



Der Kurier

Volume 29, Number 2, June 2011

Trip to Heimat worth the wait

By James M. Beidler

A screenwriter from Hollywood couldn't have made the timing any more profound than what actually happened.

The setting was the Family History Library in Salt Lake City in early May 2010. It was less than a half hour before the shuttle bus would take me back to the hotel for brief stop before leaving for the airport.

On the last roll of microfilm that I planned to look at on this trip, my tenth one to research in the library's treasure trove of German church records, I found what I had been seeking for about 15 years: Evidence of the Heimat ("home village" in the German language) of my surname immigrant ancestor, Johannes Beydeler.

What I knew before this point was that the immigrant had arrived in Philadelphia in

October 1727 aboard the ship Adventure and, according to his tombstone, was born sometime in 1700. His wife was a woman named Anna Maria who was born about 1705. From other researchers, I had learned that the name in Germany was likely to be Beutler.

Despite trying numerous methodologies, hints, clues and strategies, I had started 2010 no closer to finding the "Heimat" than at the beginning of the search.

Then, in the marriage records of Palatine village of Gerolsheim, I found an entry for a Johannes Beuttler and Anna Maria Riebel from April 1727 – just enough time to then find their way down the Rhine River to Rotterdam and get on a ship bound for America.

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MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

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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 \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. Benefits of membership include:

- **Spring and Fall Meetings** featuring expert speakers
- **Quarterly journal, *Der Kurier***
- **MAGS Lending Library**
- **Ahnentafels** published in *Der Kurier*
- **Queries**

A membership application appears on the back cover of *Der Kurier*.

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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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Diane Kuster

Volunteer projects upcoming

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society is currently putting together several indexing projects that would allow us to make these indexes available to members only via our website and newsletter.

Some of the indexing projects will be available for a volunteer to work from home and some may require us to be onsite. The onsite locations would be at NARA in Washington, DC, or at NARA II in College Station, MD.

More details regarding our plans will be provided this fall following our July board meeting and at that time we will put a call out for volunteers to assist us in our efforts to accomplish this undertaking. This wealth of information will be extremely beneficial for all of our members.

Trip to Heimat worth the long wait

(continued from cover)

In a piece of good fortune, I had already booked a trip to Germany for September 2010 that I planned to build around seeing a performance of the once-in-a-decade Oberammergau Passion Play.

Once I had roughed out my self-planned itinerary enough to realize that the best opportunity to visit Gerolsheim would be in the first few days after landing in Europe, I e-mailed the tourist agency for Gruenstadt, the area to which Gerolsheim is attached.

The people at the agency quickly replied with the name and e-mail address of Gerolsheim's mayor, Erich Weyer, and an e-mail to the mayor was fielded by his deputy, Klaus May.

I had asked only if there were items available for purchase with the town seal, and if they could advise me on what archives might have additional records about the village.

May's reply – which he apologetically noted strained the limits of his long-ago-learned “school English” – promised so much more. He said we should telephone right away when we arrived at the airport in Frankfurt, and that he and the mayor would give us a tour of the town, as well as showing me items for sale and answering any questions.

In an additional e-mail from May, he said they had searched the two-volume village history book and found a mention of my

immigrant ancestor's father Bernhard Beuttler from 1698.

When we called May after arriving in Frankfurt, I found his English to be better on the telephone than in writing, and he gave us directions to find his house in Gerolsheim.

Once there, we walked with him to the Rathaus to meet with Mayor Weyer. They showed me the reference to Bernhard Beuttler. He apparently had been a church elder in 1698 and was writing to ask for a popular Protestant pastor to be reinstated to the church in Gerolsheim.

Weyer's warm greeting included the sharing of a bottle of the local Riesling white wine – my favorite type of wine!

The village is firmly in the Palatine wine region, and one of the points of pride in the village are the women who have won the regional title of wine princess over the years ... they are memorialized on sign boards with first names followed by Roman numerals just like royal heads of state!

We visited the Protestant church in the village, which has undergone extensive interior renovations in the last year. However, it was bittersweet to confirm (as my online research had signaled) that virtually no structures in the town dated to the period of my immigrant ancestor. The church dated only to the first half of the 1800s.

For that, King Louis XIV of France was to blame. In his wars of the late 1600s and early 1700s, he laid ruin to much of the Palatinate, including Gerolsheim.

Still and all, the visit did afford me the opportunity to “walk in the footsteps” of my immigrant ancestor.

And as to my long, long search: When I went back over my notes from the years of searching, I could kick myself for not looking at Gerolsheim’s records sooner.

The village is surrounded by towns that the noted researcher Annette K. Burgert had published in her *Palatine Origins* of

Pennsylvania Pioneers volume. When I looked again in her preface for the names of the villages whose church records she researched, I found that, indeed, Gerolsheim is missing.

I believe I had been dissuaded from looking that the records because it seemed to be a tiny village (and that perhaps was included in nearby villages’ records that had been searched by Burgert) and the records that exist did not pick up until the 1710s, after the birth date of my immigrant ancestor.

Would that I had not made those faulty assumptions, I might have been savoring that bottle of Riesling much earlier!

SUCHANZEIGEN / *Queries*

Taking advantage of this queries feature in *Der Kurier* is a no cost way of spreading the word about what you’re looking for genealogically. Queries traditionally have been the “personal ads” of the family history world.

