



# Der Kurier

Volume 30, Number 3, September 2012

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Diane Kuster

## Life's unfairness – even in genealogy

**J**ohn T. Humphrey – leader, educator, teacher, instructor, lecturer, researcher, author, mentor, dedicated, passionate, compassionate, driven, committed, determined, hard-working, special, talented, professional, enthusiastic, successful, diligent, forthright, courageous, approachable, curious, easy going, funny, intelligent, bright, friend, partner, idol.

Idol you say? John Humphrey was all of the above but to me he was my idol.

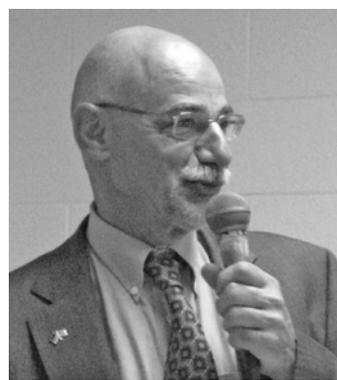
Has anyone ever thought of John as an idol other than me? I'm sure some have but really never truly thought about it.

I have always admired John since I met him – for his guts.

See it takes a lot of guts for someone to walk away from a paying job and to strike out on his own.

John did just that when he left the National Genealogical Society and became a full-time genealogist, researcher and speaker.

I grew up in a family where you



**John T. Humphrey  
(1948-2012)**

This issue of *Der Kurier* is dedicated to John. Included are:

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worked at a good-paying, honest job from 9:00 to 5:00. You didn't question why, at least not way back when, and you did your work and more and went home.

John proved that it can be done even when I feared for him. Fear because it's like Linus losing his security blanket and I didn't want that to happen to him.

John alleviated my fears for him because he was successful at what he did and I really think he was a very happy man because of his decision.

I also feel he was happy because he was finding new record groups and opening them up to the genealogical community. He loved to speak and was internationally recognized for his verbal talents and knowledge.

John had a wonderful sense of humor and loved a great laugh and we had many at our board meetings.

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## **MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY**

**PO Box 334  
Glenn Dale MD 20769-0334**

**<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 \$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**
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**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, *Der Kurier* Editor, MAGS, PO Box 334, Glenn Dale, MD 20769-0334.. E-mail: [james@beidler.us](mailto:james@beidler.us)

# Like the excitement of a little boy ...

**By Susannah E. Brooks**

**J**ohn Humphrey was a role model and mentor to me both as a researcher and a speaker, but more important he was a friend for the past 16 years. When thinking of John, two similar incidents come to mind. In both cases he reminded me of a little boy, who had just been given a dollar and told he could spend all of it in the penny candy store (some of us are old enough to remember such places).

While John was still working at NGS one of his co-workers showed him a family Ahnenpäss from the 1930's or 1940's. He immediately became intrigued and began reading all he could about Ahnenpässe. He read in one source that the National Archives and Records Administration had a collection of Ahnenpässe, so he asked me if I knew anything about them, since I am a volunteer at Archives I. After a little research I determined that the only possible record group would be that containing the Captured German Records and contacted a specialist for this record group. There were no Ahnenpässe, but rather more than 7,000 rolls of microfilm of the Nazi SS marriage records, many of which contain Ahnentafeln. When I relayed the information to him, his excitement was that of the little boy. Because he was a good German, he did not recklessly spend his whole dollar at one time, but

began a systematic study of one of his family's surnames (Dietrich) because there were only six rolls of files with that surname. At the same time, in typical John fashion, he began an extensive study of how and why the records were created.

About two years ago a NARA staff member arranged to take John and I into the stacks at Archives II, to give us an idea of the extensive collection of U.S. Consular Records that they had from U.S. Consulates in Germany during the 19th and early 20th centuries and how some of these records would be valuable to genealogists. Again I saw the little boy, because John's eyes just lit up and he could hardly stand still as the staff member pulled some of the books from the shelves for us to glance at. John began a study of some of the probate records contained in the files and worked on it whenever he could get to Archives II. This led him to the discovery of an immigrant aid society in NYC that was involved with some of the cases, which he excitedly told me about.

At times research can be boring with few or any results, but John's excitement for underutilized or undiscovered records and his systematic approach to learning about and using the records certainly inspires me to continue the search.

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**By Diane Kuster**

# Life's unfairness – even in genealogy

**(Continued from cover)**

I'll never forget the time when we were discussing our 20th anniversary as an organization. In lieu of our normal spring meeting that year we were asked by NGS (because of John) to be the host society for an NGS regional conference, which would be held in Columbia, Maryland. The board fully embraced this idea. Since we were not having a regular spring meeting we decided to hold a dinner the night

before and have a speaker brought in for the evening's keynote address.

We knew there would be charter members in the audience and John asked if we should ask them to stand and be recognized. Without missing a beat I replied "Only if they are able to"! The entire board erupted in laughter and John told me that someday I would be that old, too!

John considered everyone on the MAGS board to be a friend and he loved getting together at our board, spring and fall meetings. John stayed as a member of MAGS and on the board even after he decided not to be the president of our group. He always felt that our board was one that worked very well together simply because we didn't have our own agendas. Our agenda and his were MAGS. It was because of John and his contacts in the genealogical community that we had great programs - this demonstrated his drive and commitment better than anything else.

John readily shared his knowledge to anyone who asked. You could see at conferences and MAGS meetings that John was very approachable and never backed away from a question. I really think he was more curious than a cat. I only wish he had had nine lives like a cat. You know a speaker is good, really good, when the questions don't stop and they didn't stop for John!

I'm appreciative to John for the way he continued to work with the MAGS board even when so many other things were taking up his time. He was always enthusiastic regarding our society and truly believed that there are bigger and better opportunities awaiting our organization. John's passing really is a major loss for all of us, not just as

**John T. Humphrey's MAGS offices**

John was a member of MAGS for at least the last 20 years and during that time held the following offices:

1995-1999	At-Large Board Member
1999-2001	Second Vice President and Program Chair
2001-2009	President
2009-2012	Immediate Past President

a society but as people as well. The old saying "All good things must come to an end" applies to a degree here but like true Germans we will prevail and rise to the occasion because something tells me that's how John would see it. At every meeting or conference that we attend we will always expect to see John walk into the room with his backpack on ready to deliver yet another great lecture. John might not be there physically but he will be there spiritually.

