



# Der Kurier

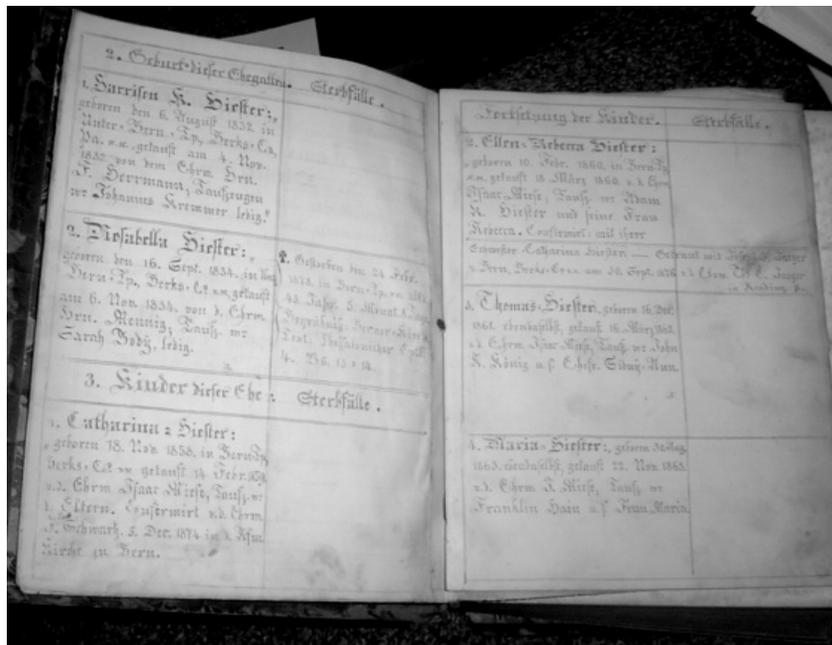
Volume 25, Number 2, June 2007

## Finding tips for Bible records

By Corinne and Russell Earnest

In 1805, Gottlob Jungmann (circa 1757-1833), a printer in Reading, Pennsylvania, contributed to a newly developing tradition that many families observe even today.

Jungmann was never given the recognition due him, but he significantly advanced the practice of printing blank family register pages between the Old and New Testaments of his German-language Bibles. Marked “Geburten,” “Heiraten,”



and “Todesfälle” (Births, Marriages, and Deaths), these pages could be filled out by family members or by professional penmen.

Clearly, before 1805, Jungmann noticed a groundswell of families who wrote personal data on the blank pages found in the fronts and backs of Bibles.

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# MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

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

<http://www.magsgen.com/>

**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 10 July 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
- **Quartermly journal, *Der Kurier***
- **MAGS Lending Library**
- **Ahnentafels** published in *Der Kurier*
- **Queries**

**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: [james@beidler.us](mailto:james@beidler.us)

# Finding tips for Bible records

(Continued from Page 21)

Among Pennsylvania Germans, they recorded registers in other books as well. Even eighteenth century handwritten cookbooks became the repositories of family registers. Thus, Jungmann responded to a demand that grew rapidly throughout the nineteenth century.

In our book *To the Latest Posterity: Pennsylvania-German Family Registers in the Fraktur Tradition*, we identified six types of family registers popular among Pennsylvania Germans.

After Jungmann printed his Bible, Bible-entry registers quickly came to dominate the Pennsylvania-German family register tradition, leaving in the dust the other five methods for recording data concerning a family unit. Probably the single most important reason for the popularity of recording registers in Bibles was that the Bible and register would likely be passed from generation to generation.

These other five methods were:

- Preprinted broadside-type registers with printed infill (genealogy data)
- Freehand broadside-type registers
- Preprinted broadside-type registers with added, handwritten infill
- Freehand registers written on blank pages of Bibles and other books
- Freehand registers in booklet form

If the intent of nineteenth century ancestors was to preserve their registers for

posterity, they made a sound assumption in choosing the Bible as the best vehicle for escorting registers safely to the future.

Before the dominance of Bible-entry registers, some registers had been single-sheet, broadside-type materials. But single sheets are often lost or destroyed, whereas most books, including Bibles, are considered valuable and worthy of safekeeping. Thus, families recognized that multi-page registers in Bibles were sure to be cherished by the family “forever.”

As a consequence, the nineteenth century ushered in an unprecedented number of Bible-entry family registers. That is good news for today’s genealogists, for these registers read like family group sheets. The names of the parents are often accompanied by details about their births and even the names of their parents. The names, birth dates, and sometimes other information about the children follow.

Unfortunately, locations are not always recorded. The family knew where they lived and probably assumed the Bible would reside with the family in that same location for several generations.

That is where families made faulty assumptions. Not only did the family scatter, but family Bibles became scattered. So the problem for family historians is to track down their Bible records. If you are searching for Bible records or information from them, consider the following four tips:

First, try to find Bible records among living family members. Some relatives have Bibles tucked away that they never thought about discussing with you. For example (if we may draw from personal experience), when we began our genealogy work decades ago, we had no idea our family was Pennsylvania German.

Because of the spelling of our surname, relatives we interviewed assumed (another faulty assumption) that the family was of British heritage. After a year or two of barking up the wrong tree, we discovered the family was originally German-speaking and had Anglicized the name.

Many years later, a distant cousin presented us with the family Bible. It was a German-language Bible that relatives we interviewed long ago could recall seeing. They could even recall Great-Grandpa reading it. Yet it never occurred to them to mention that he read German. Worse, it never occurred to them to wonder why he could read German. This lack of curiosity caused misconceptions about the origin of our family.

The second tip is to think beyond one surname. Too often, families remain focused on their surname, which usually means they focus on a single male line. Importantly, we suspect many family Bibles descended through female lines. Obviously, families have more surnames in their numerous maternal lines than in a single-name male line.

