(*Deku, Barkhurst, Burkhardt, Tielke*)

Heidi P. Loh of Wyckoff NJ
(*Loof*)

Dorothy Sigler Reynolds of Barry IL
(*Ziegler, Hennig, Palton*)

Allen R. Roberson of Gold Canyon AZ
(*Fisher/Fischer, Pefley, Roberson*)

Teri Schrader Ryan of Elk Garden WV
(*Shrader*)

Ronald M. Schubauer of Carlisle PA
(*Schubauer, Farner, Diffenderfer, Manley*)

Eunice M.K. Thomas of Wachapreague VA
(*Kirchner, Hugelmeyer, Coleman, Good*)

* * *

Handley Reg. Library - Stewart Bell Jr.
Archives of Winchester VA

SUCHANZEIGEN / *Queries*

Please mention at least one time, one place, one German surname with known variants. Limit each query to one family. Use no more than fifty (50) words, not counting your name and address. There is no charge for members of MAGS. Non-members please include \$1.00 (check payable to Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society) per query with your submission. More than one query may be sent at a time, but each should be clearly written or typed on a separate sheet of 8 1/2 by 11 inch clean, white paper. E-Mail is acceptable. 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, 7102 Cedon Road Woodford, VA 22580 or e-mail: ehoffmillar@netscape.net (Please write 'MAGS Query' in subject line)

PFAFF GRIESBACH

#23-8 Seek info on George Gottlieb PFAFF and w Esther Marg. (1) w/ s George and w (2) Catharina Marg. GRIESBACH w/ ch: Elisabeth, Carl Peter, Catherine, Magdalena, Johannes and Heinrich, who were active at Trinity Lutheran Church, Earl Twp, Lancaster Co., PA 1760-1783.

Logan Jennings 119 Pungo Dr. Hertford, NC 27944 Ph 252-426-4865 Email loganj@mchsi.com

POFF PAUF PAUFF PFAFF

#23-9 Seek info on POFFs (George, Mary Elizabeth, Charles, Peter, Henry, John) in Augusta Co , VA 1790-1800. Mvd south settling in Floyd Co. VA.

Is this same fam in #23-8? Where were they for 8 yrs.? Did name spelling change that much and why?

Logan Jennings 119 Pungo Dr. Hertford, NC 27944 Ph 252-426-4865 Email loganj@mchsi.com

SCHABER SHOBER SHAVER SHAWVER

#23-10 Seek info mar Sebastian SCHABER/SHOBER/SHAVER/SHAWVER b 1728 Wuerttemberg, Ger. He imm via Rotterdam on ship Eastern Branch 1753 to Philadelphia. Res Lancaster Co. PA 1760's. Purc 200 ac Botetourt CO. Va 1784. Seven ch. He & sons on tax records Monroe Co. VA. Will signed Sebastian SHAWVER prbated Monroe Co. VA 1816. Can not find any record of wife.

June Ann Shawver Linder 8 Lawnview Rd. Charleston, WV 25314-2043

DELK DELKE

#23-11 Seek corr w/ desc Roger DELK/DELKE. Arr VA, Feb. 1623/1624.

Desc of Salzbergers-Austria who were granted land in GA in 1734 by King George II of England.

James L. Pierce 1333 Charles Dr. Unit 21 Longmont, CO 80503

BERLIN CHURCH

#23-12 Seek name and loc of Church near or in Berlin. Church interior motif dark brown wood woven as basket weave. Attended ca 1939 as child. Does church still stand?

Mary Mathison 700 W. Bel Air Ave. Apt 416 Aberdeen, MD 21001 PH: 410-262-0616

EPPINGER LOWRY

#23-5 Seek info on William (Wilheim) EPPINGER arr NY 15Jul 1850 on ship "Alex Edmond" fm Baden Ger @ age 19. Poss settled Somerset Co. PA. Mar/1 Ann LOWRY (b ca 1834, d 14 Sept 1896 Morgan Co. WV). Mar @ Salisburg Boro, Oak Lick, Somerset Co. PA. William sol Union Army ca 4 yrs in Company C & H, 54th Reg. d 24 Oct 1907, Morgan Co. WV. Ann bro Samuel. Any info on William and/or Ann appreciated.

Herbert L. Eppinger 40 Rockwell Court, Berkley Springs, WV 25411 e-mail HERB_LIZ@peoplepc.com

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN

Book Reviews

Family Tree Maker's Virginia Colonial Records, 1600s-1700s

CD. Available from Clearfield Company, Inc., Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland. Indexed. \$29.99 plus \$4 shipping.

The CD is organized with an introduction listing the contents and giving a brief history of Virginia including one of the main reasons for rapid growth of the colony.

The introduction is followed by an index with over 200,000 names. Then there are actual pages copied from the books listed below. The index is easy to use. One doesn't even need to know the exact spelling of the name since one can view all the names by scrolling down the list or simply typing in the beginning few letters of the selected surname.