We lost a great friend last month but someone's gaining an ancestor in heaven by talking to John. And that's what our society is all about.

## Others offer reminisces

Like everyone who knew John Humphrey, we were stunned by his sudden death. Stunned and deeply saddened. In the twenty years we knew him, John seemed to pop up unexpectedly at almost every genealogy conference we attended. Our moments together were filled with his eagerness to share his latest projects. Time and again, he thought of unexplored lines of research, so our discussions were full of excited speculation. His death makes us realize how those moments were all too brief.

John's attitude about research reflected our own – that is, information should be shared. His lectures and books gave him the platforms he needed to disperse data he gathered, and we all reap the benefits of that. We cannot pay enough tribute to his many contributions.

From a personal standpoint, we will sorely miss our chance encounters and chats with John. From a professional viewpoint, we can only imagine topics he had yet to investigate and share. John was a fountain of amazing ideas and enthusiasm for pursuing them. We feel fortunate to count him both as a good friend and a colleague.

**- Russ and Corinne Earnest**

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What I have been struck with in the last week is that John's mourners and friends read like a Who's Who in the genealogy world. He knew and was on a par with all the big names in genealogy and yet he never was too busy or too important to help the beginner.



**John T. Humphrey points out Moravian architectural details during a tour of Bethlehem, PA, as part of the MAGS Fall 2006 Meeting.**

I had a chance to observe him at both OGS and NGS this year and I am sure everyone who came up to his booth was sure John was very interested in their individual quest -- and he probably really was. No question was dumb or too inconsequential for him to spend time helping answer. For his lectures at both conferences you had to arrive early or you would be turned away. And if he knew someone and spotted them he had a grin for them that would light up a room.

**- Carol Carman**

\*\*\*

On June 18, 2012, John Humphrey spoke at the annual dinner meeting of the Carroll County Genealogical Society in Maryland. This is the first time, we as a society were privileged to hear him speak.

He held us all spellbound as he walked us through the daily life of an 18th century German-American. He made it all come alive and we will never look at our ancestors lives in the same way again. I knew of John prior to the meeting as I had selected his name from the BCG listings to do some research for me on my Pennsylvania German lines.

He managed to unearth a will for my possible 5th great-grandfather that in 1840 was still written in German, which he said was unusual. He told me at our meeting that he used it in some of his talks. I have a copy of the German will and his transcription along with the

extensive research that he did into that branch of my family.

The night of our meeting was the first time I got to meet John in person, sitting next to him all evening as Program Chair. His death leaves a large void in the genealogical community. We extend our condolences and sympathy to all his family and friends.

**- Eileen A. Souza, President, Carroll County Genealogical Society**

(Our thanks to Souza for enclosing the photo of John used on the cover of this issue of *Der Kurier*)

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I joined the MAGS Board when John was the President and I was lucky to have worked with him over the past several years. I came to know and appreciate not only his knowledge and expertise, but his kindness as well. He always had time to answer my questions and I am glad that I was able to hear many of his lectures and benefit from his German research expertise.

His booth at MAGS meetings as well as national conferences was always busy with many people asking questions and requesting help and he always gave freely of his time and expertise. When I heard of his death, I was saddened not only for my loss of a friend, but for the loss to the genealogical community as a whole.

I feel blessed to have known him and worked with him. I will continue to miss him, but am glad that he left us a legacy in his books and lectures. Rest in peace, John.

**- Debra Hoffman**

# John Thomas Humphrey (1948-2012)

John Thomas Humphrey, 64, passed away suddenly of a stroke on August 11, 2012, in Washington, D.C.

Born: He was the son of the late David and Edythe Humphrey of Pen Argyl, PA.

Personal: John was graduated from Pen Argyl High School in 1966, and was graduated from American University with a BA in government and public administration in 1970. Soon after college John began renovating townhouses on historic Capitol Hill, eventually completing more than twenty properties.

John transitioned to professional genealogy, and compiled the fifteen volume *Pennsylvania Birth Series*, authored four books, and innumerable articles. As a Certified Genealogist, John lectured and taught nationally and internationally on Pennsylvanian, German, Welsh and Moravian ancestry, and could read and write old German typeface.

In addition to his love of genealogy, John ran more than twenty marathons, enjoyed worldwide travel, and the endless devotion of his Polish Lowland Sheepdogs and Labrador Retrievers.

Survivors: He is survived by his sister, Joan E. Mack Humphrey; nephew, Jonathan Mack; niece, Jennifer Mack; and John Doney, his partner of twelve years.

Services: Funeral services were at the Guerro & Ruggiero Funeral Home, 126 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Pen Argyl. Interment was in Plainfield Cemetery.

Memorials: As expressions of sympathy, memorial contributions may be sent in John's name to the Northampton County SPCA, the Maryland SPCA, and/or the annual fund of Moravian College, all C/O the funeral home.

## A partial bibliography

### Books

*Early Families of Northampton County, Pennsylvania*, Vol. 1. J.T. Humphrey, 1991.

*Finding Your German Ancestors: A Practical Guide for Genealogists*. Pennsylvania Genealogy Books, 2009.

*Pennsylvania Births Series*, 16 volumes covering 15 southeastern PA counties. Humphrey Publications, 1991 to 2006

*Pennsylvania Genealogy Research*. "Genealogy at-a-glance," Genealogical Publishing Co., 2012

*Pennsylvania Grave Stones, Northampton County*. Closson Press, 1999.

*Pennsylvania Research: County and Township Records*. PA Genealogy Books, 2006.

*Understanding and Using Baptismal Records*. Humphrey Publications, 1996.

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"Baptismal Records: Understanding Their Meaning and Use," *Der Kurier* 14 (June 1996).

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"Societies in Crisis." *Der Kurier* 22 (March 2004).

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"Subscription Lists: Perhaps Your Elusive German Ancestor Is Hiding Here!" *Der Kurier* 22 (Sept. 2004).

"German-American Newspapers" *Der Kurier* 23 (March 2005).

"Look to a *Lebenslauf*," *Der Kurier* 24 (September 2006).

"Nathaniel Siedel's 1755 Travel Diary" (translation), *Der Kurier* 30 (June and September 2012).