As Bibles migrate down through the generations, registers from maternal lines no longer interest the family that focuses exclusively on a single surname. We call this narrow focus “near-sightedness.” When

it comes to personal documents, near-sightedness can cause you to overlook treasures that descended through maternal lines.

The Earnest Bible mentioned above gave us data found nowhere else. It descended through female lines because in the mid-nineteenth century, the only two sons who would have inherited it moved away from the family. This left two daughters who kept the household goods including the Bible.

In fact, we believe that personal documents frequently remained with daughters, whereas male heirs preferred official documents such as military records and deeds to property. Thus, it is to your advantage to keep those mothers and daughters in mind when searching for personal documents such as family registers.

As a third tip, watch the antique markets. Many Bibles with family registers bound in them are sold at auction, garage sales, flea markets, and the Internet. The Bibles themselves are regarded as valuable but, in fact, most are a poor financial investment (with the obvious exception of rare editions). Because Bibles are seldom discarded, numerous copies of common editions exist. However, the registers in these Bibles are unique, and to the genealogist, that is where gold can be mined.

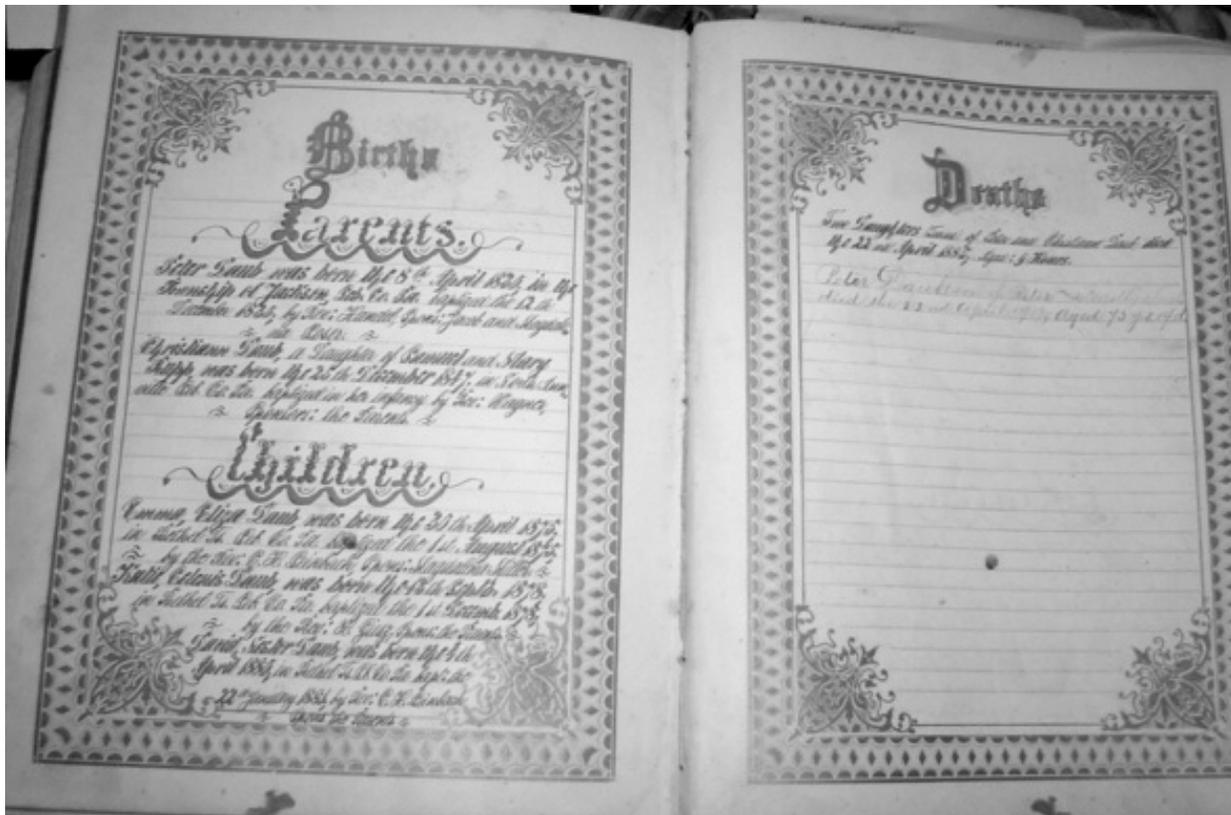
It is unfortunate that families allow Bibles to escape their care, but near-sightedness afflicts owners who tend to keep only those Bibles that have “relevant” surnames. Most families have no current family historian to advise that numerous names are crucial for reconstructing a family history. That’s the bad news.

The good news is that even if the family and its Bible become separated at the flea market or the auction house, most purchasers value the Bible and will preserve it along with the register. But finding the family Bible again proves difficult. Fortunately, many Bibles make their way into historical and genealogical societies, many of which are actively documenting as well as collecting them.

Some Bibles are even found in museums, and others are in private collections. Believe it or not, collectors are responsible caretakers for, to use an old saying, they put their money where their mouth is. They like Bible records well

enough to collect and preserve them. It should be noted, however, that collectors often remove registers from Bibles. Bibles are large and difficult to store so, for practical reasons, the Bible itself is often sold without the register — which remained behind with a collector who appreciates it in some instances more than the original owners.

As a final tip, step into your ancestors' shoes. If the Bible in your family was printed in German, there probably came a time when family members could no longer read it. They may observe early dates in its register, but the remainder of the record appears illegible. Yet German-language records are usually earlier than



**The family Bible above is from a Daub family of Lebanon County; the one on the cover is from a Hiester family in Berks County (Courtesy of James M. Beidler)**

English-language records pertaining to families of German heritage, so it is ironic that German-language records are frequently the first to be abandoned.