But submitting a query to Suchanzeigen, you might:

- Find a long lost relative.
- Find a long lost ancestor.
- Find a MAGS member who can guide you to leads in your research.
- Learn of areas where your ancestors lived that you never imagined.
- Learn stories of how your ancestors lived.
- Learn *why* they came to this country.
- Learn *when* they came to this country.
- Learn why they left “the old country”
-

As Edythe Millar, the coordinator of queries for *Der Kurier*, notes this free service “requires no coupons – only that you give as much information as possible about the person you are researching. Here’s a full list of the rules for the queries in *Der Kurier*:

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 (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)

FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest

**Albrechts attract
attention of members**

Irene Hardman and other MAGS members asked about ALBRECHTs on fraktur. Many examples of fraktur having this surname and the English versions, ALBRIGHT and ALBERT, are known. Bible records that mention ALBRECHTs have been published previously in *Der Kurier*. For example, the September 2010 issue relates data from the STEFFAN/ALBRECHT family of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Also, information from two family registers made for ALBRECHTs appear in the March 2008 issue of *Der Kurier*. One was made for the Christian ALBRECHT (1748-1820) and Maria Elisabetha (ALTHAUS) ALBRECHT (1754-99) family of Berks and Lehigh Counties. The other was made for Christian and Maria Elisabetha's son, Jacob, and his family. Readers are urged to see those issues of *Der Kurier* for details concerning these families. Unless otherwise noted, locations given below are in Pennsylvania.

The Reading Public Museum in Reading, has *Taufscheine* (birth and baptism certificates) made for two children of Daniel and Magdalena (RIESER) ALBRECHT. One was made for George ALBRECHT, who was born in Bern Township, Berks County, on July 14, 1795. He was baptized by Pastor BOOS, but no date of baptism was given. The sponsors at George's baptism were George and Margaretha METLER. The second example was made for George's sister, Magdalena. Magdalena ALBRECHT was born in Bern Township on December 18, 1797. She was baptized by Pastor BOOS but, again, no date was given. The sponsors at Magdalena's baptism were Henrich RIESER and Magdalena HEHN.

The Museum also has the *Taufschein* (singular form of *Taufscheine*) of Rebecca, daughter of George and Catharine (BURNS) ALBRECHT. Rebecca was born in Bern Township on January 26, 1824, and baptized July 11, 1824, by Pastor DUBBS. The only sponsor at Rebecca's baptism was Magdalena ALBRECHT. Handwritten notes accompany this *Taufschein*. They say that George ALBRECHT died in Reading on July 25, 1852, at the age of 57 years and 11 days. George married Catarina [*sic*] on June 18, 1821. Apparently, Catarina was 33 years old when she died. She lived in marriage 10 years, 9 months, and 12 days. The ALBRECHTs had five children, of whom three sons and one daughter survived. According to the notes, Catarina was the daughter of Rietscherd [Richard] BARNES [*sic*]. Although no other information was given about Catarina's baptism, her baptismal sponsors were named. They were Peter and Catarina STICHTER.

The Museum has a *Taufschein* made for Daniel ALBRECHT, son of George and Catharine (BURNS) ALBRECHT. Daniel ALBRECHT was born about 5:30 in the evening on April 12 or 13, 1822, in Bern Township. He was baptized on June 28, presumably in 1822, by Pastor DUBBS. The sponsors at Daniel's baptism were Daniel and Catharine AULENBACH.

A related *Taufschein* is in a private collection. It was made for Rebecca's and Daniel's brother, William. William ALBRECHT was born about four o'clock in the morning on February 7, 1828 in Bern Township. He was baptized May 23, 1828, by Pastor DUBBS. William's parents sponsored his baptism.

An undated reward of merit in a private collection was presented to Amanda J. ALBRIGHT as an award for answers to "6470 Questions." No location was recorded.

The current location is unknown of a *Taufschein* made for Maria Sara ALBRECHT, who was born about nine o'clock in the morning on September 16, 1794, in Penn Township, Northumberland

County. Maria Sara was baptized by Pastor JASENSKÝ (no date given), and the sponsors were Philip and Margretha MEISSER. Maria Sara's parents were not named on her *Taufschein*.

A *Taufschein* in a private collection was made for Martha Emma Maria ALBRIGHT, daughter of Charles T.H. ALBRIGHT and his wife, Annie S.E. MARCKS, daughter of John MARCKS. Martha Emma Maria was born September 1, 1901, in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County. She was baptized October 6, 1901 by E.J. FOGEL. The sponsors at Martha's baptism were her parents.

June Burk Lloyd, Librarian Emerita at the York County Heritage Trust, shared data from *Taufscheine* made for three daughters of Martin and Sarah (SHUCK) ALBRIGHT. The daughters were born in East Hanover Township, Dauphin County. Sabina Louisa was born April 6, 1850. She was baptized (no date given) by John STEIN. Martin and Sarah ALBRIGHT sponsored her baptism. Ellen (?) and Malinda ALBRIGHT were born March 21, 1861. No data concerning their baptisms were recorded.

Lloyd recorded data from a *Taufschein* made for Elisabeth ALLBRECHT, who was born November 5, 1810 in Manheim Township, York County. Elisabeth ALLBRECHT was the daughter of Johannes and Catharina (RUNCKEL) ALLBRECHT. Elisabeth was baptized April 14, 1811 by Pastor HELFENSTEIN, Reformed. The only sponsor at Elisabeth's baptism was Elisabeth LANG.

The Library Company of Philadelphia has a *Taufschein* made for Elisabeth's younger sister, Catharina. Catharina ALLBRECHT was born February 28, 1814, in Manheim Township. She was baptized by Pastor WIESTLING on May 4, 1814. The sponsors at Catharina's baptism were Jacob and Elisabeth ALLBRECHT.