# Travel from Bethlehem, PA, to South America

**Translation by John T. Humphrey, CG<sup>SM</sup>**

Part I of Humphrey's translation of the travel journal ran in the June 2012 issue of *Der Kurier*.

The travel journal used for this translation was found on a microfilmed copy of the "Bethlehem Diary" located at the Pennsylvania State Archives in Harrisburg.

The travel journal was recorded in the Diary at the end of calendar year 1755. It furnishes interesting insights into 18th-century travel and life on the northern coast of South America. The journal is being published here with the permission of the Moravian Archives, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

**Travel Diary of Brother Nathanael [Seidel]  
with his two traveling companions Brother Abraham Bömper and  
Ludwig Hübner from Bethlehem to Barbice and Suriname from 9 April until 19 November 1755.**

(continuation)

## **5 September 1755**

After we made our departure with our white and brown [Brethren] we traveled with our boat and we accompanied Brother Shuman again from our dear Pilgerhut to Suriname.

**(Activities up until then have gone into Brother Schuman's travel diary.)**

## **25 September 1755**

We came to Suriname to our dear Brothers Dehne and Rolfs well and lucky and they were very pleased as they had been expecting us.

## **26 September 1755**

After we had gone by Brothers Dehne and Rolfs, we had to go to the Governor of Suriname about our matter, we went to Mr. Leshner, the former Governor in Barbice, our good friend, and reported our arrival to him, and that we came here to talk with the Governor about the proposal for a piece of land for us and our Indian Brethren in the area of Suriname. Mr. Leshner told us that in this matter the Governor still seems to be thinking / ruminating, and that since then he has talked with a Senior council about it, the proposal they like very well, and [agreed] with him as well about this matter. Mr. Lechner reported our arrival to the Governor and our problem and asked that we write to him with our request stating what we can possibly do.

## **29 September 1755**

We left the Governor know that we have come to him and [brought] along our proposal. He was exceedingly friendly towards us and as he must read [our] proposal. He saw that we desired a piece of land in Coritin [probably land on the Corentyne River] as well as Saramica, he said, that he is not the sole authority, because both rivers are not yet held by the company and the city in Holland, he talked a lot with us about where to begin; he also suggested as a favor that he will report this item to Holland on the first ship, and we should do the same with our agent and give word to him about the entire situation, he had no doubt that our proposition would be implemented. He offered us, if we want to have a piece of land on the Suriname River, the equivalent of what were are supposed to have, we said thanks to him for that, but it would not serve the purpose that is proper for our Indians.

99. Reise Diarium des Hr. Nathanaels  
 nebst seiner 2 Gefährten des Hr. Abra-  
 ham Comperes d. Ludw. Hübners aus  
 Bethlehem nach Barbice d. Curacao.  
 vom 9<sup>ten</sup> April bis 19<sup>ten</sup> Nov. 1755.

Den 9<sup>ten</sup> April 1755.  
 Nachdem wir von dem Gemein gehorsam Brief gebogenet, sind wir  
 in Gesellschaft mit den Thomaspfist, Grefswyler, von  
 unserm l. Bethlehem ab. In unserm neuen Weg mit  
 Hr. Christian Seidel d. Gottlieb über Christiansbrunn, Inaden-  
 thal d. Nazareth, d. kam nach diesem Abend bis East Town.  
 D. 10<sup>ten</sup> April fuhr ich in Begleitung des Hr. Joh: Boms mit  
 dem Weg nach Barbice fort d. kam  
 Den 11<sup>ten</sup> April Abends lag unser Gefährten in Newyork  
 an. unser 2 Brief Gefährten Abrah. Comperes d. Ludw.  
 Hübner so wohl als Hr. Christ. Heinrich mit so. Brief  
 Gesellschaft kamen über Braunschweig  
 D. 12<sup>ten</sup> glücklich nach. Nach unserm Ankunfft in Newyork  
 so kündigt wir mit gleich nach unserm Aufbruch nach  
 Rode Island, d. fanden wir Befund, daß in all. Tagen  
 dahin abzugehen willens war, mit welcher wir mit  
 auf resolvirt, mitzugehen.

D. 18 April hatten unser 13 Pilger zusammen, zu unserm Hr.  
 Conduz, Ständung auf unserm besorgten Brief, nach der  
 fünftigen Coolung: Das Boot, das von Insel kam. Auf dem  
 Langst mit Grunthe. ein nach fünftig Abendmahl.

D. 19<sup>ten</sup> apr. ging Hr. Christ. Heinrich mit so. Compagnie an  
 Bord d. nach unserm Dage, und

D. 20<sup>ten</sup> gingen wir ab nach Rode Island; wir hatten  
 eine stunde d. angestrichen Brief dahin, d. waren in 26  
 Stunden in Newport in Land. Wir kamen den Mathias-  
 reiz

**September 1755**

We had to come back to him again, [he] conferred with us together with his secretary quite a lot about our problem and asked if we could possibly complete a letter addressed to him that he could give to the company, about what we and the Indians would build on the desired piece of land which we also talked about doing. With it he gave us some advice, that we should add the promise in the letter that our settlement would be as good as a fort for runaway Negroes and that we certify that if we are successful we would be loyal to the authorities.

**1 October 1755**

We turned over the desired letter, (we also made a copy); he was satisfied with it and told us that the company would have no difficulties with it and we should be assured that he would do all that was possible. We thanked him and departed. Today we spoke with Captain Frey from New York, who wanted to leave from here on the third [of October] and we reached an agreement with him to travel to New York.

**2 October 1755**

We completed our departure with our dear Brothers Schuman, Dehne and Rolf, during the evening about 11 PM we gathered together for a blessed communion.

**3 October 1755**

**towards 3 AM**

we went with our boat from Paramaribo to the mouth of the river where the captain had ordered but as we came down we saw the vessel was already at sea, presumably because of trade he had to leave. We had to return to our Brothers. We were in the open boat the entire day, it was very hot and we had no water to drink, which made us ill. We also had heavy rain which in this time of year is very unhealthy. But our two brothers were happy to see us; we remained with them for a little longer.

**4 October 1755**

Our dear brother Schuman left us with his 8 Indians to go to Barbice. We spoke with another captain who thought he would be leaving from here for New York in 8 days and he was very happy to take us along.