Sadly, after storing such Bibles for decades, the family's memory of the original owner fades. When that occurs, the family connection is lost completely and the keeper of the Bible no longer wants to serve as caretaker. Someone may have been at his or her elbow at that moment and expressed interest in the Bible.

That someone may have been a niece or nephew or even a neighbor or housekeeper. But the Bible and record probably exist somewhere, so it may be time to think about the extended family.

The bright side about Bible records is that your ancestors and relatives likely did not destroy Bibles having family data. These records, in fact, have a high rate of survivability.

They may not be in your possession but, as they are translated, indexed, and published, information from Bible records made for families of German heritage are gradually seeing the light of day — many through publications such as *Der Kurier*.

Corinne and Russell Earnest, *To the Latest Posterity: Pennsylvania-German Family Registers in the Fraktur Tradition*. University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2003.

## **FAMILY REGISTERS**

### **'Families sold at auction' in Bible records for Kendig, Behringer and Eichholtz**

*On April 21, 2007, Horst Auction Center in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, sold three Bibles having family registers in them. All were written in German. The information from these records follows:*

*A 1776 Christoph Saur Bible from Germantown, Pennsylvania, contains genealogy data for the Emanuel and Nancy (BOWERS) KENDIG family. The record gives no location for this family.*

Emanuel KENDIG was born February 2, 1803.

Nancy BOWERS was born August 15, 1799. The Bible was given to "Anna BAUER" by her father on February 28, 1824.

Emanuel KENDIG and Nancy BOWERS were married by Pastor HEILIGH on March 11, 1824.

Children:

Leah KENDIG was born about eleven o'clock in the morning on March 30 1825.

Levi KENDIG was born about eight o'clock in the evening on September 23, 1827.

Elizabeth KENDIG was born about twelve "a.m." on June 2, 1830. She died on February 8, 1839 at the age of eight years, eight months, and eight days.

Mary Ann KENDIG was born about ten o'clock at night on June 22, 1833.

Samuel KENDIG was born about ten o'clock in the morning on February 17, 1836.

David KENDIG was born about half past three in the afternoon on November 7, 1838.

*An 1805, first edition, Gottlob Jungmann Bible from Reading, Pennsylvania, contains genealogy data for the Jacob BEHRINGER family. This record gives no location for the family.*

Jacob BEHRINGER was born June 21, 1821.

Mary YOST, wife of Jacob BEHRINGER, was born October 27, 1821.

Jacob BEHRINGER and Mary YOST were married on May 9, 1852.

Child of Jacob and Mary (YOST) BEHRINGER was Sarah, born August 20, 1854.

Jacob BEHRINGER married a second time, on March 4, 1862 (?). His second wife was Sarah YOST, who was born May 11, 1832.

Jacob and Sarah (YOST) BEHRINGER had two sons. John BEHRINGER was born August 1, 1865. George Martin BEHRINGER was born February 10, 1868.

*An 1819 Johann Bär Bible from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, contains genealogy data for the EICHHOLTZ family. The names of parents are not listed. This family was probably located in Lancaster County. A bookplate of the bookbinder, Henrich Miller in the City of Lancaster, is pasted inside front cover.*

Johannes EICHHOLTZ was born October 15, 1811.

Cadarina EICHHOLTZ was born April 6, 1813.

Jorg EICHHOLTZ was born July 19, 1814.

Jacob EICHHOLTZ was born January 11, 1816.

Elisabet EICHHOLTZ was born June 10, 1817.

Lowisa EICHHOLTZ was born October 9, 1818.

Matteis [Matthias] EICHHOLTZ was born July 27, 1820.

Salmon [Solomon] EICHHOLTZ was born May 26, 1824.

Frietrich [Friederich] EICHHOLTZ was born May 3, 1827.

Zacharias EICHHOLTZ was born March 14, 1830.

## **Kegarice, Crumrine families in single Bible register**

*On May 5, 2007, Conestoga Auction Company in Manheim, Pennsylvania, sold an English-language, multi-page family register. Parts of this register were written as single sheets. Other parts came from a Bible record. Genealogy information from the three single sheets say:*

(1) Abraham L. KEGARICE was born February 20, 1829.

(2) Enoch T. KEGARICE was born July 29, 1830.

(3) Jacob KEGARICE was born May 10, 1808. Katharine SHOEMAKER was born November 3, 1805. Jacob KEGARICE and Katharine SHOEMAKER "was" married April 10, 1828.

The Bible record portion begins:

Jacob KEGARICE was born May 10, 1808. Katharine SHOEMAKER was born November 3, 1805.

Their children were:

Abraham Losin KEGARISE was born February 20, 1829.

Enoch Taylor KEGARISE was born July 29, 1830.

Mary Anne KEGARISE was born July 4, 1832.

James Jacob KEGARISE was born January 20, 1834.

Death dates for this family include:

Jacob KEGARICE [the father] died October 11, 1834 at the age of 26 years, 5 months, and 1 day.

Enoch Taylor KEGARICE died January 17, 1833 at the age of 2 years, 5 months, and 18 days.

Abraham Losin KEGARICE died February 4, 1837 at the age of 7 years, 11 months, and 14 days.

James Jacob KEGARICE died April 23, 1884 at the age of 50 years, 4 months, and 3 days.

Mary Ann FULLWILER died December 28, 1880 at the age of 48 years, 5 months, and 28 days.

*In addition to the KEGARISE family, this record includes the following information concerning the CRUMRINE family:*

John CRUMRINE was born October 30, 1793.

Susannah CRUMRINE was born May 1, 1794.