The first volume of *German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition* gives data from a *Taufschein* made for Anna Maria ALBRECHT, daughter of Martin and Sophia (BRECHT) ALBRECHT. Anna Maria was born August 24, 1790, in Heidelberg Township, Dauphin County. She was baptized by Pastor SCHULTZ on September 19, 1790. The only sponsor at her baptism was Anna Maria BRECHT.

The same volume lists two other examples having the name ALBRECHT. They were made for the children of Henrich and Maria (ALBRECHT) SCHUCKERT. One mentions the birth of Maria on April 5, 1826, in Schaefferstown. Maria was baptized April 20, 1828, by Pastor HIESTER. The other was made for Saara, who was born May 18, 1831 in Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County. Saara was baptized June 19, 1831, by Pastor BAEDES. In both instances, the parents sponsored their daughters' baptism.

A Bible record in a private collection says Catharina ALBRECHT was the wife of Georg WAGNER and the mother of Salomon WAGNER. Salomon WAGNER was born January 19, 1808 in Bern Township, Berks County. He married Rebecca, daughter of Johannes and Catharina (OSSENBACH) LINDENMUTH. Rebecca was born November 21, 1820, in Bern Township, Berks County. Salomon and Rebecca (LINDENMUTH) WAGNER were married on March 20, 1841, by William PAULY, Reformed. They had two sons, both of whom were born in Upper Bern Township, Berks County. Friedrich was born July 30, 1844, and James was born November 8, 1848.

As is customary, I am sending Irene Hardman additional information from fraktur having the surname, ALBRECHT.

Delong correspondents have fraktur data

Over the years, several DELONG family researchers and correspondents shared information and photocopies of fraktur made for DELONGs. One photocopy shows a *Taufschein* (birth and baptism certificate) made for Edward DELANG, son of Edward and Maria

Agnees [Agnes] (STEIDEL) DELANG. Edward DELANG Jr. was born about ten o'clock in the evening on December 15, 1785 in Buffalo Township, Northumberland [today's Union] County, Pennsylvania. He was baptized on Christmas Eve in 1785 by Pastor

SPANGENBERG. Edward's parents were his baptismal sponsors. According to this certificate, Maria Agnees was the daughter of Joseph STEIDEL.

A correspondent shared a translation from a *Taufschein* made for Johann Frederick DELONG, son of Peter and Elizabeth DELONG. Johann Frederick was born about eight o'clock in the evening on February 5, 1750.

He was born in Maxatawny Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Johann Frederick was baptized on March 5, 1750 by Johann Frederick MILLER, who also stood as sponsor. Johann Frederick DELONG was confirmed in 1767, and on March 23, 1772, he married Marie Susannah EMERTERICH (?).

An article appearing in the October 1903 issue of *The Pennsylvania-German* tells more about Johann Frederick's father, Peter DELONG. Written by DELONG descendant, P.C. Croll, "The Delong Family in America" says the DELONGs settled about 1738 primarily around Bowers Station in today's Maxatawny Township, Berks County. It was there that De Long's Reformed Church was established about 1759. The progenitor of the DELONGs in Berks County was the above-mentioned Peter DELONG.

According to Croll, Peter DELONG was a French Huguenot.* Peter DELONG made his will in 1759 in which he named his wife, "Eva Elisabita." In handwritten notes on the reverse of David DELANG's *Taufschein* (see below), the unknown writer says Eva Elisabita's parents were Jacob and Anna Elizabeth WEBER of Ulster County, New York.

The Library Company of Philadelphia owns two *Taufscheine* (plural of *Taufschein*) that are related to the Peter and Eva Elisabita (WEBER) DELONG family. One refers to the above-mentioned David DELANG certificate. David DELANG was the son of Michael and Barbara DELANG. This *Taufschein* says David was born in Maxatawny Township on May 6,

1790. He was baptized days later on May 24, but the pastor's name was not given. The sponsors at David's baptism were David and Barbara DELANG. An added note says David was confirmed by Henrich HELFRICH in 1805. Of interest, P.C. Croll and others penned extensive genealogy notations on the reverse of David's *Taufschein*. These notes indicate that Michael DELONG (1739-1819) was a son of Peter and Eva Elisabita (WEBER) DELONG.

A second example at the Library Company was made for Chatarinah [Catharina] DELANG, daughter of David and Chatarinah (CLAUSSER) DELANG. The daughter, Chatarinah, was born August 2, 1815, in Longswamp Township, Berks County. She was baptized by Carl HERMAN on September 17 of the same year. The sponsors at Chatarinah's baptism were Jacob and Chatarinah CLAUSSER.

In "The Delong Family in America," P.C. Croll offers partial information from a *Taufschein* made for David's wife, Catharine CLAUSER. It says Catharine CLAUSER was the daughter of Edward and Susanna (LIESS) CLAUSER. Catharine was born March 25, 1791. She died in North Whitehall Township in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, on February 16, 1883, at the age of 91 years, 10 months, and 21 days. Her husband, David DELANG, died October 26, 1869 at the age of 79 years, 5 months, and 20 days.

Still another DELONG researcher sent a photocopy of a *Taufschein* made for Peter and Sara (GENSEL) LANG's son, Sammuell LANG. Sammuell LANG was born December 10, 1810 in Longswamp Township. He was baptized April 1, 1811, by Pastor HELFRICH. The sponsors at Sammuell LANG's baptism were Sammuell SCHWARTZ and Catharina DELANG.

A DELONG family researcher assisted with reconstruction of data from a DELANG family register sold on September 28, 1996 at Pook and Pook Auctions in Downingtown,

Pennsylvania. The register was made for Henrich and Susana (SEIBERT) DELANG who married on December 3, 1829, and had the following children: Peter, born October 4, 1830; Rebeca, born March 13, 1833; Johan, born June 29, 1836; Wilhelm, born January 9, 1839; Elisabet, born December 1, 1841; and an unnamed child, born July 6, 1845. A family member reported the last child was named Hester.