**6 October 1755**

A severe illness fell over me, which left me entirely drained.

**7 October 1755**

My illness continued

**8 October 1755**

I was better once again

**9 October 1755**

Brother Bömper began to complain and felt the same. This was a severe illness and many people in Suriname, especially sailors, were buried and quite a few of them died on the ships from Holland.

The Savior assisted our two Brothers Dehne and Rolf through his grace and was with them. They had worked there on their crafts in solitude and were well known to the local people. The Indians loved them on account of their quiet ways and orderly life.

**10 October 1755**

We came on board and were under sail up to the mouth of the river where our captain took some cargo.

**11 October 1755**

We came into the sea with a good wind; we lost sight of the coast before evening.

**12 October 1755**

Brother Ludwig Hübner came down with a high fever that continued for three days. We had such good wind and weather that for 15 days we did not have to furl the sails.

**25 October 1755**

We came under the tropics, there we mostly had calm

**26-28 October 1755**

Strong weather came, but for us it was favorable.

**30 October 1755**

The heights of Bermuda

**31 October 1755**

We felt for the first time the northwest wind again which was very strong; it was also so cold once again that it was a big change for us. It continued up to the 5th of November.

**6 November 1755**

It got calm again

**7 and 8 November 1755**

We were on course again with good wind.

**9 November 1755**

We had weather that was so severe our small snow was in great motion [our small ship was knocked about]

**11 November 1755**

During the night we reached 25 fathoms and towards morning we saw Long Island.

**12 November 1755**

We came to Sandy Hook where we anchored.

**13 November 1755**

As the weather was quiet/calm we did not progress further.

**14 November 1755**

In the morning we finally came to New York and our Brothers and Sisters. We remained there until Monday.

**17 November 1755**

We began the trip to Bethlehem

**19 November 1755**

We arrived again in our beloved Bethlehem healthy and well.

## 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.

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

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

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

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Specialization: Genealogical research in Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg-Altona, Sonderjylland / Denmark

Transcription of old documents.

‘While many societies have gone by the wayside MAGS has remained very steady over these thirty years.’

## MAGS 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary to be celebrated ... with a flash (drive!)

By Diane Kuster

Our society was begun thirty years ago in 1982. In that time we have seen many changes to the genealogical community and the way we conduct our research. Probably, in my opinion, the one thing that made genealogy boom was the explosion of the Internet.

It has opened windows (no pun intended) into people’s lives and while mostly in a good way sometimes in a bad way as well. It’s not to say that the Internet has taught people well in regards to their research but it gave them the means to do so.

The Internet, I feel, helped spawn a proliferation of societies and forums where individuals could get together to share their experiences and research to help others delve into their family history. Sadly, many of these societies that rode the tidal wave are no longer in existence.

The digital age has also changed the face of genealogy. We have gone the way of a monk from paper and pen to diskettes then to compact discs. Next up were thumb or USB drives and external hard drives and cameras and scanners that help to preserve old documents and pictures and can be shared with the world in a matter of minutes.

Now we have iPads and book readers to help compact our lives even further. If you so desire you can now carry your genealogy where

ever you go and you don’t have to lug all those notebooks to do so!

I wish to revert now to my last sentence in the first paragraph of this article. While many societies have gone by the wayside MAGS has remained very steady over these thirty years. Yes, membership has decreased but we are working constantly to get our name out there in the genealogy community.

The main question of our board meetings is “how can we make our society the Germanic genealogy society that everyone will turn to for assistance?”

I feel the answer to the question is the Internet and the MAGS website. For years now we have been just a website offering announcements of our meetings and our lending library.

This year we have created a Members Only area, which I’ve written about previously. All of our newsletters are now in this section and you, as a member, have unfettered access to them. In the **Items of Interest** section of the Members Only area is the *Consolidated Name Index - Bounty Land Claims 1886-1930*.

There are still many untapped resources sitting in archives especially in our National Archives. Indexes related to these finds are being created and will become available in the near future.

Maps, articles and other digitized images will also be available to members only and we hope to see a lot of this on our site within the next six months. So keep checking the *Der Kurier* and the website on a regular basis. You never know what you might find!

Our Fall 2012 meeting at the Best Western Westminster Hotel and Conference Center on Saturday, October 13, will go on as planned despite the death of John Humphrey. MAGS At-Large Board member Dr. Kenneth Heger will fill John's spot on the program that day and Ken will also participate in the Question and Answer session with MAGS Corresponding Secretary Susannah Brooks in the last session of the day.

Remaining on our program that day will be Ann Morrison, who will speak about how it's never too late to learn history and how pieces of history help us to understand how we became who we are.

Morrison produced and directed *The Forgotten Genocide* about the sufferings of ethnic Germans living behind the Iron Curtain following World War II.

Susannah Brooks will speak on how to use the World Wide Web to find your ancestors and she will present tips for overcoming brick walls on the Internet.

I have also asked Ken to take over our program planning, which he was working with John on at the time of John's death.

The planning included having Ken speak at our Spring 2013 meeting and that plan will stay in place. John was also scheduled to speak as well and Ken will line up another speaker for that day.

Remember, you may still cancel your registration for a full refund up to Oct. 1. After that date we cannot issue a refund.

In relation to our Fall meeting, we will celebrate our thirty years of success! At the meeting all members in attendance will receive a USB drive with our logo and website imprinted on it. Included on the drive will be all of our *Der Kuriers* from 1982 thru 2011 plus the Bounty Land Claim index that is on our website. Best of all you will still have enough space on the drive for all of your genealogy research! Family memberships will receive one drive.

Members not attending our Fall meeting will receive their drives after the Fall meeting via mail. So, if you want your drive sooner rather than later then register for our meeting! (The Fall meeting flyer is in this issue of *Der Kurier*.)

Additional, blank drives may be purchased from the MAGS Store at the meeting and through the MAGS website sometime in November or December. Price will be determined by meeting time.

We still need volunteers to help with indexing projects and double-checking indexes as well as volunteers to compile lists of genealogy and historical societies in the United States. Several members have been helping with the lists but we need more!

Remember, you don't have to leave the comfort of your home to help so contact me today at [president@magsgen.com](mailto:president@magsgen.com) and we will get you started!