The Introduction explains "Thousands of Virginia's early settlers arrived in the colony as a result of the headright system. Under this system, anyone who paid his way (or someone else's way) to Virginia received fifty acres of land. In order to receive a land patent under the headright system, an individual would petition the county court for a 'certificate of importation.'" This and other useful tidbits are included in the Introduction.

To use the CD, you must have a CD-ROM drive and a 4.0 or higher version of Family Archive Viewer or Family Tree Maker for Windows. A free download of the Family Archive Viewer is available from www.genealogy.com/dlfav6.html.

The books that are included on this CD are:

- *Early Virginia Immigrants, 1623-1666* collected from the Virginia State Land Office by George Cabell Greer
- *Some Emigrants to Virginia, Memoranda in Regard to Several Hundred* by William G. Stanard
- *Emigrants to Virginia During the Colonial Period Whose Parentage is*

Shown or Former Residence Indicated by Authentic Records, 2nd Edition

- *Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Volumes 1-3* by Beverly Fleet
- *Virginia Gleanings in England, Abstracts of 17th and 18th Century English Wills and Administrations Relating to Virginia and Virginians* by Lothrop Withington
- *Colonial Records of Virginia* by the Committee of the Virginia State Library
- *The Colonial Virginia Register: A List of Governors and Other Higher Officials of the Colony of Virginia* by William G. and Mary N. Stanard
- *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* by Louis Des Cognets, Jr.
- *Personal Names in Henning's Statutes at Large of Virginia and Shepherd's Continuation* by Joseph J. Casey
- *Cavaliers and Pioneers. Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1666, Vol. I* by Nell Marion Nugent
- *The Quit Rents of Virginia, 1704* by Annie L.W. Smith
- *List of the Colonial Soldiers of Virginia* by Hamilton J. Eckenrode
- *Virginia's Colonial Soldiers* by Lloyd Bockstruck
- *Virginia Colonial Militia, 1651-1776* by William Armsstrong Crozier

Reviewed by *Mariana Wilke*

Tennessee – Today 1796 A Calendar of events for the year 1796

By James L. Douthat

1996. Available from Mountain Press, P.O. Box 400, Signal Mountain, Tennessee 37377-0400. Soft cover, 127 pages, indexed. \$24 plus \$3.50 shipping.

Published in 1996, this book celebrates the bicentennial of Tennessee – taking each day of

the year 1796 when Tennessee became a state, and listing occurrences for each of those days.

It includes a name index at the end of the book. References were taken from documents for Knox, Carter, Blount, Davidson, Grainger, Knox, Hawkins, Jefferson, Sullivan, Sumner, and Washington counties including court minutes, marriages, and deeds.

Also included are minutes from the Tennessee Historical Commission, Methodist Conference minutes, minutes from Sinking Creek Baptist Church, Red River Baptist Church, Big Pigeon Baptist Church, French Broad River Baptist Church, as well as information from many Tennessee genealogies and historical papers and documents.

Taking one year, a day at a time in early Tennessee history provides the reader with a real sense of daily life and the development of Tennessee in 1796. This book is invaluable for those seeking proof of their first family roots in Tennessee. Each entry is fully referenced.

Reviewed by Mariana Wilke

Virginia Will Records

Indexed by Judith McGhan

2003. Available from Clearfield Company, Inc. by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland. ISBN 0-8063-0993-8. Soft cover, 984 pages, indexed. \$70.00 plus \$4.00 shipping.

The contents of this book is composed of articles from The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, the William and Mary College Quarterly, and Tyler's Quarterly. It contains almost everything pertaining to estate records published in these three journals.

The Note section from the Genealogical Publishing Company (page v) tells the reader that the articles are arranged in three main categories: will indexes and abstracts by county, cross-county will records, and verbatim wills.

Wills are from the following counties: Accomac, Albemarle, Amherst, Botetourt, Brunswick, Caroline, Charles City, Dinwiddie, Elizabeth City, Fluvanna, Frederick, Fredericksburg, Goochland, Hampshire, Hanover, Hardy, Isle of Wight, King William, Lancaster, Louisa, Middlesex, Northampton, Petersburg,

Pittsylvania, Prince George, Princess Anne, Old Rappahannock, Richmond, Russell, Stafford, Surry, Sussex, Westmoreland, and York.

The book is completely indexed by name with more than 27,000 entries.

One of the interesting wills contained in this book is found on pages 754 and 755. It is the will of Patrick Henry, who was a slave of Thomas Jefferson's and who was deeded land by Jefferson.

The will was signed the 10th day of January 1829. On the following two pages is the will of Patrick Henry's mother, Sarah, dated 12 March 1784, Amherst County.