No location was given on the register, but two *Taufscheine* were made for this family. Wilhelm's and Peter's *Taufscheine* say they were born in Bloom Township, Columbia County, Pennsylvania. Wilhelm was baptized May 12, 1839 by Pastor SCHELHAMMER. His parents sponsored the baptism. Peter was baptized on November 5, 1830, by Daniel TOBIAS. The sponsors at his baptism were Andreas and Eva deLANG.

Andreas and Eva DELANG are mentioned on a *Taufschein* in a private collection. This certificate was made for their daughter, Catharina. According to this example, Eva's maiden name was METZGER. Catharina DELANG was born about six o'clock in the morning on February 1, 1787, in Maxatawny Township, Berks County. Catharina was baptized by Henr. HELFRIG, but no date of baptism was given. The sponsors at Catharina's baptism were Peter LANG [*sic*] and Catharina METZGER, both single. An added note says Catharina was confirmed in 1802 by Thomas POMP.

A related example was sold by Pook and Pook Auctions on April 24, 2009. It was made for Andreas's and Eva's son, Henrich. Henrich DELANG was born about two o'clock in the afternoon on March 4, 1807. He was born in Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania. Henrich was baptized by Thomas POMP on May 3, 1807. The sponsors at his baptism were Henrich and Catharina DELANG.

DELONG family researchers shared a photocopy of a *Taufschein* made for Hiob [Job] DELANG, son of Peter and Maria Machtalena (MILLER) DELANG. Hiob was born March 17, 1808 in West Penn Township, Northampton County. He was baptized April 10, probably in 1808, by Pastor SCHAFER, Lutheran. The sponsors at Hiob's baptism were his maternal grandparents, Michael and Catharina MILLER. This certificate goes on to say Hiob was confirmed on May 23, 1822, and he married Salome BREINER on April 22, 1832. The location of West Penn Township in Northampton County probably refers to what is now the region of Maxatawny Township in Berks County near the border of Berks and Lehigh Counties. Added notes give additional information about Hiob DELANG. The notes say he moved to Richland County, Ohio, on September 20, 1832, and then on to Illinois on September 27, 1840.

DELONG descendent and author, Prof. Don Yoder, called my attention to a marriage certificate made for William YODER and Brigitta DELONG of Upper Mahantongo Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. William and Brigitta were married by Isaac STIEHLY on February 7, 1840. Don Yoder pictured the marriage certificate in his book, *Discovering American Folklife: Essays on Folk Culture and the Pennsylvania Dutch*.

If you have names you wish me to research on fraktur, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, P.O. Box 1132, Clayton DE 19938. I want to take this opportunity to thank correspondents who share with me, and for allowing me to share their information with others. It goes without saying that information about fraktur or photocopies of fraktur are appreciated.

*Some DELONG descendants believe many DELONGs who settled in southeastern Pennsylvania were Holland Dutch.

Translators

This list of translators is offered as a service to MAGS members. It is not intended, however, as an endorsement or recommendation of any translator's work. When requesting a translation, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the translator's reply, along with a photocopy of a sample page from the text to be translated so that the translator may understand your needs and estimate the charge for the translation. Do not send original documents.

1. Andrew Witter

2056 – 255th St., Donnellson, IA 51625-

Phone: (319) 835-3960

E-Mail: ajwitter@iowatelecom.net

2. Gen Collins

Phone: (301) 770-0683

E-Mail: glcipc@verizon.net

Specialization: Translates German and German script and English to German.

NOTE: No address to be listed.

3. Global Accents

15011 Hunter Mountain Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20906-6216

Phone: (301) 438-0020

E-Mail: globlakcnt@aol.com

Web site (being redesigned): www.Globalaccents.com

4. Ann C. Sherwin

1918 Medfield Road, Raleigh, NC 27606-4732

Phone: (919) 859-5846

E-Mail: asherwin@aol.com

Web site: www.asherwin.com

Specialization: Genealogy and local history; Fraktur and German script, personal documents.

Accredited by the American Translators Association for German-English & Spanish- English.

5. American Translators Association

225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590, Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: (703) 683-6100

Web site: www.atanet.org.

They have an online directory for individual translators and area of specialization choices.

6. Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G.

PO Box 12045, Provo, UT 84603

Phone: (801) 374-2587; Fax (801) 374-3580

E-Mail: grtpublications@juno.com.

Specialization: German-English, English-German, German script, French, Latin

7. Uwe Jacobsen

Wilhelm-Spiegel-Str. 30, D-24145 Kiel, Germany E-mail: uwejacobsen@gmx.de Specialization:

Genealogical research in Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg-Altona, Sonderjylland / Denmark Transcription of old documents.



NEW GENEALOGY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY IN 2012 Announcing the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2011 - Pittsburgh, PA – GRIP – The Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh – a new genealogical institute of learning announces a genealogy educational opportunity planned for July 2012. Consisting of four courses, it will be held Monday, July 23 through Friday, July 27, 2012, at LaRoche College, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. According to Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, and Deborah Lichtner Deal, directors of GRIP, “the demand for in-depth genealogical education is so high that week-long courses sell out shortly after registration opens, disappointing many potential students. At the same time genealogists who have taken many courses want new content.” GRIP seeks to satisfy this growing need for high quality genealogy education through its week-long courses with internationally recognized instructors. Nestled in the Pittsburgh suburbs, LaRoche’s campus includes economical air-conditioned “en suite” dorm accommodations steps from the classrooms, a buffet-style cafeteria, and free parking. The instructors are all experienced researchers, lecturers, and writers who bring their expertise into the classroom with case studies and problem solving exercises. Registration will begin in February.