Their children were:

Isaac CRUMRINE was born February 18, 1817.

Sally Anne CRUMRINE was born January 1, 1820.

Fanny CRUMRINE was born November 19, 1822.

John Michael CRUMRINE was born November 14, 1825.

Elias CRUMRINE was born November 9, 1828.

David CRUMRINE was born August 23, 1831.

Maria Jane CRUMRINE was born September 10, 1846.

Abraham Shoemaker CRUMRINE was born June 4, 1848.

## **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 )*

### **LONGENECKER and variant spellings**

Around 1718, Ulrich Langenegger (1681-1757) immigrated to the Pennsylvania colony from Biglen (six miles west of Langnau), Canton Bern, Switzerland. Ulrich's ancestors came from the *Langenegg* hamlet a few miles northeast of Langnau. Male descendants (*aka*: "Longenecker") of this extended family have the Y-DNA markers for the haplogroup "R1b."

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Langeneggers immigrated to the U.S. from Gais, Canton Appenzell, Switzerland. These Langenegger ancestors came from the other *Langenegg* hamlet a few miles southwest of Gais. Male descendants of this family have totally different Y-DNA markers belonging to haplogroup "R1a." The two groups are not genetically related.

In the 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> centuries, a third group of the Langeneggers, possibly unrelated, resided around Munich, Germany. It can be speculated that the ancestors of these Langeneggers came from the 13<sup>th</sup>-century Castle *Langeneegg*. Berthold von Lang-eneegg (born 1269) was a knight and vassal to Kempton Abbey and bore the Langeneegg Coat-of-Arms. The city of Kempton and the ruined Castle *Langeneegg* are located in Bavaria, Germany southwest of Munich.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the town of *Langeneegg* was formed in the Bregenz forest in Austria's westernmost province of Vorarlberg. Do any Langeneegger descendants come from this town?

Seeking male Langeneggers from the region of Bavaria, Germany and Vorarlberg, Austria who would participate in the *Longenecker Y-DNA Project* to determine if they have different Y-DNA markers than those participants whose ancestors came from Switzerland. Inquires should go to the web site:

**[www.familytreedna.com/public/Longenecker](http://www.familytreedna.com/public/Longenecker)**

## Announcement from Roger Minert

During the winter semester of 2008 (January to April) at Brigham Young University, I will again be teaching a course entitled "Advanced German Research: Sources and Methodologies." This is the seminal course for students in this field and includes the compilation of what I call an *Immigrant Case Study (ICS)*. The ICS traces the life of a German immigrant from the hometown across the ocean to his new home in North America. Students spend from 30 to 60 hours on this project. Each completed ICS contains the following information:

- The names of the immigrant's parents and grandparents, compiled from church or civil vital records.
- All possible detail on the route(s) and mode(s) of transportation to the new home in the United States.
- The names of the immigrant's wife and children born in the United States.

Because it is not a simple matter to identify a dozen persons for whom an ICS can be written, I am soliciting "nominations" from people who cannot do this research for themselves. We can only accept candidates for whom all of our requirements have been met. The requirements are as follows:

- The European hometown of the immigrant must be clearly identified.
- The immigrant ancestor must have been born after 1800.
- Church or civil vital records from the hometown must be available on microfilm in the Family History Library system. You must provide a copy of the birth or marriage record from microfilm or the source of the copied entry is not identified.
- The place of the immigrant's death in the United States must be clearly identified.
- The information we would seek can not be already available from public sources.

For the immigrants selected, my students will produce the ICS, free of charge, though fortunate beneficiaries may consider making a donation to the family history scholarship fund at Brigham Young University. Thank you for your interest, and we hope to receive your nomination soon.

Sincerely,  
Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G.  
Assoc. Prof of Family History  
210 L JSB BYU  
Provo, UT 84602-5669

## FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest

### Many spelling variants found for Shittle surname

Barbara Freshwater asked about SHITTLES on fraktur. She believes the immigrant of this family was Joh. Geo. SCHÄDLER who immigrated in 1736. Next in line was Joh. Martin SCHÖTLE.

Spellings of the surname for his descendants ranged from SCHEITEL to SCHEICKEL to SHITTLE. To keep focus within this article, I worked with the consonant sounds of SCH-D-L or SCH-T-L. Although the above-mentioned immigrant had an “R” on the end of his surname, the line Barbara Freshwater is researching seems to have dropped that sound.

And while the “CK” sound as in SCHEICKEL was found in church records related to this family, (for instance, John T. Humphrey, *Pennsylvania Births, Lancaster County, 1723-1777*. Self-published, Washington D.C., 1997. On page 300, Humphrey lists three children of Martin and Christina SCHEICKEL/SCHEIKEL/SCHEITEL, all of whom Barbara Freshwater suggests used the surname, SHITTLE) Barbara Freshwater suggests the most common spelling she seeks is SHITTLE. Consequently, I narrowed my research to various spellings of that name. As is customary, the names appear here as they are written on the fraktur.

In the third volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*, Klaus Stopp pictured a *Taufschein* (birth and baptism certificate) made for Susanna KEYSER, daughter of Jacob and Maria (SCHETTLE) KEYSER. Susanna was born about 12:30 in the morning on February 8, 1808 in White Deer Township, Union County, Pennsylvania. No information concerning baptism was given on this certificate.

In Stopp’s fifth volume, he pictured a *Taufschein* made for Frony Kate, daughter of Elias B. and Emma J. (SCHADEL) ERDMAN.

Frony Kate was born May 17, 1887 and baptized June 6, 1887 by J.C. GLANTZ. Frony Kate’s parents sponsored her baptism. Other than the state of Pennsylvania, no location was given on this certificate concerning Frony Kate’s birth. She was, however, baptized in Hegins, Pennsylvania.