Lastly, if you are having any issues accessing the MAGS Members Only area please let me know. Use the President's email to contact me. I know some of you did not receive the email as I had several email addresses reject. If you want access to this area you need to email me and I will get you the information to login into the area to you.

Thank you for your continued support of our great society and here's to another Thirty Years Plus!

## FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest

# Township, county changes come into play in Walter family

**D**awn Schulte asked about the name WALTER on fraktur. In her letter, she mentioned that when she checks maps for locations, she notices how counties changed their boundaries over time.

Of course, she is correct. Not only did counties change boundaries, but townships within the counties did as well. This makes pinpointing the location of a family somewhat difficult, but because fraktur were made primarily for rural families, the best researchers can do is to attempt to find ancestors within township lines.

Depending when the fraktur was created, those lines or the names of townships might have changed. Because the families mentioned on most fraktur were farming families, not as many examples were made for residents of cities or even small towns.

One of the best examples concerning locations that are difficult to trace is to examine the many Heidelberg Townships mentioned on fraktur.

In southeastern Pennsylvania where most fraktur were made, there are today Heidelberg Townships in Berks, Lebanon, Lehigh, and York Counties. There are also Lower, North, and South Heidelberg Townships in Berks County. No Heidelberg Township in Lancaster County exists, yet the first fraktur mentioned here shows that location.

Listed in the first volume of German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition, it was made for Christian SCHENCKEL, son of Johan Philipp and Barbara (WALDER) SCHENCKEL. Christian

was born about midnight on April 18, 1785 in Heidelberg Township, Lancaster County. He was baptized by Johannes WAHLSCHMIDT [WALDSCHMIDT] in the Swamp Church on June 18, presumably in the same year. Christian and Magdalena SCHENCKEL sponsored Christian's baptism.

Further research reveals that the Heidelberg Township mentioned on this Taufschein (birth and baptism certificate) refers to what is now West Cocalico Township in Lancaster County where Swamp Church was located. Today called Muddy Creek Church, Swamp Church was a Reformed congregation that Johannes WALDSCHMIDT served off and on from 1765 to 1786 (Charles H. Glatfelter, Pastors and People: German Lutheran and Reformed Churches in the Pennsylvania Field, 1717-1793. Two volumes. (Breinigsville, Pa.: The Pennsylvania German Society, 1980), 1:318-319).

On May 8, 1974, Sotheby's Auctions in New York sold a Taufschein made for Salome, daughter of Christian and Maria Elisa[beth] (FAUST) WALTER. Salome was born January 30, 1792 in Schuylkill Township, Berks County.

This probably meant she was born in what is now Schuylkill County, which was formed from Berks and Northampton Counties in 1811. Salome was baptized by Pastor MEYER, Reformed, who also sponsored her baptism. No other biographical information was recorded on Salome's Taufschein.

On January 28, 1981, Sotheby's sold a Taufschein made for Susanna WALTER. Susanna was born about nine o'clock in the morning on June 29 (?), 1822. She was born in

Heidelberg Township, Lehigh County, to Salomon and Susanna (HESS) WALTER. Susanna WALTER was baptized in August 1822. The only sponsor at her baptism was the widow, Susanna STEYGERWALD.

In The Fraktur-Writings or Illuminated Manuscripts of the Pennsylvania Germans (1961), Donald A. Shelley pictured a Taufschein made for Peter WALTER, son of Johann and Chatarina (WEIT) WALTER. Peter was born in Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County, at about one o'clock in the afternoon on Christmas day.

An ink stain made the year of birth illegible, but this example is attributed to fraktur artist, Andreas V. Kessler, who made fraktur about 1800 to 1820. Peter WALTER was baptized by Wilhelm BEDUS [BEATES], but no date of baptism was recorded. BEATES was in the Heidelberg Township area beginning about 1813, so it is probable that Peter was born and baptized about that time or shortly after. The sponsors at his baptism were Peter and Elisabeth WALTER. According to this certificate, Chatarina WEIT's father was Christian WEIT.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Johann WALTER, son of Johann and Anna Maria (DIETZ) WALTER. Johann Walter Jr. was born January 13, 1817. The scrivener on this example wrote the location as "York County [Pennsylvania] in the free state of Philadelphia." The sponsors' names are illegible, but the minister was Georg SCHMUCHER. No date of baptism was given.

In our booklet, Dietz's on Fraktur, we listed data from a Taufschein made for Hanna DIETZ. It mentions Henrich and Christina WALTER as sponsors at Hanna's baptism. Hanna was born June 27, 1787 in Hagerstown, Washington County, Maryland. Her parents were Ernst and Catharina (KUNCKEL?) DIETZ. Hanna was baptized by Jacob WARNER in September 1787.

Dawn Schulte mentioned that some of her family was in York County as well as western Maryland. June Burk Lloyd, Librarian Emerita of the York County Heritage Trust in

York, maintains a fraktur data base for York and Adams County, Pennsylvania, as well as for western Maryland. Her data base mentions a Taufschein made for Lusianna WALTER, daughter of Georg and Anna Maria (SCHWARTZ) WALTER.

Lusianna was born June 4, 1820 in York County, Pennsylvania. She was baptized August 7, 1820 by Pastor MELZHEIMER, Lutheran. The sponsors at Lusianna's baptism were Johannes and Christina SCHWARTZ.

Also from Hagerstown is a marriage record that is mentioned in the Germanic Heritage exhibit catalog published by the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts (1983). This certificate records the marriage of Michael WALTER to Margaret BENDER on April 24, 1810. They were married at Zion Reformed Church in Hagerstown by Henrich Jonathan RAHAUSER.

A Taufschein in a private collection records the birth and baptism of Elizabeth Ann, daughter of William and Fayette (BIXLER) WALTER. Elizabeth Ann was born January 25, 1844 in Manchester District, Carroll County, Maryland. She was baptized March 16, 1844 by Jacob GEIGER. The baptismal sponsors were her parents. This example is listed in the second volume of Klaus Stopp's The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans.

Some fraktur show locations in Europe. For example, a Taufschein in a private collection was made for Anna Caroline WALTER, daughter of Martin and Caroline (EHRHARDT) WALTER. According to this Taufschein, Martin WALTER was from Mittel-Schefflenz in Baden [near Mosbach in today's Baden-Württemberg].