- **Intermediate Genealogy: Tools for Digging Deeper** with **Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FMGS, FUGA**. Warren focuses on unusual resources, manuscripts, methodology, and analyzing records. She researches across the U.S. and has coordinated and taught at multiple genealogical institutes and conferences. Warren serves on the Federation of Genealogical Societies board and is President of the Northland Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

- **Advanced Research Methods** with **Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS**. Jones has edited the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* since 2002. A former trustee and a past president of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, he works as a researcher, writer, editor, and educator. Jones coordinates courses at Samford University’s Institute on Genealogy and Historical Research, at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and he teaches in Boston University’s Genealogical Research Certificate program.

- **Beneath the Home Page: Problem Solving with Online Repositories** with **D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS**. Taylor is Director of Education and Programs at New England Historic Genealogical Society, and has appeared on the television program “Who Do You Think You Are?” A frequent speaker at various venues, Taylor is a course coordinator for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. He is also Vice President of Administration for the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), where he serves as co-chair of the FGS/ISGS 2011 National Conference.

- **German Genealogical Research** with **John T. Humphrey, CG**. Humphrey is an award-winning author who specializes in German and Pennsylvania research. In 2010 he was invited to

give a presentation on researching Germans in America in the Rhineland-Palatinate; in 2008, at the request of the German Embassy, he presented the keynote address at the 400th Anniversary Celebration commemorating four centuries of German immigration into the United States. Humphrey is a past president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society and past vice president of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.

About GRIP

The Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh will serve a need for in-depth genealogical education in the Mid-Atlantic region and nationally. Located about 300 miles from major cities such as Cincinnati, Ohio; Ft. Wayne, Indiana; Detroit, Michigan; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Rochester, New York; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Baltimore, Maryland; Charleston, West Virginia; and Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh is strategically placed and economical to visit.

The directors of GRIP have been doing genealogical research for a combined 40 years and have volunteered thousands of hours to various genealogical societies.

Deborah Lichtner Deal is an Ohio Genealogical Society Trustee and has run their week-long Summer Workshop for over ten years. Deal also has attended both Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and the Institute for Genealogy and Historic Research (IGHR) at Samford University, winning its prized Walter Lee Sheppard, Jr., award in 2010. She is a local lecturer and southeast Ohio researcher.

Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, is a Board for Certification of Genealogists Trustee and instructor at Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. She is the course coordinator for the Professional Genealogy course at IGHR and has attended the National Institute for Genealogical Research in Washington, D. C. She wrote part and instructs in part of Boston University's fourteen-week Genealogical Research Certificate course. She has encouraged others in their genealogical education in the classroom and by teaching online. Powell is past-president of two Pittsburgh area genealogical societies and served six years as a board director for the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG). She has video lectures available through the PMC Webcast link at <http://www.APGen.org> on choosing the best continuing education options and on professional development. The directors' commitment to genealogy educational excellence is shown in this newly-formed institute. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.GRIPitt.org>.

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FAMILY REGISTERS

Schlottman/Eck Family

Family registers pages bound between the Old and New Testaments of an 1856 Philadelphia Bible printed by I. Kohler record data concerning the SCHLOTTMAN/ECK family. Written in German, the record is attributed to scrivener, William Gross (active 1861-86), who worked in primarily Berks, Lehigh, and Northampton Counties of southeastern Pennsylvania. The record, itself, gives no location.

This family register says that Alexander SCHLOTTMAN and Catharina ECK were married on January 30, 1864, by C. Pauly. Alexander was the son of George and Susanna SCHLOTTMAN. He was born October 17, 1834 and baptized by A. HERMAN. No date of baptism was given, but Benjamin SCHALTER and Esther HERTLEIN served as sponsors.

Alexander's wife, Catharina, was the daughter of John and Catharina ECK. Catharina ECK was born February 22, 1840, and baptized, but the name of the pastor was omitted as was the date of baptism. The only sponsor at Catharina's baptism was her mother.

Children born to Alexander and Catharina (ECK) SCHLOTTMAN included:

- Kate, born September 4, 1864, and baptized by Aaron S. LEINBACH (no date given).
- William, born August 20, 1866, and baptized by S. HERMAN (no date given).
- George Alexander, born December 4, 1869, and baptized by Sassaman HERMAN.

The parents served as sponsors at all three baptisms. William and George Alexander died young. William died December 28, 1866 at the age of 4 months and 8 days. George Alexander died May 26, 1870 at the age of 5 months and 22 days.

Braunmiller register

A German-language family register was made for George and Anna (FUSS) BRAUNMILLER of Berks and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. This register is in a private collection and includes with it a bookplate made for George BRAUNMILLER and Anna JUSS [HUGHES], who married on June 6, 1824.

The register says George and Anna BRAUNMILLER were married by John NOSKE [KNOSKE]. George BRAUNMILLER was born April 1, 1804 in Whitehall Township, Northampton County. The son of Friedrich and Barbara (WOLFF) BRAUNMILLER, he was baptized May 13, probably in 1804. No other information concerning his baptism was given. George BRAUNMILLER died February 24, 1896. A note in the record says he "expired fifteen minutes past 12 o'clock noon, aged 91 years, 10 months, and 23 days."

Anna JUSS was born April 8, 1807 in Richmond Township, Berks County. The daughter of Elias and Elisabetha (FAISER) JUSS, she was baptized by John KNOSKE, but no date of baptism was given. Anna BRAUNMILLER died January 4, 1883 at the age of 76 years, 8 months, and 26 days.