The York County Heritage Trust in York, Pennsylvania, has a *Taufschein* made for Caroline GROSS, daughter of Samuel M. and Elizabeth (SCHETTEL) GROSS. Caroline GROSS was born in West Manchester Township, York County, on May 19, 1846. She was baptized by W. GERMAN (no date given) with her parents serving as sponsors.

On June 11, 1994, Christie’s Auctions in New York sold a *Taufschein* made for Mary MEISER, daughter of David and Mary (SHADEL) MEISER. Mary MEISER was born at six o’clock in the morning on February 18, 1839 in Greenwood Township, Juniata County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized by Pastor SIBERT, but no date of baptism was given. The sponsors at Mary’s baptism were Samuel and Catharina SHADEL.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Aemändes SCHÄTEL, son of Michael and Sarah (GEHRINGER) SCHÄTEL. Aemändes was born on August 10, 1864 in Greenwich Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized October 11, 1864 by G.F.J. JÄGER. The sponsors at his baptism were Jacob and Sarah JÄGER.

On May 13, 2000, auctioneer Nelson L. Ebersole of Annville, Pennsylvania, sold a *Taufschein* that mentions Michael and Sarah SCHÄTEL. It was made for Catharina Annabella WEIDA, daughter of Joseph and Eva Elisabeth (STEIGER) WEIDA. Catharina Annabella was

born January 1, 1859 in Greenwich Township. She was baptized March 5, 1859 by G.F.J. JAEGER. Michael and Sarah (GERINGER) SCHAEDEL sponsored this baptism.

On November 26, 1997, auctioneer Lee Dockey of Pillow, Pennsylvania, sold a *Taufschein* made for Elizabeth OSSMAN, daughter of John and Hannah (SHADLE) OSSMAN. Elizabeth OSSMAN was born on Christmas day in 1838 in Lykens Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized by John P. SHINDLE (no date given). Susanna GROVE was the only sponsor at Elizabeth's baptism. According to this certificate, Hannah OSSMAN's father was David SHADLE.

A Bible record made for the Mathias DEIBLER family begins with his birth on December 4, 1763 in Donegal Township, Lancaster County. In 1786, Mathias DEIBLER married Catharina EZWEILER, who was born February 15, 1768 in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The DEIBLERS were married in Lykens Valley [Dauphin County] by Pastor DUBENDORF.

The sixteen children born to this couple were all born in Lykens Township, Dauphin County. The DEIBLER's eighth child, Magdalena, was born January 7, 1801 and a note concerning her baptism says that Magdalena SCHÄDEL sponsored Magdalena DEIBLER's baptism. This Bible record is in a private collection.

A *Taufschein* in a private



collection was made for Barbara WIEST,

**Klaus Stopp pictured this printed *Taufschein* in his sixth volume. The fourth line below the headline reads, "ist eine Tochter zur Welt geboren..." (was a daughter born to the world...). The gender-specific wording in this printed line resulted in distribution problems for the printer, Aaron Ernst Snyder (1819-80). He made a similar certificate for boys, but itinerant scribes who infilled the genealogy data apparently were not fond of sorting through blank forms to find ones suitable for the gender of the child. Consequently, these forms are fairly rare. The example pictured here was infilled for Catharina KNARR, whose mother was Catharina (SCHÄTTEL) KNARR. (Photo: Courtesy of Klaus Stopp and The Newberry Library, Chicago IL)**

daughter of Moses and Maria (SCHÄDEL) WIEST. Barbara WIEST was born on May 4, 1850 in Upper Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized by Isaac STIELY, but no date of baptism was listed. David born in Upper Mahantongo Township on March 2, 1858. Sylvester was baptized May 4, 1858 by I.F. STIELE [Isaac STIELY]. Sponsors at his baptism were Benjamin and Elisa LEITZEL.

In the sixth volume of *The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans*, Klaus Stopp pictured a *Taufschein* made for Cathrina KNARR, daughter of Johanes and Cathrina (SCHÄTTEL) KNARR. Cathrina KNARR was born August 15, 1843 in Mahanoy Township, Schuylkill County. She was baptized by Isaac STIELY (no date given), with Heinrich and Cathrina KNARR serving as sponsors.

A brief religious text in a private collection was written for Georg SCHÖTTEL of Ober Eschbach on July 7 [the year is illegible]. No biographical information was recorded. Ober Eschbach likely refers to Obereschbach near Frankfurt in today's Germany.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Meriena, daughter of Samuel and Kesseren (?) (SCHEDEL) WILLIAMSON. Meriena was born November 30, 1850 in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized by Pastor STIELE. Bennel WILLIAMSON and Enschelein MERKEL sponsored Meriena's baptism.

KLINGER and Barbara WIEST sponsored this baptism.

A related certificate is in a private collection. It was made for Moses and Maria (SCHEDEL) WIEST's son, Sylvester, who was

The first volume of *German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition* lists data from a *Taufschein* made for Samuel and Maria (HAÜSKÜPER) WALD's son, Milten [Milton]. Milten WALD was born November 20, 1846 in Lower Milford Township [Lehigh County], Pennsylvania. He was baptized February 7, 1847 by Pastor WAKE. Sponsors at Milten's baptism were Georg and Maria (SCHUTLE) WALD.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Marlin Yerger, son of John P. and Laura E. (YERGER) SHADLE. Marlin Yerger SHADLE was born in Fremont [Snyder County], Pennsylvania, on October 19, 1908. He was baptized by G. Luther WEIBEL. Marlin's parents were sponsors at his baptism, which took place in the SHADLE home on November 8, 1908.