His wife, Caroline, was from Manchester, Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. Anna Caroline was born January 20, 1871 in Allegheny City. She was baptized March 29, 1871 by Gustav Egbert SYLLA. The sponsors at Anna Caroline's baptism were John and Caroline EHRHARDT.

When several fraktur from the same family are found, they often illustrate various locations, allowing genealogists to trace their ancestors' migrations.

For example, on January 23, 1974, Sotheby's sold two Taufscheine (plural form of Taufschein) that mention Sarah WALTER, wife of Johannes BOSSARD. Johannes and Sarah were parents of Hanna and Elisabeth BOSSARD.

Elisabeth was born about one o'clock in the morning on April 26, 1819 in Manheim Township, Schuylkill County. She was baptized by Pastor MUENCH, Lutheran, but no date of baptism was given. The only sponsor at Elisabeth's baptism was Elisabeth WEBPER [probably WEBER], who was single at the time.

Hanna was born about four o'clock in the morning on August 15, 1823. She was born

in Chapman Township, Union County. On May 8, 1974, Sotheby's sold a Taufschein made for Elisabeth's and Hanna's brother, Samuel.

Samuel BOSSARD, son of Johannes and Sarah (WALTER) BOSSARD, was born about eleven o'clock at night on July 4, 1821. He was born in Bern Township, Berks County. No information concerning Samuel's baptism was given.

As is customary, I am sending Dawn Schulte additional information from fraktur that mention the surname, WALTER.

*If you have names you want me to research on fraktur, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, PO Box 1132, Clayton DE 19938. There is no charge for members of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society. However, I receive many requests, so please be patient for a reply.*

## **FAMILY REGISTERS**

# **Hubert family Bible record**

An English-language Bible record removed from the Bible was made for the HUBERT family, probably of southeastern Pennsylvania. The record is incomplete in that it gives no location.

The earliest entry says, "Marry [sic] Ann BROWAND was born in the year of our lord 1771 November the 18." The name, Marry Ann, is also spelled "Mary an" in this record. The family relationship is unclear, but Marry Ann BROWAND may have been the namesake of the first child born to William and Sophey (TRISELER) HUBERT for whom the family register was made. Perhaps she was the maternal grandmother. Sophey TRISELER's maiden name is also spelled TRISSLER.

According to this record, William HUBERT and Sophey TRISELER married on May 24, 1835. Mary an HUBERT was born a year later, on May 29, 1836. Other children included:

Catharine Elizabeth HUBERT, born October 2, 1837.

John Henery [also spelled John Henry] HUBERT, born December 2, 1839.

His name appears under "deaths," but no other information is given.

Sara [also spelled Sarah] HUBERT, born December 23, 1841.

William Triseler HUBERT, born February 19, 1844.

Harriet Amelia HUBERT, born December 2, 1845.

Selenia Langley HUBERT, born 4 March 1847.

Casper Emanuel HUBERT, born December 10, 1850; died December 19,  
but no year given.

Lizzie Metzger [also spelled Lizzie Margret] HUBERT, born December 15, 1854. The  
year of birth was altered to read 1852.

The HUBERT family register is typical of registers penned by family members as opposed to professional scribes who wrote more complete data. This record is faded in some places and some entries are recorded in pencil, making them hard to read. Fortunately, the family re-wrote the register on a second page, remembering to include Casper Emanuel who was inadvertently omitted from the first page.

## Miller family registers

Two English-language family registers for related MILLER families remained together and are in a private collection. One was removed from its Bible and the other from a book that was possibly a Bible. The register made for the Henry MILLER family of York County, Pennsylvania, is followed by the record of the Charles and Cathrina (KAUFFMAN) MILLER family (the parents of Henry MILLER).

### Henry MILLER register

The first register begins with Henry MILLER who was born March 31, 1851. His wife, Annie, was born August 3, 1852. An earlier birth -- that of Hannah KNISLEY -- was recorded beneath Henry and Annie MILLER's entry. Hannah KNISLEY was born June 9, 1832.

Other births include that of Olive Gertrude MILLER, born October 20, 1873. She may have been a child of Henry and Annie MILLER, although the record does not make that clear.

Olive Gertrude's entry is followed by an entry made for Anna Caroline YOUNG, who was born August 13, 1899.

An entry under deaths says that Annie (YOST) MILLER died March 27, 1933. Very likely, Annie was Henry MILLER's wife. Hers is the only entry concerning deaths in this record. However, Henry's date of death is recorded in the next register.

### Charles MILLER register

The second register begins with the marriage of Charles MILLER to Catherine KAUFFMAN. They were married by Pastor REINECKY on October 8, 1842 in York County. Charles MILLER was the son of Michael and Elizabeth MILLER. Charles was born December 8, 1820. His wife, Cathrina [sic], was the daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth KAUFFMAN. Cathrina (KAUFFMAN) MILLER was born November 29, 1820. Charles MILLER died July 17, 1907 at the age of 86 years, 7 months, and 14 days. Cathrina (KAUFFMAN) MILLER died May 28, 1911 at the age of 90 years, 5 months, and 3 days.

The children of Charles and Cathrina (KAUFFMAN) MILLER were Amanda MILLER, born January 31, 1844; Mary A. MILLER, born November 11, 1845, in Warrington Township, York County; Henry MILLER, born March 31, 1851; Charles Milton MILLER, born July 5, 1853 in Carroll Township, York

County; and Daniel K. MILLER, born April 10, 1858 in Carroll Township. Harry [Henry] MILLER died January 24, 1934 at the age of 82 years, 10 months and 24 days. Daniel K. MILLER died July 4, 1911 at the age of 53 years, 2 months, and 24 days.

## Steely family register

An English-language family register removed from a Bible or other book was made for the STEELY family. No location was noted in the register, but it was probably made in southeastern Pennsylvania where it was found.

The father of this family was Samuel STEELY, son of Jacob and Catharine STEELY. Samuel was born July 4, 1830. On April 2, 1854, he married Catharine SHUMAN, the daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth SHUMAN. Catharine was born March 24, 1835. Samuel and Catharine STEELY were married by C.P. MILLER.