George and Anna BRAUNMILLER had seven children whose surnames are written "BRAUMILLER" in this record. Three of their children died in May and June of 1835. The children were:

1. George Washington BRAUMILLER, born August 31, 1827, in Greenwich Township, Berks County. George Washington was baptized by Charles HERRMANN (no date given). The sponsors at his baptism were Fried. and Barbara BRAUMILLER.
2. Elisabetha BRAUMILLER was born July 27, 1831, in Greenwich Township, and baptized August 28 by Pastor RÖLLER. Elisabetha died May 19, 1835, at the age of 3 years, 9 months, and 22 days.
3. Louis, whose name is also written "Louisa" BRAUMILLER, was born January 10, 1834 in Greenwich Township. He or she was baptized February 16, probably in 1834, by Pastor JAEGER. No other information concerning baptism was given. "Louisa" died June 27, 1835 at the age of 1 year, 5 months, and 15 days.
4. Louis's twin, Leander BRAUMILLER, was born January 10, 1834 in Greenwich Township. Leander was baptized February 16 by Pastor JAEGER. Leander died May 26, 1835 at the age of 1 year, 4 months, and 16 days.
5. Isabella BRAUMILLER was born July 26, 1838 in Bern Township, Berks County. She was baptized by Isaac MIESE on August 26. The sponsors at her baptism were George WEBER and Anna PHILIPPI, both single.
6. Henry BRAUMILLER was born January 23, 1842, in Bern Township. He was baptized April 16, probably 1842, by Daniel KOHLER. The sponsors at Henry's baptism were Joseph and Rebecca HIESTER.
7. Franklin BRAUMILLER was born September 20, 1843, in Bern Township. He was baptized October 24, 1843, by Isaac MIESE. The parents sponsored Franklin's baptism. Franklin BROWNMILLER [*sic*] died August 15, 1896, at Friedensburg, Berks County. He died at age 52 years, 10 months, and 24 days. An added note says he "expired between 12 and one o'clock p.m."

An article and an obituary about George BROWNMILLER accompany this Bible record. They say George BROWNMILLER was a "popular organist and singing school teacher" in Friedensburg.

He died at the residence of his son, Frank H. BROWNMILLER. The obituary says he was born in Lehigh County, which was formed from Northampton County in 1812. His father, Frederick BRAUNMILLER, was a day laborer.

The obituary says George BRAUNMILLER's wife was Anna HUGHES. As noted, she predeceased him. His four surviving children at the time of his death included George W. of Vancouver, Washington; Henry H. of Orwigsburg [Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania], Frank H. of Friedensburg, and Isabella, widow of Anthony BURNHEISER of New York.

Bible records from private collections

Translations and transcriptions by Corinne Earnest

HÄRING Bible record

A German-language Bible record made for the Tobias and Leanna (REICHERT) HÄRING family of Bucks and Montgomery Counties in Pennsylvania is in a private collection. According to the record, Tobias and Leanna HÄRING married on January 17, 1847. Tobias HÄRING was born October 13, 1818 in Upper Salford Township, Montgomery County. Leanna REICHERT was born January 30, 1824 in Rockhill Township, Bucks County.

The HÄRING Bible record then continues with children born to Benjamin and Emma HIMMELWRIGHT. This portion of the Bible record was recorded in English. The HIMMELWRIGHT children included Oswin, born February 5, 1872; Reller, born June 27, 1873; Albert, born April 7, 1875; Katie, born June 10, 1876; Sallie, born September 6, 1878; Benjamin, born August 20, 1880; Amanda, born May 18, 1882; Enos, born September 20, 1885; and Charles, born June 6, 1887.

The next child, Paul , was the son of Sallie HIMMELWRIGHT. Paul was born November 7, 1899. The father's name was not listed.

The record continues with the deaths of three HIMMELWRIGHT children. Albert died January 26, 1876 at the age of 9 months and 19 days. Two stillborn children are listed. One was born March 21, 1893 and the other was born in March of 1898. Presumably, the two stillborn infants were the children of Benjamin and Emma HIMMELWRIGHT, although the record does not make that clear.

SCHMECK Bible record

An English-language Bible record in a private collection was made for the Albert H. and Louisa H. (SCHROEDER) SCHMECK family of Berks County. According to this record, Albert H. SCHMECK was from Alsace Township, and Louisa H. SCHROEDER was from Ruscombmanor Township. They were married in Reading by Thomas T. JAEGER, Lutheran, on February 12, 1875.

Albert SCHMECK was the son of Daniel and Hannah (HECKMAN) SCHMECK. Albert was born August 30, 1851, in Alsace Township. He was baptized November 23, 1851 by Pastor WAGNER. The sponsors at his baptism were Simon KLEIN and Katie NOLL, both single.

Albert's wife, Henriette Louisa, was the daughter of Benneville and Magdalena (HILL) SCHROEDER. She was born February 20, 1858, in Ruscombmanor Township and baptized by Pastor HINDERLEITNER. The sponsors at her baptism were Elick SCHLOTTMANN and Henriette FLORSCHÜTZ.

The children of Albert and Louisa SCHMECK were Emma Rhuberda, who was born March 20, 1876, in Ruscombmanor Township. She was baptized August 13, 1876, by Thomas T. JAEGER. Daniel and Hannah SCHMECK sponsored Emma Rhuberda's baptism. Hannah Arresta was the second child. She was born February 7, 1880, in Amity Township, Berks County, and baptized May 16, 1880 by Thomas T. JAEGER. Benneville and Magdalena SCHROEDER sponsored Hannah Arresta's baptism. Hannah Arresta died April 30, 1883, at the age of 3 years, 2 months, and 22 days. Daniel Bryan was the next child listed. He was born April 16, 1897, in Amity Township and baptized June 16, 1897 by E.S. BROWNMILLER. The parents sponsored Daniel Bryan's baptism.