Marlin Yerger SHADLE's confirmation certificate says "Marlyn" Yerger was confirmed April 9, 1922 in Sunbury, Pennsylvania, by Chas. R. BOURES.

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

## Essay contest

### Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society sponsors competition with \$1,000 top prize

The first German to arrive in British North America landed in Jamestown in 1608. In less than two years we will celebrate 400 years of German immigration to America.

The Board of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society voted unanimously to sponsor an essay

contest as part of the Society's commemoration of this important event.

The focus of the essays will be "Contributions of German-speaking Immigrants and/or Their Descendants to American Culture and Society."

First, second, and third prizes will be given. These prizes are \$1,000, \$500, and \$250,

respectively. Three levels with commensurate awards elevate the significance of the contest and encourage high-quality entries.

MAGS will announce the winners of all three awards in 2008 at the Spring meeting to be held in Williamsburg at a Conference co-sponsored with the Society of German American Studies.

The essay contest is open to anyone (including non-MAGS members).

Exceptions include MAGS Board Members and their immediate families and members of the Publications Committee and their immediate families as well as members of the judging committee and their immediate family. Each contestant may submit no more than one essay.

An Essay Evaluation Committee (EEC) has been formed for judging entries. The panel of judges includes five MAGS members: Merl Arp, Annette Burgert, Susannah Brooks, Pat Cramer and Joseph Neville. Because MAGS intends to publish the essays in *Der Kurier*, Corinne Earnest and James M. Beidler will serve ex-officio EEC members and or consultants.

Procedures for judging include the following: The EEC will elect a chairperson. This chairperson will set criteria and ranking factors for judging entries. He or she will consider originality, documentation, knowledge of subject matter, quality of writing, etc.

Submissions will be sent to MAGS President, John Humphrey, who will block out the names of contestants and make photocopies (or prepare electronic transfer) of each essay for the five judges. Electronic submissions are encouraged. They should be sent to [essay@magsgen.com](mailto:essay@magsgen.com).

The five judges will review each manuscript individually and convene as a group to determine winners. If deemed necessary, the chairperson may recommend counsel from an expert or experts. However, soliciting paid experts must first meet with approval from the MAGS Board.

Essays must be author-originals of non-published works. Essays cannot exceed 10,000 words plus documentation. As noted contestants are encouraged to send electronic submissions; however, if it is necessary to submit an essay as

**Essay Contest Subjects can include:**

- **Architecture**
- **Fine arts and folk art**
- **Family contributions to American society and culture**
- **History**
- **Immigration**
- **Industry and commerce**
- **Literature**
- **Military history**
- **Music**
- **Religion**
- **Science and technology**

hardcopy, those submissions need to be double spaced. Essays must be written in English, using *Chicago Manual of Style* as a style guide. The submission date for all essays is by November 1, 2007.

MAGS will distribute press releases electronically and/or through the mail to organizations that will announce the Essay Contest in their newsletters and journals. Organizations include the Max Kade Institute, Moravian College, Penn State University, the University of Cincinnati German-language Program, the National Genealogical Society, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the Pennsylvania German Society, the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Kutztown University, the Sacramento German Genealogy Society, the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association, the German Embassy and many more.

The deadline for entries is November 1, 2007. Judges will complete their evaluations by January 15, 2008, and the awards will be announced at the Spring meeting in April of 2008.

MAGS intends to publish entire essays or portions of them in *Der Kurier*. By doing so, we believe we can promote understanding of German influences upon American history and culture.

Any questions about the essay contest should be directed to MAGS President, John Humphrey, [PaGenealogyBooks@aol.com](mailto:PaGenealogyBooks@aol.com).

## What's new on the Internet

<http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/>

Newspapers include valuable information on our ancestors, but finding what newspapers may have existed at the time our ancestor lived in a particular location and finding where those newspapers might be today is often an almost impossible task. Once you find the papers reading line by line, page by page through them can take at least days if not months. The **Library of Congress** has added two separate databases to their "Chronicling America" web site that will make the task much easier.

### Find Newspapers:

This database lists all of the known US newspapers with the current locations of existing copies of each paper. To find what newspapers existed in your ancestor's town, county, or state follow the following steps:

- Enter the state (county & city drop down boxes not working at this time)
- You can enter city or county in the "keyword" box
- Enter other variables such as language or ethnicity
- A list of newspapers will appear.
- Click on the name of the newspaper you are interested in & a description of the paper appears. At the end of this page is an orange arrow with "view complete holdings information". Click on this button.

A list of institutions having copies of one or more issues of the paper will appear. For each institution it states the dates of issues held, the format they exist in (microfilm copy service, master microfilm, original). As one can see from the following example newspapers are not always where logic tells one they are located.

*for example:*

**The Hornet**, Frederick Maryland 1802-1807

American Antiquarian Soc, Newsp Proj, Worcester, MA

Dates available: 1802-1805, 1807

Boston Pub Libr, Boston, MA

Dates available: 1802-1805 <1802:6:22-1805:5:28> <1805:6:11-12:31>

Cumberland Cnty Hist Soc, Carlisle, PA

Dates available: 1807

Harvard Univ, Houghton Libr, Cambridge, MA

Dates available: 1802-1807

Available as: Original <1802:10:12> <1803:1:11,25, 4:12, 5:24, 6:14-21, 8:9-30, 9:20, 10:25, 12:13> <1804:1:17, 2:7, 4:24, 5:1,15,29, 6:19-8:7, 8:21-9:4,25, 11:6-20, 12:11-18> <1805:1:1-2:5, 2:26-4:16, 4:30-6:11> <1806:12:2> <1807:1:6, 3:17-24, 4:7-14,28, 5:12,26, 6:2,16-23>