Their children of Samuel and Catherine were Emmy Jane STEELY, born January 4, 1855; Benjamin STEELY, born August 30, 1856; Elemanda STEELY, born February 17, 1861; and Mathias STEELY, born August 29, 1864. Other than a death date for Mathias, no dates of death were recorded for these children. Mathias died July 29, 1932 at the age of 67 years and 11 months.

The father, Samuel STEELY, died September 6, 1878 at the age of 48 years, 2 months, and 2 days. It appears Catharine remarried following Samuel's death, for the record says that Catharine WILDONGER, who was born March 24, 1835, died December 21, 1910 at the age of 75 years, 7 months, and 27 days.

## Kimble family register

A single-page family register made for a family named KIMBLE was written in English and removed from what was probably a Bible. The parents' names were not recorded and the register begins with the name of a woman who bought the book in 1841. At age 65, Charlotte ALSTON was apparently the first owner of the book.

The register continues with the names of seven siblings surnamed KIMBLE.

It says William KIMBLE was born May 18, 1801. Sarah KIMBLE was born September 29, 1802. Mary Ana KIMBLE was born March 8, 1804. Isaiah KIMBLE was born September 27, 1805. Martha KIMBLE was born January 1, 1807. John KIMBLE was born April 1, 1808. And Agor KIMBLE was born July 4, 1811.

No location was recorded in the KIMBLE record.

## **BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN / *Book Review***

### **The Guide to FamilySearch Online**

by James L. Tanner

Published by Bookmark Graphics. 361 pages.  
\$39.95.

FamilySearch has become one of, if not the, ultimate website for genealogical research. It has grown so much over the years and continues to offer more and more to genealogists and family historians. So where does one begin?

The purpose of The Guide to FamilySearch Online is to assist you in navigating the FamilySearch website and the author does a very nice job of this. Tanner has broken down his guide into four sections and rightfully so.

As I stated earlier, the FamilySearch website has grown tremendously over the years. The first section of Tanner's book focuses on FamilySearch.org, which is the successor to the very popular and original website of the same name.

This new version, explained in Tanner's book, was launched in 2010 and continues to receive well over 150,000 hits per day. Explained in Section One are links to the Family History Centers in your area, the Family History Library Catalog, searching the database plus a host of many other features.

Section Two focuses on FamilySearch Indexing and what the program is all about. Section Three touches upon New.FamilySearch.org, which is a very large family tree website. The last section focuses on other FamilySearch websites such as Facebook and Twitter, Film.FamilySearch.org, the Family History Center Portal, FamilySearch Developer Network, FamilySearch Consultants' Page and FamilySearch Remote Control Agent.

The Guide to FamilySearch Online also contains an epilogue, glossary and footnotes.

Note that the glossary contains computer terms not genealogy terms.

Tanner's book is extremely valuable to all, whether you are an experienced user of FamilySearch or a newcomer to one of the greatest hobbies of all time. The Guide to FamilySearch Online is available from Family Roots Publishing Co., LLC – PO Box 830 – Bountiful, UT 84011 – [www.familyrootspublishing.com](http://www.familyrootspublishing.com) – email – [sales@familyrootspublishing.com](mailto:sales@familyrootspublishing.com) – phone – 801-992-3705.

**Reviewed by Diane Kuster**

### **Map Guide to German Parish Registers Kingdom of Prussia – Province of Westphalia I**

by Kevan M. Hansen

Family Roots Publishing Co., LLC. 309 pages,  
town and master index. \$34.95.

*Map Guide to German Parish Registers Kingdom of Prussia – Province of Westphalia I* is the latest installment in Kevan Hansen's vital research guide relating to German parish records. Like the guides issued before it this issue follows the same format of its predecessors.

There are five sections to the book – province/duchy resources; maps of parish boundaries for Lutheran and then Catholic churches; records available for other religions; and a town and master index.

Hansen also provides a small history of the province with tips on how to use his book. It is the first and best guide available for German researchers.

*Map Guide to German Parish Registers Kingdom of Prussia – Province of Westphalia I* is available from Family Roots Publishing Co.,

LLC – PO Box 830 – Bountiful, UT 84011 –  
www.familyrootspublishing.com – email –  
sales@familyrootspublishing.com – phone –  
801-992-3705.

**Reviewed by Diane Kuster**

**Genealogical Research in Nebraska**

by Ruby Coleman

Published by Family Roots Publishing Co., LLC.  
109 pages. \$25.95

Ruby Coleman has written an informative guide to the records and repositories available for the state and settlement of Nebraska. Coleman writes about Nebraska settlement history, the colonization and development by railroad, orphan trains – many of whom came from New York City and how a lot were indentured up into the 1920's, and cattle brands.

Coleman also has chapters on

genealogical collections in Nebraska libraries and repositories, religious, military, school, court and institutional records plus much more. Genealogical Research in Nebraska has many wonderful pictures and maps along with examples of census, adoption, naturalization, land and vital records.

The information contained in Genealogical Research in Nebraska will help guide the reader to the records they need to complete their quest in the hunt for their ancestors. It's the perfect guide for anyway whose ancestors went west and settled in Nebraska

Coleman's book is available from Family Roots Publishing Co., LLC – PO Box 830 – Bountiful, UT 84011 – www.familyrootspublishing.com – email – sales@familyrootspublishing.com – phone – 801-992-3705.

**Reviewed by Diane Kuster**

**✱ Attention ✱**

**MAGS** is now accepting dues for the year  
**2013**

\$15 for individual membership/ \$20 for family membership  
\$10 for Library membership

If the membership number above or below your name  
on the address label of your *Der Kurier* ends in “-12”  
(i.e.: John Doe **2304-12**)  
you must pay next year's dues before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mail your check made payable to **MAGS** to:  
**Gunter Schanzenbacher**  
**725 Fir Spring Dr**  
**Waynesboro, Pennsylvania 17268**

You do **not** need to complete a membership form,  
if your name & correct mailing address are printed  
on your check. Please include your membership number  
on the check.  
MAGS accepts payments for up to 5 years membership.  
Questions:

## 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.

M. Therese Dalton of Lovettsville, VA  
*(Backe, Franz, Kress, Schillo)*  
 Dale T. Eck of Macungie, PA *(No Names)*  
 Frank Embon of Allentown, PA  
*(Teuchert, Ott, Ruschitzka, Spevak/Spewak)*  
 Wolfgang Exler of Munich, Germany  
*(Exler)*  
 Wanda S. Lehman of Silver Spring, MD  
*(Lehman, Moser/Mosier, Reiser, Sechs)*  
 Eileen Mummaugh of Westminster, MD  
*(No Names)*