Two undated obituaries included with this record give more information about the SCHMECK family. Genealogically significant portions of the first one reads:

“Rose E. SCHMECK, aged 61 years, 11 months, and 24 days, of Hyde Park, died of a complication of ailments. She was born in Alsace township near Spies Church, and was a daughter of the late Daniel and Hannah SCHMECK.... There remain five brothers and one sister, as follows: Adam, [residing in] Temple; Albert and Thomas, Hyde Park; Howard, Muhlenberg; Milton SCHMECK and Mrs. B.F.Y. GRAEFF, residing on Kutztown road, near Gethsemane cemetery....”

The other reads:

“MRS. DANIEL SCHMECK. Hannah, wife of Daniel SCHMECK, died of a complication of diseases at the residence of her husband in Muhlenberg, near Hyde Park, Thursday, September 29, aged 24 years. She was ailing about a year and bedfast 2 weeks. Besides her husband, there remain 5 sons and 2 daughters: John Adam SCHMECK, Alsace; Albert H. SCHMECK, Amity; Thomas H. and Howard SCHMECK, Reading; Milton SCHMECK, Muhlenberg; Mrs. D. [*sic*] F.Y. GRAEFF, East Mahanoy Junction [Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania], and Rose E. SCHMECK, Muhlenberg. John HECKMAN and Mrs. John FIES, of this city, are brother and sister of the deceased.”

SCHNEIDER Bible record

A German-language Bible record in a private collection was made for Jacob and Anna Maria (SCHAEFFER) SCHNEIDER. No location was given in this record, but the anonymous scrivener who recorded it worked primarily in Lehigh and Northampton counties, Pennsylvania.

According to this record, Jacob SCHNEIDER and Anna Maria SCHAEFFER were married by Pastor HOFMEIER on August 20, 1803. Jacob SCHNEIDER was the son of David and Esther (HIESTAND) SCHNEIDER. Jacob was born June 29, 1778, and baptized by Pastor HOFMEIER. Jacob was baptized as an adult, but no date of baptism was given. The scrivener also wrote that no sponsors were necessary (*Taufzeugen waren keine erforderlich...*).

Jacob's wife, Anna Maria SCHAEFFER, was the daughter of Wilhelm and Magdalena (KEHL) SCHAEFFER. Anna Maria was born September 16, 1780, and baptized by Pastor BOSSKERCH [Jacob van BUSKIRK], but no date of baptism was given. The only sponsor at Anna Maria's baptism was the widow, Maria Magdalena FISCHER.

The SCHNEIDERS had five children.

William was born March 31, 1804. He was baptized by Pastor HOFMEIER (no date given). The sponsors at William's baptism were his grandparents, William and Magdalena SCHAEFFER.

Esther was born September 21, 1806, and baptized by Pastor BLETT (no date given). The sponsors at Esther's baptism were Heinrich and Catharina EGNER.

David was born April 13, 1810, and baptized by W. DECHAND (no date given). The sponsors at David's baptism were Johannes and Elisabeth HARLACHER.

Samuel was born September 18, 1812, and baptized by W. DECHAND (no date given). The sponsors at Samuel's baptism were Jacob and Maria WENTZ.

Georg Jacob Tilghman was born April 25, 1816, and baptized by D. ZELLER (no date given). The sponsors at his baptism were Georg and Magdalena HARLACHER.

Google Books search can open doors to new types of records

Genealogists are always looking for a new type of record to add to the “universe of possibilities” in which to make searches about ancestors.

MAGS Treasurer Bob Greiner recently was Googling the web for a family name and the family’s German village, and he discovered a search result from Google Books that looks very interesting.

The scanned images he discovered were from *Amts- und Intelligenzblatt des Königlich Bayerischen Rheinkreises* in the 1830s. The title translates roughly as the “Official government gazette of the Bavarian Rhine province.”

This gazette or newspaper is essentially designed to communicate legal notices to the public. The notice that Greiner originally found appeared to be some kind of land or estate transaction.

“It mentioned the buyer and seller, then described all the small pieces of land, along with the names of the owners on either side of each piece,” Greiner noted. “It finally mentioned the home and farm buildings, and provided a valuation for each. I recognized many of the names from the village.”

Typically, German farmers of this period either owned or had rights to a patchwork quilt of small fields (and lived in villages) rather than the American-style of having one larger acreage with a farmhouse on it.

Greiner says that there are apparently many of these kind of papers that have been copied, and probably more to come in the Google Books project.

“If you search in Google for Intelligenzblatt and the name of the village and/or your surname (assuming it is not something like Müller),” Greiner related, “you might find many interesting results.”

Greiner also used a variety of aids in the Google Books toolkit to help him make sense of what he found.

Among these are the ability to take the scanned images in Gothic font and put them into the eminently more readable Roman font, as well as a “clip” feature to select a few sentences or paragraph for translation of the text.

Neither of these tools works perfectly, but they offer the researcher a good start. “By mixing the better parts of the translation with a visual inspection of the original, I could make pretty good sense of the context,” Greiner noted.