Maryland Hist Soc Libr, Baltimore, MD

Dates available: 1802-1806

Available as: Original <1802:6:29, 11:9, 12:21> <1803:3:15, 7:12-12:27> <1804:1:3-1806:8:5>

New York Univ, New York, NY

Dates available: 1802-1805

Northumberland Cnty Hist Soc, Northumberland, PA

Dates available: 1802-1803

Available as: Original <1802:6:22-1803:6:14>

Suny At Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY

Dates available: 1802-1805  
Univ of Oklahoma, Norman, OK  
No summary holding information available  
Univ of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN  
Dates available: 1804-1805  
Univ of Texas At Austin, Austin, TX  
Dates available: 1805  
Available as: Original <1805:6:25>

**Read newspapers :**

This database is a work in progress, currently including images of some papers 1900-1910 in California, DC, Virginia, Florida, Kentucky, and Utah. Not all newspapers for the above states have been scanned (for example in NY only the *New York Sun* is currently included, but there are quite a few papers for Washington DC). Search by place and keywords. Like other automated searches of texts you get many false hits. A search for the surname **Ruder** had many hits for words or partial words such as “*reader*”, “*character*”, “*ruler*” in addition to a few hits for the name requested.

<http://www.italiengen.org/databaselist.stm>

Anyone researching mid-19<sup>th</sup> C to mid-20<sup>th</sup> C. New York City has probably used the **Italian Genealogy Group** databases of indexes for deaths, marriage, and naturalizations. Recent additions to this web site are:

(indexes include all names regardless of ethnic group)  
New York City Brides index 1866 -1937 (some boroughs begin later than 1866)  
Suffolk County Marriage index 1908-1935  
Queens County Supreme Court naturalizations 1907 - 1957  
Clinton County NY naturalizations 1865-1906  
Essex County NY naturalizations 1836-1880

<http://www.mdgensoc.org/database%20transcriptions/transcriptions.html>

The **Maryland Genealogical Society** has databases on their website of transcriptions of records from a few German Churches in Baltimore. At this time these include burials 1864-1884 from the First German United Evangelical Church (Baltimore City, Maryland). They plan to add marriages from this church for the periods 1850-1863 and 1880 - 1911. They also have burials 1889-1919 from Saint Paul's Fifth German Reformed Church (Baltimore City, Maryland) and marriages from this church 1857-59 and 1864 -1919. The databases also include two cemetery removal lists from the early 1970's: Saint Matthew's Lutheran Cemetery and Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

**- Susannah E. Brooks**

## DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

### 2007

**July 14. Expand Your German Research.**

Whitewater, WI. University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Featured speaker, Larry O. Jensen of Pleasant Grove, UT. Contact: German Interest Group-Wisconsin, P.O. Box 2185, Janesville, WI 53547-2185, e-mail: [gig\\_wi@hotmail.com](mailto:gig_wi@hotmail.com) Web site: [www.rootsweb.com/~wigig/index.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~wigig/index.html)

**July 13-15. Platt Conference.** Omaha, NE. Contact: American/Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society, P.O. Box 0506, Walcott, IA 52773-0506

**July 28-29. German Festival.** Timonium, MD. Timonium Fairgrounds. Contact: German Society of Maryland, P.O. Box 22585, Baltimore, MD 21203-4585 Phone: 410-685-0450

**August 15-18. Federation of Genealogical Societies National Conference.** Fort Wayne, IN. Theme: Meeting at the Crossroads of America. Contact: FGS, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940. Phone: 888-FGS-1500. Web site: [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org)

**August 17-19. Wertman Family Reunion.** Allentown, PA. Contact: Wertman Family Association, 32 Burgess Road, Foster, RI 02825, Web site: <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~wertman>

**September 15. Genealogy Conference.** Kutztown, PA. Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center, campus of Kutztown University. Featured speaker: Roland Paul, former Assistant Director of the Institut für Pflanzliche Geschichte und Volkskund,

Kaiserslautern, Germany and author of *Palatines to Amerika*. Also featured: Corinne Earnest, presentation on decorative arts, history and culture of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century German ancestors using Fraktur and Pennsylvania German Boradsides; John Humphrey, speaking on the impact of economic forces shaping our ancestors lives. Contact: Lucy Kern, Heritage Center Library, 22 Luckenbill Road, Kutztown, PA 19530, Phone: 484-646-4165, e-mail: [pagermanlibrary@kutztown.edu](mailto:pagermanlibrary@kutztown.edu) Web site: [www.kutztown.edu/hcl](http://www.kutztown.edu/hcl)

**October 6. Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Fall Meeting.**

Hagerstown, MD, Plaza Hotel, 1718 Underpass Way, Halfway Blvd. Phone: 301-797-2500. Featured speaker: John Philip Colletta, "Putting the Family Puzzle Together — Research and Writing." Contact: Diane Kuster, 2410 Jacqueline Drive, Apt. B-13, Wilmington, DE 19810, Phone: 302-893-8588. Registration form: [registration@magsgen.com](mailto:registration@magsgen.com)

**October 13. Pennsylvania Chapter, Palatines to America.**

New Holland, PA. Yoder's Restaurant. "Genetic Genealogy: Using modern technology to trace ancestors" with speakers including Charles Kerchner of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy. Contact PA Chapter PalAm, PO Box 280, Strasburg, PA 17579; e-mail, james@beidler.us

### 2008

**September 3-6. Federation of Genealogical Societies National Conference.**

Philadelphia, PA. Theme: Philadelphia Footprints of Family History. Contact: FGS, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940, Phone: 888-FGS-1500. Web site: [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org)

## BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN

### *Book Reviews*

#### **The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia**

By John Walter Wayland, B.A., Ph.D.