Reviewed by Mariana Wilke

Family Tree Maker's Early Tennessee Settlers 1700s-1900s

CD. Available from Clearfield Company, Inc., Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland. Indexed. \$29.99 plus \$4.00 shipping.

As with most CDs there is an easy to use index to the 14 books included on this CD. There is an introduction providing some of the early state history and listing the CD contents followed by actual images of the pages from the included books.

Cemetery records, military records, Bible, marriage, and census records are among those included on this CD taken from a variety of Tennessee counties. There are more than 165,000 names appearing on this CD.

One of the most convenient items found in the Introduction is the instruction for referencing sources from the CD. It says: "For example, if you find information about John Smith on page 47 of 'Henry County, Tennessee Old Time Stuff,' this information would be cited in the following manner.

"Author's Last Name, Author's First Name. 'Book Title.' Place of Publication: Publisher. Copyright Date. Page Numbers. Reproduced on Family Archive CD #511 (Genealogical Records: Early Tennessee Settlers, 1700s-1900s)."

To use the CD, you must have a CD-ROM drive and a 4.0 or higher version of Family Archive Viewer or Family Tree Maker for

Windows. A free download of the Family Archive Viewer is available from www.genealogy.com/dfav6.html.

The 14 books appearing on the CD are:

- *Tennessee Records: Bible Records and Marriage Bonds* by Jeannette Tillotson Acklen
- *Tennessee Records: Tombstone Inscriptions and Manuscripts* by Jeannette Tillotson Acklen
- *Tennessee Soldiers in the Revolution – A Roster of Soldiers Living During the Revolutionary War in the Counties of Washington and Sullivan* by Penelope Johnson Allen
- *Some Tennessee Heroes of the Revolution* by Zella Armstrong
- *Twenty-Four Hundred Tennessee Pensioners – Revolution and War of 1812* by Zella Armstrong
- *Index to the 1820 Census of Tennessee* by Elizabeth Petty Bentley
- *1770-1790 Census of the Cumberland Settlements: Davidson, Sumner, and Tennessee Counties* by Richard C. Fulcher
- *Record of Commissions of Officers in the Tennessee Militia 1796-1815* by John Trotwood Moore
- *Pioneers of Davidson County, Tennessee* by Edythe R. Whitley
- *Overton County, Tennessee: Genealogical Records* by Edythe Rucker Whitley
- *Red River Settlers – Records of the Settlers of Northern Montgomery, Robertson, and Sumner Counties, Tennessee* by Edythe Rucker Whitley
- *Sumner County, Tennessee Abstracts of Will Books 1 and 2 (1788-1842)* by Edythe Rucker Whitley
- *Tennessee Genealogical Records: Records of Early Settlers from State and County Archives* by Edythe Rucker Whitley

- *Henry County, Tennessee Old Time Stuff* by Edythe Whitley

Reviewed by **Mariana Wilke**

Wooden Shoe Hollow

Edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann,
originally written by Charlotte Pieper

Reprinted 2004. Available from Little Miami Publishing Co., P.O. Box 588, Milford, Ohio 45150-0588. ISBN 1-932250-16-6. Soft cover, 273 pages. Index. \$22.50 plus \$3.00 shipping.

Although not an actual family history per se, this book is a great historical novel that tells of the immigration of a young German girl to Cincinnati, Ohio, in the early 1900s.

The book was originally written by Charlotte Pieper and has been reprinted in 2004. The reprint of *Wooden Shoe Hollow* was edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann, who includes many pictures of the section of Cincinnati known as *Wooden Shoe Hollow* where early German farmers settled.

Wooden Shoe Hollow is well worth reading by anyone interested in reliving the German immigrant experience. There are maps of the German Cincinnati area and of Germany itself. There is a short biography provided by Tolzmann of Charlotte Pieper and how she came to write this book. It is a tender novel. And although, MAGS does not usually review novels, this book is one worth reading because of its excellent depiction of our deep German heritage.

Reviewed by **Mariana Wilke**

Member elected

Earlier this year, MAGS member Merl Arp was elected as Second Vice President of the German Society of Maryland.

The German Society's purpose is to preserve and promote the German heritage, language and traditions through educational, social, and benevolent programs; and to develop the unity and continuity of the German American community in the State of Maryland.

MAGS Services

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22580

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Shirley E Forrester, 3455 Chiswick Ct.,
Silver Spring, MD 20906

MAGS Library

The MAGS Library is housed in the
Shenandoah County Library's Shenandoah
Genealogy Room in Edinburg, VA.

For more information: Mariana Wilke -
mwilke@magpage.com or (610) 274-2332

MAGS Store

1. Back issues of Der Kurier

Each copy \$ 2.00
Plus shipping and handling, each copy \$.50

2. Surname Index for Der Kurier

Part I (1982-1992), 30 pp \$3.00
Part II (1993-1998), 30 pp \$3.00
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