Greiner offered the following example of how this works:

- 1) Google for the words Intelligenzblatt Herschberg Schilp and select the entry entitled *Amts- und Intelligenzblatt des Königlich Bayerischen Rheinkreises* for the year 1836. It will bring up an image of page 629 of the paper. The article of interest is the first complete block in the right column.
- 2) If you select Plain Text at the top right, you will get the page in Roman font, and the key words will be highlighted further down the page.
- 3) You can cut and paste lines of the text into Google Translate and get an idea of

what it says. (You can probably play with the spelling of some of the words to make it look a bit better. For instance Wittroe should be Wittwer = widow)

The translation came back as the following:

On queuing Maria Elisabeth "Fischer, without trade, to Herschberg resident Wittroe of Henry Schilp in life Sckäfer allda, current wife of Jacob Kolter, Leineweber Herschberg Voenen, this ermächtigt belonging, acting as Lormünderin about her, with her said husband, Heinrich Schilp, produced anoch minor children, Hein, rich Schilp, Mary Elizabeth "Catherine and Anna Maria Schilp, without trade, living with her mother, bonding, and Adam Bohl Jr., farmer, residing in Herschberg, Beivormund these children; Monday, SS July, Tomorrow 3 clock, which Wohnhau "with revisions accessories, and all the field" uno meadows, Herschberg "? District, the said children and their mother belongs to, in, S articles, containing about 2 acres 6 acres and 27 Gent.aren be auctioned property.

Back on the image page, you can select Clip on the top right and then highlight a certain block of the text. A pop-up window will appear, with a link to translate. When you click on that,

you get another window with Google translate and the English text (somewhat).

Haft Von Adam Bohl junior Ackerer in Herschberg wohnhaft Beivormund dieser Kinder

Custody of Adam Bohl junior farmer living in Herschberg Beivormund these children

If you add a space between "Bei vormund," it becomes a bit more understandable: *Adam Bohl junior farmer in the case Herschberg guardian of these children*

Greiner recognized this Kolter family from previous research. "Given the date that the property was being sold (July 1836), I then looked for the name in Ancestry," Greiner wrote. "Lo and behold I found from a passenger list that they immigrated in October 1836. All the children's names mentioned in the article were also listed on the passenger list. I had earlier found them in the 1850 census living in Auglaize County, Ohio." Greiner was able to find several articles of interest in this village. "None of our direct ancestors were selling any property, but they were mentioned as neighbors several times," he noted. "The papers seem to have other kinds of legal notices also. You might find them to be quite interesting."

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.

Sandra Barrett of Nordland, WA
(Gruber, Emerick, Runbarger)
Bernard & Jean Graf of Annapolis, MD
(Graf, Leibold, Oland/Allund, Winter)
Noreen Koehler of Lewes, DE
(Koehler, Brunner, Crouthamel, Bitterman)
Kim McVaney of Hanover, MD
(Gier, Kiefer)

Wallace H. Rossmiller of Berwyn Heights, MD
(Siebert, Ries, Streng, Stohlman)
Claudia Sperl of Pittsburgh, PA
(Schridde, Hackman, Bartels, Korbach)
Carol Anne Traxler of New Carrollton, MD
(Heisler, Langhammer, Steinraths, Traxler)
Melody Ann Weimer of Alexandria, VA
(Weimer, Weimert, Kolb)

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN / *Book Reviews*

Our Daily Bread German Village Life, 1500 – 1850

By Teva J. Scheer
221 pages, indexed, glossary

Daily German village life books in the English language were non-existent until Teva Scheer wrote *Our Daily Bread*. Focusing on the fictional family of Johann Adam Mann, Ms. Scheer walks the reader thru life as it was for Johann and the hardships that he and his family faced. Starting with the burial of his daughter and his wife before that, Johann and his son must now look forward and for Johann it means a second marriage.

Scheer explains the marriage process, how each family agrees to the marriage, what each will bring and how an inventory, down to the last handkerchief, is taken. We are walked thru the inheritance process and how the spouse and children are protected, whether we feel today it's fair or not. *Our Daily Bread* has chapters devoted to peasant status, religion (and how you got reported if you didn't attend services on Sunday),

war, governance, law and order (with a couple of pictures of medieval devices), family roles and relationships, work (in order for Johann's son to become a cooper he had to go outside the village to become an apprentice) and emigration.

Parts of Ms. Scheer's book will tug at your heartstrings. We are reminded that the death of a child then is the same as it is today. The loss of a child was just as heart wrenching then as it is today and back then there were more deaths of children due to lack of medical knowledge.

This is a book you need on your genealogical bookshelf. The parts about inheritance of land and who inherits what are important. It's confusing enough in English to understand so imagine what it's like in German if you don't speak, read or write the language and you have to try and translate! *Our Daily Bread* has a nice flow from one aspect of village life to another and is highly recommended.

Our Daily Bread German Village Life, 1500 – 1850 is available from the MAGS bookstore. Get your copy today!

Reviewed by Diane Kuster

DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

2011

Sept. 7-10. Federation of Genealogical Societies National Conference, "Pathways to the Heartland, Springfield, IL. With local co-host Illinois State Genealogical Society. Plenty of lectures, vendors, special events, and genealogy networking. More information: www.fgsconference.org.

Sept. 9-10. Genealogy Conference at Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center, Kutztown, PA, with speakers Helmut Schmahl from Germany, John Humphrey and Phillip Otterness on Sept. 10. Bus tour of Tulpehocken area on Sept. 9. More information:

Lucy Kern, Heritage Center Library, 22 Luckenbill Road, Kutztown, PA 19530; e-mail, pagermanlibrary@Kutztown.edu; Website: <http://www.kutztown.edu/hcl>; telephone, (484) 646-4165.

Oct. 15. Ohio Chapter Palatines to America, German Genealogy 2011 Fall Seminar "German Immigration, Settlement and Contributions." Der Dutchman Restaurant, 445 S. Jefferson Ave, US Route 42, Plain City, Ohio 43064 Featured Speaker: Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann. For more information visit: <http://www.oh-palam.org>

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