1907. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Virginia. Published by the author through the Michie Company. CD of dissertation. 272 pages. No index. CD given to MAGS Lending Library as a donation.

*The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia* was first published by the author in 1907 and is presented here in its entirety on CD, which was donated to MAGS by Peter Schroeder. The original book was dedicated to Schroeder's grandfather James M. Engle.

The CD opens in Internet Explorer and does not appear to have a search capability. It is very easy to scroll through, however. There are thirteen chapters ranging from the first settlers to the valley, to towns and their founders, to religious life, to industry.

*The German Element* does not have an index so you will have to read the book in its entirety if you are seeking any family names. But at 272 pages it's not impossible. The book does have an appendix and you will need to review this as well. It acts somewhat as an index. The bibliography may lead a researcher on to other sources aiding in research.

A search was made looking for specific individuals of interest. Albeit time consuming because there was no index, pay dirt was reached at the end of the trail. The plus of not having an index is that one is forced to read background information that one may not read otherwise. This background information is often the most helpful in furthering one's research.

The document is well referenced. It covers the early 1700s on through the 1800s. It includes several compilations of names including Professor I.D. Rupp's "Collection of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, and other Immigrants to Philadelphia, from 1727-1776."

Tremendous background information of the geography is provided. Descriptions of the early settlements, county and town records, town histories, and specifically, German migration to the area is included in great detail.

Other chapters discuss religious, political, educational, and cultural habits of the settlers. Land transfers occupy a large part of the book placing specific individuals in the area at exact times and locations.

Appendices include German Members of Congress from the Valley, revolutionary pensioners from Frederick, Page, Rockingham, and Shenandoah counties, and other historical and genealogical goodies.

While searching on CD's is not a favored research method, this book/CD is well worth the effort if one is looking for Germans in the Shenandoah Valley, or even, if one is just plain interested in the history of the area. This CD book is a winner!

**Reviewed by Diane Kuster and Mariana Wilke**

#### **The Swango Family**

By the Swango Reunion Book Committee

2002. Available from Little Miami Publishing Co., P.O. Box 588, Milford, Ohio 45150-0588. Hardcover. 736 pages. Indexed. ISBN 0-9713657-9-2. \$70 plus \$3 mailing.

The latest edition of *The Swango Family* came about at the annual Swango family reunion and was met with great enthusiasm by the participants. The reason for the update was to incorporate previously published information with current and up-to-date information.

The book begins with the origins of the Swango line in Bavaria and then has William and his wife and three sons coming

to America in 1747. A few more chapters deal with the family's history in Kentucky and details family members who served in the Civil War on the Confederate and Union sides. A typical family split!

*The Swango Family* details past Swango reunions, some family heroes and a nice "In Memory" section. The bulk of the book details the descendents of William Swango and it's here that any Swango researcher will be in heaven! Twelve

generations are represented and even in the early days there is great detail about some of the members.

As with any important work in genealogy, there is an extensive every name index. In all 8,011 names are documented. In a work that spanned five years to complete and publish the Swango family should be proud.

**Reviewed by Diane Kuster**

## MAGS Welcomes New Members

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 free queries to the queries editor regarding specific ancestors.

Cyndee Anderson of Salem NH

***(Mattes, Eberle, Marsteller, Herster)***

Joel Colley Armistead of Lilburn GA

***(Zimmerman, Zeigler, Fellers, Albrecht)***

Elsie Barnd of Charlottesville VA

***(Huber, Gerhardt, Weiss, Gut)***

Belinda Bowman-Schaefer of Portsmouth OH

***(Baumann, Kistler, Kerns, Deissinger/Tisinger)***

Cynthia Carpenter of Stafford VA

***(Kirschhoff, Stoever, Kuntz)***

Kathryn Carpenter of Manassas VA

***(Himmelright, Kern)***

Joan Marie Croson of Waldorf MD

***(Miller, Akin, Hood, Oliver)***

Marla Sink Druzgal of Lover PA

***(Sink, Master/Meisther, Weber, Strotman)***

Robert E. Dunfield of Centreville VA

Juanita Friedenberge of Tampa FL

***(Friedenberge, Viermetz, Boeshart, Kremheller)***

Roseann Harkins of Odessa DE

Terri Ritter Hopkins of Willow Spring NC

***(Ritter, Keller, Fincher, Stoner)***

Lee James Irwin of Falls Church VA

***(Shelly, Fegley, Joder, Landis)***

Deborah K. Jahnke & family of Catawba VA

***(Kern, Jahnke, Rhem, Bluenburg)***

Widona I. Laird & family of Kent WA

***(OpDenGraff/Uptegrove, Hahn)***

Frances Lee of Goochland VA

***(Dory/Dorey, Haake)***

Joseph Lieby of New Windsor NY

***(Lieby, Bösch/Boesch)***

James D. Neville of Hagerstown MD

Richard Price of Salt Lake City UT

***(Graver, Sheets, Engle, Marsteller)***

Marvin Gordon Seyffert of Kansas City MO

***(Niebergall, Froschauer, Gilbert, Wege/Wagy)***

Sara Louise Sukol of Springfield VA

***(Driess/Dreese/Tries/Treese)***

MAGS would like to thank Diane Kuster, Diane Giannini, and Joan Croson for their assistance with the MAGS booth at the NGS conference in Richmond.

**MAGS Services**

**Queries printed in *Der Kurier***

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 Submit query and payment (if required) to:  
 Edythe Millar, 7102 Cedon Road,  
 Woodford, VA 22580

Silver Spring, MD 20906

**MAGS Library**

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

**Ahnentafels printed in *Der Kurier***

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 Shirley E Forrester, 3455 Chiswick Ct.,

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

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New members joining anytime during  
the calendar year receive all copies of  
that year's newsletters.