Hannah Rumpf of Billerica, MA  
*(Rumpf)*  
 John R. Schnakenberg of Fresh Meadows, NY  
*(Leseman, Inteman, Reinhardt, Schaefer)*  
 Robert M. Sprinkle of Silver Spring, MD  
*(Sprinkle, Sprencel)*  
 Eleen Ward of Owings Mills, MD  
*(Myers, Weikert, Zell)*  
 Warren County Cultural & Heritage  
 Commission of Oxford, NJ *(No Names)*  
 Deborah J. Wood of Fort Mill, SC  
*(Windberger, Braunwarth, Weller, Sarstedt)*

## 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 (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 )

## DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

**2012**

**September 15. Hagerstown Community College program** entitled "Genetic Genealogy and Your Ancestry". Attached is a brochure on the event. Starting at 8:30 a.m., Merle S. Elliott Continuing Education and Conference Center, 11400 Robinwood Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742. To Register: Please call 240-500-2236

or register online at <http://www.hagerstowncc.edu/coned/web-advisor>. Seminar Presenters and Lecture titles: Dr. Tom Shawker, National Institutes of Health (Genetic Genealogy: The Very Basics and Race, Ethnicity, Ancestry: DNA Testing); Alexander C. Yi, Senior Information Specialist, Family Tree DNA (Genetic Genealogy Starts Here) and Sabrina Petersen, Director, Global Imaging -

Ancestry.com (Tips and Tricks, Beyond the Basics of Ancestry.com).

**September 22. 13th annual Richard Slatten Lecture** featuring Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck, starting at 8:30 a.m., sponsored by Friends of the Virginia State Archives, Library of Virginia, 800 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219. For more information, please contact Anne Brown ([annetaylorb@aol.com](mailto:annetaylorb@aol.com)) or email [SlattenLecture2012@gmail.com](mailto:SlattenLecture2012@gmail.com).

Bockstruck, nationally known genealogist, author, lecturer, and educator, will deliver four lectures that focus on research, discovery, and interpretation in genealogical research.

**September 22. Bucks County, PA ,Ancestry Fair with Dick Eastman** presented by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. Bucks County Visitors' Center 3207 Street Road, Bensalem, PA. Additional details at <http://genpa.org/>. Join GSP at the as genealogist, newsletter editor and blogger Dick Eastman shares information about genealogy searching on Google, organizing your researching using digital techniques, using satellite technology to help find cemeteries, roads, and courthouses, and using wikis to publish your family history online.

**September 29. Maryland Genealogical Society fall seminar** "Other Resources for Your Maryland Ancestors (including War of 1812 records)". Comfort Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 4500 Crain Highway, Bowie, MD 20716. Additional details at <http://www.mdgensoc.org/>. Speakers include Jon Livezey – Using Chancery/Equity Records in Maryland Genealogy; Doug McElrath – Genealogical Resources of the University of MD Libraries; Paul Izat – Using Maryland Land Records Online; Marie V. Melchiori, CG, CGL – War of 1812 Records in the National Archives; Christos Christou, Jr. – The War of 1812 Society in Maryland; Interactive Panel on your brick wall problems.

**September 29. RELIC After Dark** features a talk by Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak at 7 p.m., Bull Run Regional Library, 8051 Ashton Avenue,

Manassas, VA 20109. For our program her talk will be "Cases That Made My Brain Hurt."

Contact RELIC at [relic2@pwcgov.org](mailto:relic2@pwcgov.org) or call (703) 792-4540 information.

**October 13. MAGS Fall Meeting**, Best Western Hotel, Westminster, MD. Featured speakers include Ann Morrison, Kenneth Heger and Susannah Brooks. One slot will be a question and answer session for your thorniest problems. More info: [www.magsgen.com](http://www.magsgen.com).

**October 13. Ohio Chapter PalAm German Genealogy Fall Seminar** "German Immigration History & Research Methods" featuring Dr. Michael D. Lacopo. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Der Dutchman Restaurant, 445 S. Jefferson Ave, US, Rt 42, Plain City, OH43064. For more information and to register online visit: <http://www.oh-palam.org/> or write to: Ginny Poland, 162 Imperial Drive, Gahanna, OH 43230, e-mail: [ginnyp1956@att.net](mailto:ginnyp1956@att.net)

## **2013**

**April 25-27. Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference,**

"Expanding Your Ancestry Through Technology," Millennium Hotel, Cincinnati, OH. More info: <http://www.ogs.org/conference2013/index.php>

**May 8-11. National Genealogical Society Conference,** Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. Theme: "Building New Bridges." More information available on the web at: [http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference\\_info](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info)

**May 10-11. Lancaster Family History Conference,** Lancaster, PA. Info: (717) 393-9745

**August 21-24. Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference,** Fort Wayne, IN. Includes Wednesday "Focus on Societies" sessions.. More info: FGS, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940, phone 1-888-FGS-1500, website URL: [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org).

**MAGS Store**

**Back issues of *Der Kurier***

Each copy ..... \$ 2.00  
 Plus shipping and handling, each copy ..... \$ .75

**Surname Index for *Der Kurier***

Part I (1982-1992), 30 pp ..... \$6  
 and Part II (1993-1998), 30 pp ..... \$6  
 Plus shipping and handling, first index ..... \$3.20

***Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents*** by Roger Minert. M/NM ...\$24.00 / 26.95 S&H ..... \$ 3.70

***Spelling Variations in German Names*** by Roger Minert M/NM .....\$15 / 16.45 S&H ..... \$ 3.70

***In Search of Your German Roots*** by Angus Baxter, 4th ed. M/NM: ...\$17.75 /\$19 S&H .....\$3.70

***In Search of Your European Roots A Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in Every Country in Europe,*** by Angus Baxter, Third edition M/NM ...\$18.90/\$21 S&H.....\$3.70

***German Church Books Beyond the Basics*** by Kenneth L. Smith, M/NM \$26.50/\$29.50 S&H ...\$3.70

***Researching in Germany*** by Roger Minert M/NM ... \$14 / 15.95 S&H \$ 3.70

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